# Risks and capitalisation of insurers in MENA a rating agency perspective

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Seventh International Conference "AqabaConf2019" 17 April 2019

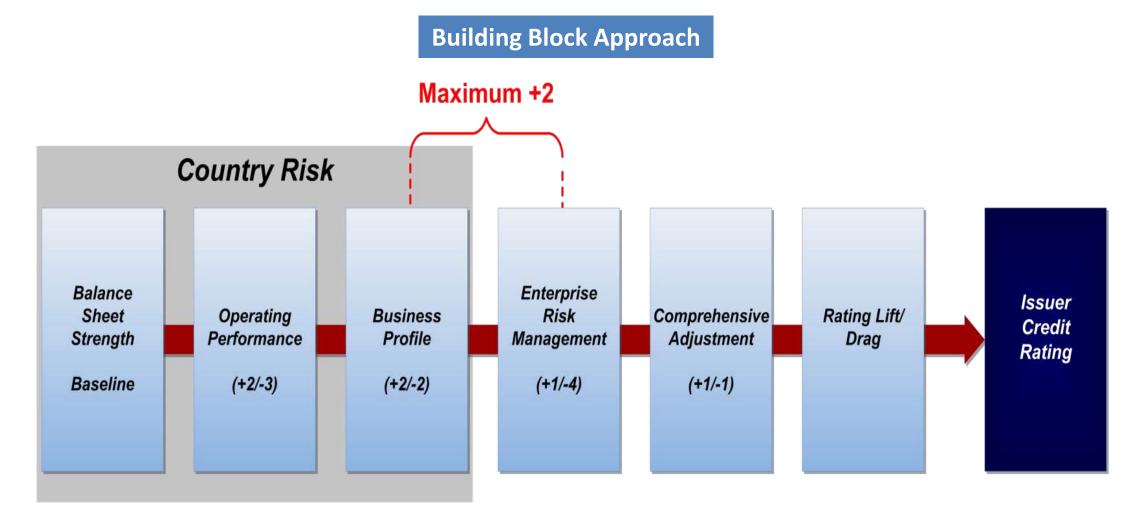


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## **A.M. Best's Rating Process**



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## **Balance Sheet Strength: BCAR Scores**

#### **Updated BCAR Formula**

Four scores corresponding to the 95%, 99%, 99.5% and 99.6% confidence level; translates to a BCAR assessment

VaR Level (%)	BCAR	BCAR Assessment
99.6	> 25 at 99.6	Strongest
99.6	> 10 at 99.6 & ≤ 25 at 99.6	Very Strong
99.5	$> 0$ at 99.5 & $\leq 10$ at 99.6	Strong
99	> 0 at 99 & ≤ 0 at 99.5	Adequate
95	> 0 at 95 & ≤ 0 at 99	Weak
95	≤ 0 at 95	Very Weak



## **Balance Sheet Strength: The Baseline Assessment**

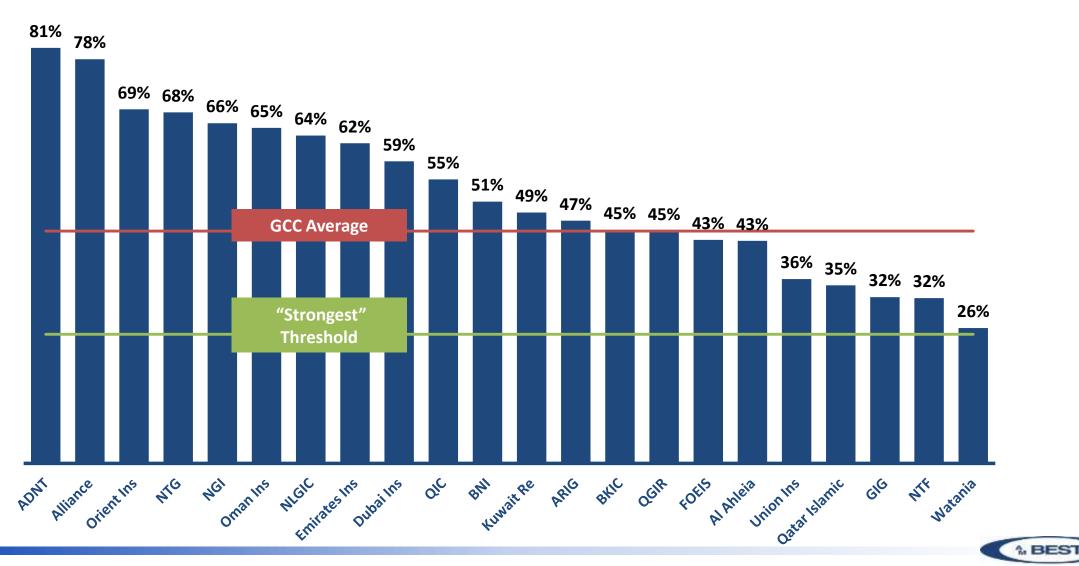
#### **Overall Balance Sheet Strength Assessment**

