

# **PENDING** THE **INVESTMENT** EFFECT ON **GROWTH**

- 03 | Banks drive revenue's growth for the 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive quarter
- 04 | Towards a catch-up effect in bank performance in 2024?
- 05 | Appendix of Q1-24 results







# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

During this 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2024, the activity of listed companies evolved within a general context marked by: (1) The decline in inflation to 1.2% on average, (2) Unfavorable weather conditions leading to a contraction of Crop Value Added by -3.9%, (3) The announcements of several projects within the framework of AFCON 2025, the World Cup 2030, the rehabilitation of Al-Haouz region and finally, (4) The launch of the direct housing support program.

Upon the analysis of listed companies' operational achievements, we emerge with the following conclusions:

- The growth in market revenue of +4.0% in Q1-24 was driven by the banking sector, whose aggregate NBI showed an increase of +21.6% (MAD +3.9 Bn). Excluding this sector, the Equity market shows a drop in revenue of -1.7% at the end of the said period;
- Quarterly market achievements hide certain disparities. More than 40% of listed companies showed a drop in their revenue in Q1-24, i.e. 28 companies. Note that this level averaged 1/3 over the last 4 quarters. A situation which could be explained by the impact of the drop in inflation on sales prices as well as the delay in the achievements of some investment projects;
- Despite the quality of its achievements in recent quarters, the banking sector still trades at valuation multiples that are more than 30% lower than those of the non-financial sectors, i.e. a P/E 24E of 15.1x compared to 23.1x respectively.
  - A paradoxical situation which, in our opinion, should be readjusted through a catching-up effect of the "performance" of banking stocks combined with a "profit-taking" effect at the level of non-financial sectors;
- Finally, and upon reading the issuers' press releases, we note a general "optimism" regarding the improvement of their activity indicators starting H2-2024. This would result from a more dynamic Demand due to of the effective execution of the various investment projects announced.

# Maria IRAQI

Manager +212 529 03 68 01 m.iraqui@attijari.ma

# Anass DRIF

Financial Analyst +212 5 22 49 14 82 a.drif@attijari.ma

# BANKS DRIVE REVENUE'S GROWTH FOR THE 4<sup>TH</sup> CONSECUTIVE QUARTER

The decline in inflation since 2023 has been reflected in revenue's growth profile of listed companies. These posted their lowest quarterly growth over the last 3 years, i.e.  $+2.3\%^{[1]}$  in Q4-23. At the end of Q1-24, we are witnessing a recovery of the market's revenue growth, i.e. +4.0% to MAD 77.7 Bn.

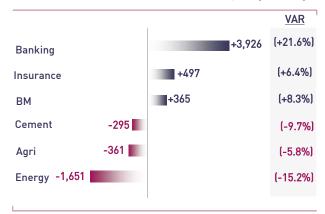
This development still hides disparities. In fact, more than 40% of listed companies show a drop in their revenue in Q1-24, i.e. 28. At the same time, 57% of listed companies show an increase in their revenue, i.e. 39 and only one company records stable achievements over the same period. Ultimately, two sectors attract our attention:

- The **Banking** sector shows an increase of MAD +3,926 Mn (+21.6%) in its consolidated NBI, still, for the 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive quarter, at the top of the sectors having best contributed to the market's revenue growth;
- The **Energy** sector continues to suffer from the decline in the prices of energy products internationally since Q2-23. This is an under-performance of MAD -1,651 Mn (-15.2%).

MARKET: EVOLUTION OF QUARTERLY REVENUE (MAD BN)



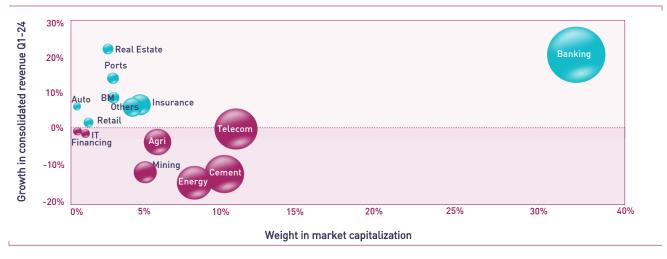
MARKET: REVENUE GROWTH BY SECTOR IN Q1-24 (MAD MN)



In relative variation, the evolution of the revenue of the different listed sectors is as follows:

- 8 listed sectors, representing more than 56% of market capitalization, showed an appreciation of their revenue at the end of the first quarter of this year. These are: Banking (+21.6%), Real Estate (+21.6%), Ports (+13.5%), BM (+8.3%), Automotive (+7.4%), Others (+7.3%), Insurance (+6.4%) and Retail (+1.3%);
- 2 listed sectors, whose aggregate weight in capitalization is 13%, achieved almost stable revenue. These are the Telecoms and Financing sectors whose quarterly revenue shows a slight decrease of -0.3%;
- 5 listed sectors displayed a decline in their revenue, namely: Energy (-15.2%), Cement (-9.7%), Mining (-9.3%), Agribusiness (-5.8%) and IT (-1.9%). These weigh nearly 31% of market capitalization.

