

# BANK ONE

ANNUAL REPORT 2023



# 15

YEARS AS **ONE**

## Celebrating 15 years of heritage, progress and prosperity.

We are from a small island, but the size of our territory does not represent the scale of our aspirations and achievements.

From turning dreams into realisations, from transforming aspirations to assets, from an island to a foothold on the continent, from Africa for Africa...



BI NKA BI  
Courage



NKYINKYIM  
Agility



ANANSE NTENTAN  
Innovation



OSRAM NE NSOROMMA  
Trust



AGYINDAWURU  
Integrity



AKOMANTOASO  
Respect

## A collective force has shaped us.

Through the combined influence, passion and determination of our shareholders, employees, customers, partners, community and the continent we call home, we have been, for 15 years, one, through many.

11  
 12  
 13  
 14  
 15  
 16  
 17  
 18  
 19  
 20  
 21  
 22  
 23  
 24  
 25  
 26  
 27  
 28  
 29  
 30  
 31  
 32  
 33  
 34  
 35  
 36  
 37  
 38  
 39  
 40  
 41  
 42  
 43  
 44  
 45  
 46  
 47  
 48  
 49  
 50  
 51  
 52  
 53  
 54  
 55  
 56  
 57  
 58  
 59  
 60  
 61  
 62  
 63  
 64  
 65  
 66  
 67  
 68  
 69  
 70  
 71  
 72  
 73  
 74  
 75  
 76  
 77  
 78  
 79  
 80  
 81  
 82  
 83  
 84  
 85  
 86  
 87  
 88  
 89  
 90  
 91  
 92  
 93  
 94  
 95  
 96  
 97  
 98  
 99  
 100  
 101  
 102  
 103  
 104  
 105  
 106  
 107  
 108  
 109  
 110  
 111  
 112  
 113  
 114  
 115  
 116  
 117  
 118  
 119  
 120  
 121  
 122  
 123  
 124  
 125  
 126  
 127  
 128  
 129  
 130  
 131  
 132  
 133  
 134  
 135  
 136  
 137  
 138  
 139  
 140  
 141  
 142  
 143  
 144  
 145  
 146  
 147  
 148  
 149  
 150  
 151  
 152  
 153  
 154  
 155  
 156  
 157  
 158  
 159  
 160  
 161  
 162  
 163  
 164  
 165  
 166  
 167  
 168  
 169  
 170  
 171  
 172  
 173  
 174  
 175  
 176  
 177  
 178  
 179  
 180  
 181  
 182  
 183  
 184  
 185  
 186  
 187  
 188  
 189  
 190  
 191  
 192  
 193  
 194  
 195  
 196  
 197  
 198  
 199  
 200  
 201  
 202  
 203  
 204  
 205  
 206  
 207  
 208  
 209  
 210  
 211  
 212  
 213  
 214  
 215  
 216  
 217  
 218  
 219  
 220  
 221  
 222  
 223  
 224  
 225  
 226  
 227  
 228  
 229  
 230  
 231  
 232  
 233  
 234  
 235  
 236  
 237  
 238  
 239  
 240  
 241  
 242  
 243  
 244  
 245  
 246  
 247  
 248  
 249  
 250  
 251  
 252  
 253  
 254  
 255  
 256  
 257  
 258  
 259  
 260  
 261  
 262  
 263  
 264  
 265  
 266  
 267  
 268  
 269  
 270  
 271  
 272  
 273  
 274  
 275  
 276  
 277  
 278  
 279  
 280  
 281  
 282  
 283  
 284  
 285  
 286  
 287  
 288  
 289  
 290  
 291  
 292  
 293  
 294  
 295  
 296  
 297  
 298  
 299  
 300  
 301  
 302  
 303  
 304  
 305  
 306  
 307  
 308  
 309  
 310  
 311  
 312  
 313  
 314  
 315  
 316  
 317  
 318  
 319  
 320  
 321  
 322  
 323  
 324  
 325  
 326  
 327  
 328  
 329  
 330  
 331  
 332  
 333  
 334  
 335  
 336  
 337  
 338  
 339  
 340  
 341  
 342  
 343  
 344  
 345  
 346  
 347  
 348  
 349  
 350  
 351  
 352  
 353  
 354  
 355  
 356  
 357  
 358  
 359  
 360  
 361  
 362  
 363  
 364  
 365  
 366  
 367  
 368  
 369  
 370  
 371  
 372  
 373  
 374  
 375  
 376  
 377  
 378  
 379  
 380  
 381  
 382  
 383  
 384  
 385  
 386  
 387  
 388  
 389  
 390  
 391  
 392  
 393  
 394  
 395  
 396  
 397  
 398  
 399  
 400  
 401  
 402  
 403  
 404  
 405  
 406  
 407  
 408  
 409  
 410  
 411  
 412  
 413  
 414  
 415  
 416  
 417  
 418  
 419  
 420  
 421  
 422  
 423  
 424  
 425  
 426  
 427  
 428  
 429  
 430  
 431  
 432  
 433  
 434  
 435  
 436  
 437  
 438  
 439  
 440  
 441  
 442  
 443  
 444  
 445  
 446  
 447  
 448  
 449  
 450  
 451  
 452  
 453  
 454  
 455  
 456  
 457  
 458  
 459  
 460  
 461  
 462  
 463  
 464  
 465  
 466  
 467  
 468  
 469  
 470  
 471  
 472  
 473  
 474  
 475  
 476  
 477  
 478  
 479  
 480  
 481  
 482  
 483  
 484  
 485  
 486  
 487  
 488  
 489  
 490  
 491  
 492  
 493  
 494  
 495  
 496  
 497  
 498  
 499  
 500  
 501  
 502  
 503  
 504  
 505  
 506  
 507  
 508  
 509  
 510  
 511  
 512  
 513  
 514  
 515  
 516  
 517  
 518  
 519  
 520  
 521  
 522  
 523  
 524  
 525  
 526  
 527  
 528  
 529  
 530  
 531  
 532  
 533

Lines of business and digital transformation	58
Risk Management	62
Sustainability Report	86

Corporate Profile	94
Corporate Governance	96
Statement of compliance	108
Other statutory disclosures	109
Company Secretary's certificate	110
Statement of directors' responsibilities in respect of financial statements	111
Statement of management's responsibilities in respect of financial statements	112

Independent Auditor's report	116
Statement of Financial Position	120
Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income	121
Statement of Changes in Equity	122
Statement of Cash Flows	123
Notes to the financial statements	124



Together, we boldly  
embrace the future.

OVERVIEW



BINKABI  
Courage





# At a Glance



## Our strategic aspiration

Becoming Africa's preferred gateway



## Our purpose

Empowering your prosperity

## Collaborators

# 417

## Clients

# +50,000



## Our values

### Integrity

We are truthful, ethical and committed to doing the right thing.

### Innovation

We are creative, bold and embrace doing things differently, with our customers in mind.

### Trust

We believe in, count and rely on each other to deliver consistently and walk the talk.

### Courage

We speak up, hold each other to account and challenge each other to constantly improve.

### Respect

We value everyone and treat them with respect and fairness.



## Our 5 business lines



### Personal Financial Services



### Corporate Banking



### International Banking



### Treasury Services



### Private Banking

# At a Glance

## Our accolades in 2023

Bank One continues to attract local, regional and international recognition for its various achievements and received a number of accolades in 2023 as outlined below:

### CFI.co Awards 2023

Best International Banking Services (Indian Ocean) 2023



Best Custodian Bank 2023



### Global Retail Banking Innovation Awards 2023

Best Mass Affluent Banking Offering  
(Highly Acclaimed Category)



### Global Finance SME Bank Awards 2023

Best SME Bank (Mauritius) 2023



### Global Finance World's Best Private Banks Awards 2023

Best Private Bank in Mauritius 2023



### 12<sup>th</sup> Africa Bank 4.0 Summit (SADC Region)

Most Influential Retail Banker of the Year (SADC Region)  
Bhavya Shah, Head of Personal Financial Services



### Mauritius Best Employer Brand Awards 2023

Mauritius Best Employer Brand



### Business Registration No:

C07040612

### Registered office:

16, Sir William Newton Street  
Port Louis, Mauritius

Telephone: (230) 202 9200

Fax: (230) 212 8883

Website: [www.bankone.mu](http://www.bankone.mu)

### Nature of business:

Bank One is licensed by the Bank of Mauritius (BOM) to carry out banking business in Mauritius.

The Bank also holds the following licences issued by the Financial Services Commission of Mauritius:

- Licence to act as Insurance Agent in Mauritius
- Licence for distribution of financial products in Mauritius
- Investment Adviser (Unrestricted) Licence in Mauritius
- Custodian Licence
- Custodian Services (NON-CIS) Licence

### Main correspondent banks:

Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank  
Bank Of China Johannesburg Branch  
Citibank NA, London  
Citibank NA, New York  
DBS Bank Ltd  
I and M Bank Ltd  
I & M Bank (Uganda) Limited  
JP Morgan Chase Bank  
Mashreqbank Psc.  
Mizuho Bank, Ltd.  
CRDB Bank Plc  
SBM Bank (Mauritius) Ltd, Mumbai  
Standard Bank Of South Africa Limited  
Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation  
BNI Madagascar

### External Auditors:

**Deloitte**

7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Floor

Standard Chartered Tower

**19-21 Bank Street**

Cybercity

Ebene

Mauritius



# At a Glance

From Africa, for Africa

## Our presence

Madagascar, Kenya, Uganda,  
Rwanda, Tanzania, Mauritius

## Our country coverage

Malawi, Nigeria, Ivory Coast, Botswana,  
Namibia, Ghana, Senegal, South Africa,  
Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)



