

Vale S.A.
Form 6-K
February 25, 2016
[Table of Contents](#)

United States
Securities and Exchange Commission

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 6-K

Report of Foreign Private Issuer

Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16

of the

Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the month of

February 2016

Vale S.A.

Avenida das Américas, 700 Bloco 8 Loja 318

Barra da Tijuca, Rio de Janeiro, RJ.

(Address of principal executive office)

(Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F.)

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(Check One) Form 20-F Form 40-F

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(Check One) Yes No

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(Check One) Yes No

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Table of Contents

Table of Contents:

Press Release

Signature Page

Table of Contents

VALE S PERFORMANCE IN 2015

Table of Contents

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Except where otherwise indicated the operational and financial information in this release is based on the consolidated figures in accordance with IFRS and, with the exception of information on investments and behavior of markets, quarterly financial statements are reviewed by the company's independent auditors. The main subsidiaries that are consolidated are the following: Compañía Minera Miski Mayo S.A.C., Mineração Corumbaense Reunida S.A., PT Vale Indonesia Tbk (formerly International Nickel Indonesia Tbk), Salobo Metais S.A, Vale Australia Pty Ltd., Vale International Holdings GMBH, Vale Canada Limited (formely Vale Inco Limited), Vale Fertilizantes S.A., Vale International S.A., Vale Manganês S.A., Vale Moçambique S.A., Vale Nouvelle-Calédonie SAS, Vale Oman Pelletizing Company LLC and Vale Shipping Holding PTE Ltd.

Table of Contents

Vale's performance in 2015

Rio de Janeiro, February 25, 2016 – Vale S.A. (Vale) delivered a sound operational performance, achieving several annual production records in 2015, such as: (i) iron ore annual supply of 345.9 Mt; (ii) Carajás production of 129.6 Mt; and (iii) nickel production of 291,000 t; (iv) copper production of 423,800 t.

Gross revenues totaled US\$ 26.047 billion in 2015, decreasing US\$ 12.189 billion vs. 2014 as a result of lower prices of iron ore fines (US\$ 8.614 billion), pellets (US\$ 2.030 billion), nickel (US\$ 1.394 billion) and others, partly offset by higher sales volumes (US\$ 2.060 billion).

Quarterly gross revenues totaled US\$ 5.986 billion in 4Q15, decreasing US\$ 632 million vs. 3Q15, as a result of lower prices of iron ore fines (US\$ 739 million), nickel (US\$ 112 million) and others, partly offset by higher sales volumes (US\$ 325 million).

Costs and expenses, net of depreciation charges, totaled US\$ 18.846 billion in 2015, decreasing US\$ 5.908 billion vs. 2014. Costs decreased US\$ 4.223 billion (20%), SG&A and other expenses decreased US\$ 1.260 billion (65%), R&D decreased US\$ 257 million (35%) and pre-operating and stoppage expenses decreased US\$ 168 million (19%) in 2015 vs. 2014.

Quarterly costs and expenses, net of depreciation charges, totaled US\$ 4.595 billion in 4Q15, practically in line with the US\$ 4.649 billion recorded in 3Q15. Costs increased US\$ 65 million (2%), mainly due to the sales volume increase in the Ferrous Minerals and the Base Metals business segments. SG&A and other expenses decreased US\$ 105 million (63%), mainly due to the positive one-off effect of the adjustment in Asset Retirement Obligations(1) (ARO) recorded in 4Q15. R&D decreased US\$ 2 million (2%) and pre-operating and stoppage expenses decreased US\$ 12 million (7%) in 4Q15 vs. 3Q15.

C1 cash cost FOB port per metric ton for iron ore fines ex-royalties reached the lowest mark in the iron ore industry at US\$ 11.9/t in 4Q15 vs. US\$ 12.7/t in 3Q15. The reduction in C1 cash cost was mainly driven by the BRL depreciation and by the ongoing cost reduction initiatives.

Adjusted EBITDA was US\$ 7.081 billion in 2015, 47% lower than in 2014 mainly as a result of lower sales prices which impacted EBITDA negatively by US\$ 14.005 billion. Higher sales volumes and lower costs and expenses partly offset the EBITDA impact of lower prices by US\$ 1.237 billion and US\$ 6.746 billion, respectively. Adjusted EBITDA margin was 27.7% in 2015.

(1) Provision for mine and other assets closures

Table of Contents

Quarterly adjusted EBITDA was US\$ 1.391 billion in 4Q15, 26% lower than in 3Q15 mainly as a result of lower sales prices which impacted EBITDA negatively by US\$ 943 million. Higher sales volumes and lower costs⁽²⁾ and expenses partly offset the EBITDA impact of lower prices by US\$ 57 million and US\$ 334 million, respectively. Adjusted EBITDA margin was 23.6% in 4Q15.

Quarterly adjusted EBITDA was positively impacted by the above-mentioned effect of the adjustment in ARO (US\$ 331 million) and negatively impacted by decisions and/or events from previous quarters, with effects in 4Q15, such as: (i) bunker oil hedge accounting program for iron fines (US\$ 134 million); (ii) provisional copper price adjustments (US\$ 60 million); (iii) provisional manganese ore price adjustments (US\$ 28 million); and (iv) the write-off of materials inventories in Base Metals (US\$ 31 million).

Capital expenditures totaled US\$ 2.193 billion in 4Q15 and US\$ 8.401 billion in 2015, decreasing US\$ 3.578 billion vs. 2014. Investments in project execution totaled US\$ 1.366 billion and US\$ 5.548 billion in 4Q15 and in 2015, respectively. Sustaining capex totaled US\$ 827 million and US\$ 2.853 billion in 4Q15 and in 2015, respectively. Total annual capex exceeded the previous guidance by US\$ 0.2 billion as a result of a better than expected execution of the S11D project and its associated logistics.

Asset sales totaled US\$ 3.525 billion in 2015, with US\$ 1.316 billion coming from the sale of 12 very large ore carriers to Chinese shipowners, US\$ 1.089 billion coming from the sale of 36.4% of MBR preferred shares, US\$ 900 million from another goldstream transaction and US\$ 97 million from the sale of energy assets. In 4Q15, Vale sold four very large ore carriers of 400,000 tons deadweight to ICBC Financial Leasing. The transaction totaled US\$ 423 million.

Net loss totaled US\$ 12.129 billion in 2015 vs. a net income of US\$ 657 million in 2014. The US\$ 12.786 billion decrease in income was mostly driven by higher impairment charges recorded in 2015 vs. 2014 and the effect on financial results of the 47% end to end depreciation of the BRL against the USD in 2015. Underlying earnings were negative US\$ 1.698 billion in 2015, against positive US\$ 4.419 billion in 2014.

Impairments on assets and on investments⁽³⁾ and the recognition of onerous contracts totaled US\$ 9.372 billion in 2015. The increase of US\$ 8.189 billion vs. 2014 was mainly due to the significant reduction in the price assumptions used for the impairment tests.

Quarterly net loss totaled US\$ 8.569 billion in 4Q15 compared to a net loss of US\$ 2.117 billion in 3Q15. The US\$ 6.452 billion decrease was mostly driven by impairments, which

(2) Net effect on costs after adjusting for higher volumes.

(3) Of associates and joint ventures.

Table of Contents

were partly offset mainly by the effect on financial results of monetary and foreign exchange variation gains. Underlying earnings were negative US\$ 1.032 billion in 4Q15, against negative US\$ 961 million in 3Q15.

Gross debt totaled US\$ 28.853 billion as of December 31, 2015, slightly higher than the US\$ 28.675 billion as of September 30, 2015, but in line with the US\$ 28.807 billion registered as of December 31, 2014. After the dividends payment of US\$ 1.5 billion in 2015, net debt totaled US\$ 25.234 billion vs. US\$ 24.685 billion as of December 31, 2014 and US\$ 24.213 billion as of September 30, 2015, with a cash balance of US\$ 3.619 billion. Average debt maturity was 8.1 years with an average cost of debt of 4.47% per annum.

EBITDA from the Ferrous Minerals business segment decreased 15% in 4Q15 driven by lower realized prices despite higher volumes and reductions in costs and expenses

- Adjusted EBITDA of the Ferrous Minerals business segment was US\$ 5.899 billion in 2015, 47.9% lower than in 2014, mainly as result of lower sales prices (-US\$ 11.414 billion), which were partially offset by real competitiveness gains of US\$ 3.477 billion such as: (i) marketing and commercial initiatives (US\$ 680 million); (ii) higher sales volumes (US\$ 1.599 billion); (iii) favorable renegotiations of chartering freight contracts (US\$ 300 million); and (iv) the ongoing cost reduction initiatives (US\$ 898 million).

- Adjusted EBITDA for Ferrous Minerals in 4Q15 was US\$ 1.409 billion, US\$ 243 million lower than the US\$ 1.652 billion achieved in 3Q15, mainly as a result of lower realized sales prices (US\$ 782 million), which were partially offset by higher sales volumes (US\$ 62 million), lower expenses(4) (US\$ 245 million) and lower costs(5) (US\$ 188 million).

- Adjusted EBITDA will no longer be impacted by Vale's hedge accounting program since all outstanding bunker oil exposure recorded under this program was settled in 4Q15. Vale's hedge accounting program for iron ore fines had a negative impact of US\$ 134 million in 4Q15 and US\$ 412 million in 2015.

- Cash flow, measured as adjusted EBITDA(6) less sustaining and growth capex, was US\$ 363 million in 4Q15.

- CFR dmt reference price for iron ore fines (ex-ROM) decreased US\$ 10.9/t from US\$ 56.0/t in 3Q15 to US\$ 45.1/t in 4Q15 whereas CFR/FOB wmt price for iron ore fines

- (4) The reduction in expenses is mainly driven by the positive one-off effect of the adjustment in Asset Retirement Obligations (ARO).
- (5) Net effect on costs, after adjusting for volume.
- (6) Excluding the positive one off effect of the Asset Retirement Obligations (ARO).

Table of Contents

(ex-ROM) decreased US\$ 9.3/t from US\$ 46.5/t per metric ton in 3Q15 to US\$ 37.2/t in 4Q15 after adjusting for moisture and the effect of the lower FOB sales prices on 32% of the total sales volumes.

- Product quality measured by Fe content improved from 63.5% in 3Q15 to 63.7% in 4Q15 mostly due to the ramp-up of the N4WS and N5S mines and of the Itabirites projects.
- Unit freight cost per iron ore metric ton, excluding the impact of hedge accounting, was US\$ 14.1/t in 4Q15, US\$ 2.3/t lower than the US\$ 16.4/t recorded in 3Q15.
- Unit cash costs and expenses for iron ore fines landed in China (and adjusted for quality and moisture and excluding the positive one-off effect of the ARO adjustment) decreased from US\$ 34.2/t in 3Q15 to US\$ 32.0/t in 4Q15 on a dry metric ton (dmt) basis.
- Sustaining capex for iron ore fines totaled US\$ 178 million (US\$ 2.3/ wmt) in 4Q15, US\$ 0.8/ wmt lower than in 3Q15.
- Physical progress reached 80% at the S11D mine and plant, 57% at the railway and port, and 81% on the railway spur.

EBITDA from the Base Metals business segment decreased with lower nickel and copper prices

- Sales revenues totaled US\$ 1.458 billion in 4Q15, US\$ 103 million higher than in 3Q15 mainly due to higher volumes that were partially offset by lower LME nickel and copper prices.
- Realized prices were negatively impacted by US\$ 60 million in provisional copper price adjustments.
- Adjusted EBITDA was US\$ 111 million in 4Q15, US\$ 82 million lower than in 3Q15, mainly as a result of: (i) lower prices (US\$ 158 million), including the above- mentioned negative impact in provisional copper price adjustments; and (ii) the negative impact of the write-off of materials inventories in 4Q15 (US\$ 31 million).

- Adjusted EBITDA was impacted by VNC's negative EBITDA of US\$ 107 million in 4Q15.
- Salobo's EBITDA remained in line with 3Q15's EBITDA at US\$ 75 million despite weaker copper prices as production reached a quarterly record of 42,000 t in 4Q15.

Table of Contents

- Salobo is expected to reach its full production capacity in 2H16 as rain decreases and higher grade mine faces are accessed.

EBITDA from the Coal business segment decreased as a result of one-off effects on costs and lower prices

- Adjusted EBITDA was negative US\$ 149 million in 4Q15, compared to negative US\$ 129 million in 3Q15, mainly driven by lower prices and higher costs in Australia.
- Costs in Mozambique in 4Q15 were in line with 3Q15, after adjusting for the effects of higher volumes whereas costs in Australia increased in 4Q15 due to the write-down of mine development expenses.
- Moatize II reached 99% physical progress with a capital expenditure of US\$ 196 million while the Nacala Logistics Corridor (NLC) reached 97% physical progress with capital expenditures of US\$ 259 million in 4Q15.

EBITDA from the Fertilizers business segment improved in 2015 mainly driven by lower costs and expenses

- Adjusted EBITDA for the Fertilizer business segment increased to US\$ 567 million in 2015 from US\$ 278 million in 2014 with an increase of US\$ 289 million mainly driven by exchange rates and commercial and cost savings initiatives.
- Adjusted EBITDA for the Fertilizer business segment decreased to US\$ 117 million in 4Q15 from US\$ 197 million in 3Q15, mainly driven by lower sales volumes (US\$ 86 million) as a result of the usual market seasonality.

In 2015 we successfully reduced our costs and expenses, progressed with the implementation of our critical projects and advanced with our divestment process while maintaining our gross debt position.

Despite all our efforts, our accomplishments in 2015 were overshadowed by Samarco's tailings dam failure in the beginning of November. We have been working diligently with Samarco since the beginning and will remain fully committed to supporting the people and the environment of the affected regions.

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We acknowledge the additional challenges brought by the declining commodity prices and the consequent impact on our cash flow generation. Nonetheless we remain confident in our ability to move through these more difficult times, by maintaining operating discipline and the courage to implement the required strategic actions.