#### **Country Risk Tier**

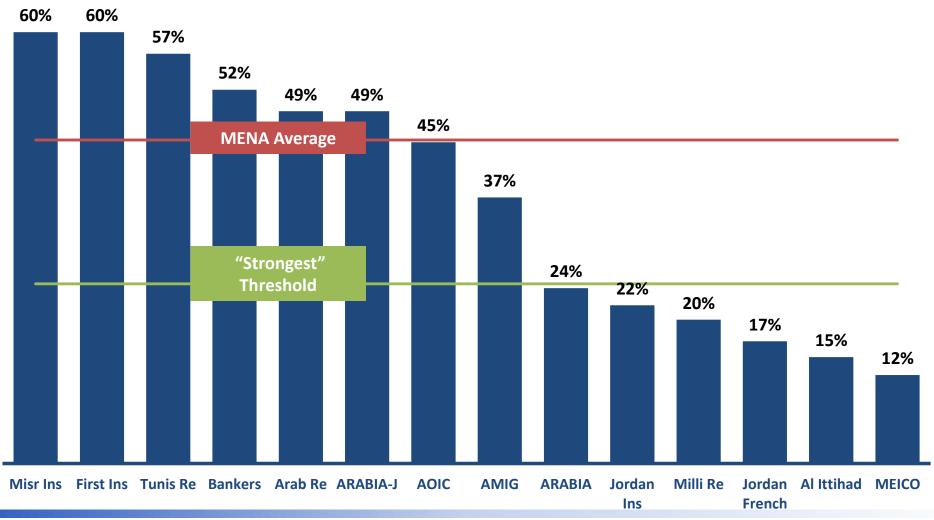
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Combined Balance Sheet Assessment (Rating Unit / Holding Company)	St
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	CRT-1	CRT-2	CRT-3	CRT-4	CRT-5
Strongest	a+/a	a+/a	a/a-	a-/bbb+	bbb+/bbb
Very Strong	a/a-	a/a-	a-/bbb+	bbb+/bbb	bbb/bbb-
Strong	a-/bbb+	a-/bbb+	bbb+/bbb/bbb-	bbb/bbb-/bb+	bbb-/bb+/bb
Adequate	bbb+/bbb/bbb-	bbb+/bbb/bbb-	bbb-/bb+/bb	bb+/bb/bb-	bb-/b+/b
Weak	bb+/bb/bb-	bb+/bb/bb-	bb-/b+/b	b+/b/b-	b/b-/ccc+
Very Weak	b+ and below	b+ and below	b- and below	ccc+ and below	ccc and below