## Branch & Corporate Office network

### Branch

**Bank One City Centre & Main Branch**  
16, Sir William Newton street, Port Louis

**Flacq**  
Charles de Gaulle Street, Central Flacq

**Rose Hill**  
342, Royal Road, Rose Hill

**Quatre Bornes**  
74, St Jean Road, Quatre Bornes

**Vacoas**  
John Kennedy Avenue, Vacoas

**Curepipe**  
A10, Royal Road, Curepipe

**Rose Belle**  
G-29, Centre Commercial du Vieux Moulin, Rose Belle

### Corporate Office

**Bank One Waterfront**  
Astrolabe Building, Port Louis Waterfront,  
Port Louis

**Bank One Waterfront**  
• **Bank One City Centre**



**Phone**  
+230 202 9200

**Email**  
contactcentre@bankone.mu



# At a Glance

## Milestones 2023

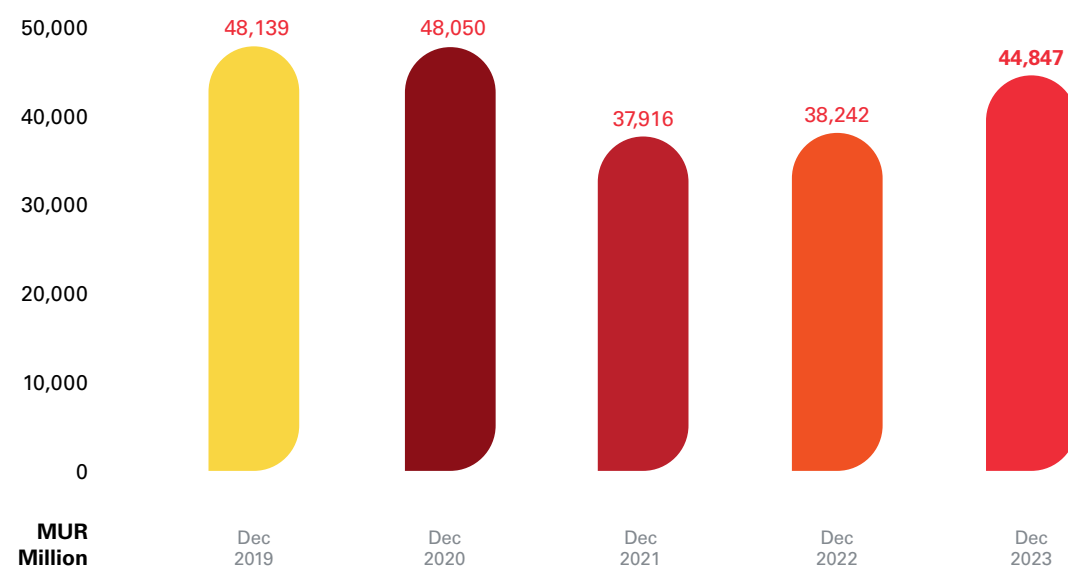




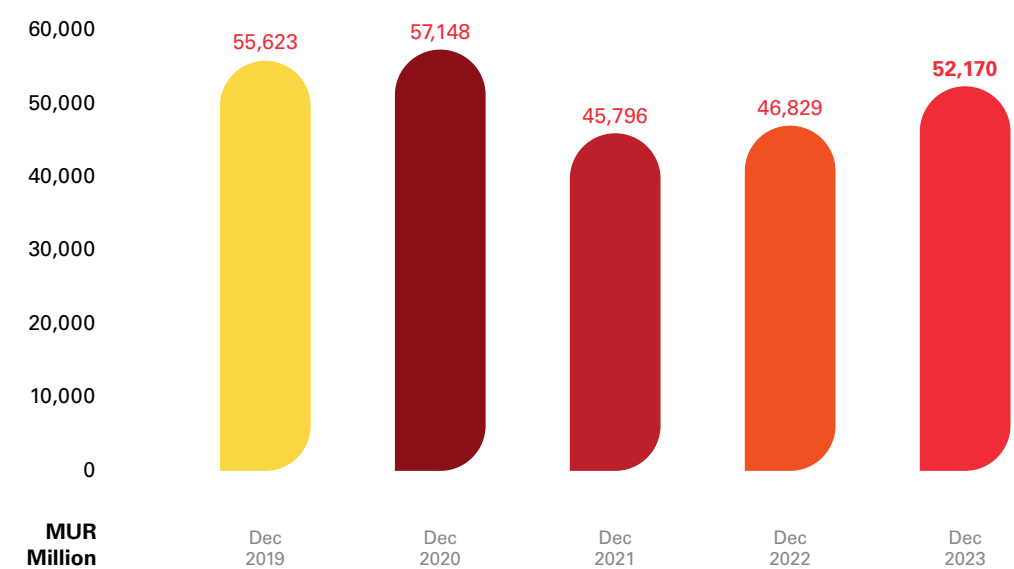


# Financial highlights

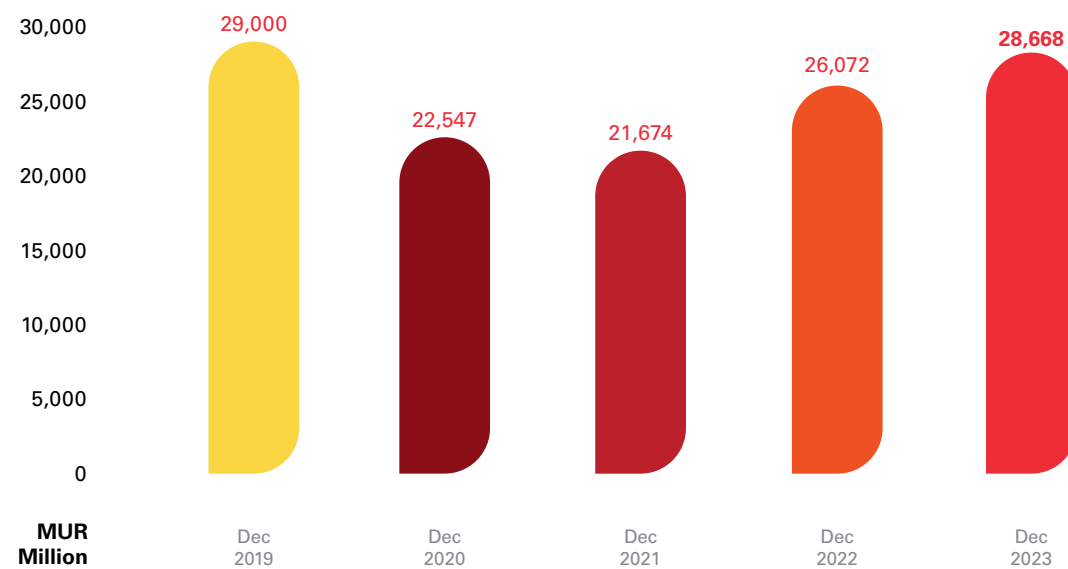
## Total Deposits



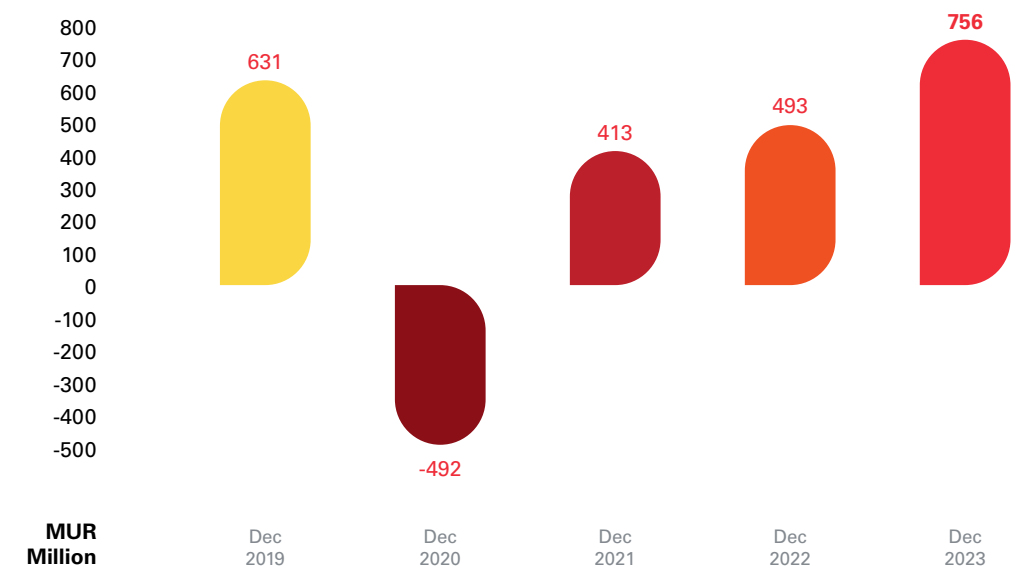
## Total Assets



## Gross Advances



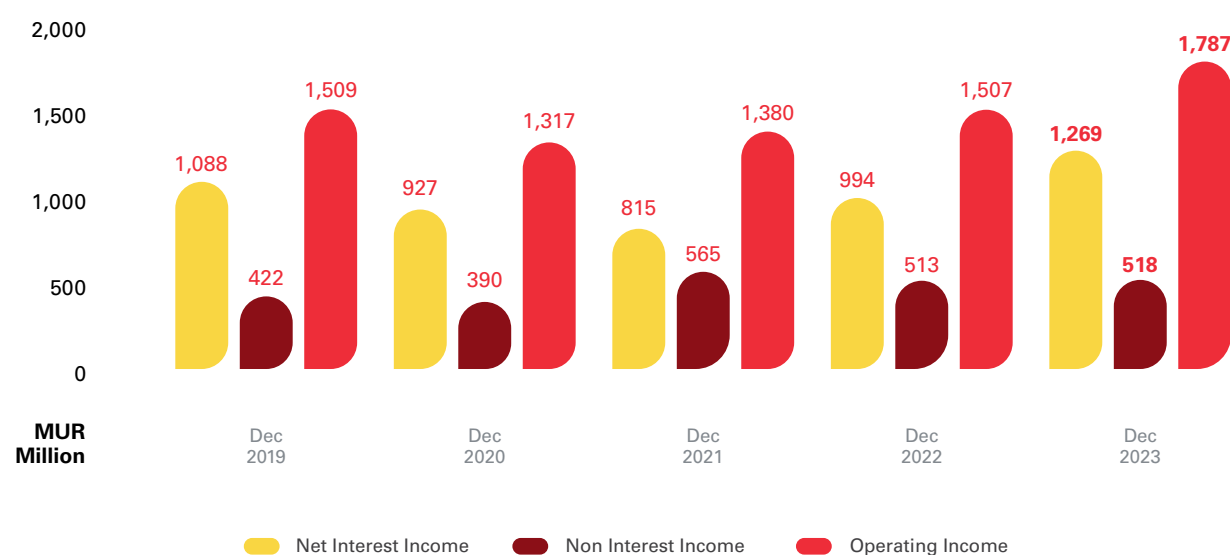
## Profit after tax



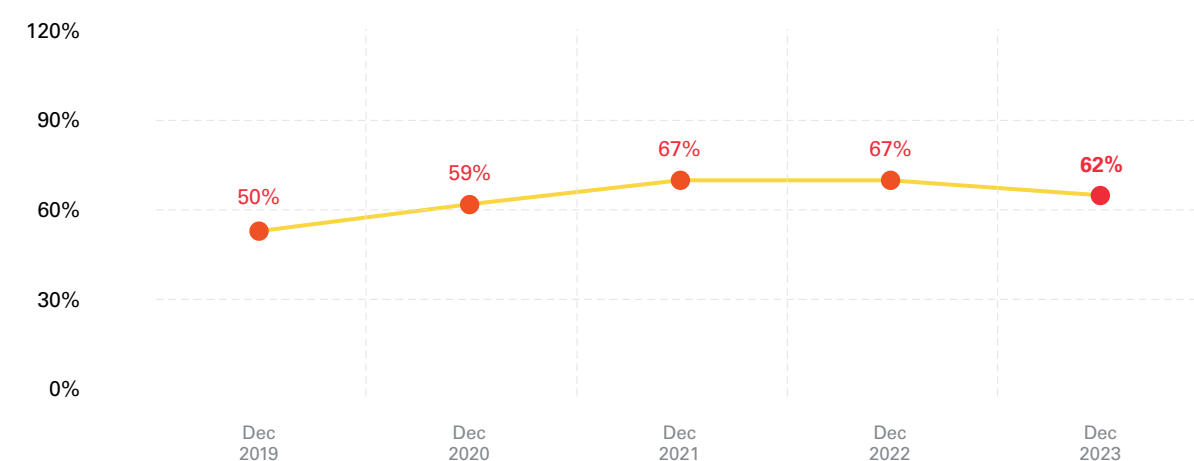


# Financial highlights

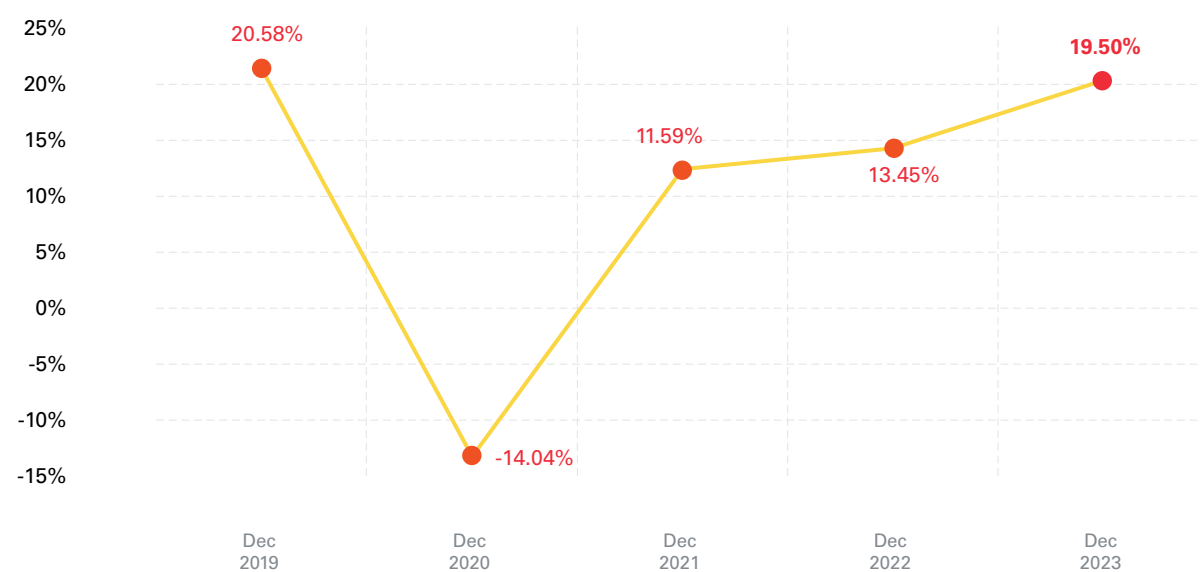
## Net Interest, Non Interest and Operating Income



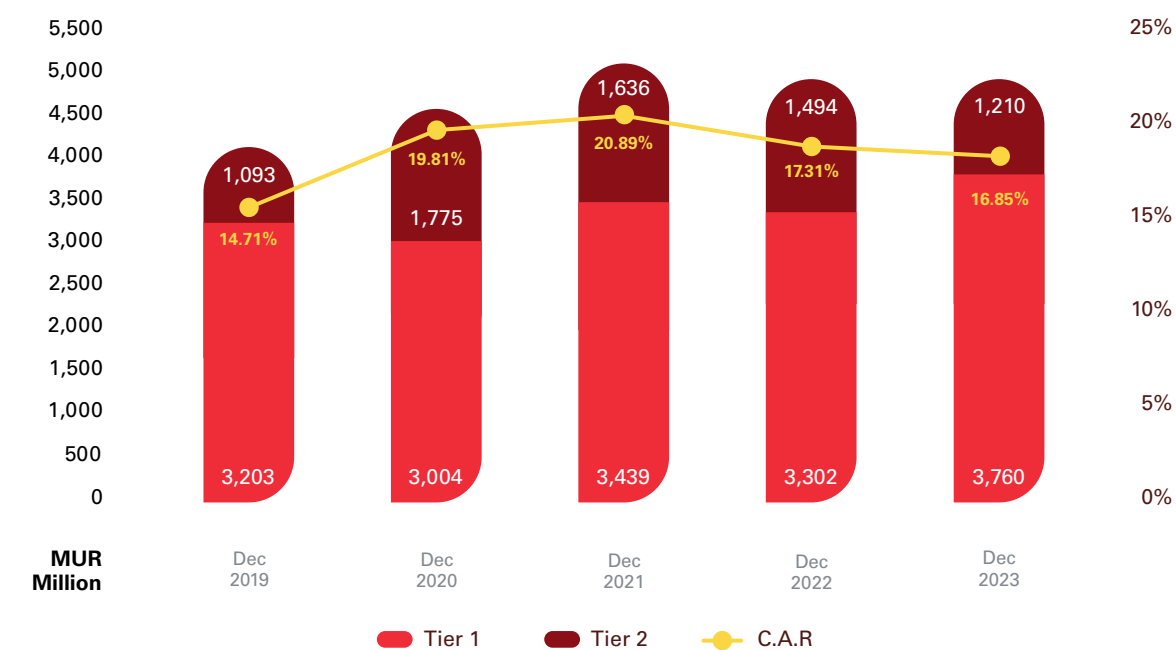
## Cost to Income ratio



## Return on Equity



## Capital Adequacy Assessment





**Dynamic guidance  
propels our way.**



**NKYINKYIM**  
Agility

**LEADERSHIP**





# Chairperson's Report

Dear Shareholders,

2023 was a year full of challenges. The impact of Covid dislocations was still being felt in many corners of the globe and to this has been added the strains of inflation and interest rates/ cost of living crisis and regional conflicts. Largely however our business, while not immune from these difficulties, has managed to navigate the worst impacts and produced the highest profits after tax in its 15 year history as Bank One.

I would like to thank my fellow directors and the management team for their hard work and the results for 2023.

## Global update

Key global themes evident in 2023 and likely to spill over into 2024 are; global inflation and interest rates, China, regional conflicts and tensions, demographics and technological advance.

### Global inflation and interest rates

Global inflation is set to fall from 8.7% in 2022 to circa 7.0% in 2023. This is off the back of lower commodity prices and tighter global monetary policy as central banks around the world raised reference rates to the highest level seen in decades.

The Federal Reserve raised rates eleven times between March 2022 and July 2023 from 0.25/50 bp to 5.25/50 bp. The current rate is a 22 year high.

Forecasts are for global inflation to decline further to 5.8% in 2024. Inflation in the advanced economies is, however, not expected to return to sub 2% levels until 2025.

With the moderation of inflation, the consensus across global financial markets is an expectation that the Federal Reserve reduce reference rates between 3 to 6 times in 2024. Rate reductions expectations buoyed global equity markets in Q4/23. The market, however, may be getting ahead of itself and expectations are shifting from a Q1 to Q3 first rate reduction.



Roselyne  
Renel



# Chairperson's Report

## China

China's USD18 trillion economy accounts for some 18% of global GDP and 30% of the world's GDP growth. More recently as a result of a slow exit from Covid and significant challenges in its domestic real estate sector, growth is expected to slow to sub 5%, materially lower than pre Covid rates of growth.

This is a key reason for a decline in global GDP from 3.5% in 2022 to an estimated 2.9% in 2024. By comparison, historically for the first 20 years of the century average global growth was 3.8%.

## Conflicts and tensions

Global conflicts remain an unfortunate negative driver of global health. The Russian/ Ukraine war continues with little evidence of a quick resolution. The war has had a major impact on global commodity prices, particularly wheat and fertiliser.

The Israel/ Hamas conflict in Gaza has been a tragedy for both sides and threatens a possible regional conflagration involving Iran. If the conflict spreads, there are likely to be significant ramifications for the price of oil. There are initial worrying signs of an expansion of the conflict with Houthis rebels in Yemen firing missiles at vessels transiting the Red Sea. Circa 15% of global trade moves through the Red Sea.

The current tension between America and China over Taiwan has had a direct impact on trade relations between the world's two largest economies. In addition to this, it has led to large scale strategy changes for manufacturing companies operating in China (re-shoring and China + 1).

All these conflicts present challenges and cause uncertainty for the world economy.

## Demographics

Several features of global demography are quite clear. One is that fertility rates have been falling just about everywhere. In many countries, notably China (whose population dropped by 2 million people in 2023), fertility rates are far below replacement levels. Meanwhile, the highest fertility rates are in Sub-Saharan Africa. As a result, its share in global population may rise by 10 percentage points by 2060. These demographic changes, which are expected to stay, are the result of rising longevity, the transformation in the economic, social and political roles of women, urbanisation, the high cost of parenthood, and changes in how people judge what is worthwhile in their lives.

## Technological advance

Progress in renewable energy, especially the declining cost of solar energy is one example. Advances in life sciences are another. However, in our age, the revolution in information and communication technologies is the centre of such progress. The growth in the number of transistors on a circuit board has risen from thousands in the 1970s to billions in the 2020s. This has hugely enhanced data processing. In addition to this, 60% of the world's population used the internet in 2020, compared to 66.2% in January 2024. Further transformation of how we live and work will undoubtedly follow. The development and use of artificial intelligence is the latest example.

## Mauritius

Mauritius fared well in 2023 with the World Bank expecting GDP growth of 5% in the year. GDP growth in 2024 is forecast to be 4.6% and 3.6% in 2025. Inflation averaged 7.3% in the last 12 months although it is expected to moderate over the medium term (6.2% in 2024 and 4.8% in 2025) aided by lower inflation in key trading partners.

While consumption spending was weak during the year it was offset by a strong rebound in the tourist sector. Based on numbers compiled by Statistics Mauritius, tourist arrivals were up circa 30% over the first three quarters of the year. The revival of international tourism has contributed to a narrowing of the current account deficit.

National debt to GDP peaked in the 2020/21 financial year, at 94.6% but is expected to fall back to 78.7% in the 2023/24 financial year.

The Bank of Mauritius kept the key repo rate at 4.5% after increasing it by 265 basis points in 2022. This has slowed the depreciation of the rupee.

The overall Mauritius financial position is solid and this is likely to reflect favourably when the ratings agencies review the country's sovereign rating. That said, the economic outlook is subject to downside risk from the tightening of global financial conditions, slower global GDP growth and geopolitical risks such as conflicts in Ukraine and the Middle East.

## Progress at Bank One

While 2023 was another difficult year from a macroeconomic perspective, it was pleasing to see the business generate a positive set of financials attesting the strong execution of its Sub-Saharan Africa focused strategy. Working closely with its shareholder groups in Africa, I&M and CIEL, the business has broken new ground and is supporting its financial services and corporate customers in 14 different East and West African countries. PAT for the year was up 53%. Loans and advances increased by 10% and deposits by 17%.

The capital and liquidity position of the Bank remains strong and above regulatory requirements. In 2023, the Bank retained its BB- Stable rating from Fitch. This is a top 20 rating for a bank in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Non-performing loans have been well controlled but are up on 2022 largely as a result of a single exposure. The exposure in question is insured by a top rated international insurance company and so the Bank is confident of a recovery in due course.

The Bank's digital strategy remains key to its future and progress is being made on a broad front around digital payments, new internet banking services for corporates and workflow processes to drive greater internal efficiencies.

During 2023, the Bank was awarded the following awards;

- Best International Banking Services (Indian Ocean) 2023: CFI.co Awards
- Best Custodian Bank 2023: CFI.co Awards
- Best Mass Affluent Banking Offering (Highly Acclaimed Category): Global Retail Banking Innovation Awards
- Best SME Bank (Mauritius) 2023: Global Finance SME Bank Awards
- Best Private Banking in Mauritius: Global Finance World's Best Private Banks Awards
- Most Influential Retail Banker of the Year (SADC Region): 12<sup>th</sup> African Bank 4.0 Summit (SADC Region)
- Mauritius Best Employer Brand: Mauritius Best Employer Brand Awards

## Activity in the community

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) remains an important part of who we are in Bank One. The Bank is focused on its Community Action Relief and Empowerment (CARE) programme. The CARE framework aims to strengthen and maintain long-term relationships with its communities, while providing opportunities to the Bank's team members to participate in CSR activities focused on financial inclusion, education and sustainable development.

During the year, 7 CSR initiatives took place and these included 2 joint activities with the CIEL foundation through the ACTogether.mu social platform and the Ferney Valley Conservation Trust. The collaboration with Actogether is focused on NGO capacity building.

On the education front, Bank one has partnered with the Ecole Pere Henri Souchon that supports 100+ underprivileged children in the Pointe Aux Sables area and the Jean Blaise Learning Centre that provides an evening school for approximately 50 children experiencing academic difficulties.

## Changes at the Board

There were three changes on the Board in 2023.