Table of Contents**Selected financial indicators**

US\$ million	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
Gross operating revenues	26,047	38,236	47,486	48,753	62,345
Net operating revenues	25,609	37,539	46,767	47,694	60,946
Adjusted EBIT	2,734	8,497	17,576	14,430	28,748
Adjusted EBIT margin (%)	10.7	22.6	37.6	30.3	47.2
Adjusted EBITDA	7,081	13,353	22,560	19,178	33,730
Adjusted EBITDA margin (%)	27.7	35.6	48.2	40.2	55.3
Net income (loss)	(12,129)	657	585	5,197	22,652
Underlying earnings	(1,698)	4,419	12,269	10,365	23,015
Underlying earnings per share on a fully diluted basis (US\$ / share)	(0.33)	0.86	2.38	2.03	4.39
Total gross debt	28,853	28,807	29,655	30,546	23,143
Cash and cash equivalent	3,619	4,122	5,324	6,078	3,531
Total Net Debt	25,234	24,685	24,331	24,468	19,612
Total gross debt/ adjusted EBITDA (x)	4.1	2.2	1.3	1.6	0.7
Capital expenditures	8,401	11,979	14,233	16,196	16,252

US\$ million	4Q15	3Q15	4Q14
Gross operating revenues	5,986	6,618	9,226
Net operating revenues	5,899	6,505	9,072
Adjusted EBIT	320	834	856
Adjusted EBIT margin (%)	5.4	12.8	9.4
Adjusted EBITDA	1,391	1,875	2,187
Adjusted EBITDA margin (%)	23.6	28.8	24.1
Net income (loss)	(8,569)	(2,117)	(1,849)
Underlying earnings	(1,032)	(961)	(251)
Underlying earnings per share on a fully diluted basis (US\$ / share)	(0.20)	(0.19)	(0.05)
Capital expenditures	2,193	1,879	3,747

Table of Contents

Operating revenues

Gross operating revenues in 2015 were US\$ 26.047 billion, 31.8% lower than the US\$ 38.236 billion registered in 2014. The decrease in sales revenues was mainly due to lower realized prices of iron ore fines (US\$ 8.614 billion), pellets (US\$ 2.030 billion) and nickel (US\$ 1.394 billion) which were partially offset by higher volumes of iron ore and pellets (US\$ 1.869 billion) and base metals (US\$ 666 million).

Gross operating revenues in 4Q15 were US\$ 5.986 billion, 9.5% lower than in 3Q15. The decrease in sales revenues was mainly due to lower realized prices (US\$ 956 million), partly offset by higher sales volumes (US\$ 325 million).

The tables below show gross operating revenues by destination and by business segments, with the following highlights:

- Revenues by destination in 2015 were in line with 2014, with sales to Asia representing 51.3% of total gross revenues in 2015.
- Contribution by business segment was marked by: (i) the increase in the Base Metals and the Fertilizers business segment share in Vale's total gross revenues to 23.7% and 9.2% in 2015 from 20.1% and 6.8% in 2014, respectively; and (ii) the decrease in the Ferrous Minerals business segment share to 64.6% in 2015 from 68.4% in 2014.

Gross operating revenue by destination

US\$ million	4Q15	3Q15	4Q14	2015	%	2014	%
North America	450	409	642	2,008	7.7	2,771	7.2
USA	168	188	278	855	3.3	1,368	3.6
Canada	279	206	361	1,123	4.3	1,393	3.6
Mexico	3	15	3	31	0.1	10	
South America	964	1,289	1,769	4,807	18.5	7,308	19.1
Brazil	871	1,191	1,645	4,396	16.9	6,624	17.3
Others	93	98	124	411	1.6	684	1.8
Asia	3,189	3,550	4,798	13,371	51.3	19,590	51.2
China	2,180	2,556	3,091	9,096	34.9	12,657	33.1
Japan	460	498	848	1,959	7.5	3,627	9.5
South Korea	186	171	300	790	3.0	1,555	4.1
Others	363	325	559	1,526	5.9	1,751	4.6
Europe	1,144	1,114	1,556	4,663	17.9	6,697	17.5
Germany	355	332	442	1,437	5.5	2,111	5.5
Italy	111	104	130	461	1.8	849	2.2
Others	678	678	985	2,765	10.6	3,737	9.8

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Middle East	170	227	288	969	3.7	1,266	3.3
Rest of the World	69	29	173	230	0.9	605	1.6
Total	5,986	6,618	9,226	26,047	100.0	38,236	100.0

Table of Contents**Gross operating revenue by business segments**

US\$ million	4Q15	3Q15	4Q14	2015	%	2014	%
Ferrous minerals	3,883	4,367	6,213	16,821	64.6	26,140	68.4
Iron ore fines	2,956	3,290	4,593	12,382	47.5	19,439	50.8
ROM	14	27	42	111	0.4	233	0.6
Pellets	806	908	1,308	3,717	14.3	5,424	14.2
Manganese ore	4	24	92	101	0.4	226	0.6
Ferroalloys	10	3	51	82	0.3	218	0.6
Others	93	115	127	428	1.6	600	1.6
Coal	108	127	201	526	2.0	739	1.9
Metallurgical coal	98	115	181	480	1.8	661	1.7
Thermal coal	10	12	20	47	0.2	78	0.2
Base metals	1,458	1,355	1,948	6,171	23.7	7,694	20.1
Nickel	782	785	1,064	3,412	13.1	4,468	11.7
Copper	413	368	556	1,728	6.6	2,122	5.5
PGMs	96	59	152	404	1.6	564	1.5
Gold	122	115	115	477	1.8	418	1.1
Silver	8	7	11	31	0.1	37	0.1
Others	37	22	50	119	0.5	85	0.2
Fertilizer nutrients	513	747	607	2,386	9.2	2,585	6.8
Potash	33	47	45	147	0.6	169	0.4
Phosphates	387	588	432	1,818	7.0	1,904	5.0
Nitrogen	76	92	108	355	1.4	411	1.1
Others	17	20	22	66	0.3	101	0.3
Others	24	22	257	143	0.5	1,078	2.8
Total	5,986	6,618	9,226	26,047	100.0	38,236	100.0

Table of Contents

Costs and expenses

ANNUAL PERFORMANCE

Costs and expenses decreased to US\$ 22.875 billion in 2015 from the US\$ 29.042 billion recorded in 2014, due to: (i) the impact of exchange rate variations in COGS and SG&A (US\$ 4.9 billion), (ii) cost savings initiatives (US\$ 1.8 billion), (iii) positive one-off effects from gains on the goldstream transaction recorded in 1Q15 (US\$ 0.2 billion) and from the adjustment in the Asset Retirement Obligations (ARO)(7) recorded in 4Q15 (US\$ 0.3 billion); and (iv) the reduction in expenses excluding the above mentioned positive one-off effects (US\$ 0.7 billion). These reductions were partly offset by higher sales volumes (US\$ 1.0 billion) and by the negative impact of the bunker oil hedge accounting program for iron ore fines (US\$ 0.4 billion).

Costs will no longer be impacted by Vale's hedge accounting program since all outstanding bunker oil exposure recorded under this program was settled in 4Q15. After deducting the above-mentioned positive one-off effects and the negative impact of the bunker oil hedge accounting program for iron ore fines, costs and expenses decreased US\$ 6.0 billion, a reduction of 20.7%.

QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE

Costs and expenses decreased to US\$ 5.579 billion in 4Q15 from the US\$ 5.671 billion recorded in 3Q15, mainly due to the positive one-off effect from the adjustment in ARO (US\$ 331 million) and exchange rate variations in COGS & SG&A (US\$ 210 million), which were partly offset by higher sales volumes (US\$ 282 million) and by an increase in Other Operating Expenses (US\$ 154 million).

Costs and expenses

US\$ million	4Q15	3Q15	4Q14	2015	2014
Costs	5,119	5,040	6,892	20,513	25,064
Expenses	460	631	1,324	2,362	3,978
Total costs and expenses	5,579	5,671	8,216	22,875	29,042
Depreciation	984	1,022	1,242	4,029	4,288
Costs and expenses ex-depreciation	4,595	4,649	6,974	18,846	24,754

(7) The annual revision for the provisions for mine and other assets closures generated a positive impact as a result of the life extension of some mines and a revision on the scope of the work needed for closing the assets.

Table of Contents**Cost of Goods Sold (COGS)**

ANNUAL PERFORMANCE

COGS(8) totaled US\$ 20.513 billion in 2015, reducing US\$ 4.6 billion in comparison with the US\$ 25.064 billion recorded in 2014, despite the increase in sales volumes in iron ore fines, pellets and base metals in 2015. Ferrous Minerals costs decreased by US\$ 3.041 billion, Fertilizers costs decreased by US\$ 510 million, Base Metals costs decreased by US\$ 318 million and Coal costs decreased by US\$ 214 million in 2015 vs. 2014.

After adjusting for the effects of higher sales volumes, costs decreased by US\$ 5.5 billion in 2015 vs. 2014. The cost reductions were mostly driven by exchange rate variations (US\$ 4.2 billion) and by the positive results of cost reduction initiatives (US\$ 1.8 billion), especially in the Ferrous Minerals business segment, as a result of by reductions in iron ore fines and pellets freight, the ramp-ups of the N4WS and N5S mines, and the Vargem Grande and both the Conceição I and II Itabirites projects.

QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE

COGS(9) totaled US\$ 5.119 billion in 4Q15, increasing US\$ 79 million in comparison with the US\$ 5.040 billion recorded in 3Q15, mainly due to the increase in sales volumes of iron ore fines and base metals in 4Q15.

After adjusting for the effects of higher sales volumes, costs decreased by US\$ 203 million in 4Q15 vs. 3Q15. The cost reductions were mainly driven by exchange rate variations (US\$ 186 million) and by the positive results of cost reduction initiatives in iron ore fines (US\$ 153 million), which were partly offset by a net increase in costs in other business segments.

Further details on cost performance are provided in the Performance of the Business Segments section.

COGS by business

US\$ million	4Q15	3Q15	4Q14	2015	%	2014	%
Ferrous minerals	2,846	2,813	4,278	11,759	57.3	14,800	59.0
Base metals	1,551	1,406	1,718	5,863	28.6	6,181	24.7
Coal	296	239	285	977	4.8	1,191	4.8
Fertilizers	386	536	492	1,763	8.6	2,273	9.1
Other products	40	46	119	151	0.7	619	2.5
Total COGS	5,119	5,040	6,892	20,513	100.0	25,064	100.0

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Depreciation	875	861	1,122	3,529	3,857
COGS, ex-depreciation	4,244	4,179	5,770	16,984	21,207

(8) COGS currency exposure in 2015 was made up as follows: 49% Brazilian Reais, 34% US dollar, 13% Canadian dollar, 1% Australian dollar and 3% other currencies.

(9) COGS currency exposure in 4Q15 was made up as follows: 45% Brazilian Reais, 37% US dollar, 13% Canadian dollar, 2% Australian dollar and 3% other currencies.

Table of Contents

Expenses

ANNUAL PERFORMANCE

Total expenses decreased to US\$ 2.362 billion in 2015 from the US\$ 3.978 billion recorded in 2014, mainly due to: (i) a reduction in Other Expenses(10) (US\$ 851 million); (ii) SG&A (US\$ 447 million); and (iii) R&D (US\$ 257 million). After deducting the positive one-off effects of US\$ 230 million from the goldstream transaction recorded in 1Q15 and adjusting for the Asset Retirement Obligations (ARO) of US\$ 331 million recorded in 4Q15, expenses decreased by US\$ 1.1 billion, a reduction of 26.5%.

SG&A totaled US\$ 652 million in 2015, representing a 40.7% decrease from the US\$ 1.099 billion recorded in 2014. SG&A net of depreciation reduced by US\$ 357 million in 2015 vs. 2014, as a result of the depreciation of the BRL and of the CAD (US\$ 179 million), as well as the simplification of corporate functions (US\$ 178 million).

R&D expenses totaled US\$ 477 million in 2015, representing a 35.0% decrease from the US\$ 734 million recorded in 2014. R&D expenses were mostly concentrated in iron ore and pellets (US\$ 128 million) and nickel (US\$ 103 million).

Pre-operating and stoppage expenses totaled US\$ 1.027 billion in 2015, representing a 5.6% decrease from the US\$ 1.088 billion recorded in 2014. The decrease in pre-operating expenses at VNC, S11D and Vargem Grande Itabirites(11) were partly offset by their increase at Long Harbour and Nacala.

Other operating expenses(12) totaled US\$ 767 million in 2015, representing a 27.4% decrease from the US\$ 1.057 billion recorded in 2014.

QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE

Total expenses decreased to US\$ 460 million in 4Q15 from the US\$ 631 million recorded in 3Q15, mainly due to the positive one-off effect of the adjustment in ARO (US\$ 331 million), partly offset by an increase in Other Expenses (US\$ 154 million) and SG&A (US\$ 36 million).

SG&A totaled US\$ 167 million in 4Q15, representing a 27.5% increase from the US\$ 131 million recorded in 3Q15, and a 45.4% decrease from the US\$ 306 million recorded in 4Q14. SG&A net of depreciation increased by US\$ 29 million in 4Q15 vs. 3Q15, despite the positive impact of the depreciation of the BRL and of the CAD (US\$ 5 million), mainly as a result of: (i)

(10) Including the positive one-off effects of US\$ 230 million from the goldstream transaction recorded in 1Q15 and of US\$ 331 million from the adjustment in ARO recorded in 4Q15.

(11) Vargem Grande Itabiritos project was concluded in 2014.

(12) After deducting the positive one-off effects of US\$ 230 million from the goldstream transaction recorded in 1Q15 and of US\$ 331 million from the adjustment in ARO recorded in 4Q15.

Table of Contents

a gain on the reversal of the provision for doubtful debts recorded in 3Q15 (US\$ 10 million); (ii) the impact of the collective bargaining agreement for corporate and sales functions located in Brazil (US\$ 4 million); (iii) higher expenses for global IT services (US\$ 3 million); and (iv) termination of corporate contracts in Australia (US\$ 2 million).

R&D expenses totaled US\$ 119 million in 4Q15, in line with the US\$ 121 million recorded in 3Q15, and representing a 49.4% decrease from the US\$ 235 million recorded in 4Q14. R&D expenses were mostly concentrated in iron ore and pellets (US\$ 27 million) and nickel (US\$ 30 million).