## Balance Sheet strength: GCC BCAR scores @ 99.6% (1-in-250)

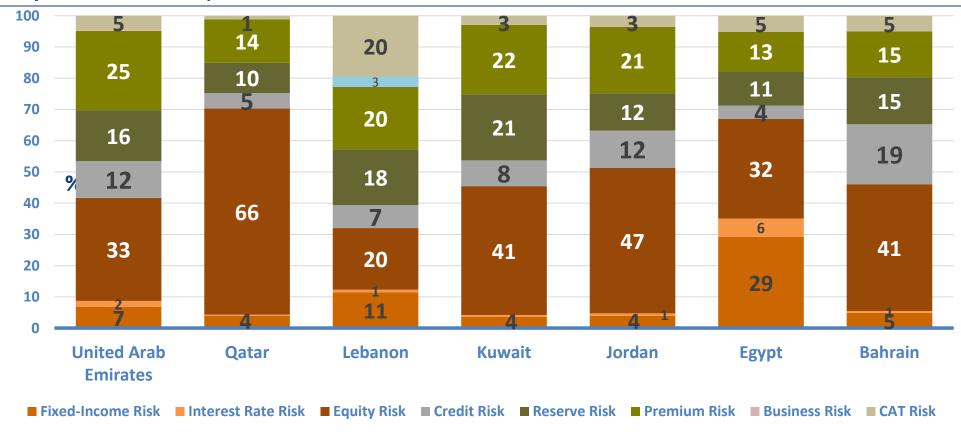


# Balance Sheet strength: rest of MENA BCAR scores @ 99.6% (1-in-250) (as at September 30, 2018)



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## Balance Sheet strength: breakdown of Capital requirements



- Investment risk (equity and real estate) is the main driver of capital requirements
- Asset charges incorporate CIC and concentration risk factors



## **Balance Sheet Strength: Relationship of BCAR to Balance Sheet Strength**

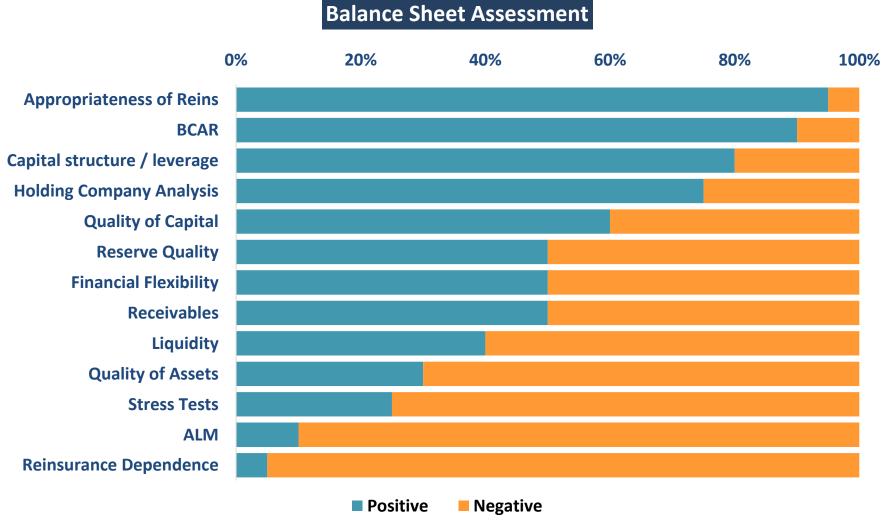
(as at September 30, 2018)

BCAR	Balance Sheet Assessment					
Assessment	Strongest	Very Strong	Strong	Adequate	Weak	Very Weak
Strongest	-	67%	16%	-	-	-
Very Strong	-	2%	8%	-	-	-
Strong	-	-	6%	-	-	-
Adequate	-	-	-	_	-	_
Weak	-	-	-	-	-	-
Very Weak	-	-	-	-	-	-

Most rated companies have "strongest" BCARs, with "Very Strong" balance sheet assessment

