



The Pakistan Credit Rating Agency Limited

Rating Report

Mobilink Microfinance Bank Limited | PPTFC | TBI

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Rating History

Dissemination Date	Long Term Rating	Short Term Rating	Outlook	Action	Rating Watch
16-May-2022	A-	-	Stable	Preliminary	-

Rating Rationale and Key Rating Drivers

The ratings take comfort from the bank's association with a leading global group – Veon Microfinance Holdings B.V (VMH) - and with Pakistan's largest cellular operator – Jazz (formerly Mobilink). Sponsor's commitment to the bank is witnessed in the form of both technical collaboration and financial support. Ensuing synergies have strengthened the bank's penetration in target markets. The management's confidence lies in keeping this segment's margins sustained and bring it at the forefront of mobile banking services, amidst rising competition. The bank held a market share of ~9% in the microfinance industry's Gross loan portfolio as at End-Dec'21. While growth strategies for the Bank have been taken under consideration, overall performance indicators reflected a firm outlook in CY21 despite of economic slowdown, lately exacerbated by the aftermaths of global pandemic spread. Consequently, the Bank's GLP upsurged. Asset quality impaired on account of expiry of SBP's deferment scheme period, along-with small portion being unprovided. The Bank has been maintaining a provisioning cushion of 2% (instead of 1% required). Markup earned and net markup income increased in line with GLP. Consequently, the Bank reported bottom-line of PKR 728mln (CY20: 530mln).

The ratings are dependent upon the bank's ability to aptly combat the emerging risks under the current scenario in order to keep its business and financial risk profile intact. Meanwhile, the bank's propensity to protect its performance indicators amidst constrained business environment, is imperative.

Disclosure

Name of Rated Entity	Mobilink Microfinance Bank Limited PPTFC TBI
Type of Relationship	Solicited
Purpose of the Rating	Debt Instrument Rating
Applicable Criteria	Methodology Debt Instrument Rating(Jun-21),Methodology Microfinance Institution Rating(Jun-21),Criteria Rating Modifiers(Jun-21)
Related Research	Sector Study Microfinance(Sep-21)
Rating Analysts	Madiha Sohail madiha.sohail@pacra.com +92-42-35869504

Issuer Profile

Profile Mobilink Microfinance Bank Limited (hereinafter referred to as "The Bank") was incorporated in February 2012, under section 32 of the Companies Ordinance, 1984 (now the Companies Act, 2017). The bank has a network of 105 branches as at End-CY21 (End-CY20: 100). The head office of the bank is situated in Islamabad. The Bank commenced its operations in April 2012 and launched branchless banking services under the brand name "JazzCash" in partnership with Pakistan Mobile Communications Ltd. (Jazz), in November 2012. The Bank offers a range of micro-lending products comprising; (i) Karobar Loan, (ii) Khushhal Kisan Loan, (iii) Fori Cash Loans (iv) Livestock loans (v) House Loan (vi) Tractor Loans (vii) Passbook loan & (viii) Micro-Enterprise Loan. As stated above, it also offers branchless banking services and is one of the largest digital banks in the country, with ~8 million active mobile wallet accounts.

Ownership The Bank is a subsidiary of Veon Microfinance Holdings B.V (VMH) (the Holding Company), with effect from March 27, 2020 upon transfer of 99.99% shareholding in the Bank, from Global Telecom Holdings (GTH), being a transfer of control between entities held under common control. The transfer has been registered with SBP whereas the registration with SECP is completed on July 3, 2020. The Ultimate Parent of the Bank is Veon Limited. The ownership structure of the bank is considered stable, as it has a sole ownership of a strong sponsor. Business acumen is, therefore, considered strong.

Governance The overall control vests with a seven-member board of directors. The Board currently comprises four non-executive directors, two independent directors and one executive director (the CEO of the bank). Mr. Aamir Hafeez Ibrahim is the Chairman of the Board. The directors are experienced professionals, having exposure in different sectors, including microfinance and telecommunication. The Board exercises its oversight via four committees, namely (i) Audit Committee (ii) Risk Management & Compliance Committee (iii) HR & Compensation Committee and (iv) IT Committee. EY Ford Rhodes Chartered Accountants are the external auditors of the bank. They expressed an unqualified opinion on the financial statements for the year ended 2021.

