

# Acea Group 9M 2020 Results

Rome, 10 November 2020



## **Executive summary**

### Operational resilience and financial strength

## STRONG PERFORMANCE DESPITE THE CHALLENGING SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC BACKDROP CAUSED BY THE ONGOING HEALTH EMERGENCY INCREASED INVESTMENT IN REGULATED INFRASTRUCTURE



- **EBITDA** of €859m +12% versus 9M 2019
- **EBIT** of €426m +6% versus 9M 2019
- NET PROFIT of €219m in line with 9M 2019
- Capex of €625m +18% versus 9M 2019

## FURTHER GROWTH OF REGULATED BUSINESSES AND EXPANSION IN PHOTOVOLTAIC AND ENVIRONMENT SECTORS THANKS TO ACQUISITIONS

- Acquisition of 60% of «Ferrocart» and «Cavallari» (which owns 100% of Multigreen) 4 waste storage, treatment and sorting plants, handling 145k tonnes per year (April 2020)
- Acquisition of 70% of Simam, a leader in the design, construction and operation of liquid waste treatment plants and in the delivery of environmental and remediation projects, offering integrated high-technology solutions (May 2020)



- Acquisition of 51% of «Alto Sangro Distribuzione Gas» (537 km of network, 34k redelivery points in the province of l'Aquila) (August 2020)
- Acquisition of photovoltaic plants, with total installed capacity amounting to 52 MWp. Development of primary market projects,
   40 MWp already authorised out of a pipeline of over 400 MWp
- Placement of a €500m bond issue with a term of 9 years and coupon of 0.50% (January 2020)
- Fitch confirms Acea's rating of «BBB+» with a «Stable» outlook. (May 2020)
- > Standard Ethics raises outlook for Acea from "Stable" to "Positive". Rating of "EE-" (July 2020).
- New Business Plan 2020-2024 approved (October 2020), targeting creation of value via strong emphasis on sustainability. Key Plan targets are:
  - CAGR EBITDA of approx. 7%, €1.4bn by 2024;
  - Capex of €4.7bn in the period 2020-2024 (+€700m versus previous Plan).
  - Net Debt/EBITDA ratio of 3x in 2024 and Net Debt/RAB ratio of 0.7x in 2024.
  - Dividends totalling €860m in the period 2020-2024, up on previous Plan, with minimum DPS in 2021 of €0.80.

## **Executive summary**

#### Operational resilience and financial strength

## REGULATED BUSINESSES PROVE HIGHLY RESILIENT LIMITED IMPACT ALSO ON ACTIVITIES MOST EXPOSED TO THE CRISIS

#### 9M 2020

• **EBITDA:** growth beats expectations, despite the ongoing health emergency.



#### **CONFIRMATION OF GUIDANCE FOR 2020:**

- **EBITDA** >8% versus 2019 (€1,042m)
- CAPEX broadly in line with 2019 (€793m)
- NET DEBT €3.45-3.55bn

## 9M 2020 financial highlights

(€m)	9M 2020 (a)	9M 2019 (b)	% change (a/b)
Consolidated revenue	2,472	2,346	+5%
EBITDA	859	769	+12%
EBIT	426	403	+6%
Group net profit	219	219	-
Capex	625	529	+18%

- HIGHLY RESILIENT REGULATED BUSINESSES (Water, Electricity Distribution)
- TIMELY RECOVERY OF NON-REGULATED ACTIVITIES MOST EXPOSED TO THE CRISIS
- CONSOLIDATION OF ACQUEDOTTO DEL FIORA (AdF) FROM OCTOBER 2019
- CONTRIBUTION FROM NEW ACQUISITIONS
- RECOGNITION IN 9M 2019 OF NON-RECURRING INCOME OF €16.2M FOLLOWING CANCELLATION OF ANTITRUST FINE BY REGIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE COURT

(€m)	30 Sept 2020	31 Dec 2019	30 Sept 2019	% change	% change
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(a/b)	(a/c)
Net debt	3,535	3,063	2,960	+15%	+19%

#### **Average Group workforce**

9M 2020	9M 2019	Change
7,701	6,614	1,087*

<sup>\*</sup> The increase in the workforce is primarily due to changes in scope (AdF, ACEA Perù, the Environment segment, Simam)

## **Executive summary**

### "Covid-19 emergency": a new way of working

The Covid-19 epidemic has accelerated the adoption of new ways of working and required us to foster a **solid**, shared corporate culture even when **working** remotely