Pre-operating and stoppage expenses totaled US\$ 238 million in 4Q15, representing a 10.5% decrease from the US\$ 266 million recorded in 3Q15, and representing a 18.5% decrease from the US\$ 292 million recorded in 4Q14. Lower pre-operating expenses at VNC were the main driver for the reduction achieved in 4Q15 vs. 4Q14.

Other operating expenses totaled US\$ 267 million in 4Q15, representing a 136.3% increase from the US\$ 113 million recorded in 3Q15, mainly due to write-off of assets and settlement of insurance claims, and representing a 45.6% decrease from the US\$ 491 million recorded in 4Q14.

Expenses

US\$ million	4Q15	3Q15	4Q14	2015	%	2014	%
SG&A ex-depreciation	129	100	247	519		876	
SG&A	167	131	306	652	27.6	1,099	27.6
Administrative	150	132	292	603	25.5	1,019	25.6
Personnel	55	56	118	267	11.3	436	11.0
Services	33	26	53	113	4.8	196	4.9
Depreciation	38	31	59	133	5.6	223	5.6
Others	24	19	62	90	3.8	164	4.1
Selling	17	(1)	14	49	2.1	80	2.0
R&D	119	121	235	477	20.2	734	18.5
Pre-operating and stoppage expenses(1)	238	266	292	1,027	43.5	1,088	27.4
VNC	93	97	141	394	16.7	549	13.8
Long Harbour	47	65	42	278	11.8	125	3.1
S11D	14	11	15	52	2.2	29	0.7
Moatize	14	25	10	62	2.6	16	0.4
Others	70	68	84	241	10.2	369	9.3
Other operating expenses(2)	(64)	113	491	206	8.7	1,057	26.6
Total Expenses	460	631	1,324	2,362	100.0	3,978	100.0
Depreciation	110	161	120	501		431	
Expenses ex-depreciation	350	470	1,204	1,861		3,547	

(1) Includes US\$ 67 million of depreciation charges in 4Q15, US\$ 83 million in 3Q15, US\$ 61 million in 4Q14, US\$ 314 million in 2015 and US\$ 209 million in 2014.

(2) Include the positive one-off effects of US\$ 230 million from the gold stream transaction recorded in 1Q15 and of US\$ 331 million from the adjustment in ARO recorded in 4Q15.

Table of Contents

Adjusted earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization(13)

ANNUAL PERFORMANCE

Adjusted EBITDA was US\$ 7.081 billion in 2015, 47% lower than the US\$ 13.353 billion registered in 2014, mainly as a result of lower sales prices in ferrous minerals (-US\$ 10.734 billion) and base metals (-US\$ 2.195 billion). Lower costs and expenses partly offset the impact of lower prices by US\$ 6.746 billion. Adjusted EBITDA margin was 27.7% in 2015.

Adjusted EBITDA was impacted by the following effects: (i) gains on the goldstream transaction recorded in 1Q15 (US\$ 230 million), (ii) the adjustment in the Asset Retirement Obligations(14) which reduced expenses in 4Q15 (US\$ 331 million), and (iii) the hedge accounting related to freight costs which increased iron ore fines costs (-US\$ 412 million).

Adjusted EBITDA will no longer be impacted by Vale's hedge accounting program since all outstanding bunker oil exposure recorded under this program was settled in 4Q15.

Adjusted EBIT was US\$ 2.734 billion in 2015, 67.8% lower than in 2014.

QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE

Adjusted EBITDA was US\$ 1.391 billion in 4Q15, 25.8% lower than in 3Q15, mainly as a result of lower sales prices in most of our commodities which impacted EBITDA negatively by US\$ 943 million. Lower costs and expenses partly offset the impact of lower prices by US\$ 334 million. Adjusted EBITDA margin was 23.6% in 4Q15.

Quarterly adjusted EBITDA was positively impacted by the above-mentioned effect of the adjustment in ARO (US\$ 331 million) and negatively impacted by decisions and/or events from previous quarters, with effects in 4Q15, such as: (i) bunker oil hedge accounting program for iron fines (US\$ 134 million); (ii) provisional copper price adjustments (US\$ 60 million); (iii) provisional manganese ore price adjustments (US\$ 28 million); and (iv) the write-off of materials inventories in Base Metals (US\$ 31 million).

Adjusted EBIT was US\$ 320 million in 4Q15, 61.6% lower than in 3Q15.

(13) Net revenues less costs and expenses net of depreciation plus dividends received.

(14) The annual revision of the provisions for mine and other assets closures generated a positive impact as a result of the extension of working life for some of the mines and a revision of the scope of the work needed for closing the assets.

Table of Contents**Adjusted EBITDA**

US\$ million	4Q15	3Q15	4Q14	2015	2014
Gross operating revenues	5,986	6,618	9,226	26,047	38,236
Net operating revenues	5,899	6,505	9,072	25,609	37,539
COGS	(5,119)	(5,040)	(6,892)	(20,513)	(25,064)
SG&A	(167)	(131)	(306)	(652)	(1,099)
Research and development	(119)	(121)	(235)	(477)	(734)
Pre-operating and stoppage expenses	(238)	(266)	(292)	(1,027)	(1,088)
Other operational expenses	64	(113)	(491)	(206)	(1,057)
Adjusted EBIT	320	834	856	2,734	8,497
Depreciation, amortization & depletion	984	1,022	1,242	4,029	4,288
Dividends received	87	19	89	318	568
Adjusted EBITDA	1,391	1,875	2,187	7,081	13,353

Adjusted EBITDA by business area

US\$ million	4Q15	3Q15	4Q14	2015	2014
Ferrous minerals	1,409	1,652	1,702	5,899	11,321
Coal	(149)	(129)	(204)	(508)	(669)
Base metals	111	193	582	1,388	2,521
Fertilizer nutrients	117	197	75	567	278
Others	(97)	(38)	32	(265)	(98)
Total	1,391	1,875	2,187	7,081	13,353

Table of Contents

Net income

ANNUAL PERFORMANCE

Vale posted a net loss of US\$ 12.129 billion in 2015 compared to a net gain of US\$ 657 million in 2014. The US\$ 12.786 billion decrease was mostly driven by: (i) lower EBITDA (-US\$ 6.272 billion); (ii) higher impairments on assets, onerous contracts and investments(15) (-US\$ 8.189 billion), and (iii) higher losses on foreign exchange and monetary variation (-US\$ 5.280 billion). This decrease was partially offset by higher deferred taxes (US\$ 5.638 billion) and lower financial expenses (US\$ 1.681 billion).

Underlying earnings were a negative US\$ 1.698 billion in 2015, mainly due to: (i) the impact of lower EBITDA (-US\$ 6.272 billion); (ii) the financial loss on derivatives(16) (-US\$ 975 million); and (iii) loss on equity income from affiliated companies (-US\$ 439 million). The negative impact on underlying earnings was partly offset by deferred taxes (US\$ 5.489 billion).

Impairments on assets and investments(17) and the recognition of onerous contracts totaled US\$ 9.372 billion in 2015. The increase vs. 2014 was mainly due to the significant reduction in the price assumptions used for the impairment tests.

Impairments on assets and the recognition of onerous contracts (excluding impairments on investments) totaled US\$ 8.926 billion in 2015 and were mainly driven by the impact of: (i) the decline in iron ore prices in the Midwestern system and the consequent production plan revision (US\$ 522 million on assets and US\$ 357 million on onerous contracts); (ii) the decision not to restart the pellet plants in the Northern system (US\$ 55 million); (iii) the lower coal prices and the revision of mining plans in the Australian coal mines (US\$ 635 million); (iv) the lower coal prices and the increase in logistic costs in Mozambique (US\$ 2.403 billion); (v) the lower nickel prices in New Caledonia (US\$ 1.462 billion) and in Newfoundland and Labrador (US\$ 3.460 billion); (vi) the lower expectations on the recovery of amounts invested in the Rio Colorado potash project (US\$ 548 million). The above-mentioned impairment charges were partially offset by impairment reversals, driven by the impact of: (i) the recovery of Onça Puma's nickel production (US\$ 252 million); and (ii) the depreciation of the BRL against the USD which benefited the Brazilian phosphate operations (US\$ 391 million).

(15) Of associates and joint ventures.

(16) Composed mainly of bunker oil and commodities.

(17) Of associates and joint ventures.

Table of Contents

Impairment US\$ million	Impairments on assets in 2015	Recognition on onerous contracts in 2015	Book Value after impairments Dec 31, 2015
Ferrous minerals			
Iron ore in the Midwestern system(1)	522	357	
Pellets plants	55		
Others	58		
Coal			
Coal assets in Mozambique	2,403		1,729
Coal assets in Australia(1)	635		74
Base metals			
Vale New Caledonia (VNC)	1,462		3,725
Vale New Foundland and Labrador (VNL)	3,460		2,353
Onça Puma	(252)		2,331
Others	62		
Fertilizers			
Phosphate assets	(391)		3,842
Rio Colorado Project (PRC)	548		20
Others	7		
Total	8,569	357	14,000

(1) Includes intangible assets of US\$ 81 million.

Impairments of investments of associates and joint ventures totaled US\$ 446 million, comprising investments made in Samarco of US\$ 132 million and Teal Minerals, a joint venture of Vale with ARM, which holds an 80% stake in the Lubambe copper operation, of US\$ 314 million. The above-mentioned impairment on Samarco's investments relates to Vale's share of Samarco's declared but unpaid dividends and royalties.

Impairment on investments US\$ million	Total impairments in 2015	Book Value after impairments Dec 31, 2015
Iron ore		
Samarco	132	
Base metals		
Teal Minerals	314	
Total	446	0

Net financial results showed a loss of US\$ 10.801 billion in 2015, compared to a loss of US\$ 6.069 billion in 2014. The main components of the net financial results are: (i) financial expenses (-US\$ 1.112 billion); (ii) financial revenues (US\$ 268 million); (iii) foreign exchange and monetary losses (-US\$ 7.480 billion); (iv) currency and interest rate swaps losses (-US\$ 1.502 billion) and (v) losses on other derivatives (-US\$ 975 million), composed mainly of bunker oil derivative losses of US\$ 742 million.

In 2015, the 47% depreciation of the BRL against the USD led to losses of US\$ 8.666 billion, of which, US\$ 7.164 billion came from the US\$ 16.720 billion exposure on the net position of the USD denominated liabilities and USD denominated assets recorded mainly in Vale's (parent company) financial statements, and US\$ 1.502 billion loss from the mark-to-market of the swap transactions implemented to convert debt instruments into USD. In 2014, the depreciation of the BRL vs. the USD of 13% led to a US\$ 2.802 billion loss.

Table of Contents

At the end of 2014, Brazilian corporate tax legislation was amended by Law number 12.973/13, taking effect in 2015. Under the amended legislation, income from foreign subsidiaries is recognized on an accrual basis for Brazilian tax purposes and top-up taxes are applicable in Brazil up to the standard Brazilian corporate tax rate of 34%. In compliance with the Brazilian legislation, and based on the tax losses carried forward at foreign subsidiaries and on economic and financial projections, US\$ 2.952 billion was recorded as a deferred tax asset in 3Q15.

QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE

Vale posted a net loss of US\$ 8.569 billion in 4Q15 compared to a net loss of US\$ 2.117 billion in 3Q15. The US\$ 6.452 billion loss was mostly driven by the above mentioned impairments on assets, onerous contracts and investments of US\$ 9.372 billion, which was partially offset by gains on monetary and foreign exchange variation of US\$ 5.290 billion. Underlying earnings were a negative US\$ 1.032 billion in 4Q15 after excluding the one-off effects, mainly due to financial expenses result of US\$ 246 million and financial losses on derivatives(18) of US\$ 289 million.

Net financial results showed a gain of US\$ 353 million in 4Q15, compared to a loss of US\$ 7.176 billion in 3Q15. The main components of net financial results are: (i) financial expenses (-US\$ 326 million); (ii) financial revenues (US\$ 80 million); (iii) foreign exchange and monetary gains in USD denominated debt (US\$ 173 million); (iv) currency and interest rate swap gains (US\$ 715 million) as a result of the mark-to-market of Vale's swap liabilities driven by the increase in Vale's Credit Default Swap (CDS) and (v) losses on other derivatives (-US\$ 289 million), composed mainly of bunker oil derivatives losses of US\$ 212 million.

Differently from the 28% depreciation of the BRL vs. the USD throughout 3Q15 which led to a US\$ 6.221 billion loss, the 2% appreciation of the BRL against the USD in 4Q15 led to a US\$ 970 million gain, of which US\$ 255 million came from the US\$ 17.402 billion exposure on the net position of the USD denominated liabilities and USD denominated assets recorded(19) in Vale's (parent company) financial statements, and US\$ 715 million from the mark-to-market of the swap liabilities.

Equity income from affiliated companies

ANNUAL PERFORMANCE

Equity income from affiliated companies was a negative US\$ 439 million in 2015 against a positive US\$ 505 million recorded in 2014. The main negative contributors to equity income

(18) Composed mainly of bunker oil and commodities.

(19) The US\$ 216 million gain includes the impact of the BRL appreciation on: (i) the USD denominated debt recorded as financial results (US\$ 134 million); and (ii) other assets and liabilities (US\$ 82 million).

Table of Contents

were CSP (US\$ 307 million) and Samarco (US\$ 167 million) due to the impact of the BRL depreciation on the USD denominated debt of these companies, and Teal Minerals (US\$ 129 million). Positive contributors to Vale's equity income were the leased pelletizing companies in Tubarão (US\$ 106 million), Aliança Geração Energia (US\$ 50 million) and VLI (US\$ 46 million), MRS (US\$ 43 million) and MRN (US\$ 40 million).

QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE

Equity income from affiliated companies was a negative US\$ 37 million in 4Q15 against a negative US\$ 349 million recorded in 3Q15. The main negative contributors to equity income were Teal Minerals (-US\$ 99 million) and CSA (-US\$ 20 million). Positive contributors to Vale's equity income were the leased pelletizing companies in Tubarão (US\$ 26 million), Aliança Geração Energia (US\$ 24 million), MRN (US\$ 20 million), VLI (US\$ 14 million) and MRS (US\$ 11 million).