Management The Bank has divided its organization structure into different departments with each department head reporting directly to the CEO, while the head of the internal audit department, reports to the Audit Committee. The Bank has five management committees in place. The committee meetings are conducted on a frequent basis to ensure smooth flow of processes. Furthermore, the Company has a separate Risk Management Department in place to oversee various risks including credit, operational and market risks. It meets on a regular basis to ensure the risk profile of the Bank remains within the Board of Directors' approved limits.

Business Risk Pakistan Microfinance Industry (MFI) comprises of 50 microfinance providers including 30 microfinance institutions (MFIs). During CY21, active borrowers of the industry exceeded pre-COVID figure to 8.1 million borrowers after recording growth of 16% compared to CY20. Similarly, the GLP surpassed PKR 390 billion during CY21, an increase of 21% compared to CY20. The growth in active borrowers and GLP continues to be driven by the MFB peer group as they managed to add over one million clients and PKR 52 billion in GLP. NBMFC peer group also contributed to portfolio growth with an addition of PKR 16.7 billion. In case of MFBs, PAR > 30 days increased to 5.1% (CY20: 3.3%) on account of expiration of loan deferment period allowed by SBP. However, the PAR > 30 days of MFIs recovered to report at 2.9% in CY21 (CY20: 4.7%). The Bank catered to 22% of the active borrowers of the microfinance industry as at End-CY21, grabbing a 9% market share in terms of Gross Loan Portfolio. On the other hand, the bank secured a share of 13% of total deposits in the industry, as at End-CY21. During CY21, mark-up income earned by the Bank increased to PKR 11,082mln (CY20: PKR 7,059mln) with a considerable increase of 57%. Loss from branchless banking in CY21 clocked in at PKR 1088mln (CY20: PKR 643mln), indicating an increase of 69%. Markup expense for CY21 increased by 2% to PKR 1,697mln (CY20: PKR 1,656mln). The Bank witnessed an upsurge of 62% in its non-markup expense to PKR 6,977mln (CY20: PKR 4,300mln). The Bank's provisioning expense increased to PKR 988mln (CY20: PKR 202mln), indicating a surge of 4.9x. Consequently, net income increased to PKR 728mln during CY21 (CY20: PKR 530mln).

Financial Risk The Bank's net advances clocked in at PKR 37,463mln as at End-CY21 (End-CY20: PKR 24,224mln), depicting a growth of 55%. The Bank's nonperforming loans increased significantly to PKR 1,247mln (End-CY20: PKR 68mln). The infection ratio stood at 3.2% as at End-CY21 (End-CY20: 0.3%). The Bank's exposure to market risk is low due to factors such as (i) nil investments in money market funds (ii) nil borrowings and (iii) a significant portion of zero cost BB deposits in the funding base. The Bank's advances to deposit ratio (ADR) clocked in at 64% at End-CY21 (End-CY20: 52%) indicating significant growth in the loan book. Funding solely constitutes deposit mobilization, which is majorly inclined towards current BB account deposits of low-ticket sizes in the range of PKR 100 to PKR 1,000. As at End-CY21, the total deposits of the bank stood at PKR 58,658mln (End-CY20: PKR 46,807mln), rising by 25%. Liquidity profile remained comfortable with available funds invested in Government Securities that yielded sanguine returns. The bank's liquid assets-to deposits ratio denote a healthy profile. Capital Adequacy Ratio (CAR) stood at 16.1% as at End-CY21 (End-CY20: 17.8%), above the regulatory benchmark. Equity base increased to PKR 6,141mln (CY20: PKR 5,404mln), indicating a rise of 13.6%.

