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Possibility is in the ascent

Alantra Italian Equity Research



Strong entry speed in 2025

Kruso Kapital reported a strong set of 1Q25 results yesterday:

- Total Income stood at Eu8.3mn, up 49% YoY. The growth was driven by: 1) a full quarterly contribution from the Portuguese acquisition (consolidated in Nov-24; organic growth would have been around +30% YoY); 2) higher pledge volumes in Italy, driven by both net interest income (+58% YoY) and net fees (+44% YoY). The increase in fees was propelled by a greater number of auction units and the recent substantial appreciation in gold prices.
- Net profit soared to Eu1.9mn, more than doubling YoY, thanks to the
 consolidation of the Portuguese business. However, organic growth is
 estimated at around +80% YoY, confirming the business's strong
 underlying growth trajectory.
- Pawnbroking assets rose sharply: loans backed by pledges reached Eu153.4mn (+25% YoY, +6.6% QoQ), supported by both higher volumes and CEP integration.
- Cost of risk remains low despite reclassification: the new credit policy led to Eu34.2mn of NPLs (from Eu0.5mn at Dec-24), but there was no underlying increase in credit risk. Cost of risk remained at 10bps.
- Equity and capital remain solid: shareholders' equity stood at Eu51.4mn (+Eu1.9mn QoQ). CET1 and Total Capital at Eu20.5mn; TCR declined to 20.5% (from 22%) due to RWA growth (Eu100.1mn vs Eu92mn).

- Liquidity and funding position healthy: Eu8.4mn in cash; bank funding (mainly from Banca Sistema) accounts for ~30% of total funding.
- Auction business slightly softer: 19 auctions held in Italy (vs 18 in 1Q24); higher gold prices supported revenue, partially offsetting lower auction house income.
- Cost-income ratio improved significantly, falling from 74% in 1Q24 to 63%.

Eu mn	1Q24A	1Q25A	YoY %	FY24A	FY25E	YoY %
Net interest income	2.2	3.5	57.6%	10.4	13.3	27.1%
Net fee income	3.3	4.8	43.5%	14.3	17.0	19.4%
Total income	5.5	8.3	49.1%	24.7	30.3	22.7%
Restated Net Profit	0.9	1.9	107.6%	4.7	7.5	60.2%
Loans	122.6	153.4	25.1%	143.9	159.3	10.8%
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Loans	122.0	153.4	25.1%	143.9	159.3	10.8%
Equity	45.8	51.4	12.2%	49.5	57.0	15.2%
RATIO - Total Capital	na	na		21.9%	19.7%	
Total Income margin	4.5%	5.6%		17.2%	19.0%	
Cost/Income	73.8%	63.1%		69.3%	61.9%	

COMMENT

Solid beat across the board. Kruso is scaling efficiently, maintaining strong credit discipline, and monetizing gold tailwinds. A compelling niche lender story with resilient fundamentals.

Capital strength remains a key anchor, despite the impact of the new credit reclassification, Kruso maintains a solid Total Capital Ratio above 20%, confirming robust solvency and operational resilience. BUY reiterated.

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