Underlying earnings

US\$ million	4Q15	3Q15	4Q14	2015	2014
Underlying earnings	(1,032)	(961)	(251)	(1,698)	4,419
Items excluded from basic earnings					
Impairment on assets and investments	(9,372)		(378)	(9,372)	(1,152)
Gain (loss) on fair value on non-current assets	(29)	(48)	(167)	61	(167)
Deferred Income tax - foreign subsidiaries		2,990		2,990	
Shareholders Debentures	252	75	62	963	(315)
Foreign Exchange	255	(5,025)	(1,186)	(7,164)	(2,119)
Monetary variation	(82)	(92)	(71)	(316)	(81)
Currency and interest rate swaps	715	(1,196)	(524)	(1,502)	(683)
Fair value on financial instruments	(80)	29	17	(69)	(115)
Gain (loss) on sale of investments				97	(61)
Foreign exchange gain (loss) on equity results					(159)
Tax effects of Impairment	1,164		70	1,164	(57)
Income tax over excluded items	(360)	2,111	579	2,717	1,147
Net Income (loss)	(8,569)	(2,117)	(1,849)	(12,129)	657

Financial results

US\$ million	4Q15	3Q15	4Q14	2015	2014
Financial expenses	(326)	(352)	(502)	(1,112)	(2,936)
Gross interest(1)	(229)	(239)	(259)	(891)	(1,148)
Tax and labour contingencies	(19)	10	(22)	(59)	(91)
Others(2)	43	15	(56)	386	(1,014)
Financial expenses (REFIS)	(121)	(138)	(165)	(547)	(683)
Financial income	80	92	55	268	401
Derivatives	426	(1,799)	(1,087)	(2,477)	(1,334)
Currency and interest rate swaps	715	(1,196)	(524)	(1,502)	(683)
Others (bunker oil, commodities, etc)	(289)	(603)	(563)	(975)	(651)
Foreign Exchange	255	(5,025)	(1,186)	(7,164)	(2,119)

Monetary variation	(82)	(92)	(71)	(316)	(81)
Financial result, net	353	(7,176)	(2,791)	(10,801)	(6,069)

(1) The capitalization of interest over assets under construction amounted to US\$ 193 million in 4Q15, US\$ 195 million in 3Q15, US\$ 96 million in 4Q14, US\$ 761 million in 2015 and US\$ 588 million in 2014.

(2) Other financial expenses include the mark-to-market of shareholder debentures which amounted to US\$ 253 million in 4Q15, US\$ 75 million in 3Q15, US\$ 62 million in 4Q14, US\$ 964 million in 2015 and -US\$ 315 million in 2014.

Table of Contents

EFFECTS OF CURRENCY PRICE VOLATILITY ON VALE S FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

ANNUAL PERFORMANCE

In 2015, from end to end, the Brazilian Real (BRL) depreciated 47% against the US Dollar (USD) from BRL 2.66/ USD as of December 30th, 2014 to BRL 3.90/ USD as of December 30th, 2015. On an annual average, the exchange rate depreciated by 42%, from an average BRL 2.35/ USD in 2014 to an average BRL 3.34/USD in 2015.

Although Vale reports its financial performance in USD, the BRL depreciation impacts its results since the functional currency of Vale s parent company, Vale S. A., is the BRL.

The end to end depreciation of the BRL against the USD and other currencies caused mainly non-cash losses of US\$ 8.666 billion on our earnings before taxes in 2015, driven by its impact on:

- The net position of the USD and other currency denominated liabilities and the USD and other currency denominated assets (accounts receivable and others) which amounted to a loss of US\$ 7.164 billion in 2015, recorded in the financial statements as Foreign exchange .
- The forward and swaps derivatives that are used to reduce the volatility of our cash flows in USD. In 2015, the changes in fair value and the settlements of the currency swaps from the BRL and other currencies to the USD caused one-off losses of US\$ 1.502 billion.

The BRL depreciation, on an annual average, had positive impacts on our cash flows. In 2015 most of our revenues were denominated in USD, while our COGS were 49% denominated in BRL, 34% in USD and 13% in Canadian dollars (CAD) and about 75% of our capital expenditures were denominated in BRL. The depreciation of the BRL and of other currencies in 2015 reduced our costs and expenses by US\$ 4.862 billion.

QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE

In 4Q15, from end to end, the Brazilian Real (BRL) appreciated 1.7% against the US Dollar (USD) from BRL 3.97/ USD as of September 30th, 2015 to BRL 3.90/ USD as of December 30th, 2015. On a quarterly average, the exchange rate depreciated by 8.7%, from an average BRL 3.54/ USD in 3Q15 to an average BRL 3.84/USD in 4Q15.

The end to end appreciation of the BRL against the USD and other currencies caused mainly

Table of Contents

non-cash gains of US\$ 970 million on our earnings before taxes in 4Q15, driven by its impact on:

- The net position of the USD and other currency denominated liabilities and the USD and other currency denominated assets (accounts receivable and others) which amounted to a gain of US\$ 255 million in 4Q15, recorded in the financial statements as Foreign exchange .
- The forward and swaps derivatives that are used to reduce the volatility of our cash flows in USD. In 4Q15, the changes in fair value and the settlements of the currency swaps from the BRL and other currencies to the USD caused one-off gains of US\$ 715 million.

The BRL depreciation on a quarterly average had positive impacts on our cash flows. In 4Q15 most of our revenues were denominated in USD, while our COGS were 45% denominated in BRL, 37% in USD and 13% in Canadian dollars (CAD) and about 75% of our capital expenditures were denominated in BRL. The depreciation of the BRL and of other currencies in 4Q15 reduced our costs and expenses by US\$ 210 million.

Table of Contents

Investments

Capital expenditures totaled US\$ 8.401 billion in 2015 with US\$ 5.548 billion in project execution and US\$ 2.853 billion in sustaining capital. Capital expenditures decreased US\$ 3.578 billion in 2015 vs. the US\$ 11.979 billion spent in 2014. Total annual capex exceeded the previous guidance by US\$ 0.2 billion as a result of a better than expected execution of the S11D project and its associated logistics.

In 4Q15, Vale's capital expenditures totaled US\$ 2.193 billion with US\$ 1.366 billion in project execution and US\$ 827 million in sustaining capital.

Project execution and sustaining by business area

US\$ million	4Q15	3Q15	4Q14	2015	%	2014	%
Ferrous minerals	1,087	1,099	2,382	4,946	58.9	7,140	59.6
Coal	464	333	555	1,539	18.3	2,336	19.5
Base metals	533	370	608	1,556	18.5	1,604	13.4
Fertilizer nutrients	97	55	122	257	3.1	320	2.7
Power generation	10	16	59	78	0.9	160	1.3
Steel	3	6	15	22	0.3	222	1.9
Others			8	3		195	1.6
Total	2,193	1,879	3,749	8,401	100.0	11,979	100.0

Project execution

Vale's investments in project execution decreased from US\$ 7.920 billion in 2014 to US\$ 5.548 billion in 2015, with the completion of projects, scope optimization and the positive impact of exchange rates.

The Ferrous Minerals and the Coal business segments accounted for about 65% and 32%, respectively, of the total investment in capital execution in 4Q15.

Project execution by business area

US\$ million	4Q15	3Q15	4Q14	2015	%	2014	%
Ferrous minerals	894	878	1,523	3,878	69.9	4,836	61.1
Coal	431	311	510	1,472	26.5	2,184	27.6
Base metals	16	10	149	54	1.0	462	5.8
Fertilizer nutrients	13	11	27	45	0.8	63	0.8

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Power generation	9	16	56	77	1.4	155	2.0
Steel	3	6	15	22	0.4	222	2.8
Total	1,366	1,232	2,279	5,548	100.0	7,920	100.0

FERROUS MINERALS

About 85% of the US\$ 894 million invested in Ferrous Minerals in 4Q15 relates to project execution in iron ore, primarily on the S11D project and the expansion of its associated infrastructure (US\$ 760 million).

Table of Contents

Assembly area between System 4 and Transfer House 01

S11D (including mine, plant and associated logistics - CLN S11D) reached combined physical progress of 67% in 4Q15 with 80% progress at the mine site and 57% at the logistic sites. The railway spur reached 81% physical progress and the off-shore pile-driving in the north berth reached 99% physical progress. The existing railway capacity increased to 147 Mtpy with the duplication of 59 Km upon completion of 8 segments.

EFC (Estrada de Ferro Carajás) railway expansion - bridge over the Cajuapara river

Cauê Itabiritos, with nominal capacity of 7 Mtpy of sinter feed and 16 Mtpy of pellet feed is in the process of ramp-up and final tie-ins. The project was delivered on time and budget with total investments of US\$ 926 million and physical progress of 95% at this point.

The 5th line of Brucutu projects concluded its ramp-up in 3Q15. The Conceição I and the Vargem Grande Itabirites projects concluded their ramp-up in 4Q15. The Conceição II Itabirites project started in 2Q15 and has been ramping up as planned.

Table of Contents

COAL

Investments in the Moatize II project and in the Nacala Logistics Corridor totaled US\$ 196 million and US\$ 259 million, respectively, in 4Q15.

Moatize II achieved physical progress of 99% in 4Q15 with commissioning on the handling system and cargo testing in one line of the CPP (Coal Preparation Plant) initiated. The two lines are expected to have their cargo testing completed by March.

The upgrade of the brownfield sections of the railway was completed in 4Q15. The Nacala Logistics Corridor (NLC) successfully transported and discharged 523,000 tons of thermal coal at the Nacala port, having completed the four shipments of coal as of January 2016.

Description and status of main projects

Project	Description	Capacity (Mtpy)	Status
Ferrous Minerals projects			
Carajás Serra Sul S11D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of a mine and processing plant, located in the Southern range of Carajás, Pará, Brazil. 	90	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivery of electrocenters of the mine and plant ongoing
CLN S11D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Duplication of 570 km railway, with construction of rail spur of 101 km. Acquisition of wagons, locomotives, and onshore and offshore expansions at PDM maritime terminal. 	(80)(a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transmission line connecting Carajás to Canaã energized Foundation work on the PDM port expansion ongoing pile driving in the off-shore north berth reached 99% physical progress Duplication of the railway reached 41% physical progress Railway spur reached 81% physical progress
CSP(b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of a steel slab plant in partnership with Dongkuk and Posco, located in Ceará, Brazil. 	1.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assembly of the steel structure reached 97% physical progress

Coal Projects

Moatize II

- New pit and duplication of the Moatize CHPP, as well as all related infrastructure, located in Tete, Mozambique.

- Civil works reached 99% physical progress

- 11
- Electromechanical assembly reached 99% physical progress

- Commissioning on the belt conveyors initiated

- Testing on one line of the CHPP initiated

(a) Net additional capacity.

(b) Relative to Vale's stake in the project.

Table of Contents**Progress indicators(20)**

Project	Capacity (Mtpy)	Estimated start-up	Executed capex (US\$ million)		Estimated capex (US\$ million)		Physical progress
			2015	Total	2016	Total	
Ferrous minerals projects							
Carajás Serra Sul S11D	90	2H16	1,163	4,655	921	6,405(c)	80%
CLN S11D	230(80)(b)	1H14 to 2H18	1,814	4,467	1,372	7,850(d)	57%
CSP(a)	1.5	1H16		1,055	188	1,224(e)	97%
Coal projects							
Moatize II	11	1H16	558	1,942	105	2,068(f)	99%

(a) Relative to Vale's stake in the project.

(b) Net additional capacity.

(c) Original capex budget of US\$ 8.089 billion.

(d) Original capex budget of US\$ 11.582 billion.

(e) Original capex of US\$ 2.734 billion; Out of the original capex - US\$ 1.491 billion financed directly by the CSP project.

(f) Original capex of US\$ 2.068 billion plus US\$ 0.45 billion of rolling stock.

Sustaining capex

Sustaining capital expenditures decreased from US\$ 4.059 billion in 2014 to US\$ 2.853 billion in 2015.

On a quarter on quarter basis, Vale's investment increased due to seasonality. Sustaining capital expenditures amounted to US\$ 827 million in 4Q15, increasing US\$ 180 million vs. 3Q15. The base metals and ferrous minerals business segment accounted for 62% and 23%, respectively, of the total sustaining capex in 4Q15.

Sustaining capital expenditures for the ferrous minerals business segment included, among others: (i) the replacement and acquisition of new equipment (US\$ 94 million), (ii) the improvement in the current standards of health and safety and environmental protection (US\$ 23 million), (iii) the maintenance, improvement and expansion of tailing dams (US\$ 17 million) and (iv) operational enhancements (US\$ 20 million). Maintenance of railways and ports in Brazil and Malaysia accounted for US\$ 65 million.

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Sustaining investments in iron ore (excluding sustaining investments in pellets plants) amounted to US\$ 178 million, equivalent to US\$ 2.3/wmt of iron ore fines in 4Q15, a 25.8% decrease vs. US\$ 3.1/wmt in 3Q15. This quarter over quarter decrease reflects scope optimization, positive impact of the depreciation of the BRL and the effect of higher volumes.

Sustaining capex in the base metals business segment operations was mainly dedicated to: (i) operational enhancement (US\$ 371 million), (ii) improvement in the current standards of

(20) In this table we do not include pre-operating expenses in the estimated capex for the year, although these expenses are included in the total estimated capex column, in line with our Board of Directors approval process. Moreover, our estimated capex for the year is only reviewed once a year.

Table of Contents

health and safety and environmental protection (US\$ 69 million), (iii) replacement and acquisition of new equipment (US\$ 48 million) and (iv) maintenance, improvement and expansion of tailing dams (US\$ 21 million).

Capex for operational enhancements in the base metals business segment in 4Q15 was 52.9% higher than in 3Q15. The increase was mainly driven by higher than average payments for services related to Long Harbour project in 4Q15, according to the usual seasonality and in line with the 2015 budget. Long Harbour achieved an important milestone of operating exclusively with feed from Voisey's Bay by the end of 4Q15. For 2016, the Base Metals business segment budget for sustaining investments is roughly 25% lower than in 2015.