# EQUITY MARKET: GROWTH IN THE MAIN LISTED SECTORS (%) IN Q1-24 VS. WEIGHT IN MARKET CAPITALIZATION



(1) This is the lowest level since Q1-21

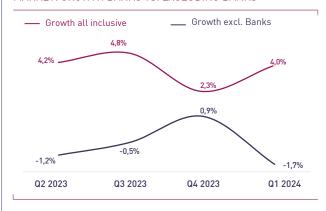
Sources: Press releases of listed companies, CSE, AGR Computations

# TOWARDS A CATCH-UP EFFECT IN BANK PERFORMANCE IN 2024?

When analyzing the quarterly market achievements since 2023, we note a strong contribution from banks. Over the studied period, the average growth in market revenue of +3.8% was driven by the banking sector. The latter displays an average revenue of +17.5% compared to -0.6% for the non-financial sectors. At the origin of this outperformance, the resilience of loan dynamics in the face of inflationary shocks.

Paradoxically, the banking sector trades at valuation multiples that are significantly lower than those of the non-financial sectors. These are respective P/E 24E of 15.1x versus 23.1x. Despite the resilience of its growth profile, the listed banking sector displays a significant valuation discount of nearly 35.0% compared to non-financial sectors' observed levels.

# MARKET: GROWTH BANKS VS. EXCLUDING BANKS



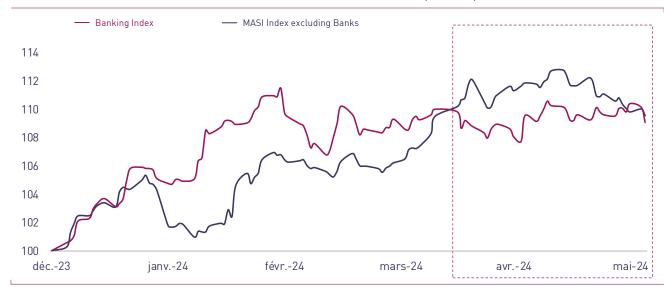
# P/E: AGR-30 EXCLUDING BANKS (EB) VS. BANKING SECTOR



From a stock market perspective, the "Banking sector" index has underperformed that of "non-financial" sector since Q2-24. A situation which we believe is hardly sustainable, taking into account the market's operational achievements in 2024.

Under these conditions, we expect a rebalancing in terms of valuation between the banking sector on the one hand, and the remaining sectors on the other hand. Concretely, we believe in a catch-up effect in the performance of banking stocks. This process should be accelerated by a movement of profit-taking in a large part of the non-financial sectors.

# EVOLUTION OF THE MASI INDEX EXCLUDING BANKS VS. BANKING INDEX SINCE 2023 (BASE 100)



Sources: Press releases from listed companies, BVC, AGR Computations & Estimates

# **QUARTERLY RESULTS**

	Revenue/NBI		
In MAD Mn	Q1-24	Q1-23	Var
Maroc Telecom	9 066	9 093	-0,3%
Cosumar	2 439	2 512	-2,9%
Lesieur Cristal	1 506	1 777	-15,3%
SBM	362	466	-22,4%
	544		
Oulmès		452	20,3%
Mutandis	470	465	1,1%
Dari Couspate	222	235	-5,4%
Unimer	273	269	1,5%
Attijariwafa bank	8 520	6 861	24,2%
BCP	6 049	4 820	25,5%
BOA	4 465	3 834	16,5%
CIH Bank	1 123	969	15,9%
BMCI	910	792	14,8%
Crédit du Maroc	791	719	10,0%
CFG Bank	208	144	44,4%
Wafa Assurance	4 073	3 605	13,0%
Sanlam Maroc	2 147	2 193	-2,1%
AtlantaSanad	1 962	1 893	3,6%
AFMA	86	80	7,8%
Sonasid	1 249	1 343	-7,0%
TGCC	1 709	1 229	39,1%
Delta Holding	689	600	14,8%
Jet Contractors	603	521	15,9%
		307	
Aluminium du Maroc SNEP	264		-14,0%
	113	272	-58,7%
Colorado	130	119	8,5%
LafargeHolcim Maroc	1 884	2 131	-11,6%
Ciments du Maroc	870	918	-5,2%
Addoha	689	572	20,5%
Alliances	650	523	24,3%
RDS	54	51	5,9%
TotalEnergies Marketing Maroc	4 230	4 346	-2,7%
Taqa Morocco	2 959	4 090	-27,7%
Afriquia Gaz	2 046	2 449	-16,5%
Label Vie	3 825	3 777	1,3%
Auto Hall	1 169	1 069	9,4%
Auto Nejma	647	622	4,0%
Marsa Maroc	1 140	1 004	13,5%
Managem	1 935	2 220	-12,8%
SMI	251	214	17,3%
CMT	140	131	6,9%
Disway	438	481	-8,9%
HPS	288	265	8,6%
S2M	58	59	-3,2%
M2M Group	23	17	35,3%
Eqdom	130	132	-1,5%
Maghrebail	980	948	3,4%
Maroc Leasing	65	97	-33,2%
Salafin	93	95	-2,0%
Akdital	611	380	60,8%
Ennakl Automobiles	456	445	2,3%
Sothema	656	597	9,9%
Risma	253	273	-7,3%
	171	172	
Promopharm			-0,6%
CTM	156	143	9,1%
Timar	140	175	-20,0%
Aradei Capital	146	142	2,7%
Fenie Brossette	155	151	2,6%
SRM	35	61	-43,0%
Stokvis Nord Afrique	29	50	-42,0%
Maghreb Oxygène	71	71	-0,7%
Afric Industries	10	9	9,7%
Med Paper	22	30	-27,0%
Immorente Invest	18	16	15,3%
Stroc Industrie	21	27	-20,8%
Balima	12	12	4,5%
Zellidja	155	151	2,6%
Lettinja			
Robob Company	0.007		
Rebab Company DLM	0,007 NC	0,007 NC	0,0%

