Political risk has dampened investor confidence in Thailand despite its underlying positive economic outlook. A buoyant tourism sector, gains from lower oil costs, and easing monetary policy should support transactional activity in the next three to four years. As a result, we forecast domestic M&A to remain stable in 2017 and 2018, and inbound M&A to rise in 2019 and 2020. However, with the new monarch taking the throne in November and general elections coming up later this year, risks to this forecast remain high.

M&A AND IPO TRANSACTIONS							
	2014	2015	2016	2017f	2018f	2019f	2020f
TOTAL M&A TRANSACTIONS (US\$B)	3.9	5.3	7.5	7.5	9.5	9.9	6.1
% of Global M&A transactions	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3
Domestic (US\$B)	2.1	4.4	5.5	5.6	6.1	6.4	3.6
Cross-border, inbound (US\$B)	1.8	0.9	2.0	1.9	3.3	3.5	2.5
TOTAL VOLUME OF M&A TRANSACTIONS (Number of deals)	113	80	84	117	129	136	85
Domestic (Number of deals)	67	47	41	66	69	72	40
Cross-border, inbound (Number of deals)	46	33	43	51	60	64	45
TOTAL IPO TRANSACTIONS (US\$B)	2.7	3.9	1.2	2.6	4.4	5.0	2.2
% Global IPO transactions	1.0	1.9	0.9	1.5	1.6	1.8	1.2
Domestic (US\$B)	2.7	3.5	1.1	2.6	4.4	5.0	2.2
Cross-border (US\$B)	0.0	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

FORECAST FOR THE ECONOMY							
	2014	2015	2016	2017f	2018f	2019f	2020f
MACROECONOMIC DRIVERS	1 1 1	 		 	1 1 1	1 1 1	1 1 1
Real GDP growth (% yoy)	0.8	2.8	3.1	3.1	3.3	3.1	3.0
CPI (% yoy)	1.9	-0.9	0.1	1.8	2.1	2.1	2.1
Merchandise trade (% of GDP)	108	101	97	96	96	94	95
FINANCIAL DRIVERS	! ! ! !	! ! ! !		! ! ! !	! ! ! !	! ! ! !	
10-year government bond yield (%)	3.5	2.8	2.1	2.9	3.4	3.8	4.2
Equity prices (LCU, end of year % change)	15.3	-14.0	17.4	3.0	7.4	4.7	-11.2
Stock market capitalization (US\$B)	430	349	398	398	419	450	404

KEY DRIVER SUMMARY (AVERAGE 2015-2020)				
Thailand				
GDP growth (% annual)	3.1	2.6		
Stock market capitalization (% of GDP)	93	98		
Money supply (% of GDP)	91	124		
Trade (% of GDP)	96	42		
Ease of doing business (World Bank)	75	62		
<b>Legal structure</b> (Fraser Institute)	5.0	6.4		
Freedom to trade (Fraser Institute)	6.8	7.3		

## TRANSACTION ATTRACTIVENESS INDICATOR\*

GDP per capita Freedom to trade Legal structure Business regulation Size of stock market Money supply Government effectiveness Sovereign credit risk Ease of doing business Openness to trade

**OVERALI SCORE** 

\*The Transaction Attractiveness Indicator is an overall score calculated using a weighted average of the 10 factors included in the chart above. The score reflects the attractiveness of a country's current environment for M&A and IPO activity on a scale from 0 to 10. It's based on past transactional activity in that country and data on key economic, financial and regulatory factors that drive M&A and IPO activity. Because many of these factors change slowly over time, a country's current score is a strong indicator of whether it will have the right features to attract transactional activity in the future.

Baker McKenzie.