Sustaining capex by type - 4Q15

US\$ million	Ferrous Minerals	Coal	Base Metals	Fertilizer	TOTAL
Operations	114	14	419	54	601
Waste dumps and tailing dams	17	3	21	7	48
Health and Safety	19	1	65	8	92
CSR - Corporate Social Responsibility	10		5	10	25
Administrative & Others	35	15	7	4	61
Total	194	33	517	83	827

Sustaining capex by business area

US\$ million	4Q15	3Q15	4Q14	2015	%	2014	%
Ferrous minerals	193	221	859	1,068	37.4	2,305	56.7
Coal	33	22	46	67	2.3	153	3.8
Base metals	517	360	459	1,502	52.6	1,144	28.2
Fertilizer nutrients	83	44	95	212	7.4	258	6.4
Power generation	1		3	1	0.1	5	0.1
Others			8	3	0.1	197	4.8
Total	827	647	1,470	2,853	100.0	4,061	100.0

Portfolio management

Vale sold four very large ore carriers of 400,000 tons deadweight to ICBC Financial Leasing in 4Q15. The transaction totaled US\$ 423 million.

Sales of assets totaled US\$ 3.525 billion in 2015, with US\$ 1.316 billion coming from the sale of 12 very large ore carriers to Chinese shipowners, US\$ 1.089 billion coming from the sale of 36.4% of MBR preferred shares, US\$ 900 million from another goldstream transaction and US\$ 97 million from the sale of energy assets.

Corporate social responsibility

Investments in corporate social responsibility totaled US\$ 366 million in 4Q15, of which US\$ 269 million dedicated to environmental protection and conservation and US\$ 97 million dedicated to social projects.

Table of Contents

Debt indicators

Gross debt totaled US\$ 28.853 billion as of December 31st, 2015, slightly higher than the US\$ 28.675 billion as of September 30th, 2015 mainly as a result of the: (i) distribution of dividends in the amount of US\$ 500 million in October and (ii) impact of exchange rate on the translation of BRL denominated debt into USD(21). Those impacts were partly offset by the cash proceeds of US\$ 423 million from the sale of vessels in 4Q15. Gross debt was in line with the US\$ 28.807 billion as of December 31st, 2014. Net debt increased by US\$ 1.021 billion compared to the end of the previous quarter, totaling US\$ 25.234 billion based on a cash position of US\$ 3.619 billion as of December 31st, 2015.

Debt position

After currency and interest rates hedge, Vale's gross debt on December 31st, 2015 was composed of 24% of floating and 76% of fixed interest rates, and 93% was denominated in US dollars.

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Average debt maturity decreased slightly to 8.1 years. The average cost of debt, after the above-mentioned hedge, increased to 4.47% per annum on December 31st, 2015, against 4.37% on September 30th, 2015.

Interest coverage, measured by the ratio of the LTM(22) adjusted EBITDA to LTM interest payment, was 4.8x on December 31st, 2015 against 5.3x on September 30th, 2015.

(21) In 4Q15, from end to end, the BRL appreciated 1.7% against the USD.

(22) Last twelve months.

Table of Contents

Gross debt to LTM adjusted EBITDA was 4.1x as of December 31st, 2015. Although the vast majority of financing agreements do not contain financial covenants, Vale had 21% of total debt at the end of 2015 with this leverage measure as a financial covenant in contracts with BNDES and other export and development agencies. As a preventive measure, during the last quarter of 2015, Vale reached agreements to increase the upper limit of the gross debt to adjusted EBITDA financial covenant from 4.5x to 5.5x, until the end of 2016. This measure brings more flexibility during a period in which Vale is finalizing its investment cycle.

Debt indicators

US\$ million	4Q15	3Q15	4Q14
Gross debt	28,853	28,675	28,807
Net debt	25,234	24,213	24,685
Gross debt / adjusted LTM EBITDA (x)	4.1	3.6	2.2
Adjusted LTM EBITDA / LTM interest expenses (x)	4.8	5.3	8.6

Table of Contents

Performance of the business segments

The share of the Ferrous Minerals business segment in the adjusted EBITDA decreased to 83.3% in 2015 from 84.8% in 2014, while the Base Metals business segment increased its share in total EBITDA to 19.6% from 18.9% in 2014 and the Fertilizers business segment improved its share to 8.0% from 2.1% in 2014. The contribution from the Coal business segment and Others went from -5.0% in 2014 to -7.2% in 2015 and from -0.7% in 2014 to -3.7% in 2015, respectively.

The Ferrous Minerals business segment contribution to total EBITDA in 4Q15 reached 101.3%, followed by the Fertilizer business segment which contributed with 8.4%, the Base Metals business segment contributed with 8.0%, while the Coal business segment and Others contributed with -10.7% and -7.0% of Vale's total adjusted EBITDA, respectively.

Segment information 2015, as per footnote of financial statements

US\$ million	Operating revenues		Expenses					Adjusted EBITDA(1)
	Gross	Net	Cost	SG&A and others	R&D	Pre operating & stoppage	Dividends	
Ferrous minerals	16,821	16,562	(10,241)	(380)	(128)	(169)	255	5,899
Iron ore fines	12,382	12,330	(7,604)	(398)	(121)	(124)	22	4,105
ROM	111	102	(50)	0	0	0	0	52
Pellets	3,717	3,600	(2,121)	9	(4)	(24)	225	1,685
Others ferrous	428	368	(291)	8	(3)	(2)	8	88
Mn & Alloys	183	162	(175)	1	0	(19)	0	(31)
Coal	526	526	(839)	(140)	(22)	(61)	28	(508)
Base metals	6,171	6,163	(4,296)	44	(111)	(412)	0	1,388
Nickel(2)	4,693	4,693	(3,393)	(154)	(103)	(411)	0	632
Copper(3)	1,478	1,470	(903)	198	(8)	(1)	0	756
Fertilizer nutrients	2,386	2,225	(1,469)	(37)	(82)	(70)	0	567
Others	143	133	(139)	(160)	(134)	0	35	(265)
Total	26,047	25,609	(16,984)	(673)	(477)	(712)	318	7,081

(1) Excluding non-recurring effects.

(2) Including copper and by products from our nickel operations.

(3) Including by products from our copper operations.

Table of Contents**Segment information 4Q15, as per footnote of financial statements**

US\$ million	Operating revenues		Expenses			Pre operating & stoppage	Dividends	Adjusted EBITDA(1)
	Gross	Net	Cost	SG&A and othes	R&D			
Ferrous minerals	3,883	3,830	(2,497)	120	(27)	(61)	44	1,409
Iron ore fines	2,956	2,945	(1,924)	128	(26)	(50)	22	1,095
ROM	14	13	(4)					9
Pellets	806	780	(453)	(7)	(1)	(5)	22	336
Others ferrous	93	79	(71)	(4)		(1)		3
Mn & Alloys	14	13	(45)	3		(5)		(34)
Coal	108	108	(260)	(9)	(4)	(12)	28	(149)
Base metals	1,458	1,458	(1,131)	(95)	(32)	(89)		111
Nickel(2)	1,107	1,107	(892)	(74)	(30)	(89)		22
Copper(3)	351	351	(239)	(21)	(2)			89
Fertilizer nutrients	513	481	(319)	(14)	(22)	(9)		117
Others	24	22	(37)	(63)	(34)		15	(97)
Total	5,986	5,899	(4,244)	(61)	(119)	(171)	87	1,391

(1) Excluding non-recurring effects.

(2) Including copper and by products from our nickel operations.

(3) Including by products from our copper operations.

Table of Contents

Ferrous minerals

Adjusted EBITDA of the Ferrous Minerals business segment was US\$ 5.899 billion in 2015, 47.9% lower than in 2014, mainly as result of lower sales prices (-US\$ 11.414 billion), which were partially offset by real competitiveness gains of US\$ 3.477 billion such as: (i) marketing and commercial initiatives (US\$ 680 million); (ii) higher sales volumes (US\$ 1.599 billion); (iii) favorable renegotiations of chartering freight contracts (US\$ 300 million); and (iv) the ongoing cost reduction initiatives (US\$ 898 million).

Commercial, marketing and operational initiatives amounted to roughly US\$ 680 million and thus positively impacted sales revenues in 2015. Those initiatives were mainly: (i) the increase in the average negotiated premiums for iron ore fines; (ii) the increase in realized prices for FOB sales contracts; (iii) the change in the mix of products; and (iv) the increase in product quality.

EBITDA variation

Table of Contents

Iron ore

ANNUAL PERFORMANCE

EBITDA

Adjusted EBITDA of iron ore fines was US\$ 4.105 billion in 2015, 49.2% lower than in 2014, which negatively impacted adjusted EBITDA by US\$ 3.971 billion mainly as a result of lower sales prices.

Adjusted EBITDA will no longer be impacted by Vale's hedge accounting program since all outstanding bunker oil exposure recorded under such program was settled in 4Q15. Vale's hedge accounting program for iron ore fines had a negative impact of US\$ 412 million in 2015.

SALES REVENUES AND VOLUME

Net sales revenues for iron ore fines, excluding pellets and Run of Mine (ROM), decreased to US\$ 12.330 billion in 2015, 36.1% lower than in 2014. The decrease was a result of lower iron ore sales prices (US\$ 8.549 billion), which were partially offset by the sales volumes increase, which contributed with US\$ 1.578 billion to sales revenues when compared to 2014.

The main factors that contributed to the increase in sales volumes of iron ore fines from the 255.9 Mt in 2014 to 276.4 Mt in 2015 were the annual supply record of 345.9 Mt of iron ore fines (including the acquisition of iron ore from third parties). ROM sales totaled 12.3 Mt in 2015.

Vale's realized CFR/FOB wmt price⁽²³⁾ for iron ore fines (ex-ROM) was US\$ 44.6 per metric ton in 2015, significantly lower than the US\$ 75.4 per metric ton in 2014.

COST AND EXPENSES

Iron ore fines costs totaled US\$ 7.604 billion (or US\$ 8.720 billion with depreciation charges) in 2015 against US\$ 9.532 billion in 2014. After adjusting for the effects of higher sales volumes (US\$ 1.023 billion) and exchange rate variations (-US\$ 1.442 billion), costs decreased by US\$ 1.510 billion when compared to 2014, driven by the ongoing cost reduction initiatives and the ramp-up of both the N4WS and N5S extension mines, Conceição Itabiritos II and Vargem Grande Itabiritos.

Total cash cost at the port (mine, plant, railroad and port, ex-royalties) was US\$ 3.825 billion. Cash cost was calculated after deducting from COGS: (i) iron ore freight costs of US\$ 2.825

(23) The realized CFR/FOB wmt price is the weighted average price of Vale's CFR sales and Vale's FOB sales

Table of Contents

billion; (ii) depreciation of US\$ 1.116 billion; (iii) iron ore acquired from third parties of US\$ 210 million and (iv) bunker oil hedge costs accounted for as hedge accounting of US\$ 412 million. Cash cost per metric ton (ex-ROM and ex-royalties) in 2015 was US\$ 14.4/t, significantly lower than the US\$ 20.8/t from 2014.

SG&A and other expenses significantly decreased to US\$ 398 million, 68.4% lower than in 2014, after the adjustment of the US\$ 322 million from the Asset Retirement Obligations (ARO).

Pre-operational expenses decreased to US\$ 124 million, 25.5% lower than in 2014 as a result of the ramp-up of the N4WS, N5S extension, Conceição Itabiritos II and Vargem Grande Itabiritos.

Adjusted EBITDA margin for iron ore fines (excluding ROM and third party ores) was US\$ 14.7 /t in 2015.

QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE

EBITDA

Adjusted EBITDA for iron ore fines was US\$ 1.095 billion in 4Q15, US\$ 127 million lower than the US\$ 1.222 billion achieved in 3Q15, mainly due to the decrease in sales prices (-US\$ 738 million), which was partially offset by higher sales volumes (US\$ 125 million), lower SG&A and other expenses (US\$ 258 million) as result of the positive impact of adjustments to the Asset Retirement Obligations (US\$ 322 million).

Adjusted EBITDA will no longer be impacted by Vale's hedge accounting program since all outstanding bunker oil exposure recorded under such program was settled in 4Q15. Vale's hedge accounting program for iron ore fines had a negative impact on EBITDA of US\$ 134 million in 4Q15.

SALES REVENUES AND VOLUME

Net sales revenues for iron ore fines were US\$ 2.945 billion in 4Q15, 10.1% lower than in 3Q15 due to lower sales prices. ROM sales revenues in 4Q15 were US\$ 13 million.

Iron ore own production, excluding Samarco's attributable production and third party ore, was 85.4 Mt in 4Q15, a quarterly production record for a fourth quarter and 2.4 Mt higher than in 4Q14. The good operational performance was driven by the ramp-up of the N4WS, N5S extension,

Conceição Itabiritos II and Vargem Grande Itabiritos.

Sales volumes of iron ore fines reached 79.2 Mt in 4Q15, 12.3% higher than in 3Q15 and 6.2% higher than in 4Q14 on the back of:
(i) production of 85.4 Mt; (ii) acquisition of 3.1 Mt of

Table of Contents

iron ore from third parties; (iii) deduction of 11.6 Mt of iron ore fines used for the production of pellets; (iv) consumption of 3.9 Mt allocated from product inventories and (v) deduction of 1.6 Mt of ROM sales.

CFR sales of iron ore fines increased from 44.9 Mt in 3Q15 to 53.6 Mt in 4Q15, representing 68% of all iron ore fines sales volumes in 4Q15. The increase was mainly due to higher sales to China, which are mostly negotiated on a CFR basis.

Net Operating revenue by product

US\$ million	4Q15	3Q15	4Q14	2015	2014
Iron ore fines	2,945	3,278	4,568	12,330	19,301
ROM	13	24	42	102	215
Pellets	780	883	1,270	3,600	5,263
Manganese & Ferroalloys	13	26	131	162	392
Others	79	101	105	368	526
Total	3,830	4,312	6,116	16,562	25,697

Volume sold

000 metric tons	4Q15	3Q15	4Q14	2015	2014
Iron ore fines	79,213	70,530	74,603	276,393	255,877
ROM	1,627	3,546	3,552	12,269	14,075
Pellets	10,837	11,961	12,686	46,284	43,682
Manganese ore	568	448	828	1,764	1,879
Ferroalloys	12	3	36	69	150

REALIZED PRICES

Iron ore sales in 4Q15 were distributed across three pricing systems: (i) 47% based on the current quarter, month and daily spot prices, including provisional price sales that were settled within the quarter; (ii) 42% based on provisional prices with settlement price based on the market price defined on the delivery date, in which case prices had not yet been settled at the end of the quarter; and (iii) 11% linked to past prices (quarter-lagged).