Instrument Rating Considerations

About The Instrument Mobilink Microfinance Bank Limited has issued Rated, Privately Placed Listed/ DSLR, Unsecured, Subordinated, Tier II Term Finance Certificates (TFC) of up to PKR 2,000mln to contribute towards the bank's Tier II capital for complying with the Minimum Capital Requirements (MCR) and Capital Adequacy Ratio (CAR) requirement prescribed by the SBP for Microfinance Banks. The instrument has a tenor of 07 years from the date of issue. The first such profit payment is falling due at the end of sixth (6th) months from the Issue Date and subsequently every six (06) months thereafter, with rate of 6MK+210bps. The principal of TFC shall be redeemed in four equal installments commencing from the end of 66th from the issue date. The issuer may call the TFCs, in parts or in full, after five years from the issue date on the principal redemption date, thereafter, subject to prior approval from the State Bank. Further, the call option is exercisable if MMBL's MCR, LR and CAR requirements are in compliance with requirements prescribed by SBP. As per the lock-in clause requirement for tier II issues, neither profit nor principal would be payable (even at maturity), if such payment will result in a shortfall in Bank's minimum capital requirement, leveraged ratio or capital adequacy ratio or results in an increase in any existing shortfall in MCR, LR or CAR. The TFC will be subject to loss absorbency clause, upon the occurrence of a point of Non-Viability event, SBP may fully or permanently convert the TFCs into common shares of the Bank.

Relative Seniority/Subordination Of Instrument The instrument will rank pari passu with other Tier II instruments and superior to any Additional Tier I instruments.

Credit Enhancement The instrument is unsecured.



PKR mln

Mobilink Microfinance Bank
Public Unlisted Company

Dec-21	Dec-20	Dec-19	Dec-18
12M	12M	12M	12M

A BALANCE SHEET

1 Total Finances - net	37,123	24,510	14,953	12,552
2 Investments	13,266	12,074	5,252	5,409
3 Other Earning Assets	3,241	5,419	10,824	5,162
4 Non-Earning Assets	15,189	14,286	7,026	5,115
5 Non-Performing Finances-net	341	(287)	120	(124)
Total Assets	69,159	56,003	38,175	28,115
6 Deposits	58,658	46,807	29,225	22,091
7 Borrowings	-	-	-	-
8 Other Liabilities (Non-Interest Bearing)	4,360	3,792	4,091	2,059
Total Liabilities	63,018	50,599	33,316	24,151
Equity	6,141	5,404	4,859	3,964

B INCOME STATEMENT

1 Mark Up Earned	11,082	6,683	5,304	3,357
2 Mark Up Expensed	(1,697)	(1,599)	(962)	(390)
3 Non Mark Up Income	(364)	(106)	159	514
Total Income	9,021	4,978	4,501	3,481
4 Non-Mark Up Expenses	(6,981)	(4,029)	(2,775)	(2,063)
5 Provisions/Write offs/Reversals	(988)	(202)	(460)	(197)
Pre-Tax Profit	1,052	747	1,266	1,221
6 Taxes	(324)	(216)	(345)	(403)
Profit After Tax	728	530	921	818

C RATIO ANALYSIS

1 Performance

Net Mark Up Income / Avg. Assets	15.0%	10.8%	13.1%	12.19%
Non-Mark Up Expenses / Total Income	77.4%	80.9%	61.7%	59.8%
ROE	12.6%	10.3%	20.9%	23.1%

2 Capital Adequacy

Equity / Total Assets (D+E+F)	8.9%	9.6%	12.7%	14.1%
Capital Adequacy Ratio	16.1%	17.8%	23.9%	22.0%

3 Funding & Liquidity

Liquid Assets / (Deposits + Borrowings Net of Repo)	36.2%	45.2%	62.5%	57.5%
(Advances + Net Non-Performing Advances) / Deposits	63.9%	51.8%	51.6%	56.3%
Demand Deposits / Deposits	60.1%	62.0%	63.8%	64.2%
SA Deposits / Deposits	22.9%	16.1%	13.3%	14.7%

4 Credit Risk

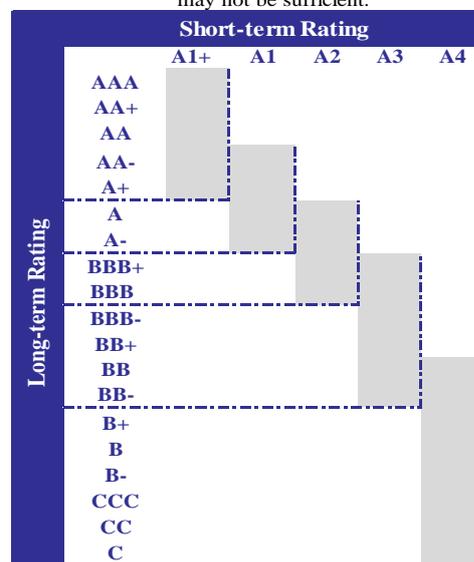
Non-Performing Advances / Gross Advances	3.2%	0.3%	3.8%	1.3%
Non-Performing Finances-net / Equity	5.5%	-5.3%	2.5%	-3.1%

Credit Rating

Credit rating reflects forward-looking opinion on credit worthiness of underlying entity or instrument; more specifically it covers relative ability to honor financial obligations. The primary factor being captured on the rating scale is relative likelihood of default.