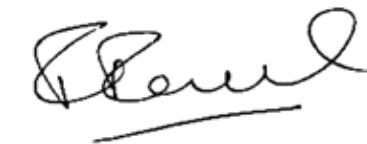
Chris Low stepped down from the Board on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023 and was replaced by Kihara Maina as of 01<sup>st</sup> September 2023. I would like to extend my thanks to Chris for all his hard work and support for the business and welcome Kihara. Kihara was appointed Regional CEO for the I&M Group in February last year with responsibility for its businesses in Mauritius, Uganda, Tanzania and Rwanda.

I am delighted to welcome Cyril Wong who joined the Board as an independent director in August. Prior to joining Bank One, Cyril was a non-executive director and the chairman of the Audit Committee for ABSA Bank (Mauritius).

## Concluding remarks

2023 was a difficult year and 2024 promises to offer up its own challenges. That said, our business continues to perform strongly and I am optimistic about the Bank's future and the opportunities presented by its Sub Saharan African strategy.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our shareholders, my fellow directors, the Bank One team, our external auditors and our regulators for their excellent support in 2023.



**Roselyne Renel**

Chairperson of the Board



# Mark Watkinson

## CEO's Report

I am pleased to provide an update on the Performance of Bank One for the year ended December 2023.

### 2023: the year past.

As the Chair has noted, every year presents a new set of challenges and a different set of themes. 2023 was no different. Global markets remained choppy and regional conflicts have caused a real sense of uncertainty.

That said, I am pleased with the way that my colleagues in the Bank, from the most junior to the most senior, have tackled the challenges and enabled the Bank to report a robust set of financials and the highest profit after tax in the Bank's history. The hard work of the whole team is recognised and appreciated. Much has been achieved but more remains to be done.

The key features of 2023 remained elevated inflation and interest rates. Both global and local interest rates were at decades highs as central banks around the world battled to contain inflation. This naturally had an impact on our business and our clients both in and outside Mauritius. From a credit risk perspective, despite higher rates, non-performing loans (NPLs) have remained relatively benign. Our own NPLs rose during the year but this related to a single medium sized account outside Mauritius that is over 90% credit insured. Insurance payments are being received in line with the underlying policy.

Our business in Africa continued to be the key driver of growth during the year.

### Bank One Strategy

While not neglecting local opportunities, the focus remains Sub Saharan Africa. The offshore sectors are primarily served by our international corporate and our private banking businesses. While Africa is not without its challenges, the region continues to offer significant potential for growth. The demand for financial services particularly hard currency facilities, trade lines, treasury, payments and wealth management remains strong. Risk, however, needs to be carefully managed and the businesses and footprint of the Bank's two shareholders, I&M and CIEL, provide invaluable insight into countries and customers. This is a significant competitive advantage and allows Bank One to service customers across the region and in particular East Africa.



# CEO's Report

The Bank One domestic business is served by our Corporate Banking and Personal Financial Services businesses. Increasingly, however, both businesses are acting as a bridge between Mauritius and Africa and vice versa. Supporting and financing Mauritian customers looking to invest in Africa and African businesses and customers looking to leverage the Mauritian advantages of stability, ease of doing business, frictionless trade and strong regulation.

## Progress during 2023

The business made excellent progress in its international business during the year. Asset growth was positive, particularly in the financial institution space where Bank One led a number of important syndications. Client growth was strong on the liabilities side with the highest number of new businesses being on-boarded for several years.

International payments growth was robust and the trade opportunity is very encouraging with strong support from a number of key development finance institutions, such as the African Development Bank.

The Bank's international securities and custody business continues to strengthen and there are good synergies with the financial institutions client base.

The domestic corporate business was profitable but experienced some challenges around market conditions and in particular the cost of local currency funding that remains elevated.

On the retail side, the business has seen impressive growth in its cross border business and its digital application, POP, while still a challenger proposition in the domestic market has made significant progress on the merchant payments side. POP offers exciting opportunities for growth both domestically and internationally.

The Bank continues to invest across its platform. The key investments have been with the corporate Internet Banking (IB) proposition and workflow. The new IB offering has allowed the Bank to step up materially its market services and there is exciting potential to grow international payments with a high degree of straight through processing. On the workflow front, this is focused on driving internal efficiencies and freeing staff up to serve clients. We have been very pleased with the initial results.

All in all, good progress in 2023 as the Bank looks to build and scale its model.

## Financial performance

As noted, the Bank produced a robust set of financial in 2023.

- Total assets grew by 11% and deposits by some 17%.
- Revenue was up 19% year on year.
- Profit before impairment grew by 35%
- PAT increased by 53% after net impairment reversals of MUR 132m
- NPLs increased to 4.20% but excluding the credit insured exposure noted above would have been 2.24%.
- Overall capital remains strong at 16.85%.

## 15<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary

While the organisation has roots further in the past, August 2023 was the Bank's 15th anniversary as Bank One. Over the past 15 years, there have been huge changes to the organisation as the company grew its business.

Assets have grown 11 fold in the past 15 years and our team has doubled in size. Total revenue has improved 43 times. The capital position of the Bank has strengthened from 10% to just below 17% and the business now generates a return on equity of 19.50% for its shareholders.

Thank you to all those who have contributed to this amazing journey.

## 2024 – the year ahead

The Chair noted a number of significant global trends in her comments. Of these the shorter dated impact is likely to come from declining inflation and interest rates. While rate cuts are not expected before the second half of the year (despite an initial period of euphoria at the beginning of the year in relation to earlier cut expectations) this is expected to play out positively in many of the Bank's international markets and alleviate pressure on a number of African sovereigns.

Food prices have moderated significantly as markets have adapted to the Ukraine/ Russia war. Again this is positive for Africa. Care, however, needs to be taken in relation to oil prices that could see a spike in the event that the Middle East conflict expands materially.

The Africa Continental Free Trade Agreement is starting to gain some momentum and this remains enormously exciting for the region. Businesses are increasingly looking to work intra Africa,

While firmly based in Mauritius, our business and future as a financial services organisation remains Africa centric. This is where we believe Bank One working closely with its shareholders can achieve significant positive growth and add the greatest value.

## Concluding remarks

I would like to reiterate my thanks to the Bank One team, Board of Directors, shareholders, regulators and our customers.

2023 has been another tough year but collectively we have achieved growth in the business and the Sub Saharan African strategy and investment in our capabilities is beginning to show real dividends.

Thank you again for your support in 2023.



**Mark Watkinson**

CEO and Director





# Directors' Profiles

28



29





## Directors' Profiles



Roselyne Renel  
Independent Chairperson



Mark Watkinson  
Chief Executive Officer & Executive Director



Gauri A. Gupta  
Non-Executive Director



Marc Israel  
Independent Director



Lakshman Bheenick  
Non-Executive Director



Jérôme de Chasteauneuf  
Non-Executive Director



Leonard C. Mususa  
Independent Director



Ignacio Serrahima Arbestain  
(Ignasi Serrahima)  
Independent Director



# Directors' Profiles



Tchang Fa Wong Sun Thiong  
(Cyril Wong)

Independent Director



Kihara Maina

Non-Executive Director



A. Christopher (Chris) M. Low

Non-Executive Director

## Roselyne Renel

Independent Chairperson

(Appointed as Independent Director on 24.05.2021 and  
Chairperson on 01.01.2022; Non Resident)

Roselyne Renel is based in the UK and is currently the Group Chief Credit Officer of Lloyds Banking Group (LBG). Prior to joining LBG, Roselyne was employed by Standard Chartered Bank (SCB) as the Group Head, Enterprise Risk Management (January 2016 – January 2020) and Group Chief Credit Officer (November 2013 to December 2015). Before joining SCB, she spent two and half years at Standard Bank of South Africa as Chief Risk Officer for the Corporate & Investment Banking division and just over 16 years at Deutsche Bank, where she held various senior roles including Chief Credit Officer for Emerging Markets and the Investment Bank.

Roselyne followed a senior executive advanced management program at the University of Columbia, USA. She completed the Credit Risk Graduate program delivered by Manufacturers Hanover Trust (now JP Morgan Chase), and also holds an Accounting & Bookkeeping Advanced Certification from the London Chamber of Commerce.

## Mark Watkinson

Chief Executive Officer & Executive Director

(Appointed on 01.04.2020; Resident)

Mark Watkinson has been a career banker with the HSBC Group for 33 years, during which time he held senior leadership roles in 10 countries in North America, Europe, Asia and the Middle East. In particular, Mark was CEO and Main Board Director for HSBC Bank Bermuda Limited (2015-2018), CEO and Main Board Director for HSBC Bank Malta Ltd (2011-2015), Executive Vice President Commercial Banking Canada and North America (2010-2011), President and CEO for HSBC Bank Philippines (2006-2010), Senior Vice President Commercial Banking HSBC Bank USA (2004-2006) and Senior Manager Commercial Banking HSBC Bank United Arab Emirates (2001-2004).

Mark holds a law degree and is a Barrister at Law in the United Kingdom. He is an Associate of the Chartered Institute of Bankers, holds a MBA (with Distinctions) from the University of Warwick and is also a qualified Chartered Director from the Institute of Directors, United Kingdom. Mark was appointed Chairman of Mauritius Bankers Association in June 2023 and Chairman of the Mauritius Institute of Directors (MIoD) in September 2023.

## Lakshman Bheenick

Non-Executive Director

(Appointed on 01.06.2021; Resident)

Lakshman Bheenick is currently the CEO at CIEL Finance Limited. Prior to joining CIEL Finance Limited, he was the CEO of Standard Bank (Mauritius) Limited from June 2010 to February 2021. Prior to that, he held the position of Head of Global Markets from June 2006 to May 2010. He started his career in 1996 with Barclays Bank Plc in Mauritius and left in June 2006 as Head of Market Making & Liquidity Management. Lakshman holds a BA (Econ) from the University of Manchester.

## Jerome De Chasteauneuf

Non-Executive Director

(Appointed on 25.08.2021; Resident)

Jérôme de Chasteauneuf currently serves as the Group Finance Director of CIEL Limited (CIEL), one of the largest diversified investment group in Mauritius. Since joining CIEL in 1993, Jérôme has been instrumental in the CIEL Group's development and involved on multiple strategic IPOs, international expansion projects, merger and acquisitions and company restructuring.

In addition to overseeing the Group's financials, Jérôme is a Board member of most of the CIEL Group's subsidiaries including listed entities Alteo Limited, Miwa Sugar Limited and Sun Limited. Jérôme de Chasteauneuf also sits as a Non-Executive Director on the Board of the Stock Exchange of Mauritius and on the Board of Harel Mallac & Co. Ltd.

He is a Chartered Accountant of England and Wales and holds a BSc Honours in Economics from the London School of Economics and Political Science, UK (1989).





# Directors' Profiles

## Gauri A. Gupta

### Non-Executive Director

(Appointed on 02.03.2017; Non-Resident)

Gauri Gupta heads I&M Group's Corporate Advisory function. Under Corporate Finance, Gauri's forte lies in M&A transactions including transaction structuring and negotiation of legal documentation. She holds a B.Com degree and is a Chartered Accountant from the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India. Gauri is also a certified International Mergers and Acquisitions Expert and a Charterholder of the Institute for Mergers, Acquisitions and Alliances. Her experience of over 25 years in Banking covers Credit, Risk Management, Product Development, Finance, and Strategic Planning.

Gauri has been instrumental in the enhancement of the corporate governance framework at I&M for over 15 years and oversees governance matters for I&M Group Plc, the parent entity for I&M Bank Group, listed on the Nairobi Securities Exchange.

Gauri is a director on the board for several companies under the I&M Bank Group.

## Leonard C. Mususa

### Independent Director

(Appointed on 02.03.2017; Non-Resident)

Leonard Mususa is a Private Management Consultant with extensive experience in transaction services including due diligence and business valuations, business recovery and reconstruction services.

Leonard previously worked with PwC for 36 years and developed expertise in corporate governance, financial reporting, transaction services, financial risk management and control. He served as Country Senior Partner with PwC (Tanzania) for 14 years prior to his retirement. He also served in other roles including as Head of Assurance Risk and Quality in the PwC Africa Central region for three years and Head of Risk, Independence and Quality in the East Africa Market Area for a period of two years.

Leonard also holds directorships in diverse companies in Kenya and Tanzania in financial, consumer industry and media sectors. He is a Fellow of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (FCCA) and Fellow Certified Public Accountant (Tanzania).

## Marc Israel

### Independent Director

(Appointed on 27.05.2022; Resident)

Marc Israel is an Entrepreneur, Thought Leader, Author and Public Speaker, with many years of success across Technology industries. After 17 years at Microsoft, serving as Chief Technology Officer for Sub-Saharan Africa, and leveraging extensive experience in technical leadership, Marc founded Aetheis, a company aimed at providing executive consultancy in the field of cognitive services, blockchain and digital transformation. He is also a Non-Executive Director of Mauritius Network Services and a lecturer at the University of Mascareignes.

Marc has a degree in Robotics and Engineering from École Supérieure D'Ingénieurs en Électrotechnique et Électronique in Paris. He has completed INSEAD and Wharton Executive Education (with distinction) programs.

## Ignacio Serrahima Arbestain (Ignasi Serrahima)

### Independent Director

(Appointed on 16.04.2019; Non-Resident)

Ignasi Serrahima has been a freelance consultant since March 2014, advising various entities in Madrid, Barcelona, Dubai, Riyadh, Nairobi and Mumbai in areas of strategic development and human resources. Prior to launching his consultancy business, Ignasi occupied various M&A roles at Banco Popular Espanol, S.A (Madrid) and Bankinter, S.A. (Madrid) between September 2000 to March 2014. He holds a degree in Business Administration and an MBA at ESADE, Spain, as well as a Master in International Management from the Thunderbird School of Global Management, USA.



## Tchang Fa Wong Sun Thiong (Cyril Wong)

### Independent Director

(Appointed on 01.08.2023; Resident)

Cyril Wong was non-executive director and Chairman of the Audit Committee of ABSA Bank (Mauritius) Ltd from August 2014 to July 2023. Prior to that he was the executive director and vice chairman of the Board of the Barclays Bank (Mauritius) Ltd. Before joining the board, Cyril held a number of senior management positions in the Barclays Bank (Mauritius) Ltd, including the roles of Finance Director and Chief Compliance and Risk Officer.

Before joining the Barclays Bank (Mauritius) Ltd, Cyril held senior positions such as Head of Finance in multinational companies like ExxonMobil and British American Tobacco. He has an extensive experience in board leadership roles and acts as independent director on a number of companies. Cyril holds a First-Class Honours degree in Physics from the University of Manchester. He is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales and is also a Fellow of the Mauritius Institute of Directors.

Directorship in listed entities: ABC Motors Co Ltd, MDIT, Sanlam Africa Core Real Estate Investment Limited & Avanz Growth Markets Limited.

## A.Christopher (Chris) M. Low

### Non-Executive Director

(Appointed on 24.05.2021; Non-Resident. Resigned on 31.08.2023)

Chris Low currently occupies the post of Regional Director at I&M Group, with responsibility for the I&M Group's subsidiaries in Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda as well as the joint venture with Bank One. As a Board Director on I&M Group Plc, he has Group responsibilities for Strategy, Risk Management, Audit, Credit, Finance, Human Resources and Marketing.

Prior to this role, Chris was a Board Director on I&M Bank Ltd, Kenya and he was a Senior Advisor (Banking Specialist) at the Department of International Trade in the UK Government. Until 2018 he held the position of Group CEO at Letshego Holdings Ltd in Botswana as well as Chairman/Non-Executive Director for their subsidiary companies in Botswana, Mozambique, Nigeria and Tanzania. Also he was a board and credit committee member for Diamond Bank Nigeria. In prior roles, Chris worked for National Bank of Kuwait in the Middle East and for Standard Chartered Bank in London, Africa and Asia.

He holds an MA (Zoology) from St Peters College, Oxford University and he is an Associate of the Institute of Chartered Accountants, England and Wales.

## Kihara Maina

### Non-Executive Director

(Appointed on 01.09.2023; Non-Resident)

Mr. Maina is currently the Regional CEO at I&M Group since February 2023. He was the Chief Executive Officer of I&M Bank in Kenya from May 2016 to February 2023 and is a seasoned banker with experience spanning close to 30 years, mostly in senior executive leadership roles. Prior to joining I&M Bank, he was the Managing Director of Barclays Bank Tanzania Limited (now Absa Bank Tanzania Limited).

Mr. Maina holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics from the Moi University and an Executive Master of Business Administration in Finance from Chicago Booth School of Business.