Vale's CFR dmt reference price for iron ore fines (ex-ROM) decreased by US\$ 10.9/t from US\$ 56.0/t in 3Q15 to US\$ 45.1/t in 4Q15, being US\$ 1.6/t lower than the average Platts IODEX 62% of US\$ 46.7/t in 4Q15.

Vale's CFR/FOB wmt price for iron ore fines (ex-ROM) decreased by US\$ 9.3/t from US\$ 46.5/t in 3Q15 to US\$ 37.2/t in 4Q15, after adjusting for moisture and the effect of FOB sales on 32% of the total sales volumes.

Price realization in 4Q15 was impacted by:

- Provisional prices set at the end of 3Q15 at US\$ 51.5/t, which were later adjusted based on the price of delivery in 4Q15, impacted prices in 4Q15 by a negative US\$ 1.0/t compared to a negative US\$ 0.7/t in 3Q15 as a result of the downward trend curve observed in the IODEX in 4Q15.

Table of Contents

- Provisional prices set at the end of 4Q15 at US\$ 41.0/t vs. the IODEX average of US\$ 46.7/t in 4Q15, negatively impacted prices in 4Q15 by US\$ 2.4/t compared to a negative impact of US\$ 1.1/t in 3Q15.
- Quarter-lagged contracts, priced at US\$ 56.7/t based on the average prices for Jun-Jul-Aug, positively impacted prices in 4Q15 by US\$ 1.1/t compared to a positive impact of US\$ 0.2/t in 3Q15.

In 4Q15, iron ore sales of 33.3 Mt, or 42% of Vale's sales mix, were recorded under the provisional pricing system, which was set at the end of 4Q15 at US\$ 41.0/t. The final prices of these sales and the required adjustment to sales revenues will be determined and recorded in 1Q16.

The decrease in bunker oil prices positively impacted the settlement of FOB prices in 4Q15 by US\$ 1.0/t compared to a reduction of US\$ 1.3/t in 3Q15. Bunker oil prices impacted the settlement of FOB sales prices as the decrease in bunker oil prices led to a lower freight deduction from the IODEX CFR reference price used to determine the FOB price.

Price realization iron ore fines

Table of Contents**Average sale price**

US\$/ metric ton	4Q15	3Q15	4Q14	2015	2014
Iron ore - Metal Bulletin 65% index	50.09	62.11	82.90	62.12	105.82
Iron ore - Platts s 62% IODEX	46.65	54.90	74.28	55.50	96.70
Iron ore fines CFR reference price (dmt)	45.10	56.00	75.50	54.60	92.70
Iron ore fines CFR/FOB realized price	37.18	46.48	61.21	44.61	75.43
ROM	7.99	6.77	11.82	8.31	15.28
Pellets CFR/FOB (wmt)	71.98	73.80	100.11	77.78	120.48
Manganese ore	7.04	52.14	111.11	58.44	118.15
Ferroalloys	750.00	836.67	1,083.33	904.16	1,125.83

COSTS AND EXPENSES

Costs for iron ore fines amounted to US\$ 1.924 billion (or US\$ 2.183 billion with depreciation charges) in 4Q15. Costs decreased by US\$ 131 million when compared to 3Q15 after deducting the effects of higher sales volumes (US\$ 280 million) and exchange rates variations (-US\$ 63 million). The decrease was mainly driven by lower freight costs (-US\$ 122 million), lower materials costs (-US\$ 17 million), and lower energy costs (-US\$ 9 million).

Energy (electricity, diesel and gas) totaled US\$ 118 million in 4T15 against US\$ 112 million in 3T15. Oil costs, more specifically, in the form of diesel totaled US\$ 108 million in 4Q15 against US\$ 92 million in 3Q15. Costs increased by US\$ 13 million in 4Q15 after adjusting for higher volumes (US\$ 10 million) and exchange rates variations (-US\$ 7 million). Falling oil prices had a limited positive impact on fuel costs, since there is no direct correlation between prices of diesel in Brazil and international oil prices.

Maritime freight costs, which are fully accrued as cost of goods sold, totaled US\$ 757 million in 4Q15, showing a decrease of US\$ 122 million after adjusting for higher volumes (US\$ 143 million) as a result of lower freight rates and lower bunker oil prices when compared to 3Q15.

Unit freight cost per iron ore metric ton was US\$ 14.1/t in 4Q15, US\$ 2.3/t lower than the US\$ 16.4/t recorded in 3Q15. This US\$ 2.3/t decrease is explained by the positive impact of lower bunker oil prices in our chartering contracts and higher exposure to the freight spot market. Vale's average bunker oil price decreased from US\$ 296.6/t in 3Q15 to US\$ 235.0/t in 4Q15.

The impact of the outstanding bunker oil hedge position accounted for as hedge accounting in Vale's unit freight cost was US\$ 2.5/t with the final settlement of 472,500 tons of bunker oil derivative contracts from the 472,500 tons of contracts that were outstanding at the end of September 2015, totaling a negative EBITDA impact of US\$ 134 million. EBITDA will be favourably impacted as of next year as there will be no hedge accounting impact in 2016. For further details, please refer to the The Impact of Bunker Oil Hedging on Vale's Financial Performance box on page 49.

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The acquisition of products (cost of ore acquired from third parties) amounted to US\$ 44 million on 2.8 Mt sold in 4Q15. On a per-ton basis, cost of ore acquired from third parties

Table of Contents

decreased from US\$ 17.7/t in 3Q15 to US\$ 15.9/t in 4Q15. Other operational costs amounted to US\$ 160 million, decreasing from US\$ 177 million in 3Q15.

Iron ore COGS - 3Q15 x 4Q15

US\$ million	3Q15	Volume	Variance drivers		Total Variation 3Q15 x 4Q15	4Q15
			Exchange Rate	Others		
Personnel	185	20	(14)	4	10	195
Outsourced services and Materials	274	31	(17)	(8)	6	280
Energy (electricity, diesel & gas)	112	12	(9)	3	6	118
Acquisition of products	40	9		(5)	4	44
Maintenance	205	22	(19)	28	31	236
Maritime Freight	736	143		(122)	21	757
Bunker oil hedge	109	21		4	25	134
Other Operational	177	22	(4)	(35)	(17)	160
Total costs before depreciation and amortization	1,838	280	(63)	(131)	86	1,924
Depreciation	269	30	(18)	(22)	(10)	259
Total	2,107	310	(81)	(153)	76	2,183

C1 CASH COST

Total C1 cash cost at the port (mine, plant, railroad and port, ex-royalties) was US\$ 906 million after deducting depreciation of US\$ 259 million, iron ore acquired from third parties of US\$ 44 million, iron ore freight costs of US\$ 757 million and bunker oil hedge accounting effects of US\$ 134 million.

C1 cash cost FOB port per metric ton of iron ore fines (ex-ROM and ex-royalties) was US\$ 11.9/t in 4Q15 vs. US\$ 12.7/t in 3Q15, reducing US\$ 0.8/t mostly due to the depreciation of the BRL against the USD. C1 cash cost FOB port per metric ton of iron ore fines in BRL increased slightly from R\$ 45.2/t in 3Q15 to R\$ 45.6/t in 4Q15 (or R\$ 44.9/t after excluding the negative effect of R\$ 55.5 million of the collective bargain agreement settled with our employees in Brazil).

Iron ore expenses, net of depreciation, excluding the positive effect of US\$ 322 million of the asset retirement obligation, amounted to US\$ 270 million in 4Q15 vs. the US\$ 218 million recorded in 3Q15. Expenses increased by US\$ 62 million when compared to 3Q15 after adjusting for the effects of exchange rates (-US\$ 10 million). R&D amounted to US\$ 26 million, the same as in 3Q15. Pre-operating and stoppage expenses, net of depreciation, amounted to US\$ 50 million, US\$ 27 million higher than the US\$ 23 million recorded in 3Q15, mainly due to stoppage expenses in the Southeastern Mining System due to the rupture of the Samarco tailings dam.

Table of Contents

Unit cash costs and expenses (adjusted for quality and moisture, excluding ore from third parties, ROM and the positive effect of the ARO) landed in China decreased from US\$ 34.2/t in 3Q15 to US\$ 32.0/t in 4Q15.

Evolution of iron ore fines cash cost, freight and expenses

Cost and expenses landed in China for iron ore fines

Table of Contents**Iron ore fines cash cost and freight**

	4Q15	3Q15	4Q14	2015	2014
Costs (US\$ million)					
COGS, less depreciation and amortization	1,924	1,838	2,831	7,604	9,532
Costs of ore acquired from third parties	44	40	89	210	443
Maritime freight	757	736	1,037	2,825	3,325
Bunker oil hedge	134	109		412	
One-off items			48		48
FOB at port costs (ex-ROM and ex-third party ores)(1)	989	953	1,657	4,157	5,716
FOB at port costs (ex-ROM, ex-third party ores and ex-royalties)	906	868	1,534	3,825	5,079
Sales volumes (Mt)					
Total iron ore volume sold	80.8	74.1	78.2	288.7	270.0
Volume acquired from third parties	2.8	2.3	3.2	11.1	12.2
Total ROM volume sold	1.6	3.5	3.6	12.3	14.1
Volume sold of Vale's own ore (ex-ROM)	76.4	68.3	71.4	265.3	243.7
% of CFR sales	68.0%	64.0%	64.2%	64.1%	57.4%
% of FOB sales	32.0%	38.0%	35.8%	35.9%	42.6%
Vale's iron ore cash cost (ex-ROM, ex-royalties), FOB (US\$/t)	11.9	12.7	21.5	14.4	20.8
Freight					
Volume CFR (Mt)	53.6	44.9	47.9	177.1	146.9
Vale's iron ore unit freight cost (US\$/t)	16.6	18.8	21.7	18.3	22.6
Vale's iron ore unit freight cost (ex-bunker oil hedge) (US\$/t)	14.1	16.4	21.7	16.0	22.6

Iron ore fines unit cost + expenses adjusted for quality landed in China

US\$/t	4Q15	3Q15	4Q14	2015	2014
Vale's iron ore cash cost (ex-ROM, ex-royalties), FOB (US\$/t)	11.9	12.7	21.5	14.4	20.8
Iron ore fines freight cost (ex-bunker oil hedge)	14.1	16.4	21.7	16.0	22.6
Iron ore fines expenses(1) & royalties	4.6	4.4	11.0	4.9	9.7
Iron ore fines moisture adjustment	2.6	2.8	4.7	3.0	4.8
Iron ore fines quality adjustment	-1.1	-2.1	0.9	-1.9	0.9
Iron ore fines unit cost + expenses landed in China (US\$/dmt)	32.0	34.2	59.8	36.4	58.9

(1) Net of depreciation, excluding the positive one-off effect of the ARO adjustment.

Iron Ore Fines Costs and Expenses in BRL

R\$/t	4Q15	3Q15	4Q14	2015	2014
Costs	45.6	45.2	54.5	47.9	50.1
Expenses(1)	12.9	10.8	16.0	12.2	22.6
Total	58.5	56.0	70.5	60.1	72.7

(1) Net of depreciation.

Iron ore pellets

ANNUAL PERFORMANCE

Adjusted EBITDA for pellets was US\$ 1.685 billion in 2015, 43.5% lower than the US\$ 2.981 billion recorded in 2014. The decrease of US\$ 1.296 billion was mainly a result of lower sales prices (US\$ 1.986 billion) which were partially offset by higher sales volumes (US\$ 204 million), lower costs (US\$ 163 million) and exchange rate variations (US\$ 551 million).

Table of Contents

Net sales revenues for pellets were US\$ 3.600 billion in 2015, 31.6% lower than in 2014, mainly due to the decrease in sales prices, from US\$ 120.48 per metric ton in 2014 to US\$ 77.8 per metric ton in 2015. Sales prices negatively impacted sales revenues by US\$ 1.986 billion in 2015 compared with 2014. Sales volumes increased to 46.28 Mt vs. 43.68 Mt in 2014 as a result of the ramp-up of Tubarão VIII pellet plant.

Costs for pellets totaled US\$ 2.121 billion in 2015 (or US\$ 2.436 billion with depreciation charges). Costs decreased by US\$ 162 million when compared to 2014 after adjusting for the effects of higher volumes (US\$ 119 million) and exchange rate variations (-US\$ 540 million). This decrease is mainly due to lower leasing costs (-US\$ 63 million), lower diesel costs (-US\$ 57 million) and lower materials costs (-US\$ 45 million).

QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE

Adjusted EBITDA for pellets in 4Q15 was US\$ 336 million, compared to the US\$ 382 million in 3Q15. Adjusted EBITDA was negatively impacted by the lower sales prices (-US\$ 18 million), lower sales volumes (-US\$ 32 million) and higher costs (-US\$ 20 million) in 4Q15 vs. 3Q15. The unfavorable impacts were partly offset by exchange rate variations (US\$ 22 million) and higher dividends received from the leased pelletizing plants (US\$ 22 million).

Net sales revenues for pellets amounted to US\$ 780 million in 4Q15, decreasing US\$ 103 million from the US\$ 883 million recorded in 3Q15 as a result of the lower sales prices of US\$ 72.0 per ton in 4Q15 vs. US\$ 73.8 /t in 3Q15 and of the 1.2 Mt decrease in sales volumes to 10.8 Mt in 4Q15 from 12.0 Mt in 3Q15. Sales volumes decreased by 1.8 Mt in 4Q15 vs. 4Q14.

Production reached 10.4 Mt in 4Q15, 1.8 Mt lower than in 3Q15 mainly due to scheduled maintenance stoppages in some plants.

Pellet CFR/FOB prices decreased by US\$ 1.8/t, from US\$ 73.8/t in 3Q15 to US\$ 72.0 per metric ton in 4Q15, whereas the Platt's IODEX iron ore reference price (CFR China) decreased by US\$ 8.3/t in the quarter.

The decrease in Vale's realized pellet price was less than the decrease in the average Platt's IODEX as a result of higher pellet premiums and the positive impact of pricing systems.

CFR pellet sales of 2.4 Mt in 4Q15 represented 22% of total pellets sales and were 0.7 Mt lower than in 3Q15. FOB pellet sales decreased from 8.9 Mt in 3Q15 to 8.5 Mt in 4Q15.