Scale	Long-term Rating Definition
AAA	Highest credit quality. Lowest expectation of credit risk. Indicate exceptionally strong capacity for timely payment of financial commitments
AA+	
AA	Very high credit quality. Very low expectation of credit risk. Indicate very strong capacity for timely payment of financial commitments. This capacity is not significantly vulnerable to foreseeable events.
AA-	
A+	
A	High credit quality. Low expectation of credit risk. The capacity for timely payment of financial commitments is considered strong. This capacity may, nevertheless, be vulnerable to changes in circumstances or in economic conditions.
A-	
BBB+	
BBB	Good credit quality. Currently a low expectation of credit risk. The capacity for timely payment of financial commitments is considered adequate, but adverse changes in circumstances and in economic conditions are more likely to impair this capacity.
BBB-	
BB+	Moderate risk. Possibility of credit risk developing. There is a possibility of credit risk developing, particularly as a result of adverse economic or business changes over time; however, business or financial alternatives may be available to allow financial commitments to be met.
BB	
BB-	
B+	
B	High credit risk. A limited margin of safety remains against credit risk. Financial commitments are currently being met; however, capacity for continued payment is contingent upon a sustained, favorable business and economic environment.
B-	
CCC	Very high credit risk. Substantial credit risk “CCC” Default is a real possibility. Capacity for meeting financial commitments is solely reliant upon sustained, favorable business or economic developments. “CC” Rating indicates that default of some kind appears probable. “C” Ratings signal imminent default.
CC	
C	
D	Obligations are currently in default.

Scale	Short-term Rating Definition
A1+	The highest capacity for timely repayment.
A1	A strong capacity for timely repayment.
A2	A satisfactory capacity for timely repayment. This may be susceptible to adverse changes in business, economic, or financial conditions.
A3	An adequate capacity for timely repayment. Such capacity is susceptible to adverse changes in business, economic, or financial
A4	The capacity for timely repayment is more susceptible to adverse changes in business, economic, or financial conditions. Liquidity may not be sufficient.



**The correlation shown is indicative and, in certain cases, may not hold.*

Outlook (Stable, Positive, Negative, Developing) Indicates the potential and direction of a rating over the intermediate term in response to trends in economic and/or fundamental business/financial conditions. It is not necessarily a precursor to a rating change. ‘Stable’ outlook means a rating is not likely to change. ‘Positive’ means it may be raised. ‘Negative’ means it may be lowered. Where the trends have conflicting elements, the outlook may be described as ‘Developing’.

Rating Watch Alerts to the possibility of a rating change subsequent to, or, in anticipation of some material identifiable event with indeterminable rating implications. But it does not mean that a rating change is inevitable. A watch should be resolved within foreseeable future, but may continue if underlying circumstances are not settled. Rating watch may accompany rating outlook of the respective opinion.

Suspension It is not possible to update an opinion due to lack of requisite information. Opinion should be resumed in foreseeable future. However, if this does not happen within six (6) months, the rating should be considered withdrawn.

Withdrawn A rating is withdrawn on a) termination of rating mandate, b) the debt instrument is redeemed, c) the rating remains suspended for six months, d) the entity/issuer defaults, or/and e) PACRA finds it impractical to surveil the opinion due to lack of requisite information.

Harmonization A change in rating due to revision in applicable methodology or underlying scale.

Surveillance. Surveillance on a publicly disseminated rating opinion is carried out on an ongoing basis till it is formally suspended or withdrawn. A comprehensive surveillance of rating opinion is carried out at least once every six months. However, a rating opinion may be reviewed in the intervening period if it is necessitated by any material happening.