#### **Training**



Adoption of remote training programmes for personnel



**Performance** 



Performance measured using a results-driven approach



Workplaces



Workplaces suited to the new organisational arrangements



Work-life balance



Improved quality of life thanks to Working From Home and reduced commuting



Agile working



Agile ways of working using **virtual** scrum boards



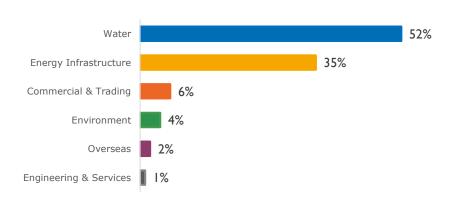
**Footprint** 



Redution in the **Company's carbon footprint** 

### **EBITDA**

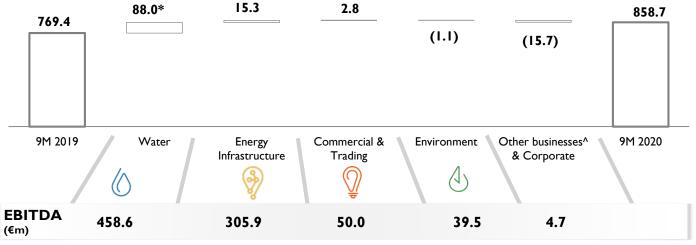
#### **EBITDA 9M 2020**



#### Contribution to EBITDA of consolidation of AdF, Consorzio Agua Azul and new acquisitions

(€m)	9M 2020	9M 2019
AdF	44.7	^^3.6
Consorcio Agua Azul Lima	7.3	^^0.9
Pescara Distribuzione Gas	1.6	1.2
Alto Sangro Distribuzione Gas	0.4	-
Demap	3.0	1.0
Berg	1.5	-
Ferrocart/Cavallari/Multigreen	3.0	-
Simam	3.1	-
Photovoltaic	10.1	2.3
TOTAL	74.7	9.0

#### **EBITDA** (€m)



#### ORGANIC GROWTH ~+8%:

after stripping out the impact on the results for 9M 2019 of cancellation of the Antitrust fine and CIP6 feed-in tariffs and before changes in the scope of consolidation

<sup>\*</sup> Line-by-line consolidation of AdF

<sup>^</sup> Overseas, Engineering & Services

<sup>^^</sup> Contribution from consolidation using the equity method

## **EBITDA** and operational results

#### 9M 2020 financial highlights



**Including gas distribution** 

#### **EBITDA GROWTH**

- Application of Tariff Regime for third regulatory period 2020-2023 (Arera Resolution 580/2019):
  - effect of investment in growth
  - no award of bonus for commercial quality (€25.5m), offset by recognition of new cost components (including those relating to sludge disposal)
- Line-by-line consolidation of AdF (from October 2019): +€41.1m
- Acquisition of Pescara Distribuzione Gas (March 2019): +€0.4m
- Acquisition of Alto Sangro Distribuzione Gas (August 2020): +€0.4m

(€m)	9M 2020 (a)	<b>9M 2019</b> (b)	% <b>change</b> (a/b)
EBITDA	458.6	370.7	+23.7%
Acea ATO2	304.0	270.5	+12.4%
Acea ATO5	25.1	19.2	+30.7%
Gori	59.7	51.3	+16.4%
AdF	44.7	3.6	n/s
Equity-accounted water companies	20.7	26.2	-21.0%
Other consolidated water companies	2.4	(1.3)	n/s
Gas distribution	2.0	1.2	+66.7%
Сарех	338.4	253.5	+33.5%

# EBITDA main drivers

## **EBITDA** and operational results

#### 9M 2020 financial highlights



#### **KEY HIGHLIGHTS**

 Acquisition of new photovoltaic plants: raising total capacity to 52 MWp

#### **EBITDA GROWTH**

EBITDA main drivers

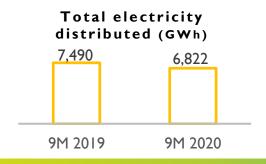
 Distribution: +€15.7m (primarily due to tariff and regulatory effects)

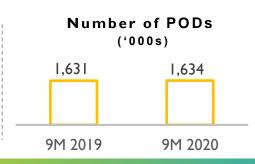
Generation: -€0.3m:

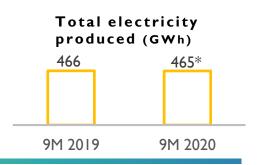
Photovoltaic: +€7.6m

Hydroelectric: declining volumes and sharp fall in prices (Covid-19 emergency): -€7.9m

(€m)	<b>9M 2020</b> (a)	<b>9M 2019</b> (b)	% <b>change</b> (a/b)
EBITDA	305.9	290.6	+5.3%
- Distribution	271.2	255.5	+6.1%
- Generation	35.2	35.5	-0.8%
- Public Lighting	(0.5)	(0.4)	n/s
Сарех	222.8	196.5	+13.4%
- Distribution	201.1	185.0	+8.7%
- Generation	18.7	9.7	+92.8%
- Public Lighting	3.0	1.8	+66.7%