Sources: Press releases from listed companies, AGR Computations

# ATTIJARI GLOBAL RESEARCH

# **HEAD OF STRATEGY**

Taha Jaidi +212 5 29 03 68 23 t.jaidi@attijari.ma Casablanca

# **CHIEF ECONOMIST**

Abdelaziz Lahlou +212 5 29 03 68 37 ab.lahlou@attiiari.ma Casablanca

# FINANCIAL ANALYST

Anass Drif +212 5 22 49 14 82 a.drif@attiiari.ma Casablanca

Lamyae Oudghiri +212 5 29 03 68 18 l.oudghiri@attijari.ma Casablanca

# **MANAGER**

**MANAGER** 

Maria Iraqi +212 5 29 03 68 01 m.iraqui@attijari.ma Casablanca

# SENIOR ANALYST

Ines Khouaja +216 31 34 13 10 khouaja.ines@attijaribourse.com.tn

# SENIOR ASSOCIATE

Mahat Zerhouni +212 5 29 03 68 16 m.zerhouni@attijari.ma Casablanca

# **ASSOCIATE**

Meryeme Hadi +212 5 22 49 14 82 m.hadi@attijari.ma Casablanca

# FINANCIAL ANALYST

Ulderic Djadjo +237 681 77 89 40 u.djadjo@attijarisecurities.com Douala

# **ASSOCIATE**

Walid Kabbaj +212 5 22 49 14 82 w.kabbaj@attijari.ma Casablanca

# **INVESTOR RELATIONS ANALYST**

Nisrine Jamali +212 5 22 49 14 82 n.jamali@attijari.ma Casablanca Casablanca

# FINANCIAL ANALYST

Yves André Angaman +225 07 49 24 60 35 yves.angaman@sib.ci Abidian

# Equity

# BROKERAGE - MOROCCO

Abdellah Alaoui +212 5 29 03 68 27 a.alaoui@attijari.ma

Rachid Zakaria +212 5 29 03 68 48 r.zakaria@attijari.ma Anis Hares +212 5 29 03 68 34 a.hares@attijari.ma

Alae Yahya +212 5 29 03 68 15 a.yahya@attijari.ma

Sofia Mohcine +212 5 22 49 59 52 s.mohcine@wafabourse.com

# CUSTODY - MOROCCO

Tarik Loudivi +212 5 22 54 42 98 t.loudiyi@attijariwafa.com

# WAEMU - CÔTE D'IVOIRE

Mohamed Lemridi +225 20 21 98 26 mohamed.lemridi@sib.ci

# **BROKERAGE - TUNISIA**

Hichem Ben Romdhane +225 29 318 965 h.benrhomdane@attijaribank.com.tns

# CEMAC - CAMEROUN

Ernest Pouhe +237 651 23 51 15 e.pouhe@attijarisecurities.com

# Bonds /Forex /Commodities

# **MOROCCO**

Mohammed Hassoun Filali +212 5 22 42 87 24 m.hassounfilali@attijariwafa.com

Amine Elhajli +212 5 22 42 87 09 m.elhajli@attijariwafa.com Loubaba Alaoui Mdaghri +212 6 47 47 48 34 l.alaouim@attijariwafa.com

Dalal Tahoune +212 5 22 42 87 07 d.tahoune@attijariwafa.com

Youssef HANSALI +33 1 81 69 79 45 Y.hansali@attijariwafa.net

**EUROPE** 

# **FGYPT**

Ahmed Darwish +20 127 755 90 13 ahmed.darwish@attijariwafa.com.eg

# TUNISIA

Mehdi BELHABIB +216 71 80 29 22 mehdi.belhabib@attijaribank.com.tn

# MIDDI F FAST - DUBAÏ

Sherif REDA +971 50 560 88 65 sreda@attijari-me.com

# WAFMU - CÔTF D'IVOIRF

Abid Halim +225 20 20 01 55 abid.halim@sib.ci

# CFMAC - GABON

Atef GABSI (Gabon) +241 60 18 60 02 atef.gabsi@ugb-banque.com Elvira NOMO (Cameroun) +237 67 27 34 367

e.nomo@attijarisecurities.com

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