Note. This scale is applicable to the following methodology(s):

- a) Broker Entity Rating
- b) Corporate Rating
- c) Debt Instrument Rating
- d) Financial Institution Rating
- e) Holding Company Rating
- f) Independent Power Producer Rating
- g) Microfinance Institution Rating
- h) Non-Banking Finance Companies Rating

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Rating Team Statements

(1) Rating is just an opinion about the creditworthiness of the entity and does not constitute recommendation to buy, hold or sell any security of the entity rated or to buy, hold or sell the security rated, as the case may be | Chapter III; 14-3-(x)

2) Conflict of Interest

- i. The Rating Team or any of their family members have no interest in this rating | Chapter III; 12-2-(j)
- ii. PACRA, the analysts involved in the rating process and members of its rating committee, and their family members, do not have any conflict of interest relating to the rating done by them | Chapter III; 12-2-(e) & (k)
- iii. The analyst is not a substantial shareholder of the customer being rated by PACRA [Annexure F; d-(ii)] Explanation: for the purpose of above clause, the term "family members" shall include only those family members who are dependent on the analyst and members of the rating committee

Restrictions

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- (4) PACRA does not disclose or discuss with outside parties or make improper use of the non-public information which has come to its knowledge during business relationship with the customer | Chapter III; 10-7-(d)
- (5) PACRA does not make proposals or recommendations regarding the activities of rated entities that could impact a credit rating of entity subject to rating | Chapter III; 10-7-(k)

Conduct of Business

- (6) PACRA fulfills its obligations in a fair, efficient, transparent and ethical manner and renders high standards of services in performing its functions and obligations; | Chapter III; 11-A-(a)
- (7) PACRA uses due care in preparation of this Rating Report. Our information has been obtained from sources we consider to be reliable but its accuracy or completeness is not guaranteed. PACRA does not, in every instance, independently verifies or validates information received in the rating process or in preparing this Rating Report.
- (8) PACRA prohibits its employees and analysts from soliciting money, gifts or favors from anyone with whom PACRA conducts business | Chapter III; 11-A-(q)
- (9) PACRA ensures before commencement of the rating process that an analyst or employee has not had a recent employment or other significant business or personal relationship with the rated entity that may cause or may be perceived as causing a conflict of interest; | Chapter III; 11-A-(r)
- (10) PACRA maintains principal of integrity in seeking rating business | Chapter III; 11-A-(u)
- (11) PACRA promptly investigates, in the event of a misconduct or a breach of the policies, procedures and controls, and takes appropriate steps to rectify any weaknesses to prevent any recurrence along with suitable punitive action against the responsible employee(s) | Chapter III; 11-B-(m)

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- (12) PACRA receives compensation from the entity being rated or any third party for the rating services it offers. The receipt of this compensation has no influence on PACRA's opinions or other analytical processes. In all instances, PACRA is committed to preserving the objectivity, integrity and independence of its ratings. Our relationship is governed by two distinct mandates i) rating mandate - signed with the entity being rated or issuer of the debt instrument, and fee mandate - signed with the payer, which can be different from the entity
- (13) PACRA does not provide consultancy/advisory services or other services to any of its customers or to any of its customers' associated companies and associated undertakings that is being rated or has been rated by it during the preceding three years unless it has adequate mechanism in place ensuring that provision of such services does not lead to a conflict of interest situation with its rating activities; | Chapter III; 12-2-(d)
- (14) PACRA discloses that no shareholder directly or indirectly holding 10% or more of the share capital of PACRA also holds directly or indirectly 10% or more of the share capital of the entity which is subject to rating or the entity which issued the instrument subject to rating by PACRA; | Reference Chapter III; 12-2-(f)
- (15) PACRA ensures that the rating assigned to an entity or instrument is not be affected by the existence of a business relationship between PACRA and the entity or any other party, or the non-existence of such a relationship | Chapter III; 12-2-(i)
- (16) PACRA ensures that the analysts or any of their family members shall not buy or sell or engage in any transaction in any security which falls in the analyst's area of primary analytical responsibility. This clause shall, however, not be applicable on investment in securities through collective investment schemes. | Chapter III; 12-2-(l)
- (17) PACRA has established policies and procedure governing investments and trading in securities by its employees and for monitoring the same to prevent insider trading, market manipulation or any other market abuse | Chapter III; 11-B-(g)