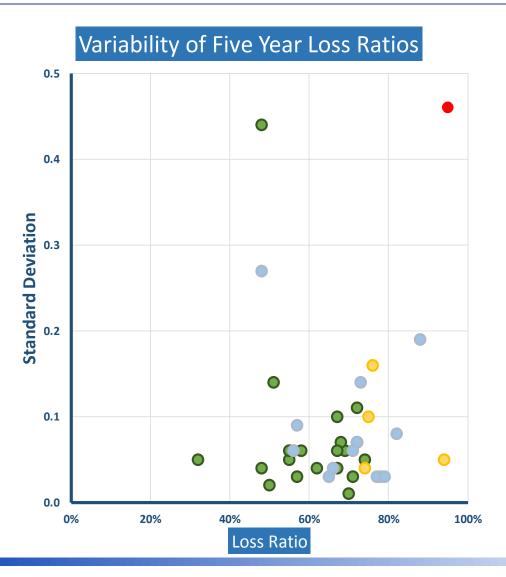


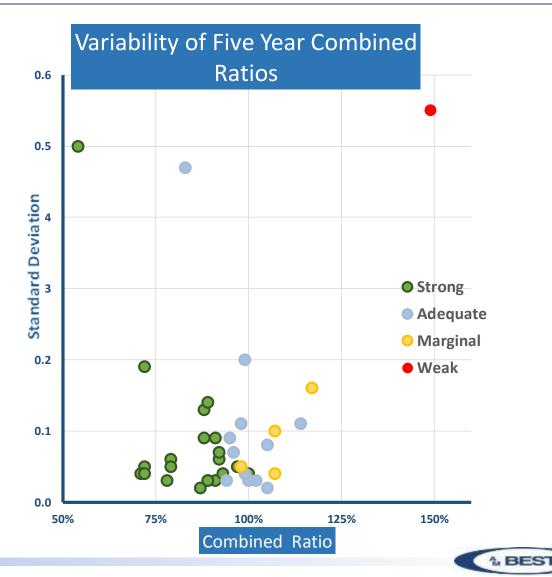
### **Balance Sheet Strength: Summary**



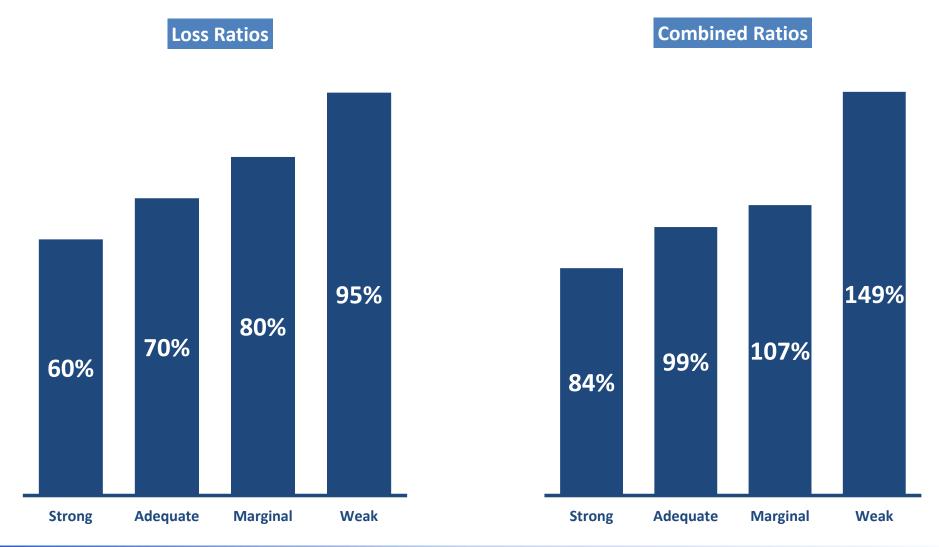


## Operating Performance: Technical ratios and volatility in MENA



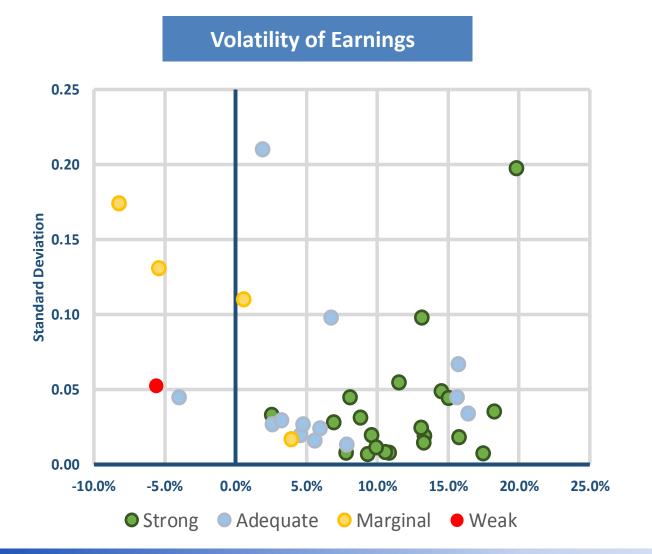


## **Operating performance: Technical Ratios in MENA**

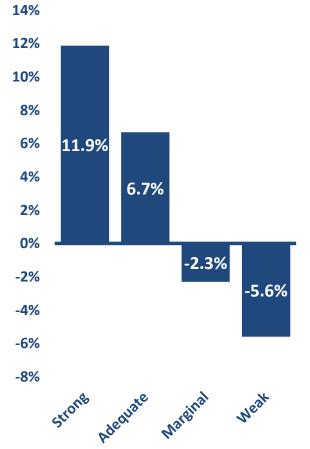


## **Operating performance: Return on Equity**

(as at September 30, 2018)