<sup>\*</sup> of which photovoltaic: 50 GWh

## EBITDA and operational results 9M 2020 financial highlights



## **Commercial & Trading**

#### **KEY HIGHLIGHTS**

- Increased customer base on free market
- Ability to restore margins despite the Covid-19 emergency

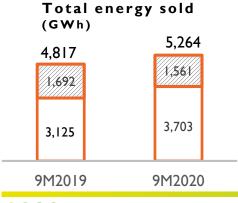
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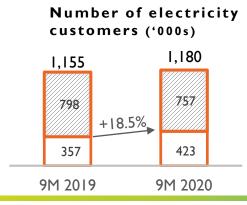
EBITDA main drivers

- Increased margin on free market: greater number of mass market customers and higher volume of electricity sold
- Reduction in margin on enhanced protection market: revised mechanism for compensating for delinquent accounts (ARERA Resolution 100/2020)
- Reduction in business customers' consumption in March-September period due to Covid-19 emergency

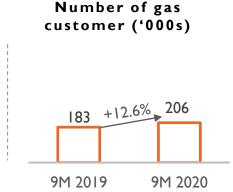
(€m)	<b>9M 2020</b> (a)	<b>9M 2019</b> (b)	<b>%change</b> (a/b)
EBITDA	50.0	47.2	+5.9%
Сарех	27.0	31.8	-15.1%

■Free market	Enhanced	protection	market
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## EBITDA and operational results

### 9M 2020 financial highlights



### **Environment**

#### **EBITDA**

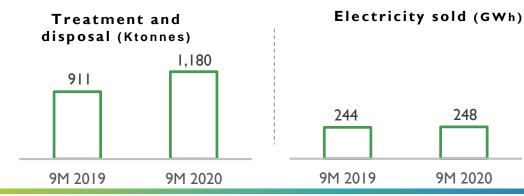
**EBITDA** main drivers

- Change in scope of consolidation:
  - ✓ Acquisition of Demap (July 2019): +€2.0m
  - ✓ Acquisition of Berg (October 2019): +€1.5m
  - ✓ Acquisition of Ferrocart/Cavallari/Multigreen (April 2020): +€3.0m
- Increase in disposal tariffs and volumes



- End of CIP6 feed-in tariffs from I August 2019: -€18.7m
- Reduction in prices of energy sold

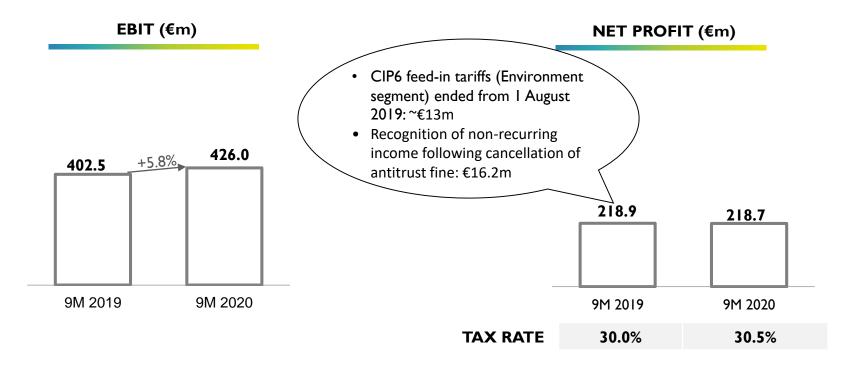
(€m)		9M 2020 (a)	<b>9M 2019</b> (b)	% <b>change</b> (a/b)
EBITDA		39.5	40.6	-2.7%
of which:	Demap	3.0	1.0	n/s
	Berg	1.5	-	n/s
	Ferrocart/Cavallari /Multigreen	3.0	-	n/s
Capex		18.2	29.4	-38.1%