# Senior Management Team's Profiles







# Senior Management Team's Profiles



**Eric Hautefeuille**  
Chief Operations Officer



**Normela Maunick**  
Interim Chief Risk Officer



**Guillaume Passebecq**  
Head of Private Banking & Wealth Management



**Philippe Peritamby**  
Acting Head of Corporate Banking



**Ranjeevesingh (Ranjeeve)  
Gowreesunkur**  
Chief Financial Officer



**Thavin Audit**  
Acting Head of International Banking



**Bhavya Shah**  
Head of Personal Financial Services



**Rishyraj (Rishy) Lutchman**  
Head of Treasury



# Senior Management Team's Profiles



**John Alfred (Kenny) Morton**  
Head of Regulatory Affairs



**Valerie Duval**  
Head of Legal



**Priscilla Muttu**  
Head of Human Resources

## Eric Hautefeuille

### Chief Operations Officer

Eric Hautefeuille has a career spanning almost three decades at senior level in the banking sector. He spent 24 years at Société Générale whereby he worked in various countries namely in Europe, Asia and Africa. During his tenure, he successively held the positions of Chief Information Officer and Project Director in Cameroon (1997-2000) and in Tahiti (2000-2005), Project Director in Russia (2005-2007), Head of Operations and Deputy Chief Operating Officer in China (2007-2011), Chief Operating Officer (COO) in India (2011-2014) and Head of Transversal Operations in France (2014-2015). Prior to joining Bank One as COO in October 2020, Eric held the positions of COO and Head of Transformation at BNI Madagascar (2015-2020). He was instrumental in developing the BNI footprint, particularly on mobile, cards and payments businesses and branchless digital microfinance.

## Ranjeevesingh (Ranjeeve) Gowreesunkur

### Chief Financial Officer

Ranjeeve Gowreesunkur joined Bank One in 2008 as Financial Accountant bringing with him more than 20 years of extensive banking experience having worked in various senior positions at Union Bank, Delphis Bank, First City Bank, SBI (Mauritius) Limited and Deutsche Bank (Mauritius) Limited. After acting as Head of Finance for six years, he was subsequently promoted as Chief Financial Officer in 2014.

Fellow of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants and a registered Professional Accountant with the Mauritius Institute of Professional Accountants, Ranjeeve also holds an MBA with Finance from Herriot Watt University.

## Normela Maunick

### Interim Chief Risk Officer

Normela Maunick has more than 15 years of audit, advisory and risk management experience and has worked for the Mauritius Commercial Bank Limited, ABC Banking Corporation Limited and Standard Bank (Mauritius) Limited. She joined CIEL Finance Limited on 01 October 2021 as Head: Risk Management, Compliance and Controls and has executive ownership for risk management and compliance for CIEL Finance Limited and its affiliates. She was appointed as Interim CRO of the Bank in December 2023.

Normela holds an MBA (Specialisation in Financial Services) from the University of Mauritius and a BSc (Hons) Banking and International Finance from the University of Technology, Mauritius.

## Thavin Audit

### Acting Head of International Banking

Thavin Audit is an accomplished banking professional with a career spanning over 20 years within International Banking. He is well-versed in transaction-oriented positions within structured finance and investment banking environments, leveraging extensive industry knowledge, skills, and experience. He has an in-depth understanding of complex financial structures and products within debt and capital markets, with strong quantitative and analytical skill sets at the core. Thavin is adept at evaluating transactions and agreements, offering valuable insights gained from years of experience and exceptional market knowledge. His extensive experience in International Banking has equipped Thavin with the expertise required to navigate the complexities of the industry, providing him with a unique perspective and the ability to offer innovative solutions to clients.

Thavin holds a master's degree in International Banking from the International Capital Market Association (ICMA) Centre of the University of Reading. He joined the Bank in 2008 and has been instrumental to the setting up of the International Banking department at Bank One. Thavin continues to lead and contribute towards the growth of the International Banking business.





# Senior Management Team's Profiles



## Guillaume Passebecq

### Head of Private Banking & Wealth Management

Guillaume Passebecq is an International School of Management (IDRAC) graduate who has spent his entire career in the banking sector. He started off as a Portfolio Manager at B\* capital Paris, the BNP Paribas brokerage house in 1999. In 2007, he was appointed as Head of Sales at BNP Paribas Personal Investors Luxembourg. He joined AfrAsia Bank in 2014 and was subsequently appointed as Head of Private Banking.

Guillaume joined Bank One as the Head of Private Banking in March 2017. He brought along the needed expertise to uplift the Private Banking offer. The Bank's array of clients has also been widened to accommodate Asset Managers, Investment Funds, Pension Funds, Family Offices and Financial Intermediaries through a one stop shop and open architecture model.

## Bhavya Shah

### Head of Personal Financial Services

Bhavya Shah brings nearly over two decades of retail banking experience with deep international business exposure across Asia, Europe and America. Over this period, he has played key roles in strategy, customer propositions, digital and innovation, customer experience, product management and marketing. Before moving to Bank One, Bhavya was working for HSBC Group where his last role was that of Global Head of Retail Propositions, Wealth & Personal Banking. He holds a Master in Business Administration from the University of Delhi, a Bachelor in Science from the University of London and a Bachelor in Commerce from the University of Calcutta. Bhavya joined Bank One in June 2021 as Head of Personal Financial Services.

## Philippe Peritamby

### Acting Head of Corporate Banking

Philippe Peritamby has a career of over three decades at managerial level in the banking sector. He spent approximately 21 years at State Bank of Mauritius Ltd, accumulating more than 14 years of banking experience within Corporate Banking. Before joining Bank One, Philippe held the position of Senior Relationship Manager at Standard Bank (Mauritius) Limited for 2 years. Since joining Bank One in 2008, he has held the role of Deputy Head of Corporate Banking over the last ten years. Philippe has played a key role in developing and shaping the Corporate Banking business at Bank One.

## Rishyraj (Rishy) Lutchman

### Head of Treasury

Rishy Lutchman is a seasoned banker with over 30 years in the Treasury field. He holds an ACI Diploma, a PGCE in derivatives & financial products and a BBA from the Management College of Southern Africa. Before joining Bank One in February 2014, he worked for 26 years within the Treasury division of the State Bank of Mauritius Ltd (SBM), where he covered different desks, including sales, interbank and fixed income. There he acquired a comprehensive knowledge of the Mauritian and Malagasy markets.

## John Alfred (Kenny) Morton

### Head of Regulatory Affairs

Kenny Morton is an experienced Compliance Executive within the Compliance Risk discipline having had exposure across various jurisdictions. Kenny spent 19 years at Nedbank in South Africa, holding various roles within the organisation. Prior to joining Bank One he was the Executive Head: Compliance, Governance and Ethics at Nedbank Africa.

Kenny is an accredited Ethics Officer and is a member of the Compliance Institute of Southern Africa as well as the Ethics Institute, holding qualifications in Compliance Risk Management, Anti-Money Laundering and Ethics through the University of Johannesburg and University of Stellenbosch respectively. He also completed an Executive Management Programme through HEC Paris. Kenny joined Bank One in April 2021.

## Priscilla Mutty

### Head of Human Resources

With over 25 years of experience in the human resource field, Priscilla is a seasoned Human Resources professional. She holds a Master in 'Administration d'Entreprises' from the University of Poitiers, France. Priscilla received The Women of Wonder Award Mauritius 2018 and was conferred the 101 Most Influential Global HR Leaders by the World HR Congress.

Prior to joining Bank One, Priscilla has worked across regional and global corporations such as DCDM Consulting (Managed by Accenture) where she was responsible for HR-related consultancy assignments for a portfolio of clients in various industries including banking. Her assignments were conducted both in Mauritius and regionally (i.e. Madagascar, Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia, Botswana and Djibouti, among others). From 2011 to 2014, she headed the HR department at Bramer Banking Corporation Limited before moving to GroFin in January 2015, a development financier specialised in financing and supporting small and growing businesses (SGBs) with 16 offices across Africa and the Middle East, as its Chief HR Officer. Priscilla joined the Bank in December 2017 as Head of HR.

## Valerie Duval

### Head of Legal

Valerie Duval has over two decades of significant experience in the finance sector. After having held senior leadership positions in the insurance industry over 13 years with Swan Insurance Co Ltd and La Prudence Mauricienne Ltd (now known as Mauritius Union), Valerie is now the Head of Legal at Bank One for the last 14 years. She has been instrumental into setting up a strong and skilled legal division for the Bank. Her expertise ranges from advising Bank One on all legal aspects relating to the affairs and operations of the Bank to providing strategic legal support to all Lines of Business and Functions. She has acquired extensive and sound skills in analysing, structuring and negotiating sophisticated transactions and also assisted in successful recovery of assets both locally and internationally.

Valerie holds a Law degree from the University of Mauritius and is a Barrister at Law in Mauritius (sworn in 1995). She completed several leadership and management programs over the years with various training institutions locally and abroad. She recently graduated from the CIEL-HEC Paris Executive Program. She is a member of the Mauritius Bar Association and a Fellow member of the Mauritius Institute of Directors and the Vice-President of the Mauritian NGO Terrain for Interactive Pedagogy through Arts (TIPA). She was recognised as Africa Women Leaders by CMO Asia 2018 Edition and Pioneering Woman Leader at the 6th World Women Leadership Congress and Awards in February 2019.



**Innovation at the  
core helps us to  
devise the solutions  
of tomorrow.**



**ANANSE NTENTAN**  
Innovation

**PERFORMANCE**



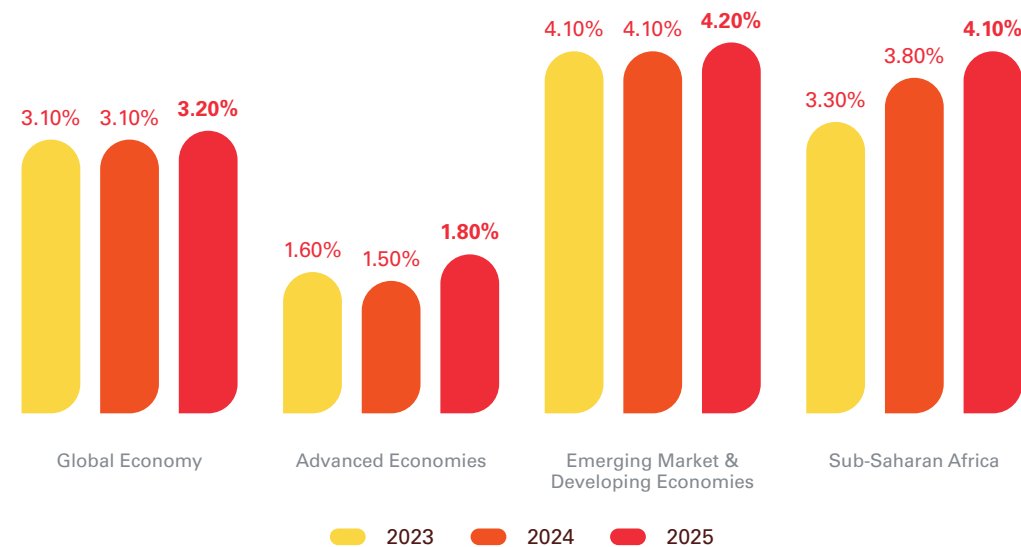
# Economic outlook

## Global economy

Global growth, estimated at 3.1% in 2023, is considered to remain constant at 3.1% in 2024, before rising self-effacingly to 3.2% in 2025, as per World Economic Outlook (WEO) update in January 2024.

The forecast for 2024 reflects greater than expected resilience in the United States and several large emerging market and developing economies, taking into consideration the fiscal support in China.

### World Economic Outlook Growth Projections



Source: World Economic Outlook, January 2024

U.S. growth is projected to slow to 1.6% in 2024, with high real interest rates restraining activity. Fiscal policy is expected to turn more restrictive, even as elevated interest rates and weakening growth weigh on the federal budget balance (Swagel 2023).

A further weakening in consumption growth is projected, amidst diminished savings, still-elevated borrowing rates and easing labour market tightness. Business fixed investment is also set to decelerate further, as firms remain cautious, given economic and political uncertainties, and increasingly refinance corporate debt at higher interest rates. Growth is expected to edge up to 1.7% in 2025, closer to its trend rate, as the impact of easing monetary policy feeds through the economy.

Growth in the Euro zone is forecasted to increase from 0.5% in 2023 to 0.9% in 2024, and further to 1.7% in 2025 given the stronger household consumption which will drive energy prices to drop and inflation to fall, supporting real income growth.

With the boost to consumption from the lifting of pandemic-related restrictions, growth in China is estimated at 5.2% in 2023. The decline in the property sector intensified, as property prices and sales fell and developers experienced renewed financial pressures. Real estate investment contracted, while the growth of infrastructure investment was slower than pre-pandemic average rates, resulting in overall fixed investment growth.

It is expected that growth in Emerging Market and Developing Economies is to remain at 4.1% for 2024 and increase to 4.2% in 2025. It is forecasted that an increase of 0.1% in 2025, for several regions. In Latin American and the Caribbean, growth is anticipated to be at 1.9% in 2024 and 2.5% in 2025, given the intense domestic demand.

Inflation is falling faster than expected in most regions, in the centre of unwinding supply-side issues and restrictive monetary policy. Global headline inflation is expected to fall to 5.8% in 2024 and to 4.4% in 2025, with the 2025 forecast revised down.

The US Federal Reserve at its meeting in January 2024 held interest rates steady, at a range of 5.25-5.5%, with inflation cooling but still 2% above target. Investors anticipate a few rate cuts in the second half of the year.

## Sub-Saharan Africa

It was projected that growth in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) to slow down in 2023, with the region's three largest economies, namely Nigeria, South Africa and Angola.

More specifically, post-pandemic recoveries were slowed by weakening external demand and domestic policy tightening, to address persistent inflation.

Consumer price inflation in SSA moderated in 2023, following sharp rises in global food and energy prices in 2022, yet it remained elevated.

The cost of living continues to be high, which has worsened the economic hardship of the poor and increased food insecurity across the region.

Growth in SSA is likely to accelerate to 3.8% in 2024 and increase further to 4.1% in 2025, as inflationary pressures weaken, thus easing financial conditions.

In SSA, the outlook is subjected to several downside risks which include a rise in political instability and violence, such as the intensification of the conflict in the Middle East, disruptions to global or local trade and production, increased frequency and intensity of adverse weather events, a sharper-than-expected global economic slowdown and higher risk of government defaults.

## Mauritian economy

Bank of Mauritius (BOM) revised its yearly growth estimates upwards, to 7.1% for 2023. This was on account of an unexpectedly strong economic growth of 5.8% in the first half of the year.

The IMF, on the other hand, expected a real GDP growth of 5.1% in 2023, higher than its initial estimate of 4.6%, projected in April 2023. The main contributors to this growth included construction (+1.7% y-o-y), accommodation and food services (+1% y-o-y), agriculture, forestry and fishing (+0.4% y-o-y) and transport and storage (+0.4% y-o-y). These sectors are expected to remain resilient through 2024 as well, supported by a robust tourist inflow, infrastructure development projects and an increase in cross-border investment activities.

Tourist arrivals are estimated at 1.3 million for 2023 as per Monthly Statistical Bulletin – December 2023, given the demand for the Mauritius destination continues to provide solid incentive to the tourism sector. The European continent remained the main source market for Mauritius, representing 64% of total tourist arrivals for the year 2023.

Tourists' average length of stay stood at 11.3 nights over 2023, slightly lower than 11.8 nights in 2022. Tourism earnings were marginally higher than expected, standing at Rs 85.9 billion against Rs85.0 billion for 2023, which is significantly higher than the 2022 level of Rs 64.8 billion. Henceforth, the tourism sector is expected to continue maintaining its momentum, thus benefitting from a strong demand for holiday travel, aggressive marketing campaigns, increased flight connectivity and diversification of markets.

In Mauritius, the annual inflation for 2023 averaged at 7%, declining from 10.8% in 2022. This was reflected in the August 2023 Bank of Mauritius survey, which showed that inflation expectations for 2023 were skewed to the downside. In 2024, the expected weakness in global demand growth, given the tight monetary and credit conditions, and a slight reduction in crude oil prices might lead to a further decline in inflationary pressures in Mauritius.

Gross Official International Reserves (GOIR) stood at Rs 321.3 billion (USD 7.2 billion) as at end-December 2023, compared to Rs 342.2 billion (USD 7.7 billion) as at end-December 2022. Based on the imports of goods (f.o.b.) and services for calendar year 2023, GOIR represented 10.9 months of imports as at end-December 2023.

An overall balance of payments deficit of Rs 1.9 billion was recorded in 2023Q3 compared to Rs 5.6 billion in 2022Q3. The financial flows in the financial account, along with a lower current account deficit projected for 2023, is expected to support the domestic currency over the medium-term.

The external current account deficit contracted substantially to Rs 8.3 billion in 2023Q3 compared to Rs 17.1 billion in 2022Q3. This showed an improvement in the current account deficit resulting from higher surpluses in the income and services accounts and a lower trade deficit.

The Mauritius International Financial Centre (IFC) continues to attract financial flows, as global cross-border investment activities remain resilient despite challenging global conditions brought by the lingering Russia-Ukraine war, higher interest rates and the recent banking crisis.

BOM continues to conduct open market operations, in line with the new Monetary Policy Framework implemented since the beginning of 2023. The main tool for monetary policy operations, namely the 7-Day BoM Bill, is issued at the Key Rate of 4.5%, while banks availed themselves of the Overnight Deposits Facility at their discretion.

The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) at BOM pursued the normalisation of monetary policy during the year 2022, to curb inflationary pressures and anchor inflation expectations. The MPC maintained the Key Rate at 4.5% during 2023. Market interest rates adjusted accordingly, with both savings and lending rates going up.

# Financial analysis

## Statement of financial position

2023 remained a strong year for the Bank, recording an asset growth of above 11%.