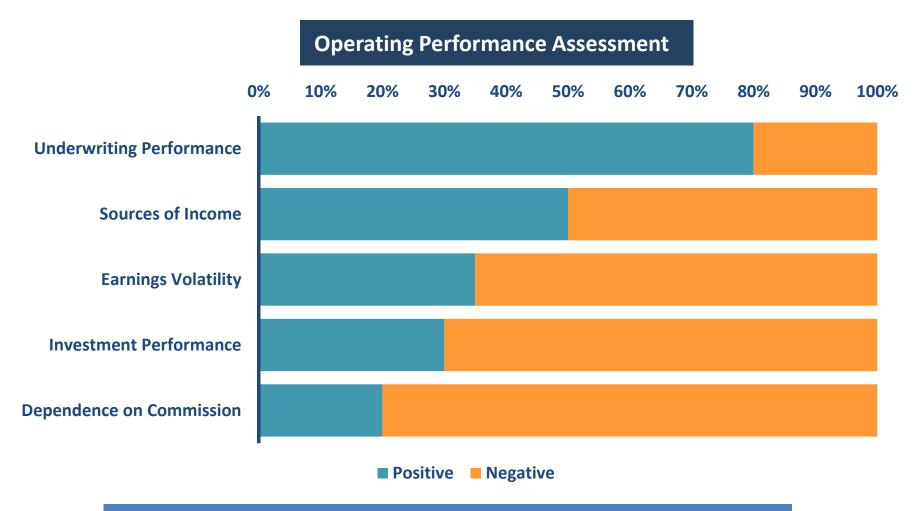
#### **Average Return on Equity**





### **Summary of operating performance in MENA**

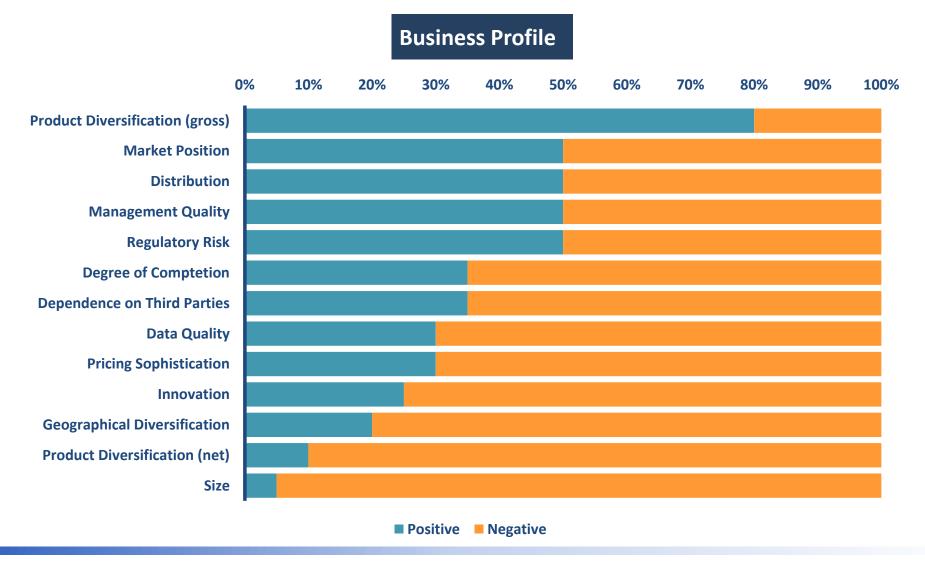
(as at September 30, 2018)



Operating performance assessed against appropriate benchmarks



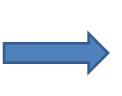
## **Summary of business profile in MENA**