Pellet costs totaled US\$ 453 million (or US\$ 524 million with depreciation charges) in 4Q15. Costs increased by US\$ 20 million when compared to 3Q15 after adjusting for the effects of lower volumes (-US\$ 53 million) and exchange rate variations (-US\$ 22 million).

Table of Contents

The increase in pellets costs is mainly due to higher maintenance costs (US\$ 9 million) and higher leasing costs (US\$ 7 million). Pre-operating and stoppage expenses for pellets were US\$ 5 million in 4Q15, in line with the previous quarter.

EBITDA unit margin for pellets ex-Samarco was US\$ 31.0/t in 4Q15, US\$ 0.9/t lower than in 3Q15 mainly due to the decrease in sales prices (-US\$ 18 million).

Pellets - EBITDA ex-Samarco

	4Q15		3Q15	
	US\$ million	US\$/wmt	US\$ million	US\$/wmt
Gross Revenues / Realized Price	806	74.4	908	75.9
Net Revenues / Realized Price	780	72.0	883	73.8
Dividends Received (Leased pelletizing plants) ex-Samarco	22	2.0		
Cash Costs (Iron ore, leasing, freight, overhead, energy and other)	-453	-41.8	-508	-42.5
Expenses (SG&A, R&D and other)	-13	-1.2	7	0.6
EBITDA ex-Samarco	336	31.0	382	31.9

Manganese and ferroalloys

ANNUAL PERFORMANCE

Adjusted EBITDA of manganese and ferroalloys was negative US\$ 31 million in 2015, US\$ 126 million lower than in 2014, mainly due to lower prices (US\$ 98 million), lower volumes (US\$ 73 million) and higher costs (US\$ 46 million) which were partially offset by exchange rates variations (US\$ 82 million) and expenses reductions (US\$ 9 million).

Net sales revenues for manganese decreased to US\$ 100 million in 2015, down from US\$ 222 million in 2014, due to the effect of lower prices (US\$ 108 million) and lower sales volumes (US\$ 14 million). In 2015, manganese ore production totaled to 2.441 Mt, slightly higher than in 2014.

Net sales revenues for ferroalloys decreased in 2015 to US\$ 62 million from US\$ 170 million in 2014, mainly due to the effect of lower sales volumes (US\$ 118 million) and lower prices. In 2015, the output of ferroalloys was 99,000 t, significantly lower than in 2014.

QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE

Adjusted EBITDA of Manganese ore and ferroalloys was negative US\$ 34 million in 4Q15, US\$ 23 million lower than the negative US\$ 11 million in 3Q15, mainly due to the impact of provisional prices from previous quarters (-US\$ 28 million), which were partially offset by exchange rate variations (US\$ 2 million) and higher sales volumes (US\$ 1 million).

Net sales revenues for manganese decreased to US\$ 4 million from US\$ 23 million in 3Q15 due to lower sales prices. In 4Q15, production of manganese ore reached 651,000 t, compared to 644,000 t in 3Q15 and 723,000 t in 4Q14.

Table of Contents

Net sales revenues for ferroalloys amounted to US\$ 9 million, increasing US\$ 6 million from the US\$ 3 million in 3Q15, due to higher sales volumes. Ferroalloys production decreased to 20,000 t in 4Q15 from the 21,000 t recorded in 3Q15.

Market outlook - iron ore

The price of iron ore averaged US\$ 55.5/t in 2015, 42% lower than in 2014. The price reduction was driven by an oversupply of iron ore amid lower than expected steel production in China and in the rest of the world.

The price of iron ore decreased 15%, from US\$ 54.90/t in 3Q15 to US\$ 46.65/t in 4Q15, as steel production deteriorated whilst iron ore supply increased driven by seasonality factors.

According to the World Steel Association (WSA), world crude steel production totaled 1.622Mt in 2015, declining 2.8% vs. 2014. China's crude steel production totaled 803.8Mt, declining 2.3% year-on-year. The annual production decline was the first one since 1981 as the country continues its transition towards an economy more reliant on domestic consumption and services.

China's GDP grew 6.9% in 2015, slowing down mainly as a result of a decline in fixed asset investments, and growing only 10% year-on-year vs. 15.7% growth in 2014. Chinese steel demand declined, leading steel mills to rely more on overseas market to maintain their production levels. Net exports of finished steel reached a record 100Mt, rising 25.5% year-on-year, in 2015.

The increasing exports from China impacted steel production in other regions such as the Middle East, South East Asia, Europe, where production contracted by 0.5%, 3.6% and 1.8% year-on-year respectively, and to a certain extent India. The excess supply with the high export volumes from China translated into lower worldwide steel prices.

The seaborne iron ore supply amounted to roughly 1.410 Mt in 2015, increasing 30 Mt, or approximately 2% year-on-year with additional production from major iron ore players, such as Brazil and Australia. Brazil, Australia, South Africa and Peru increased their exports to China whilst all other regions together reduced exports by 62 Mt, representing a 39% year-on-year reduction.

2016 should still be a challenging year for iron ore producers as no major stimulus is expected from the Chinese government to boost investments. Steel demand and production should remain mild, posing additional challenges for higher cost iron ore producers.

Table of Contents**Volume sold by destination Iron ore and pellets**

000 metric tons	4Q15	3Q15	4Q14	2015	%	2014	%
Americas	8,549	10,760	11,590	41,187	12.3	44,071	14.1
Brazil	7,346	9,363	10,078	35,665	10.6	37,623	12.0
Others	1,203	1,397	1,512	5,522	1.6	6,448	2.1
Asia	65,574	59,597	62,563	229,268	68.4	208,536	66.5
China	52,898	46,512	46,411	179,470	53.6	156,692	50.0
Japan	7,782	8,548	7,505	29,499	8.8	27,229	8.7
Others	4,894	4,537	8,648	20,299	6.1	24,615	7.8
Europe	15,006	13,014	13,209	53,385	15.9	49,042	15.6
Germany	5,471	5,219	4,660	21,991	6.6	19,075	6.1
France	1,474	1,497	2,103	5,814	1.7	6,242	2.0
Others	8,061	6,298	6,446	25,580	7.6	23,725	7.6
Middle East	2,095	2,401	2,337	9,745	2.9	8,694	2.8
Rest of the World	453	265	1,141	1,360	0.4	3,291	1.0
Total	91,677	86,037	90,841	334,946	100.0	313,634	100.0

Selected financial indicators - Ferrous minerals

US\$ million	4Q15	3Q15	4Q14	2015	2014
Net Revenues	3,830	4,312	6,116	16,562	25,697
Costs(1)	(2,497)	(2,447)	(3,792)	(10,241)	(13,063)
Expenses(1)	120	(153)	(504)	(380)	(1,289)
Pre-operating and stoppage expenses(1)	(61)	(32)	(48)	(169)	(221)
R&D expenses	(27)	(28)	(117)	(128)	(329)
Dividends received	44		47	255	526
Adjusted EBITDA	1,409	1,652	1,702	5,899	11,321
Depreciation and amortization	(388)	(402)	(548)	(1,669)	(1,930)
Adjusted EBIT	977	1,250	1,107	3,975	8,865
Adjusted EBIT margin (%)	25.5	29.0	18.1	24.0	34.5

(1) Net of depreciation and amortization.

Selected financial indicators - Iron ore fines (excluding third party ores)

	4Q15	3Q15	4Q14	2015	2014
Adjusted EBITDA (US\$ million)	1,040	1,180	1,060	3,912	7,759
Volume Sold (Mt)	76.432	68.261	71.394	265.313	243.650
Adjusted EBITDA (US\$/t)	13.61	17.29	14.84	14.75	31.85

Selected financial indicators - Pellets (excluding Samarco)

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	4Q15	3Q15	4Q14	2015	2014
Adjusted EBITDA (US\$ million)	336	382	526	1,539	2,579
Volume Sold (Mt)	10.837	11.961	12.686	46.284	43.682
Adjusted EBITDA (US\$/t)	31.00	31.94	41.46	33.24	59.04

Selected financial indicators - Iron ore fines and Pellets

	4Q15	3Q15	4Q14	2015	2014
Adjusted EBITDA (US\$ million)	1,376	1,562	1,586	5,451	10,338
Volume Sold (Mt)	87.269	80.222	84.080	311.598	287.332
Adjusted EBITDA (US\$/t)	15.77	19.47	18.86	17.49	35.98

Table of Contents

MANAGERIAL ALLOCATION CHANGES

Vale will promote changes in its reporting estimates beginning 2016. These changes will not modify absolute cost and expense levels but will alter the allocation of costs and expenses by nature or business segments. The main impact of these changes will be in the allocation of costs between (i) SG&A, (ii) ICMS; and (iii) distribution costs intra business unit. The impacts of the proposed changes are as follows:

(i) SG&A

Currently a disproportionate amount of Vale's SG&A expenses in Brazil is allocated to the iron ore division, more specifically to iron ore fines. Upon re-assessing the allocation of SG&A across business segments, a decision was made on the use of different allocation criteria from 1Q16 onwards

(ii) ICMS

ICMS is a kind of value-added tax in Brazil. Vale is exposed to different ICMS tax regimes in the states where its operations are located. In general ICMS is credited on the acquisition of goods and services and realized upon sales into the domestic market, negotiations of credits with governments and third parties. Historically Vale has accumulated ICMS tax credits without being able to use them fully since exports from Brazil are exempted from the ICMS charge.

Given the continuous accumulation of ICMS without use, Vale periodically impairs the excessive tax credits and records the respective losses under other expenses account .

In order to reflect the regular nature of the ICMS tax credit impairment, Vale will record them as Cost of Goods Sold (COGS) on a more regular basis as of 1Q16, thus increasing COGS but at the same time not charging other expenses account .

The above mentioned changes will not alter absolute levels of costs and expenses for Vale's business units as a whole, being only a slightly relocation of absolute amounts between business units and from expenses to costs.

(iii) DISTRIBUTION COSTS

Currently, Vale includes its distribution costs into its C1 cash cost FOB port in Brazil. However, a higher percentage of these distribution costs are being incurred overseas after the implementation of the pellet plant in Oman, the distribution center in Malaysia and the more frequent

utilization of ports in China for blending iron ore.

Table of Contents

In order to adjust for these recent changes in its supply chain, Vale will report the distribution costs incurred in Oman, Malaysia, China and other facilities outside Brazil as a separate line item, named **Distribution Costs**. Maritime freight costs and distribution costs will be reported separately.

Iron ore fines unit cost + expenses adjusted for quality landed in China After accounting reporting changes

US\$/t	1Q15	2Q15	3Q15	4Q15	2015
Vale's iron ore cash cost (ex-ROM, ex-royalties), FOB (US\$/t)	18.6	16.1	13.1	12.1	14.7
Iron ore fines freight cost (ex-bunker oil hedge)	17.2	16.8	16.4	14.1	16.0
Distribution costs	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.4
Iron ore fines expenses(1) & royalties	4.6	4.2	3.6	3.9	4.1
Iron ore fines moisture adjustment	3.4	3.1	2.8	2.5	3.0
Iron ore fines quality adjustment	-1.3	-2.0	-2.1	-1.1	-1.9
Iron ore fines unit cost + expenses landed in China (US\$/dmt)	42.9	38.7	34.1	32.0	36.3

(1) Net of depreciation

Table of Contents

THE IMPACT OF BUNKER HEDGING ON VALE S FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

The total effect of bunker oil prices on Vale s financial performance is dependent on the bunker oil hedge previously taken out by Vale. Vale stopped contracting bunker oil hedges since the structural decline in oil prices, but still faces the impact of the outstanding hedge positions. However, costs will no longer be impacted in 2016 since all outstanding bunker oil exposure recorded under hedge accounting program was settled in 4Q15.

As previously discussed, bunker oil hedges are recorded as follows:

(i) The hedge of the bunker oil exposure associated with our FOB and domestics sales is marked-to-market every quarter and recorded as financial results.

(ii) The hedge of the bunker oil exposure associated with our CFR sales is recorded as hedge accounting, being marked-to-market every quarter and recorded in other comprehensive income and impacting costs of goods sold only at the actual settlement dates.

Impact of bunker oil hedging in Vale s financial performance

Freight contract type	Hedge accounting	Concept Impact of derivative positions in P/L statement	Current impact Impact incurred in 4Q15 P/L statement	Type of Instrument	Drivers of future impact Bunker oil derivative open positions (,000 tons)	Average strike price (US\$/t)
CFR	Yes	Impact on COGS at settlement date	US\$2.5/t (US\$134 million) increase on iron ore COGS	NA	0	NA
FOB	No	Impact on financial results	US\$242 million decrease on financial results	Forward Zero Cost Collar	2,206 2,042	508 314 - 385

More specifically, the impact of the hedged positions in Vale s results can be summarized as follows:

(i) Impact on the financial statements related to the derivatives under Vale s hedge accounting program:

a. In 4Q15: freight costs increased by US\$ 2.5/t with the settlement of derivatives contracts in 4Q15, driving COGS up.

Table of Contents

b. In 1Q16 and subsequent quarters: no impact

(ii) Impact on the financial statements related to the trades that are not under Vale's hedge accounting program:

a. In 4Q15: a negative impact of US\$ 242 million recognized in 4Q15 as financial expenses due to the realized loss on the settlements which occurred in the quarter and on the mark-to-market of the open positions on December 31st, 2015.

b. In 1Q16 and subsequent quarters: financial results will be impacted by the changes in the mark-to-market of the open derivative positions at the end of each quarter and by the gains or losses related to the settlements recorded in each quarter.

Table of Contents

SAMARCO DAM FAILURE

On November 5, 2015, one of Samarco's sand tailings dam (Fundão) failed unexpectedly, sending 32Mm(3) tailings downstream and impacting several communities including the community at Bento Rodrigues, a small mining town of 600 people. The dam failure resulted in 17 fatalities, with 2 people still missing, and caused extensive property and environmental damage to the affected areas in the states of Minas Gerais and Espírito Santo.