In line with its strategy, the Bank increased its exposures to banks by 73%, compared to the previous year. Loans to customers declined and the excess funds were invested in cash and cash equivalent portfolio, which went up by 22%.

Deposits book grew by 17%, with the contribution of both local and foreign currencies. The Bank continued to operate in a high-rate interest environment, with rising cost of deposits impacting margins. The Bank continued to service its borrowings, which was brought down by more than 50%.

The liquidity position of the Bank remained strong, with a Liquidity Coverage Ratio of 327% as at December 2023. The Bank’s capital adequacy ratio remained strong at 16.85% and a tier 1 ratio of 12.74%.

The classification of one offshore exposure (92% covered by insurance) in 2023 resulted in the deterioration of the non-performing loan book, which increased from MUR 580 million in December 2022 to MUR 1,205 million as at December 2023. The NPL ratio, as a consequence, went up from 2.23% as at 31 December 2022 to 4.20% as at 31 December 2023.

## Statement of comprehensive income

The Bank reported profit after tax of MUR 756m, highest in its 15 years of existence.

Operating income improved by 19%, from MUR 1,506 million in 2022 to MUR 1,787 million in 2023 contributed largely by the high interest rates.

The net fees and commission income went down by 20% in 2023, as the Bank exited some fee generating exposures after reassessment of the associated risks. This shortfall was compensated by the 43% increase in net gains on dealing in foreign currencies and derivatives, resulting from increased trade volumes.

In line with the growth of banking activities, non-interest expenses witnessed an increase of 10%, reaching MUR 1,108 million for the year 2023, against MUR 1,004 million for the year 2022.

Staff costs rose by 9%, mainly on account of yearly review of staff salary, staff-related benefits and pension costs. Non-interest expenses also included charges related to the roll-out of the Bank’s strategic IT/digitalisation/transformation plans. However, the cost-to-income ratio improved from 66.72% in 2022 to 62.03% for the year ended December 2023.



## Achievements v/s objectives and plan for 2023

Objectives for Year 2023	Performance in Year 2023	Objectives for Year 2024
<b>Return on Average Equity (ROAE)</b> To achieve a ROAE of above 16%.	Achieved a ROAE of 19.50%, contributed by normal business and recoveries.	To achieve a ROAE of above 19%.
<b>Return on Average Assets (ROAA)</b> To achieve a ROAA of above 1.3%.	Achieved a ROAA of 1.53%.	To achieve a ROAA of above 1.4%.
<b>Operating income</b> Growth of above 33% in operating income.	19% increase in operating income.	Growth of above 28% in operating income.
<b>Cost-to-income ratio</b> Cost to Income ratio of less than 58%.	Cost-to-income ratio of 62.03% on account of lower revenue.	Cost-to-income ratio of below 58%.
<b>Deposits growth</b> Deposit growth of 21%, contributed by both Segment A and Segment B.	17% growth in deposits base, contributed by both local and offshore segments.	Deposit growth of 27%.
<b>Gross loans and advances growth</b> 24% growth to be contributed by both Segment A and Segment B.	Gross loan book grew by 10%, largely driven by FI's.	35% growth in gross loans and advances book.
<b>Impaired ratio</b> Gross impaired ratio to be brought down to below 1.9%.	Gross impaired ratio of 4.20%, on account of two large tickets.	Gross impaired ratio to be brought down to below 1.9%.
<b>Capital Adequacy Ratio (CAR)</b> Maintain CAR above 15%.	CAR at 16.85% as at December 2023.	Maintain CAR above 14.50%.



# Financial analysis

## Statement of Profit or Loss

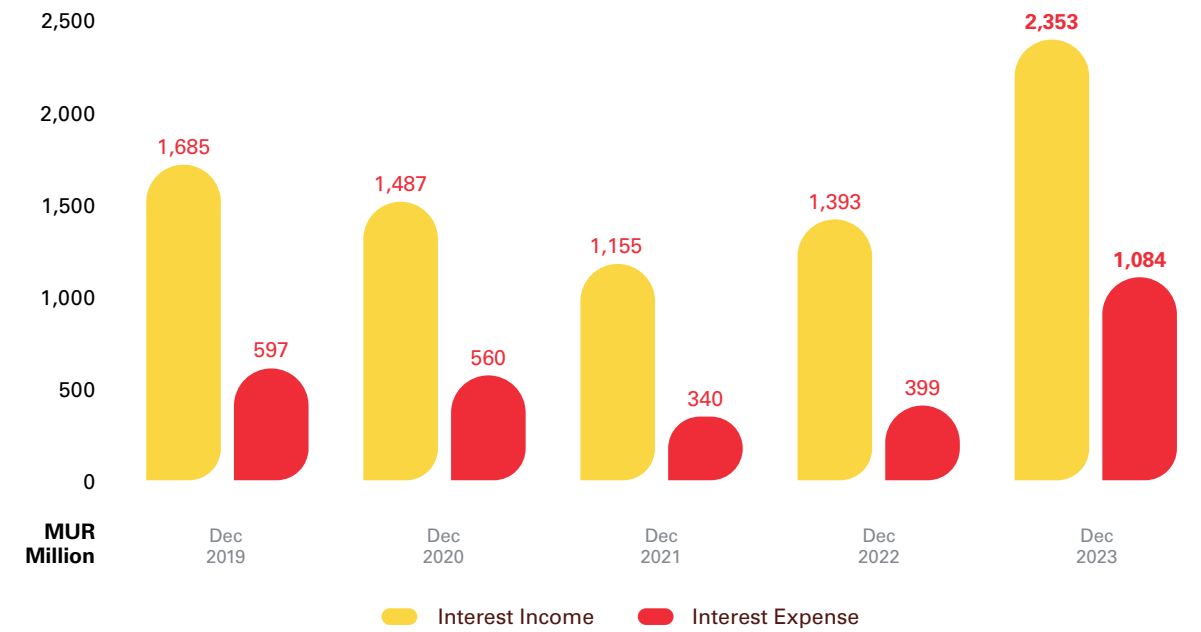
	Year ended Dec-21 MUR 000	Year ended Dec-22 MUR 000	Year ended Dec-23 MUR 000
Net interest income	815,007	993,814	1,268,906
Net fee and commission income	278,278	329,401	261,995
Net trading income	164,391	178,747	255,594
Other operating income	122,277	4,857	678
<b>Operating income</b>	<b>1,379,953</b>	<b>1,506,819</b>	<b>1,787,173</b>
Non-interest expense	(929,286)	(1,004,725)	(1,108,593)
Operating profit	450,667	502,094	678,580
Allowance for recoveries	71,799	33,476	132,150
Profit before tax	522,466	535,570	810,730
Income tax expense	(109,042)	(41,745)	(54,920)
<b>Profit for the year</b>	<b>413,424</b>	<b>493,825</b>	<b>755,810</b>

## Interest Income and Expense

	Year ended Dec-21 MUR 000	Year ended Dec-22 MUR 000	Year ended Dec-23 MUR 000
<b>Interest income</b>			
Loans and advances to customers and banks	907,083	989,285	1,714,574
Investment securities and bonds	229,695	233,277	270,635
Placements	18,565	170,659	367,557
	<b>1,155,343</b>	<b>1,393,221</b>	<b>2,352,766</b>
<b>Interest expense</b>			
Deposits from customers	197,183	235,303	845,756
Borrowings from Banks	52,074	75,274	157,598
Subordinated liabilities	86,879	81,930	74,049
Lease liabilities	4,200	6,900	6,457
	<b>340,336</b>	<b>399,407</b>	<b>1,083,860</b>
Net interest income	815,007	993,814	1,268,906
Average interest-earning assets	39,502,982	38,974,108	42,433,969
Average interest-bearing liabilities	24,954,069	23,863,643	27,439,200
Interest income/average interest-earning assets	2.92%	3.57%	5.54%
Interest expense/average interest-bearing liabilities	1.36%	1.67%	3.95%
Net margin	1.56%	1.90%	1.59%
Core revenue	1,379,708	1,505,072	1,787,173

\*Core revenue is defined as net interest income plus core non-interest revenue, after elimination of the effects of any unusual, non-operational items.

## Interest Income & Interest Expense



Interest income increased by 69% compared to 2022, driven by higher income generating local and foreign assets, as well as elevated interest rates during the year. Return on average interest-earning assets was 5.54% in 2023 (3.57% in 2022).

The strategy of the Bank on the assets side has been to remain prudent and continue to protect its liquidity position and capital.

Interest expense was up by 171%, on account of higher cost of funding, both in local and foreign currencies as well as increase in deposits. Interest-bearing liabilities, comprising largely deposits, increased by 15% compared to the previous year.

Overall, net interest income rose by 28% during the year.

## Non-interest income

	Dec-21 MUR 000	Dec-22 MUR 000	Dec-23 MUR 000
Net fees and commission	278,278	329,401	261,995
Net trading income	164,391	178,747	255,594
Other operating income	122,277	4,857	678
	<b>564,946</b>	<b>513,005</b>	<b>518,267</b>

Overall non-interest income remained flat compared to last year.

As highlighted earlier, the shortfall in net fees and commission was compensated by higher revenue generated through treasury.

The Bank is still pursuing its initiatives to improve the share of non-interest income through diversification and new income sources.

# Financial analysis

## Non-interest expense and cost management

	Dec-21 MUR 000	Dec-22 MUR 000	Dec-23 MUR 000
Personnel expenses	557,059	617,351	674,637
Depreciation and amortisation	75,861	96,901	110,637
Other expenses	296,366	290,473	323,319
	929,286	1,004,725	1,108,593

The main driver of the increase in non-interest expense was the yearly review of salary and other staff benefits.

Depreciation and amortisation charges were higher compared to last year, on account of capitalisation of digitalisation and transformation-related projects costs.

Other expenses increased by 11%, mainly on account of higher professional, IT and insurance costs, which were incurred in line with the Bank's operations strategy.

## Credit exposure

As shown in the table below, the Bank has a well-diversified credit portfolio without any undue concentration in any one sector as at 31 December 2023.

Sectors	2021 Total	2022 Total	2023		
	MUR 000	MUR 000	Segment A MUR 000	Segment B MUR 000	Total MUR 000
<b>Lending</b>					
Agriculture & fishing	425,388	256,326	29,942	-	29,942
Manufacturing	36,187	314,594	47,856	-	47,856
Tourism	1,682,526	1,384,047	1,092,597	-	1,092,597
Transport	590,454	672,359	434,443	260,346	694,789
Construction	2,156,589	1,867,197	1,749,585	48,593	1,798,178
Financial and business services	2,588,138	1,989,706	772,787	941,605	1,714,392
Traders	3,493,100	2,816,970	2,300,251	105,434	2,405,685
Personal	5,901,599	8,606,326	9,457,344	142,456	9,599,800
Professional	14,433	11,163	12,478	-	12,478
Global business license holders	672,979	1,054,997	-	456,855	456,855
Central government	512,881	1,355,644	-	1,326,516	1,326,516
Others	260,689	592,056	532,565	38,842	571,407
	18,334,964	20,921,385	16,429,848	3,320,647	19,750,495
Lending to banks	3,339,038	5,150,285	-	8,917,253	8,917,253
Total credit exposure	21,674,002	26,071,670	16,429,848	12,237,900	28,667,748
Trading	2,083,101	1,402,874	2,398,713	28,745	2,427,458
Investment	10,339,563	10,937,676	3,104,809	7,520,420	10,625,229
Off balance sheet	5,028,998	4,364,245	2,708,071	3,054,857	5,762,928

Total credit exposures increased by 10% during the year, closing at MUR 28,667 million as at December 2023, compared to MUR 26,071 million as at December 2022. Investments held were in line with the Bank's business operations and liquidity management.

Exposure to the personal segment is largely mortgage driven, with a growth of 15% compared to year 2022.

In line with the Bank's strategy, exposure to banks has gone up from MUR 5,150 million as at December 2022 to MUR 8,917 million as at December 2023.

## Credit quality

The table below shows the data on impairment and related ratios for the past 3 years.

	Dec-21 MUR 000	Dec-22 MUR 000	Dec-23 MUR 000
Impaired advances	700,531	580,214	1,205,299
Allowance for impairment – stage 3	583,243	518,943	565,343
Impaired advances/Gross advances	3.23%	2.23%	4.20%
Net impaired/Net advances	0.57%	0.25%	2.29%
Provision coverage ratio	83.26%	89.44%	46.90%

Gross impaired ratio closed at 4.20% as compared to 2.23% as at December 2022, resulting from the classification of one offshore exposure. The exposure is 92% covered by insurance and provisions have been made for the uncovered portion.

The provision coverage ratio declined to 46.90% compared to 89.44% as at December 2022. The Bank holds adequate collaterals to cover the remaining 53.1%.

A breakdown of gross advances, impaired advances and related specific provisions percentage by industry sector split between segments A and B as at 31 December 2023, is shown below.



# Financial analysis

## Loans to customers

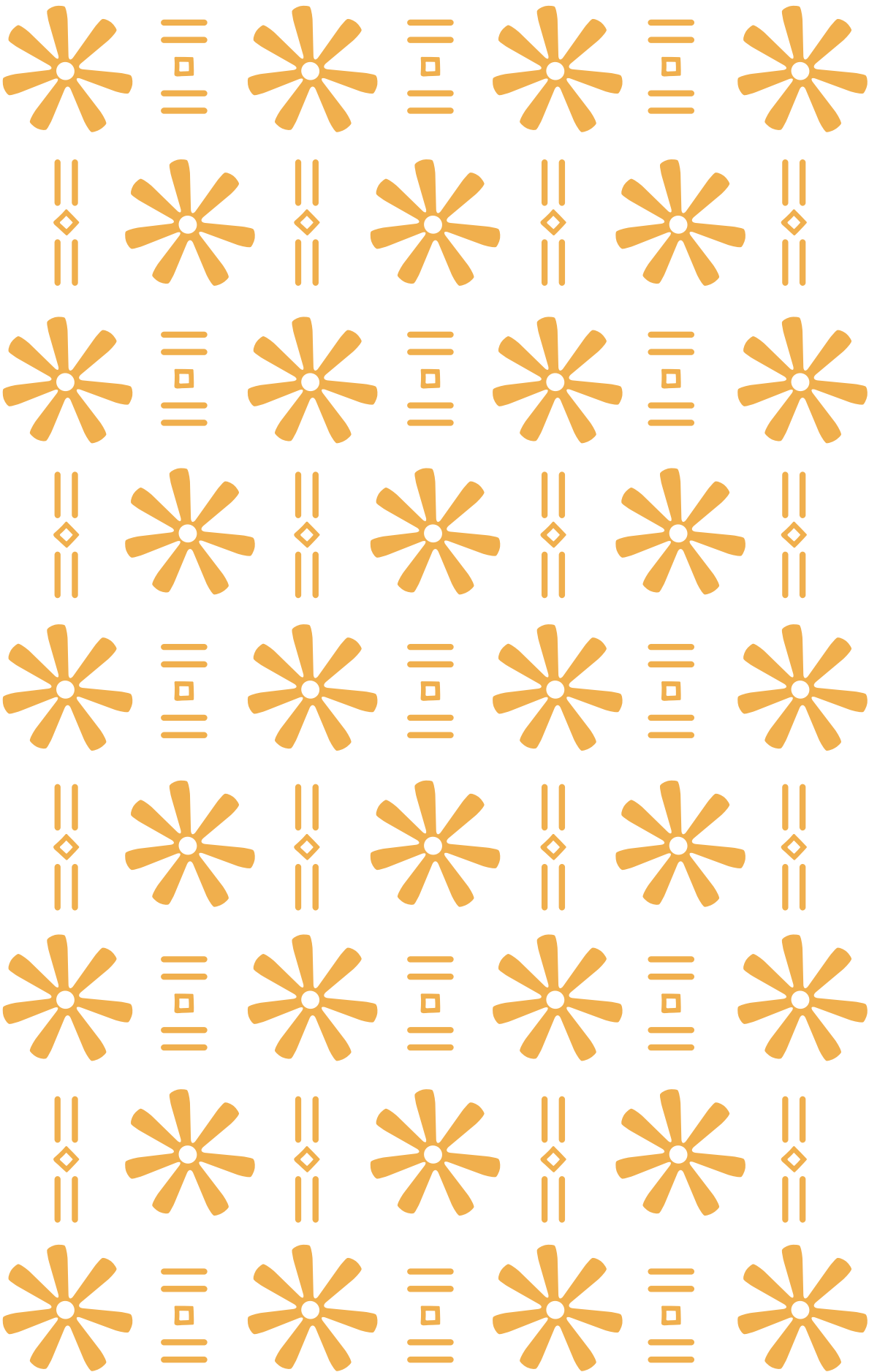
Sectors	Gross amount of loans		Impaired loans		Impairment cover on impaired loans	
	Segment A	Segment B	Segment A	Segment B	Segment A	Segment B
	MUR 000	MUR 000	MUR 000	MUR 000		
Agriculture and fishing	29,942	-	-	-	-	-
Manufacturing	47,856	-	-	-	-	-
Tourism	1,092,597	-	855	-	100%	-
Transport	434,443	260,346	7,802	258,113	88%	100%
Construction	1,749,585	48,593	139,969	-	28%	-
Financial and business services	772,787	941,605	854	-	100%	-
Traders	2,300,251	105,434	111,938	-	99%	-
Personal	9,457,344	142,456	120,614	1,845	65%	4%
Professional	12,478	-	-	-	-	-
Global business license holders	-	456,855	-	-	-	-
Central government	-	1,326,516	-	563,214	-	12%
Others	532,565	38,842	95	-	0%	-
Total	16,429,848	3,320,647	382,127	823,172		
Sectors						
Loans to banks	-	8,917,253	-	-	-	-

97% of Segment A impairments originate from exposures to the Construction, Traders and Personal sectors, while 98% of the impaired loans for Segment B consist of facilities granted to the air transport sector and government.