## **Enterprise Risk Management (ERM)**

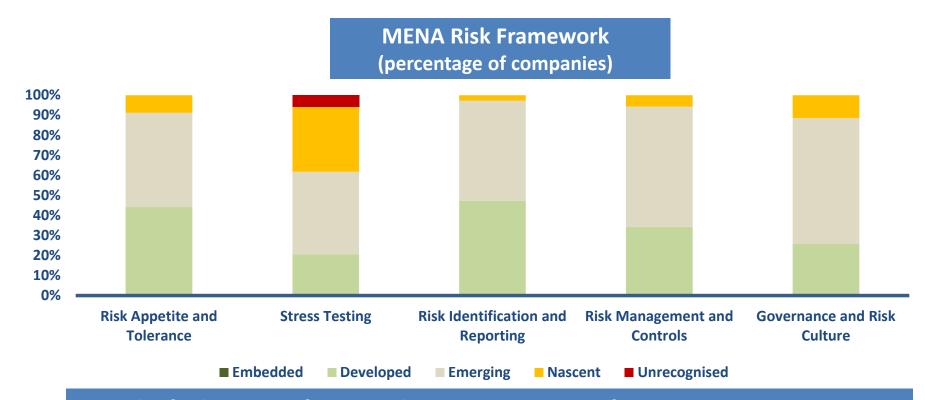
Framework Assessment Components		
Risk Identification and Reporting		
Risk Appetite and Tolerances		
Stress Testing		
Risk Management and Controls		
Governance and Risk Culture		



Framework Assessment Descriptors		
Embedded		
Developed		
Emerging		
Nascent		
Unrecognised		

Assessment of Capabilities Relative to Profile		
Product and Underwriting Risk	Investment Risk	
Reserving risk	Legislative/Regulatory/Judicial/	
Reserving risk	Economic Risk	
Concentration Risk	Operational Risk	
Reinsurance Risk	Liquidity and Capital Management Risk	

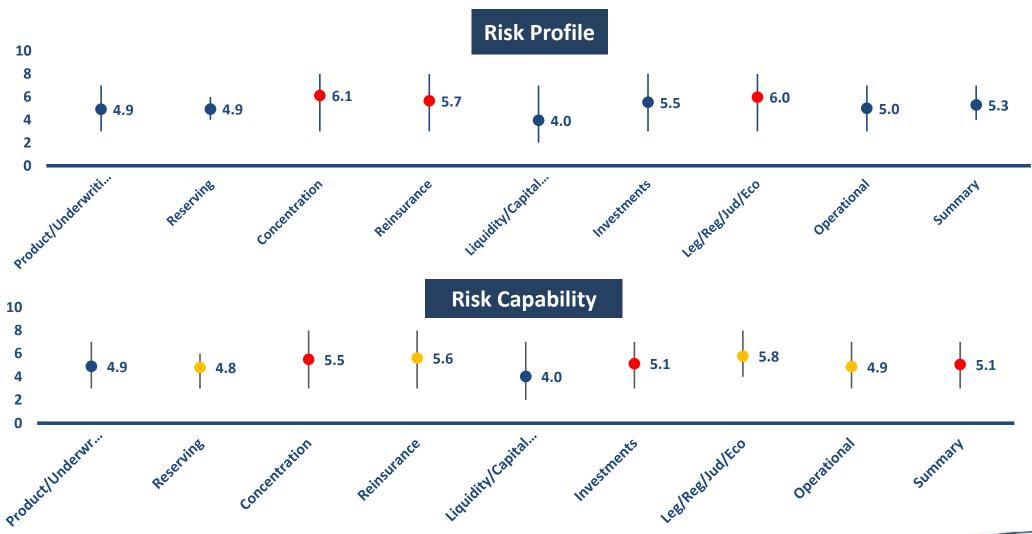
#### **ERM: risk framework in MENA**



- Lack of robust ERM framework is a negative rating factor
- Most frameworks within the "emerging" phase
- No frameworks viewed as embedded
- Failure to demonstrate improvements (relative to benchmark) may result in greater pressure on the building block assessment