Monitoring and review

- (18) PACRA monitors all the outstanding ratings continuously and any potential change therein due to any event associated with the issuer, the security arrangement, the industry etc., is disseminated to the market, immediately and in effective manner, after appropriate consultation with the entity/issuer; | Chapter III | 18-(a)
- (19) PACRA reviews all the outstanding ratings on semi-annual basis or as and when required by any creditor or upon the occurrence of such an event which requires to do so; | Chapter III | 18-(b)
- (20) PACRA initiates immediate review of the outstanding rating upon becoming aware of any information that may reasonably be expected to result in downgrading of the rating; | Chapter III | 18-(c)
- (21) PACRA engages with the issuer and the debt securities trustee, to remain updated on all information pertaining to the rating of the entity/instrument; | Chapter III | 18-(d)

Probability of Default

(22) PACRA's Rating Scale reflects the expectation of credit risk. The highest rating has the lowest relative likelihood of default (i.e, probability). PACRA's transition studies capture the historical performance behavior of a specific rating notch. Transition behavior of the assigned rating can be obtained from PACRA's Transition Study available at our website. (www.pacra.com). However, actual transition of rating may not follow the pattern observed in the past | Chapter III | 14-(F-VII)

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Size of Issue (PKR)	Years		Profit rate		Purpose			Security	
PKR 2000mln	7 years		6MK+210bps		To meet the Tier-II capital for complying CAR			Unsecured	
Mobilini microfinance Bank Limited-PPTFC-Tentative Repayment Schedule									
Months Ended	StartDate	EndDate	DueDate	Tenor (Days)	Interest rate 6MK+2.1%	Principle Redemption	Interest	Total Payment	O/s Principle
0									2,000,000,000.00
6	1-May-2022	31-Oct-2022	1-Nov-2022	184	10.81		122,599,452.05	122,599,452.05	2,000,000,000.00
12	1-Nov-2022	30-Apr-2023	1-May-2023	181	10.81		120,600,547.95	120,600,547.95	2,000,000,000.00
18	1-May-2023	31-Oct-2023	1-Nov-2023	184	10.81		122,599,452.05	122,599,452.05	2,000,000,000.00
24	1-Nov-2023	30-Apr-2024	1-May-2024	182	10.81		121,266,849.32	121,266,849.32	2,000,000,000.00
30	1-May-2024	31-Oct-2024	1-Nov-2024	184	10.81		122,599,452.05	122,599,452.05	2,000,000,000.00
36	1-Nov-2024	30-Apr-2025	1-May-2025	181	10.81		120,600,547.95	120,600,547.95	2,000,000,000.00
42	1-May-2025	31-Oct-2025	1-Nov-2025	184	10.81		122,599,452.05	122,599,452.05	2,000,000,000.00
48	1-Nov-2025	30-Apr-2026	1-May-2026	181	10.81		120,600,547.95	120,600,547.95	2,000,000,000.00
54	1-May-2026	31-Oct-2026	1-Nov-2026	184	10.81		122,599,452.05	122,599,452.05	2,000,000,000.00
60	1-Nov-2026	30-Apr-2027	1-May-2027	181	10.81		120,600,547.95	120,600,547.95	2,000,000,000.00
66	1-May-2027	31-Oct-2027	1-Nov-2027	184	10.81		122,599,452.05	122,599,452.05	2,000,000,000.00
72	1-Nov-2027	30-Apr-2028	1-May-2028	182	10.81	500,000,000	121,266,849.32	621,266,849.32	1,500,000,000.00
78	1-May-2028	31-Oct-2028	1-Nov-2028	184	10.81	500,000,000	91,949,589.04	591,949,589.04	1,000,000,000.00
84	1-Nov-2028	30-Apr-2029	1-May-2029	181	10.81	500,000,000	60,300,273.97	560,300,273.97	500,000,000.00
90	1-May-2029	31-Oct-2029	1-Nov-2029	184	10.81	500,000,000	30,649,863.01	530,649,863.01	0.00
				Total		2,000,000,000.00	1,643,432,328.77	3,643,432,328.77	