## General provisions

In compliance with the “Macro-prudential policy measures for the Banking Sector”, issued by the BOM in October 2013, the Bank maintained additional portfolio provisions on certain specific sectors, booked as general reserve as an appropriation of retained earnings.

Other details regarding credit quality are given in note 15 (h) of the Financial Statements.





**A trusted partner to  
accompany you on  
your journey in Africa.**

**STRATEGY**



**OSRAM NE NSOROMMA**  
Trust



# Lines of business and digital transformation

## Personal Financial Services (PFS)

Despite prevailing economic uncertainties, the PFS business exhibited a robust performance during 2023. Our commitment to prudent risk management and strategic investments facilitated a 10% growth in our Assets Book, coupled with maintaining a low NPA ratio of 1.25% and an impressive 26% increase in our Deposits Book.

PFS remained steadfast on its core priorities:

- Building a robust domestic business with diversified revenue streams, leading from being a mortgage powerhouse in the Mauritian market
- Expanding our offshore banking proposition for mass affluent clients, with a primary focus on the SSA region
- Continued investments in digital transformation for an enhanced customer experience and a greater emphasis on digital adoption

## Domestic business:

Operating in a highly competitive environment, Bank One's business strategy is rooted in a culture of innovation, challenging market norms and placing the customer journey at its core.

We continued enhancing our value propositions to better meet the evolving needs of our target markets and forged key partnerships to strengthen our one-stop-shop banking ethos. Recognition by the Global Finance Magazine as the "Best SME Bank in Mauritius" for a second consecutive year underscores this commitment to delivering exceptional financial solutions. We strive for high-level service delivery through a well-distributed channel network across the island, consolidating income streams such as lending, bancassurance and foreign exchange.

## Offshore Banking:

In 2023, our offshore business witnessed significant growth, expanding more than doubling its customer base of mass affluent clients seeking to benefit from the "Mauritian advantage". The Elite offshore team expanded, welcoming specialised business development professionals in Mauritius and overseas. Deeper partnerships were also forged with our shareholders' networks, to expand our reach in the South Southern Africa region.

The Elite experience was refined to enable the smoother onboarding of clients and the value proposition expanded to better cater to the offshore banking needs of mass affluent clients in Africa. These efforts resulted in Elite offering being recognised by the Global Retail Banking Innovation Awards as a "Best Mass Affluent Banking Offering", validating Bank One's commitment to excellence.

## Digital:

2023 was the year to drive the adoption of the new Internet Banking and Mobile Banking applications that were launched towards the end of previous year. PFS prioritised customer education for the adoption of our state-of-the-art digital channels, which yielded significant results, with over 51% of all transactions and activities now happening through our digital services.

Further innovation came from the introduction of Pop Save, a fully digital savings account featuring an attractive interest rate.

Additionally, we extended our bancassurance capabilities with the release of Pop Insure, which revolutionises the insurance application process. Pop witnessed a phenomenal 376% increase in transaction volume compared to previous year, signalling the continued success of our efforts in fostering a cashless society.

## Corporate Banking (CBD)

As the world continues to navigate the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic, geopolitical tensions and an uncertain economic future, Mauritius emerges as a notable example of resilience and potential, according to the 2024 Maurice Stratégie Economic Review and Outlook.

As we turn into 2024 and, looking into the future, growth remains key to fulfil the country's ambition. Mauritius, bearing the fifth highest cost of living in Africa, is on a trajectory towards significant economic growth, projecting a GDP increase of 6.5% in 2024. This growth is supported by a dynamic mix of drivers, including a buoyant tourism sector, substantial public and private investments and expected surges in goods and services exports. Notably, strategic hikes in minimum wage and salary compensation are anticipated to spur consumption and further fuel economic expansion.

Mauritius has signed a number of trade agreements, to be effective as from 2022. Leveraging on various trade agreements, Mauritius can increase its trade flow and promote greater cross border investments in African countries.

CBD continues on its strategy to extend its support to existing/new corporate clients on both the Mid-corporate segments and Top 100 companies. 2023 has remained a challenge for the local economy, where various strategies were implemented to boost transactional flows and focus on product cross-selling in terms of trade financing. Additionally, real estate financing and our established presence in the Sub-Saharan African market has helped improve profitability growth on the domestic corporate side. Our focus on the digital transformation journey remains vital to better serve our clients for the daily trade and transactional activities.

Considering the current volatile economic conditions and the low level of visibility on the future, avenues for financing remain low. Bank One's CBD assets book suffered a contraction compared to December 2023 and the high liquidity level in the economy, coupled with low deployment opportunities following the geopolitical war in Ukraine, shortage of hard currency on the market to accommodate trade growth and the continuous hike in Key Rate. The decline in CBD deposits book is aligned with our strategy to reduce its costs and, in this context, some high-ticket deposits were deliberately allowed to run off.

## International Banking (IBD)

Africa is set to emerge as the second fastest-growing region in the world, with six SSA countries – Niger, Senegal, Rwanda, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Côte d'Ivoire and Ethiopia – becoming the top 10 fastest-growing economies in 2024. This is according to the Global Economic Prospects report released by the World Bank. Growth in SSA is projected to be 3.8% in 2024, up from an estimated 2.9% in 2023.

The year 2023 has been a difficult one for the SSA region's economy, especially in bringing stability to the macroeconomic imbalances. Despite increased conflicts and violence weighing on some of the economies of the SSA, the rising economic fragility arising due to climatic shocks and heightening instability, SSA countries stood firm in pushing growth as the inflationary pressures started to fade and financial conditions eased gradually by the end of the year 2023.

In response to these challenges, Bank One remains firm in pursuing its SSA strategy, as the latter remains one of the most exciting regions in the world embodying potential opportunities for recovery and growth.

IBD's tailor-made structured lending propositions and trade & cash management solutions are best suited to help Financial Institutions, Sovereigns, Central Banks and African Champions Corporates achieve their strategic growth ambitions.

With the growth trajectory of SSA at the heart of the continent's development, IBD worked towards its goal to meet our clients' debts and funding requirements by advising, arranging and structuring, while leveraging our extensive distribution network.

Bank One now stands with a Credit Rating of BB-Stable Outlook by Fitch Ratings since 23 June 2023. It is worth noting that, from a rating perspective, Bank One now ranks amongst the Top 15 Commercial Banks in Sub-Saharan Africa and, ultimately, won the Best International Bank 2023 in Indian Ocean award by Capital Finance International (CFI.CO).

The success of IBD lies in handling its relationship with its clients and in attending the right events and conferences to sustain the network with our partners and clients. For instance, the IBD team attended Global Trade Reviews and Leadership platforms such as the Africa CEO Forum as well as the AFSIC Conference, which have proven very successful in engendering a window to structure transactions by dealing with best-in-class FIs, Lenders and insurance companies, to diffuse risk on Africa-centric transactions.

As part of its diversification strategy, IBD also introduced two new business lines, to enhance its product suite and generate incremental and diversified revenue streams. The Trade Finance business is expected to grow exponentially in the coming years, to facilitate trade flows within SSA as well as imports of strategic commodities such as energy products, fertilisers and pharmaceuticals, to support Africa's growth.

In a nutshell, it is not a journey that is paved with overnight success; it is only over time that we can slowly but surely build upwards. We are pleased to continue support the SSA trade flows, with a view to boosting intra-African trade, bridging the SSA trade finance gap and plugging into the new future of client-inspired, innovative and dynamic payment capabilities across SSA.

## Private Banking and Wealth Management & Securities Services (PBWM)

The Private Banking and Wealth Management & Securities Services (PBWM) clientele includes High Net Worth Individuals (HNWI), external Asset Managers, Financial Institutions, Collective Investment Scheme (CIS) and Pension Funds. To enhance its offering and customer experience, further investments have been made to improve the custody platform.

PBWM continues to grow both its personal and institutional customer base and is positive about the opportunities to grow its business alongside its shareholders in SSA.

During the year, PBWM was recognised as the "Best Private Banking in Mauritius" by Global Finance Magazine.

# Lines of business and digital transformation

## Treasury Business

The year under review has seen a pickup in the economy, with the tourism sector faring much better than pre pandemic levels.

However, currency inflows could not match the demand for hard currency; the shortage persisted and the central bank had to intervene several times to contain the USD/MUR volatility. The Bank of Mauritius interventions, though in smaller lots, totalled an amount of USD 360 million of sales to the local market. This helped the USD/MUR rate to stabilise and even end the year on a weaker note, at 44.43 compared to 44.70 at the start of 2023.

The BoM MERI2 index, which is based on the currency distribution of the merchandise trade and tourism earnings, showed the local currency appreciated slightly at the end of December 2023, as compared to January 2023.

On the interest rate front, the central bank maintained Key Rate at the 4.50% level throughout the year, despite inflationary pressure subsiding towards the end of the year. With the new monetary policy framework in full swing, the central bank has been able to contain the MUR surplus liquidity by issuing its own securities, together with the issuances of 7-day bills at the key rate. Local banks have been able to access the open market operations at the central bank, by investing surplus MUR on overnight basis.

The treasury department's focus on the SSA strategy has been gathering momentum, with new counterparties being onboarded; we foresee a pickup in our target base in the years to come. Treasury has achieved a decent performance on both non-funded and interest income during 2023.

## Digital transformation

The Bank remains committed to enhancing customer experience through its digital transformation journey, with incremental digital deliveries across newly built channels.

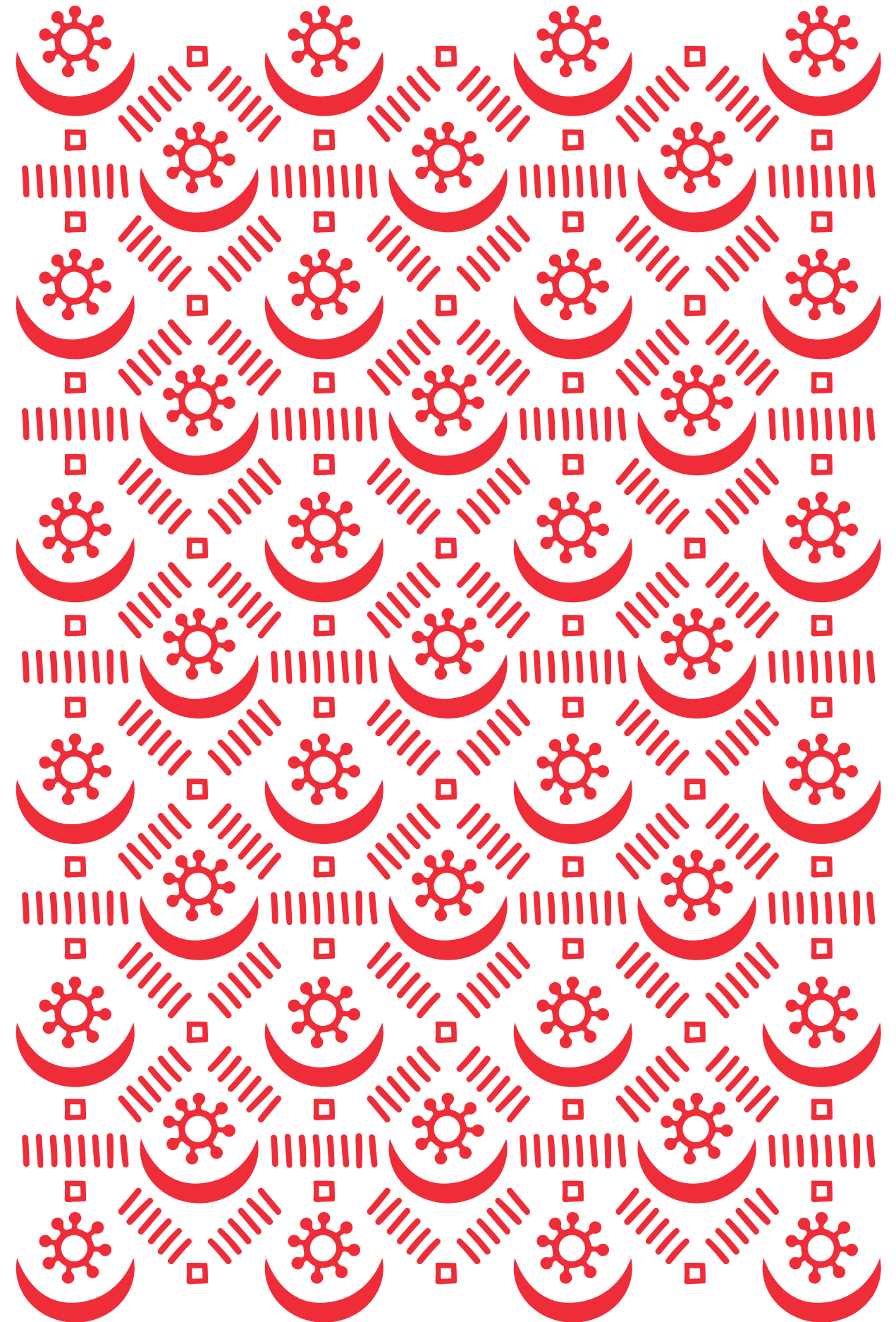
In 2023, a new Internet Banking platform for corporate customers was launched, with optimised ergonomics and new features such as bulk payment features.

Workflow capabilities for account opening were extended to our International Banking and Corporate Banking segments, to reduce turnaround time to service our customers.

POP extended its service offerings to Save and Insure, respectively empowering customers to earn interests by saving smartly through rules settings and allowing them to compare insurance offerings at their fingertips.

Quality of service and continuous improvement remain at the core of our values. In 2023, they led to a significant increase in adoption and satisfaction about our digital services across all channels.

*The Management Discussions and Analysis report may contain various forward-looking statements with respect to Bank One's financial position, business strategy, plans and management objectives. By nature, forward-looking statements involve risk and uncertainty because they relate to future events and circumstances including, but not limited to, domestic market, global economic and business conditions, market risks such as changes in interest and exchange rates, policies and actions of governmental and regulatory authorities. We caution readers of this report not to place undue reliance on our forward-looking statements, as these factors may cause future results to differ materially from the plans, goals, expectations or interest expressed in the forward-looking statements. Bank One Limited does not undertake to update any forward-looking statements that may be made from time to time by the organisation or on its behalf.*





# Risk Management

Effective risk management is essential in delivering consistent and sustainable performance for all the Bank’s stakeholders. It is a central part of the financial and operational management of the Bank.

The Bank adds value by taking and managing appropriate levels of risk, which in turn generate returns for shareholders.

## Board and Board Committees

The Bank’s Board of Directors (the Board) remains ultimately responsible to ensure risks are adequately identified, measured and managed. The Board ensures proper governance is in place, allowing healthy risk discussions to take place in a forward-looking manner, while also learning lessons from past risk events. The Board approves the risk appetite and ensures risks are managed within the set tolerance levels.

The Board has ultimate responsibility for risk governance and internal control systems, as well as in determining the nature and extent of the principal risks it is willing to take to achieve its strategic objectives, while ensuring an appropriate risk culture has been embedded.

Risk oversight has been delegated to appropriate Board Committees which:

- Review and assess the integrity of the risk control systems and ensure risk policies and strategies are effectively identified, managed and monitored to contribute to a climate of discipline and control, thereby reducing the opportunity of risk, including fraud, in all areas of operations.
- Consider reports by executive management on measures implemented to ensure compliance with the statutes, regulatory guidelines and internal policies and procedures.

62

As at 31 December 2023, the Board is satisfied that:

- Risk and capital management controls and processes across the Bank generally operated effectively.
- Business activities have been managed within risk appetite approved by the Board.
- The Bank is adequately capitalised and funded to support its strategy execution.

In the instances where gaps were identified or where the Bank incurred losses and breached its risk appetite, the Board is satisfied that Management has taken and continues to take appropriate remedial and timely action.

## Three lines of defence

The Bank leverages the three lines of defence model (as pictured below) to build and maintain a strong risk culture, where resilience is a priority for the effective management of risk. Focus is placed on multiple drivers to strengthen the risk culture.



## Risk Governance

Executive management continuously ensures that legal, regulatory and business requirements are fully embedded in the Bank’s policies, processes and governance frameworks, which are supported by robust control mechanisms to ensure compliance with same.

## Risk Management Team

The Risk Management team is responsible for the day-to-day oversight of the management of risks and for instilling a strong risk culture across the Bank.

Risk management is enterprise wide and constitutes a crucial element in the execution of the Bank’s strategy. The role of the risk management function is to ensure the full spectrum of risks faced by the Bank is properly identified, assessed, managed, monitored and reported in the pursuit of strategic and financial goals.

The Risk Management team maintains its objectivity by being independent of operations. The Chief Risk Officer has a direct reporting line to the Chief Executive Officer and to the Board Risk Management Committee.