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9M 2020

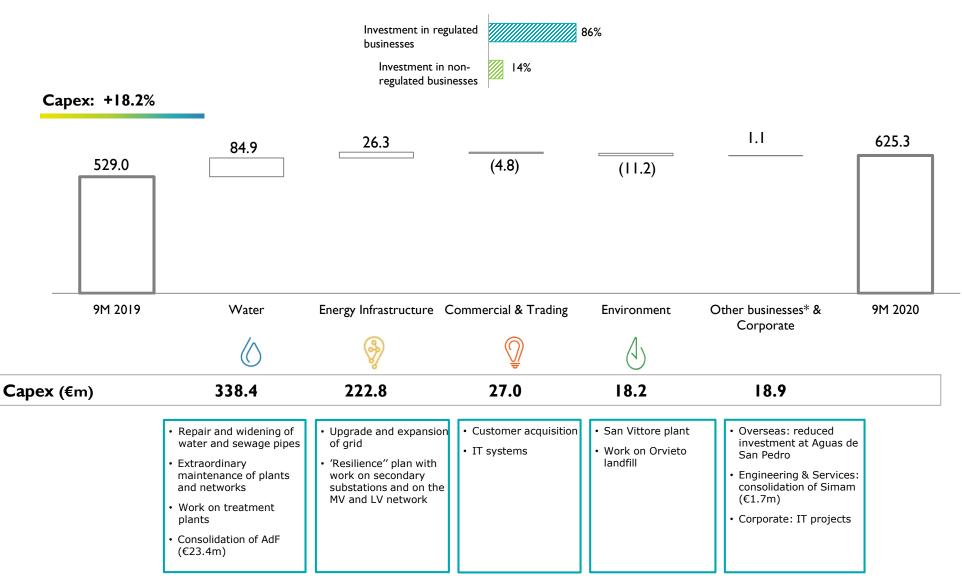
## EBIT and net profit



(€m)	9M 2020	9M 2019	% change	
Depreciation	364.8	306.7	+18.9%	Consolidation of AdF (€20.2
Write-downs	58.1	51.8	+12.2%	Consolidation of AdF (€1.1n
Provisions	9.8	8.4	+16.7%	Consolidation of AdF (€1.0n
Total	432.7	366.9	+17.9%	



#### Continuing to invest on regulated activities



<sup>\*</sup> Overseas, Engineering & Services

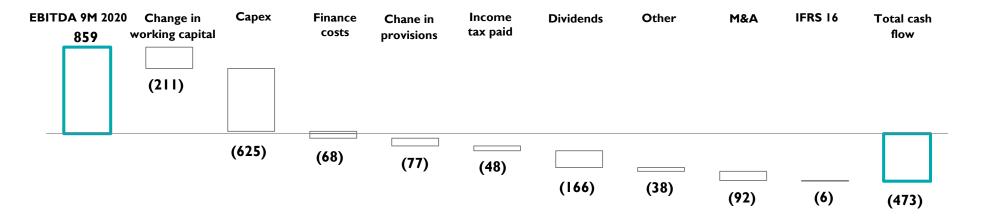
## Cash flow

#### Ongoing focus on working capital improvement

	9M 2020	9M 2019
EBITDA	859	769
Change in working capital	(211)	(118)
Capex	(625)	(529)
FREE CASH FLOW	22	122
Net finance income/(costs)	(68)	(66)
Change in provisions	(77)	(81)
Income tax paid	(48)	(58)
Dividends	(166)	(151)
Other	(38)	(29)
M&A	(92)	(71)
IFRS 16	(6)	(60)
TOTAL CASH FLOW	(473)	(394)

Increased cash outflow due to change in working capital was influenced by regulatory effects and impact of Covid-19 emergency (~€90m)

- Covid-19 emergency (€57m):
  - √ payments in arrears at Acea Energia and the water companies (€27m)
  - ✓ deferred collection of regulatory items (€30m)
- Increase in regulatory impact (€33m)

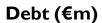


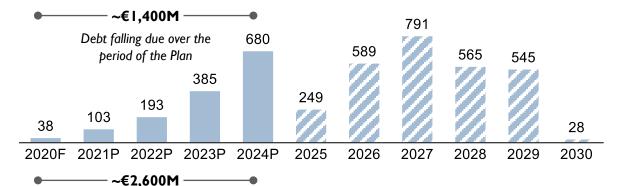
### Net debt

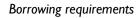
(€m)	30 Sept 2020 (a)	31 Dec 2019 (b)	30 Sept 2019 (c)	Change (a-b)	Change (a-c)
Net debt	3,535.4	3,062.8	2,960.3	472.6	575.1
Medium/long-term	4,116.9	3,523.3	3,467.5	593.6	649.4
Short-term	(581.5)	(460.5)	(507.2)	(121.0)	(74.3)

29 January 2020 - Issue of bonds worth €500m under EMTN. Bonds have a 9-year term and pay a fixed rate of 0.50%









Structure of debt (maturity and interest rates at 30 Sept 2020) > Fixed rate 82% > Average cost 1.76% > Average term 5.6 years Debt falling due after 2021 ■ Floating rate Debt falling due after 2021 Fixed rate

#### **Ratings**

**Fitch**Ratings BBB+

Stable Outlook

Moody's

Baa2

Stable Outlook

#### Sustainability ratings



A-

Leadership

standard ethics 5

EE-

Positive



# acea



## Disclaimer

THIS PRESENTATION CONTAINS CERTAIN FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS THAT REFLECT THE COMPANY'S MANAGEMENT'S CURRENT VIEWS WITH RESPECT TO FUTURE EVENTS AND FINANCIAL AND OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE OF THE COMPANY AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES.

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