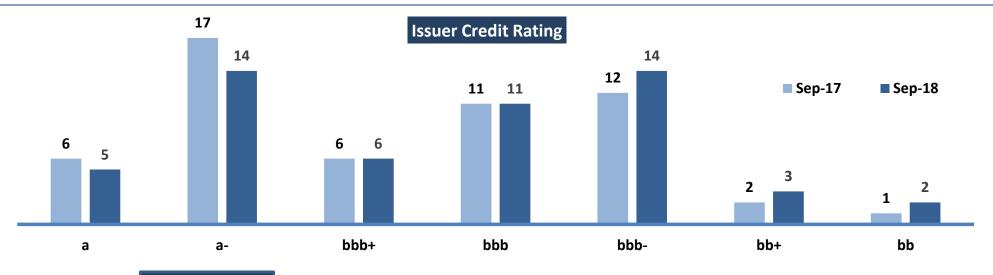


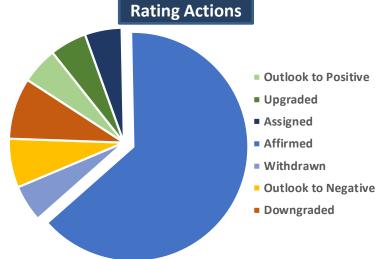
## Risk Profile vs Risk Capability in MENA



## **Distribution of Ratings – MENA**

(as at September 30, 2018)





#### **Upgrades / Positive Actions**

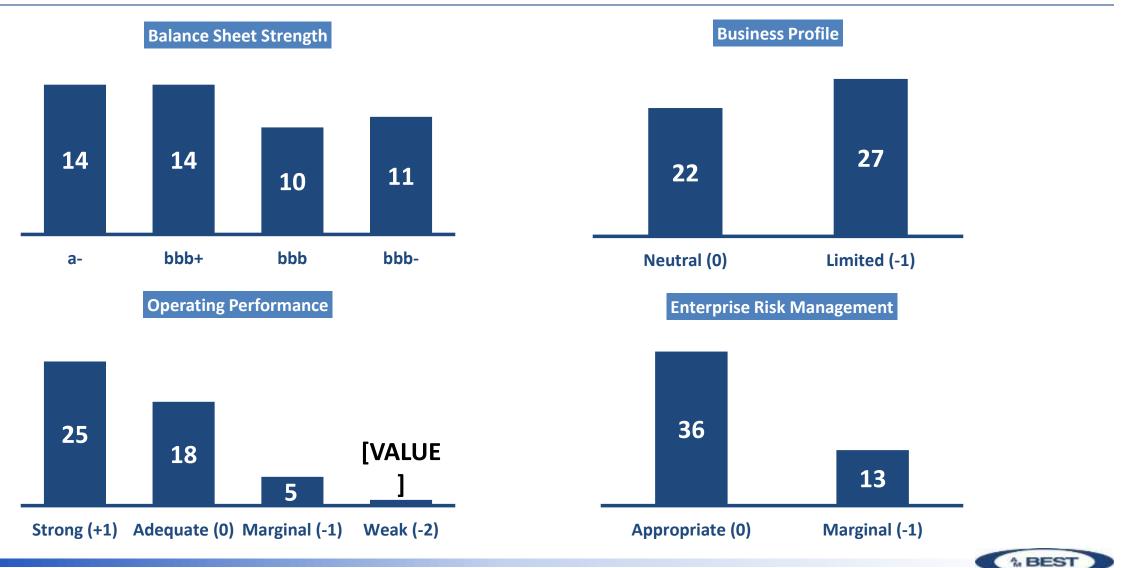
Improved capitalisation and / or operating performance

#### **Downgrades / Negative Actions:**

Weak technical performance, governance issues and / or reducing business profile



## **Building Blocks – Evaluation by Company Count**



## **Final Thoughts**

#### Governance

- Restatements
- Write down of assets
- Reserve strengthening
- Fraud

## Regulation

- Short-term volatility
- Longer-term stability
- Stronger solvency regimes

## Volatility

- High asset risk
- Fluctuations in operating performance
- Buffers required in RAC

#### ERM

- Improved basic structures
- Lack of effective utilisation
- Higher prospective benchmarks