## Risk Management Framework

The Bank’s fundamental approach to risk management is to ensure that both value preservation and value creation are promoted through the prudent and consistent adoption of the Risk Culture Statement. The risk culture journey is complemented by a comprehensive Risk Appetite Statement and monitored via Board-approved Risk Appetite Metrics.

The Board of Directors approves the risk policies and guidelines. The Bank’s management is responsible for the effective execution of these policies through the implementation of appropriate procedures.

The Board and the relevant sub-committees monitor the Bank’s risk profile on a quarterly basis. Limits on the quantum of Credit, Risk, Market Risk, Operational Risk and Country Risk are set within prudent guidelines. Other non-quantifiable risks such as Compliance Risk, Reputational Risk and Strategic Risk, are also assessed and monitored on a qualitative basis, guided by appropriate metrics.

The Bank’s Executive Management meets monthly during several management committees, to make a comprehensive impact assessment of the Bank’s various risks. The Bank holds a monthly Management Integrated Risk Committee that holistically assesses and manages the Bank’s risks. The various risk functions escalate any issues and/or limit breaches to the relevant approval authorities, in line with the Bank’s Escalation Matrix.

The following section outlines the principal risks that are core to the Bank, including the management thereof.

63

## Credit risk

### Overview and definition

Credit risk is defined as the risk of loss arising from a client or counterparty failing to fulfil its financial obligations.

### Approach to managing Credit risk

Credit risk is the most material risk which the Bank is exposed to. In the absence of an effective and efficient credit risk management process, credit losses can have a significant adverse impact on the Bank. The Bank has therefore devised a credit risk management process to:

- Maintain credit risk at an acceptable level relative to capital.
- Preserve the quality of the statement of financial position.
- Ensure returns are proportionate to the risks being taken.

# Risk Management

Credit risk is managed through:

- Defining credit risk appetite for counterparty, sector and country concentrations, with regular monitoring to proactively adjust to changes in the economic environment.
- A culture of responsible lending.
- Expert scrutiny and approval of credit risk and its mitigation via a delegated authority framework.
- Identifying, assessing and measuring credit risk from an individual facility level, through to an aggregate portfolio level.
- Monitoring credit risk exposures relative to approved limits, risk appetite, changes in the economic environment and in clients’ state of affairs, to identify early signs of weaknesses in the exposure as this, in turn, will enable the Bank to take prompt action, such as the tightening of appetite for particular products, increase in collateral requirements or curtailing originations.

## Governance and reporting

Credit risk governance cuts across levels of hierarchy within the Bank through committees at Board, Executive Management and Management levels. The key committees for credit risk are illustrated below:

	EVALUATE   MONITOR	RESPOND   MONITOR
	Transaction level	Portfolio level
Board Committees	Board Credit Committee	Board Risk Management Committee
Executive Management Committees	Management Credit Committee	Management Integrated Risk Committee
Management Committees	Credit Forum	
Individuals	Individual Delegated Authorities	

The credit risk strategy and the credit risk policy are approved by the Board Risk Management Committee and the credit risk portfolio is monitored on a monthly basis at the Management Integrated Risk Committee.

The Board Credit Committee is the ultimate credit approving authority of the Bank and approves all exposures above the Management Credit Committee delegated authority.

## Concentration Risk

The Concentration risk is defined as the risk that any single obligor or group of obligors has the potential to produce losses large enough (relative to the Bank’s capital, assets or overall risk acceptance level) to threaten the Bank’s health or ability to maintain its core operations.

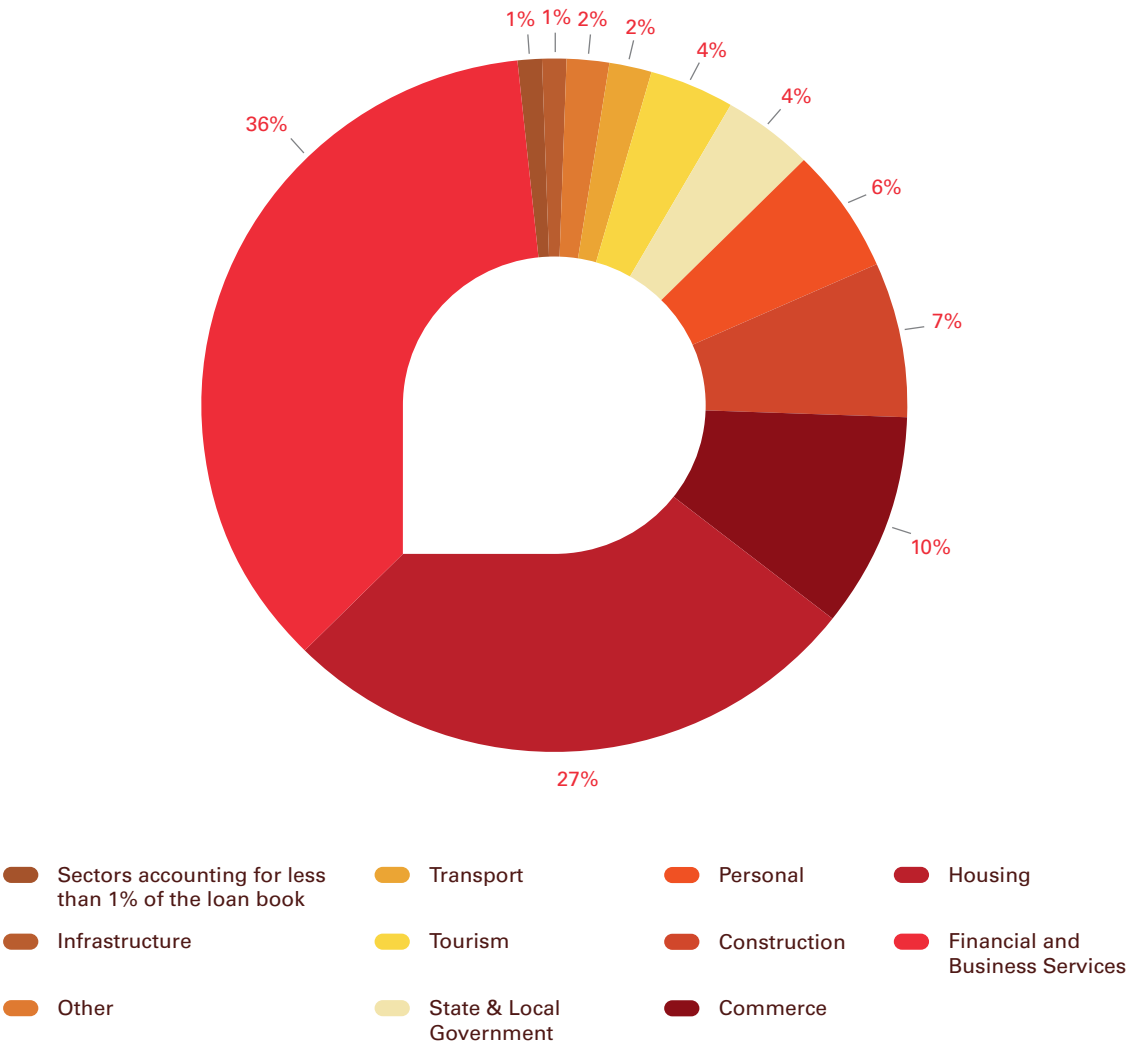
The Bank manages concentration risk in terms of sectors, obligors/group of obligors and at country of risk level.

The Bank has internal policies which are in line with the requirements of the Bank of Mauritius Guideline on Credit Concentration Risk.

As at 31 December 2023, the Bank was in compliance with the guideline.

## Sectorial concentration

As shown in the chart below, the Bank has a well-diversified loan portfolio. The largest concentration relates to Financial and Business Services at 36% (2022: 28%), with the bulk of the exposure being to Financial Institutions and aligned with the Bank’s strategy.





# Risk Management

## Top 10 Single Obligors

Single obligor	2023		2022	
	Exposure MUR 000	% of Tier 1 Capital	Exposure MUR 000	% of Tier 1 Capital
1	756,226	20.11%	674,307	19.68%
2	659,700	17.55%	662,250	19.33%
3	659,700	17.55%	662,250	19.33%
4	659,700	17.55%	662,250	19.33%
5	659,700	17.55%	662,250	19.33%
6	659,700	17.55%	441,500	12.89%
7	618,720	16.46%	441,500	12.89%
8	440,406	11.71%	441,500	12.89%
9	439,800	11.70%	441,500	12.89%
10	439,800	11.70%	441,500	12.89%

## Top 10 Groups

Group	2023		2022	
	Exposure MUR 000	% of Tier 1 Capital	Exposure MUR 000	% of Tier 1 Capital
1	972,947	25.88%	1,143,750	33.38%
2	791,640	21.06%	1,038,595	30.32%
3	671,828	17.87%	800,415	23.36%
4	657,171	17.48%	686,358	20.03%
5	625,000	16.62%	662,250	19.33%
6	593,730	15.79%	625,000	18.24%
7	550,053	14.63%	504,046	14.71%
8	440,800	11.72%	492,594	14.38%
9	440,406	11.71%	452,458	13.21%
10	54,179	1.44%		

## Related-party credit transactions

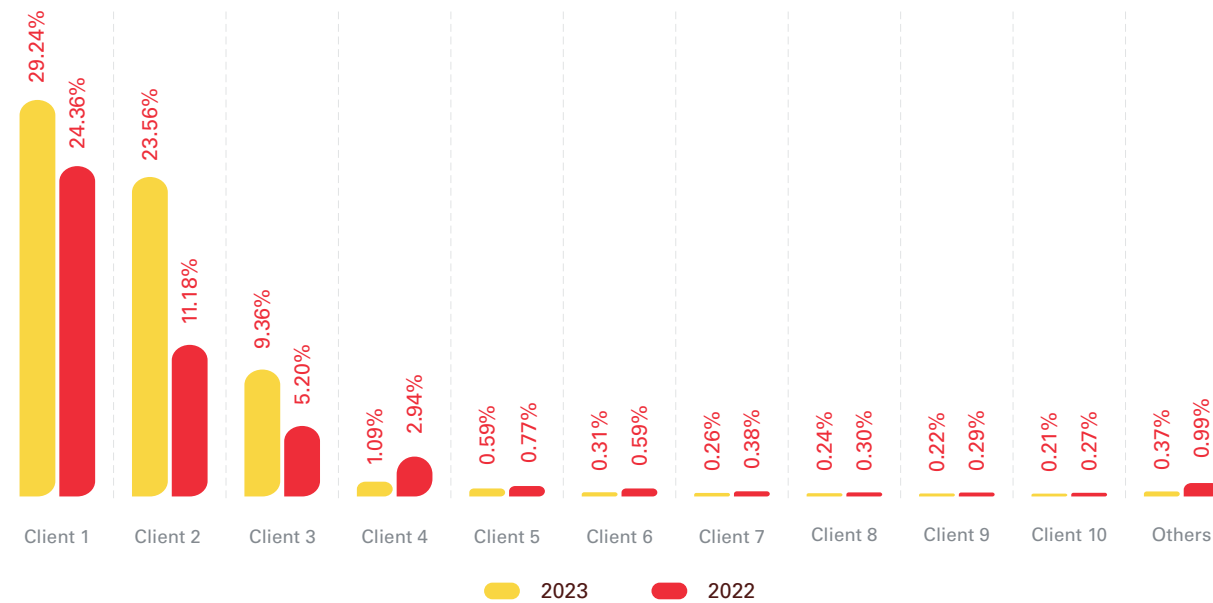
The Board has the authority to approve all related party exposures and has the responsibility to ensure these exposures are at standard market principles in terms of the arm's length principle. As at 31 December 2023, the Bank was in compliance with the Bank of Mauritius Guideline on Related Party Transactions.

The aggregate on balance sheet related party exposure of the Bank amounted to MUR 2.46billion as at December 2023 (December 2022: MUR 1.15billion), which represents 65.44% of Tier 1 Capital (December 2022: 47.27%). The facilities range from bank placements to overdrafts and loans. Collateral is taken for the facilities based on the credit risk assessment. Settlement of facilities are from the underlying obligor's operating cash flow, on arm's length terms and with relevant conditions.

The aggregate related party exposure (off-balance sheet) of the Bank was MUR 583 million as at year-end (2022: MUR 454 million).

None of the loans advanced to related parties were classified as non-performing as at 31 December 2023.

The table below sets out the ten largest related party exposures and respective percentages of the Bank's Tier 1 capital:



## International Financial Reporting Standard 9 ("IFRS 9")

The Bank categorises its lending portfolio in terms of Performing, Watch List and Non-Performing. The exposures are assessed and assigned to one of the following stages:

- Stage 1: Performing assets;
- Stage 2: Performing assets with significant risk deterioration; and
- Stage 3: Non-performing credit impaired assets.

The IFRS 9 standard requires the Bank to use the best estimates of three components, namely Probability of Default, Loss Given Default and Exposure at Default, to arrive at an Expected Credit Loss. These components are estimated using both internal and external models.

External auditors have validated the internal models and tools for the purpose of IFRS 9. Impairment provisions are recognised for financial reporting purposes under the IFRS 9. Every two years, an independent valuation report is obtained from a qualified appraiser, to validate the net realisable value of collateral.

## Collections segment

The credit risk monitoring and control for stage 1 and stage 2 exposures are managed jointly by the business lines and the Collections team.

As an additional control, facilities that are showing signs of deterioration and frequent delinquency are placed under Watch List and followed up on in Management and Board Credit and Risk Committees.

## Recovery segment

Stage 3 exposures are exclusively managed by the Collections and Recovery teams. The Bank's philosophy is to resolve recovery matters through negotiations in the first instance. If no agreement is reached, legal action is pursued with urgency for a timely recovery of assets.

At year-end 2023, the NPA portfolio had increased by 108%, with NPA ratio at 4.20%. The Provision Coverage Ratio declined from 89% in 2022 to 47% at end 2023, hence increasing the Net at Risk value of the portfolio. The Recovery team achieved exceptional results, especially on the recovery of vintage accounts amounting to MUR 123 million. Recoveries and reversal of provisions have resulted in a Net Impairment Release of MUR 132 million for the FY2023.

# Risk Management

## Write off

When there is no realistic probability of recovery, assets are written off against the related impairment allowance, on completion of the Bank's internal processes and when all reasonably expected recoveries have been collected.

In subsequent periods, any recoveries of amounts previously written-off are recorded as a release to the credit impairment charge in the profit or loss.

## Country risk

### Overview and definition

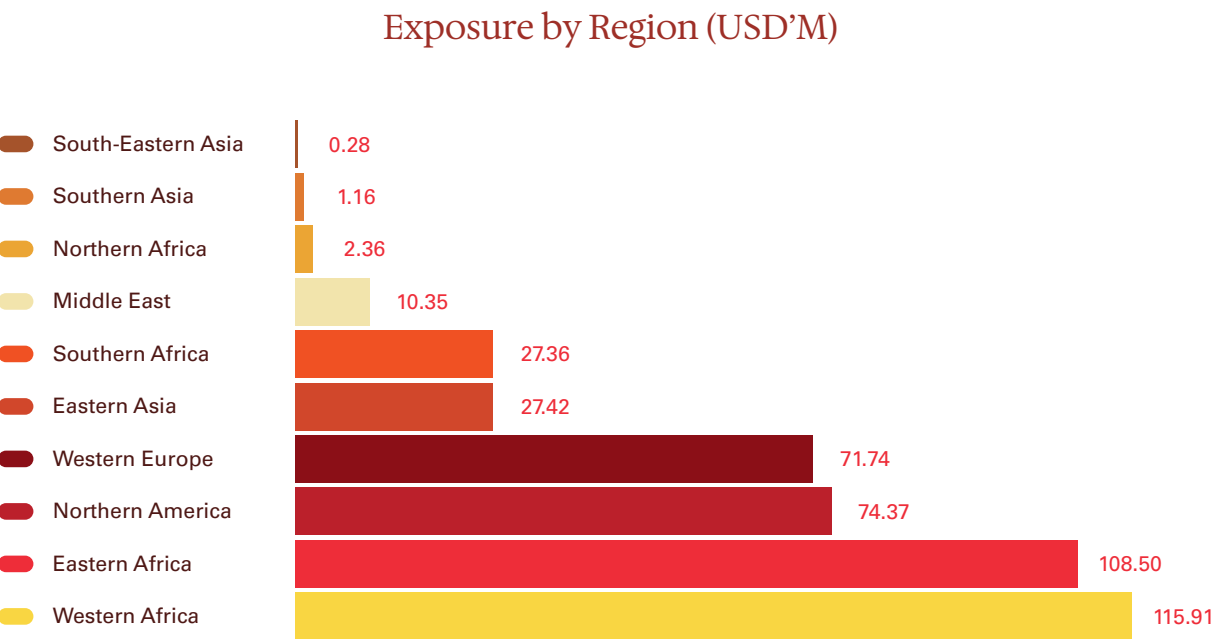
Country risk arises out of the uncertainty that obligors will be able to fulfil obligations, due to the Bank given political or economic conditions in the host country. It also includes the risk that the Bank will be unable to obtain payment from customers or third parties on their contractual obligations, because of certain actions taken by a foreign Government, primarily relating to the convertibility and transferability of foreign currency.