Immediately after the dam failure, together with the Civil Defense, Fire Department, Military Police and other authorities, Samarco provided first aid, food, water, housing, social assistance and financial aid to hundreds of affected families and individuals. As of now, Samarco has already: (i) finished the recovery of all the seven bridges impacted by the dam failure; (ii) accommodated 369 families who lost their homes (100%); (iii) distributed 2,907 financial-aid cards for residents of the affected communities (75% of total affected families); (iv) provided psychological and social support for 1,185 families; (v) distributed 553 million liters of drinkable water and 59 million liters of mineral water. Both Vale and BHP Billiton, Samarco's shareholders, have been actively involved in supporting Samarco during this crisis.

Besides the community and welfare initiatives, Samarco has been monitoring the affected area and carrying out emergency work to contain any tailings movement, reinforcing the dams and dikes structures to ensure the safety of the region.

As well as cooperating with the investigations conducted by the Civil & Federal Police, and also the public prosecutors, Samarco, together with its shareholders, also engaged a specialized firm to conduct an external investigation. There is no set date for the completion of the report, due to the complexity of the event.

In order to assess the environmental and socio-economic impacts of the dam failure and assist in the development of a remediation plan, Samarco has engaged two external experts: a world class consulting specialist in engineering, environment and environmental emergencies; and another international firm specialized in environmental, health & safety, social and security services. The above-referred plan will also include programs for the recovery of regional economic activity.

The impact of the dam failure on Samarco's activities was mainly the immediate stoppage of its mining operations in the state of Minas Gerais. Vale's operation in the Mariana Complex, near to Samarco's mining area, was also negatively impacted with the destruction of a major conveyor belt. Consequently, Vale's production in the Mariana region was 3Mt lower in 4Q15 (which was offset by the increase in output from other mines) and will probably be 9Mt lower in 2016 (which will be offset by the increase in output from other mines). Vale has also

Table of Contents

interrupted the sale of its ROM to Samarco's processing plant in Minas Gerais.

As a consequence of the Fundão dam failure, Samarco incurred in expenses, wrote off assets and recognized provisions for remediation, which affected its balance sheet and income statement. Vale accounts for Samarco's results under the equity method, and, therefore, the impacts of Samarco's dam failure on Vale's balance sheet and income statement are limited to Vale's interest in Samarco's capital as per the Brazilian Corporation Law. Vale's investment in Samarco was reduced to zero and no liability was recognized in Vale's financial statements. The dam failure had no effect on Vale's cash flow for the year ended December 31, 2015.⁽²⁴⁾

Vale S.A. was summoned by the Federal Union, the States of Minas Gerais and Espírito Santo, and other entities in a public civil action filed at the 12ª Vara Federal of Belo Horizonte. The action, which was brought against Samarco S.A. (Samarco) and its shareholders, BHP Billiton Brasil Ltda. (BHP) and Vale, requests (i) a freeze on transfer of the mining rights of the three respondents, without, however, limiting their commercial and production activities and (ii) remediation of the damages caused by the failure of the Samarco Fundão dam. The claimants valued the action at R\$ 20.2 billion. Vale has adopted the necessary measures to guarantee its right of defense.

(24) For more details on accounting effects, please refer to IFRS note 4.

Table of Contents

Base Metals

Annual performance

Base Metals adjusted EBITDA totaled US\$ 1.388 billion in 2015, representing a decrease of US\$ 1.133 billion from the US\$ 2.521 billion recorded in 2014. The decrease was mainly due to lower base metals prices (US\$ 2.195 billion) and higher costs (US\$ 137 million), which were partly offset by favorable exchange rate variations (US\$ 594 million) and higher volumes (US\$ 498 million).

SALES REVENUES AND VOLUME

Gross sales from base metals and their by-products totaled US\$ 6.172 billion in 2015 against US\$ 7.694 billion in 2014. The decrease was mainly driven by lower nickel prices (US\$ 1.394 billion) and lower copper prices (US\$ 641 million), which were partially offset by higher sales of nickel (US\$ 338 million) and copper (US\$ 246 million).

Nickel production achieved the new annual record of 291,000 t, 16,000 t higher than in 2014, as a result of the higher production at VNC and Onça Puma. Copper production, supported by Salobo's ramp-up, totaled 423,800 t, 44,100 t higher than in 2014 and a new annual record. Gold production reached a record 420,100 troy ounces (oz) in 2015, an all-time record, with the continued ramp-up of Salobo.

COSTS AND EXPENSES

Base metals COGS were US\$ 4.296 billion (US\$ 5.863 billion including depreciation). After adjusting for the effects of volumes (US\$ 168 million) and exchange rate variations (-US\$ 594 million), costs increased by US\$ 137 million vs. 2014. The primary reason for the higher cost was the increased allocation of VNC pre-operating expenses to COGS.

SG&A and other expenses, excluding depreciation, were a positive US\$ 44 million in 2015 due to the positive effect of US\$ 230 million from the gold stream transaction recorded in the 1Q15. SG&A and other expenses, excluding the positive effects of insurance (US\$ 276 million) in 2014 and of the gold streaming transaction in 1Q15, remained stable in 2015 vs. 2014.

Pre-operating and stoppage expenses, net of depreciation, totaled US\$ 412 million, US\$ 117 million lower than in 2014, mainly reflecting the lower expenses with VNC (US\$ 129 million) and Salobo (US\$ 15 million), which were partially offset by higher expenses in Long Harbour (US\$ 26 million).

Table of Contents**Quarterly performance**

Adjusted EBITDA totaled US\$ 111 million in 4Q15, decreasing US\$ 82 million vs. 3Q15 mainly as a result of lower prices (US\$ 158 million) and the write-off of materials inventories related to the initial construction of Onça Puma and Salobo of -US\$ 31 million, which were partly compensated by higher sales volumes (US\$ 93 million) and favorable exchange rates variation (US\$ 30 million). Adjusted EBITDA was negatively impacted by VNC's EBITDA of -US\$ 107 million and by the provisional copper price adjustments of -US\$ 60 million.

SALES REVENUES AND VOLUMES

Nickel gross sales revenues totaled US\$ 782 million in 4Q15, in line with 3Q15. The negative impact of lower nickel realized prices in 4Q15 (US\$ 112 million) was offset by higher sales volumes (US\$ 109 million). Sales volumes were 84 kt in 4Q15, 12 kt higher than in 3Q15.

Copper gross sales revenues totaled US\$ 413 million in 4Q15, increasing 12.2% vs. 3Q15, mainly as a result of higher volumes (US\$ 54 million). Copper sales volumes totaled 108 kt in 4Q15 vs. 94 kt in 3Q15.

PGMs (platinum group metals) gross sales revenues totaled US\$ 96 million in 4Q15, increasing 62.7% vs. 3Q15, due to higher sales volumes of 140 koz in 4Q15 vs. 83 koz in 3Q15. PGMs sales volumes increased as Sudbury operated without the major maintenance stoppage which occurred in the third quarter.

Gold gross sales revenues totaled US\$ 122 million in 4Q15, 6.1% higher than in 3Q15 as a result of higher sales volumes of 114 koz in 4Q15 vs. 105 koz in 3Q15.

Gross operating revenue by product

US\$ million	4Q15	3Q15	4Q14	2015	2014
Nickel	782	785	1,064	3,412	4,468
Copper	413	368	556	1,728	2,122
PGMs	96	59	152	404	564
Gold	122	115	115	477	418
Silver	8	7	11	31	37
Others	37	22	50	120	85
Total	1,458	1,355	1,948	6,172	7,694

NICKEL REALIZED PRICES

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Nickel realized price was US\$ 9,310/t, US\$ 127/t lower than the average nickel LME price of US\$ 9,437/t in 4Q15.

Vale's nickel products are divided in two categories, refined nickel (pellets, powder, cathode, FeNi, Utility Nickel and Tonimet) and intermediates (concentrates, matte, NiO and NHC).

Table of Contents

Refined nickel products have greater nickel content, typically commanding a premium over the average LME nickel price, whereas nickel intermediates are less pure as they are only partially processed. Due to this difference, intermediate products are sold at a discount. The amount of the discount will vary depending on the amount of processing still required, product forms and level of impurities. The sales product mix is also an important driver of nickel price realization. Refined nickel sales accounted for 87% of total nickel sales in 4Q15; with intermediate sales accounting for the balance. This was the same ratio as in 3Q15.

The realized nickel price differed from the average LME price in 4Q15 based on the following impacts:

- Premium for refined finished nickel products averaging US\$ 313/t, with an impact on the aggregate realized nickel price of US\$ 270/t;
- Discount for intermediate nickel products averaging US\$ 2,943/t, with an impact on the aggregate realized nickel price of -US\$ 397/t.

Price realization - nickel

COPPER REALIZED PRICES

Copper realized price was US\$ 3,824/t, US\$ 1,068/t lower than the average copper LME price of US\$ 4,892/t in 4Q15. Vale's copper products are mostly intermediate forms of copper, predominately in the form of concentrate which is sold at a discount to the LME. These

Table of Contents

products are sold on provisional pricing during the quarter with final prices determined at a future period, generally one to four months forward(25).

The realized copper price differed from the average LME price in 4Q15 based on the following impacts:

- Current period price adjustments: mark-to-market of invoices still open in the quarter based on the copper price forward curve(26) at the end of the quarter (-US\$ 317/t).
- Prior period price adjustments: variance between the price used in final invoices (and on the mark-to-market of invoices from previous quarters still open at the end of the current quarter) and the provisional prices used for sales in previous quarters (US\$ -239/t).
- TC/RCs, penalties, premiums and discounts for intermediate products (-US\$ 512/t).

Price realization copper

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The total impact of the provisional pricing system (mark-to-market of open invoices and differences between provisional and final prices) on sales revenues was US\$ 60 million as the net result of: (i) current period price adjustment for the mark-to-market of invoices still open in the quarter based on the copper price forward curve (-US\$ 317/t on 108 kt⁽²⁷⁾ of copper sales volumes, resulting in -US\$ 34 million); and (ii) prior period price adjustment based on the variance between the price used in final invoices and provisional prices used in previous quarters (-US\$ 239/t on 108 kt of copper sales volumes, resulting in -US\$ 26 million).

(25) At December 31, 2015 Vale had provisionally priced copper sales totaling 81,229 tons valued at a LME forward price of US\$ 4,710/t, subject to final pricing over the next several months.

(26) Includes a small amount of final invoices that were provisionally priced and settled within the quarter.

(27) Copper production includes 43 kt in North Atlantic nickel operations and 65 kt in South Atlantic copper operations.

Table of Contents**Average sale price**

US\$/ metric ton	4Q15	3Q15	4Q14	2015	2014
Nickel - LME	9,437	10,561	15,799	11,807	16,867
Copper - LME	4,892	5,259	6,624	5,494	6,862
Nickel	9,310	10,866	15,420	11,684	16,426
Copper	3,824	3,892	5,842	4,353	6,015
Platinum (US\$/oz)	818	1,005	1,225	1,020	1,262
Gold (US\$/oz)	1,064	1,095	1,190	1,123	1,193
Silver (US\$/oz)	10.00	13.49	14.16	12.63	19.42
Cobalt (US\$/lb)	8.55	14.54	9.34	9.95	10.67

PRODUCTION PERFORMANCE

Nickel production reached a quarterly record of 82,700 t in 4Q15, being 15.4% higher than in 3Q15, as a result of higher finished nickel production from the operations in Canada, Indonesia, New Caledonia and Brazil.

Copper production reached the quarterly record of 112,500 t in 4Q15, being 13.4% higher than in 3Q15, as a result of the higher copper production from the Canadian operations and the ramp-up of Salobo II.

Gold production reached the quarterly record of 117,500 oz in 4Q15, being 17.6% higher than in 3Q15, as a result of Salobo's ongoing ramp-up.

Volume sold

000 metric tons	4Q15	3Q15	4Q14	2015	2014
Nickel operations & by products					
Nickel	84	72	69	292	272
Copper	43	32	37	148	156
Gold (000 oz)	15	15	20	79	103
Silver (000 oz)	582	374	574	1,655	1,431
PGMs (000 oz)	140	83	168	519	577
Cobalt (metric ton)	1,433	468	1,311	3,840	3,188
Copper operations & by products					
Copper	65	62	58	249	197
Gold (000 oz)	99	90	76	346	248
Silver (000 oz)	178	154	182	648	458

COSTS AND EXPENSES

Costs totaled US\$ 1.131 billion in 4Q15 (or US\$ 1.551 billion including depreciation). After adjusting for the effects of higher sales volumes (US\$ 168 million) and exchange rate variations (-US\$ 30 million), costs decreased by US\$ 45 million vs. 3Q15, mainly due to the higher dilution of fixed costs in Sudbury (US\$ 42 million).

Table of Contents**Base metals COGS - 3Q15 x 4Q15**

US\$ million	3Q15	Volume	Variance drivers		Others	Total Variation 3Q15 x 4Q15	4Q15
			Exchange Rate				
Personnel	205	37	(7)	(7)	(7)	23	228
Outsourced services and Materials	218	39	(7)	(7)	(7)	25	243
Energy (Electricity, fuel & gas)	137	25	(4)	(4)	(4)	17	154
Acquisition of products	106				(15)	(15)	91
Maintenance	236	43	(8)	(8)	(8)	27	263
Others	136	24	(4)	(4)	(4)	16	152
Total costs before depreciation and amortization	1,038	168	(30)	(45)	(45)	93	1,131
Depreciation	368	2	(11)		61	52	420
Total	1,406	170	(41)	16	16	145	1,551

SG&A and other expenses, excluding depreciation, totalled US\$ 95 million in 4Q15, being negatively impacted by the write-off of materials inventories in 4Q15 (US\$ 31 million).

Pre-operating and stoppage expenses, net of depreciation, totalled US\$ 89 million, being US\$ 8 million lower than in 3Q15, mainly reflecting lower expenses at VNC (US\$ 7 million) and Long Harbour (US\$ 2 million).

Performance by operation

The breakdown of the Base Metals EBITDA components per operation is detailed below.

Base Metals EBITDA overview 4Q15

US\$ millions	North Atlantic	PTVI Site	VNC Site	Sossego	Salobo	Onça Puma	Other(1)	Total Base Metals
Net Revenues	729	177	84	103	248	64	53	1,458
Costs(2)	(490)	(145)	(113)	(83)	(156)	(55)	(89)	(1,131)
SG&A and others	(11)	2	(10)	(3)	(17)	(19)	(36)	