### Approach to managing Country risk

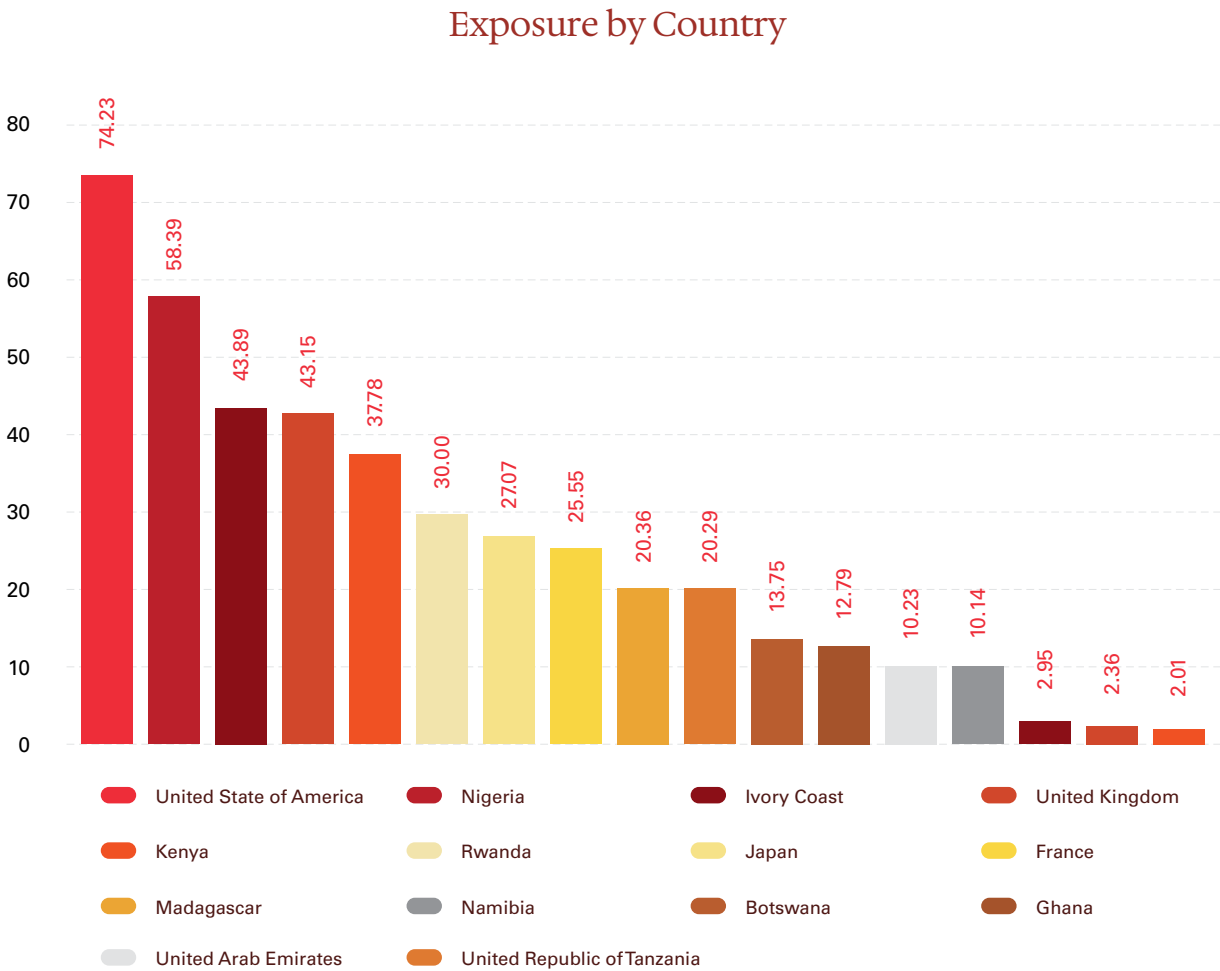
In line with global cross-border financing principles, the Bank has a country risk management policy supported by well-defined frameworks to:

1. Classify the country of risk, which must reflect the primary geographical location of an obligor's revenue generation (cash flows) and assets. Country of risk transfers are applied when credit enhancements are included in the structure of exposures.
2. Allocate country limits to mitigate concentration risk. The Bank has a methodology which has been devised internally to set a cap on country limits. The methodology is hybrid and based on external credit ratings, presence markets, market knowledge and economy size of the country (Gross Domestic Product).

The graph below provides a snapshot of the Bank's cross border exposures by region as at end of December 2023. Concentration is mainly within Sub-Saharan Africa, in line with the Bank's strategy.



Per country, the Bank has the largest exposure to the United States of America, as it seeks to invest in High-Quality Liquid Assets, followed by Nigeria and Ivory Coast, where the Bank's exposures are mainly on strong credit quality, Domestic Systemically Important Banks.



## Governance and reporting

The Bank's Management Credit Committee, Board Credit Committee and Board Risk Management Committee, represent the primary governance bodies overseeing country risk.



# Risk Management

## Market risk

### Overview and definition

Market risk is defined as the risk of losses in stakeholder value, resulting from adverse changes in market prices and interest rates that negatively affect assets and liabilities.

### Approach to managing Market risk

The Market Risk Policy outlines the framework to identify, measure, monitor, manage and report market risk, in order to minimise the risk of financial loss. The Assets & Liabilities Committee has been established to enforce compliance with the policy. The risk appetite has been expressed in the form of Value at Risk (VaR).

The Bank measures market risk from the trading book using the VaR technique (historical approach at a 99% confidence level over a one-day holding period) and controls market risk exposures within prudent risks limits set by the Board, in line with the risk appetite of the Bank.

Accordingly, at 31 December 2023, VaR limits against the actual potential loss reflect sufficient headroom:

VaR limits vs actual position - December 2023	USD	EUR	GBP
Limit	MUR800k	MUR500k	MUR200k
Value at Risk	MUR279k	MUR14k	MUR3k
Expected shortfall	MUR329k	MUR15k	MUR4k

### (i) Foreign exchange risk

The Bank has limited net foreign exchange exposure, as foreign exchange positions and foreign currency balances arising from customer transactions are normally matched against other customer transactions or through cover transactions with the market.

The net open exposure positions, both by individual currency and in aggregate, are managed by the Treasury Department within established limits and reported to the Bank of Mauritius daily.

Throughout 2023, the Bank operated well within the regulatory limits regarding net open positions.

A monthly report is submitted to the Asset & Liability Management Committee and a quarterly report is submitted to the Board Risk Management Committee, for notification of any underlying breach in limits. Breaches are immediately notified to Senior Management and simultaneously escalated to the relevant sanctioning authority, in line with the Bank's Escalation Matrix.

### (ii) Interest rate risk

The Bank considers the effects of fluctuations in the prevailing levels of market interest rates on both its fair value and cash flow risks. The Board sets limits on the level of mismatch of interest rate re-pricing that may be undertaken, which is reported monthly to ALCO.

The framework adopted by the Bank to measure interest rate risk exposures is consistent with the BOM guidelines for reporting interest rate risk exposures, which consists principally of interest rate sensitivity analysis and stress testing.

### Interest rate sensitivity analysis

A detailed analysis of the interest rate sensitivity analysis as at 31 December 2023 is given in note 2 (f) of the Financial Statements.

Earnings at Risk Methodology is used to assess the impact of various interest rate change scenarios on Net Interest Income over a 12-month horizon, as required under the domestic and global regulatory guidelines.

The interest rate risk in the banking book is managed by controlling interest rate sensitivities, which relate to the immediate effects of interest rate changes on assets, liabilities and off-balance sheet items. With the composition of the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2023, Net Interest Income is expected to rise in an increasing rate scenario and fall in a decreasing rate scenario.

### MUR & USD earnings at risk analysis as at 31 December 2023

Interest rate movement 2023	Impact on earnings on account of interest basis (MUR'M)	Impact on earnings on account of interest basis (USD'M)
+ 100 bps	3.05	1.32
- 100 bps	(3.05)	(1.32)
+ 200 bps	6.10	2.64
- 200 bps	(6.10)	(2.64)

The Bank is able to absorb potential interest shocks.

### Governance and reporting

Market risk exposure for different types of transactions is managed within risk limits and guidelines approved by the Board and monitored via the monthly Asset & Liability Management Committee, which reports any key risks monthly to the Management Integrated Risk Committee and quarterly to the Board Risk Management Committee. The Treasury Department monitors the debt securities book on a weekly basis and reports monthly to the Asset & Liability Management Committee.

# Risk Management

## Liquidity risk

### Overview and definition

Liquidity risk is defined as the risk of losses from not having cash to honour commitments when falling due.

### Approach to managing Liquidity risk

The Bank manages liquidity in line with applicable regulations and within the Bank’s risk appetite framework. The Bank’s liquidity risk management governance framework supports the measurement and management of liquidity to ensure payment obligations can be met under both normal and stressed conditions. It also ensures minimum regulatory requirements are always met. This is achieved through a combination of maintaining adequate liquidity buffers and to ensure that cash flow requirements are met.

The Bank seeks to keep secure funding and liquidity positions to support its business development objectives. Diversified and stable sources of funding are maintained, comprising mainly customer deposits and borrowings, both short- and long-term. Additionally, an appropriate level of liquid assets is kept, ensuring obligations can be met within a reasonable time frame.

Liquidity risk is measured and monitored separately for each material currency and on a consolidated level. The Bank assesses funding and liquidity positions with respect to obligations under both Business As Usual and stressed conditions. The Board has set internal targets on key regulatory measures such as the Liquidity Coverage Ratio at currency level, while monitoring other ratios and early warning indicators to assess its liquidity situation. The key actions undertaken to ensure liquidity risk is effectively measured and monitored at the Bank include the following:

- Strong Liquidity Contingency Plan in place, which provides active monitoring and detailed early warning indicators under a liquidity stress situation.
- Effective monitoring and management of daily computation of liquidity ratios, which provides the Bank with cash flow projection within a reasonable time frame.
- Carrying out of frequent simulation on liquidity ratios, based on what-if investment in high-quality liquid assets and renewal of retail/wholesale market funding.
- Maintain adequate high-quality liquid asset buffer as well as achievement of conservative maturity profile and operational deposit optimisation, to ensure compliance with the liquidity coverage ratio with monitoring/reporting for assets and liabilities denominated in significant currencies.
- Close monitoring of the Liquidity Coverage Ratio by the Assets and Liabilities Committee on a monthly basis and as and when required.

The table in note 2(g) of the Financial Statements analyses the Bank’s assets and liabilities into relevant maturity buckets.

The Bank monitors liquidity gaps on a static, cumulative as well as dynamic basis. Under the dynamic scenario, the Bank arranges assets and liabilities into different maturity ranges, according to the Bank of Mauritius Guideline on Liquidity Risk Management, considering the historical behavioural pattern of these assets and liabilities. Stress testing and scenario analysis form an important part of the Bank’s liquidity management process.

### Governance and reporting

The Asset and Liability Management Committee oversees the management of funding and liquidity risk at the Bank. The Treasury team is responsible for the daily management of liquidity and provides daily reporting to Senior Management. Weekly reporting on liquidity ratios is done by the Asset and Liability Management Unit within Finance to Management.

### Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR)

LCR is computed as the percentage of high-quality liquid assets to total net cash outflows over the next 30 days, under a severe stress scenario. As at 31 December 2023, the Bank was well above the minimum consolidated liquidity requirements, as shown in the table below:

#### Liquidity Coverage Ratio - Quarter ending December 2023

(Consolidated in MUR’000s)	TOTAL UNWEIGHTED VALUE (quarterly average of monthly observations)	TOTAL WEIGHTED VALUE (quarterly average of monthly observations)
HIGH-QUALITY LIQUID ASSETS		
Total high-quality liquid assets (HQLA)	8,561,335	8,561,335
CASH OUTFLOWS		
Retail deposits and deposits from small business customers, of which:		
Less stable deposits	13,890,679	1,389,068
Unsecured wholesale funding, of which:		
Non-operational deposits (all counterparties)	13,725,862	5,490,345
Unsecured debt	2,725,582	2,725,582
Additional requirements, of which:		
Credit and liquidity facilities	668,335	137,610
Other contractual funding obligations	8,923	8,923
Other contingent funding obligations	846,768	42,338
TOTAL CASH OUTFLOWS	31,866,149	9,793,867
CASH INFLOWS		
Secured funding	6,590,478	6,590,478
Inflows from fully performing exposures	1,167,747	583,873
Other cash inflows	856	856
TOTAL CASH INFLOWS	7,759,080	7,175,207
TOTAL ADJUSTED VALUE		
TOTAL HQLA		8,561,335
TOTAL NET CASH OUTFLOWS		2,618,660
LIQUIDITY COVERAGE RATIO (%)		327%
QUARTERLY AVERAGE OF DAILY HQLA		
		8,589,082

Notes: The reported values for ‘quarterly average of monthly observations’ are based on October, November and December 2023 month end figures.

The reported values for ‘quarterly average of daily HQLA’ are based on business days figures over 01 October 2023 to 31 December 2023’s period.

- Comments:
- As at the end of December 2023, the Bank’s quarterly average LCR was 327% compared to 304% as at September 2023, significantly above the regulatory minimum of 100%.
  - This is driven by an excess of MUR 5.9billion of High Quality Liquid Assets (HQLA) over Net Cash Outflows (NCO).
  - The Bank’s stock of High-Quality Liquid Assets (HQLA) is proactively managed to ensure high levels of liquidity.
  - Liquidity levels are monitored daily.
  - Formal reviews of the Bank’s liquidity position and limits take place monthly in the management ALCO.



# Risk Management

## Operational risk

### Overview and definition

Operational risk is defined as the risk of loss arising from inadequate or failed internal processes, people and systems, or from external events.

### Approach to managing Operational risk

The Operational Risk Management Framework sets out the underlying risk principles by which the Bank identifies, manages and measures Operational risk. The framework aims at sustainably embedding the following:

- Proactive risk management and disciplined risk-taking, while ensuring the Bank's Operational risk profile remains within appetite.
- Fostering a positive risk and control culture, with clear ownership and accountability across the Bank.
- A sound and sustainable risk and control environment.

The operational risk management toolkit includes operational risk appetite, key risk indicators, risk and control self-assessments, control issues monitoring and internal control programmes. Focus is on sustainably reducing the Bank's material risk exposures, consistent with its risk appetite, as well as scanning and analysing emerging risks against which the Bank must demonstrate resiliency.

The Bank identifies and evaluates risks by applying the Evaluate-Respond-Monitor (ERM) approach, ensuring material operational risks facing the Bank are identified and understood and that appropriate management responses are put in place to protect and enable the Bank to meet its goals. Ongoing monitoring is proactively undertaken for prompt risks re-evaluation and re-assessment of responses, to ensure progress towards objectives.

### Risk and Control Self-Assessment programme

The Risk and Control Self-Assessment programme remains an integral part of the Operational Risk Strategy, which aims at enhancing the roles and responsibilities of the first line of defence in identifying and managing key risks in their respective activities. Over the past years, the Bank adopted a risk-based approach that focuses on processes which are critical for strategy execution and for delivering to customers and stakeholders. This approach ensures material risks and rewards are fully understood and managed, resulting in consistent monitoring of the Bank's operational risk profile, in accordance with business objectives and appetite. Fraud preventative and detective controls are also identified as part of this ongoing exercise, to support the internal control programme from a fraud monitoring perspective. Periodic self-assessments by the first line of defence now contribute towards measuring the overall risk and control environment effectiveness.

### Incident management and reporting

Incidents, including events resulting in actual loss and those resulting in non-financial impact and near-misses, are duly recorded and reported. The operational risk incident management process has been ringfenced over the last years, to bring more in-depth incident analysis with appropriate response and monitoring, aiming at sustainably resolving issues and, therefore, preventing recurrence. All material control failures are subject to a robust root cause analysis and lesson learnt process. Resulting impacts, both financial and non-financial, are thoroughly assessed against the yearly set operational risk appetite, which caters for quantitative and qualitative measurements. The incident management process further complements the internal control programme, with deep dives and post-implementation reviews undertaken on recurrent key themes, as a measure to proactively manage the overall operational risk profile.

### Insurance cover

The Bank has contracted insurance covers to mitigate operational risks. These covers are reviewed on an annual basis. The Board ensures an adequate insurance programme is in place to protect the Bank against losses resulting from its business activities.

## Business continuity management

Business continuity refers to the Bank's ability to maintain critical operations in the face of disruption from internal and external shocks. The aim of business continuity is to protect and preserve critical processes and resources such as systems, data, people and property, thus maintaining overall resilience.

Business continuity remains a key focus area for the Bank in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic, with a robust framework to support the adopted scenario-based approach. The Bank's business recovery plans are designed to cater for short-, medium- and long-term solutions, taking into consideration the various devised scenarios to effectively reinforce the Bank's resiliency in contingent situations.

Criteria and underlying assumptions for determining the Bank's critical activities and expected resources are well defined as part of the Business Impact Analysis. Testing of contingency plans, comprising both scenario-based simulation exercises and planned testing of the disaster recovery servers, are undertaken twice yearly to assess the Bank's readiness and ability to resume operations of its critical activities within the set recovery time objectives.

## Governance and reporting

Operational risk is managed through the Management Integrated Risk Committee. The Board Risk Management Committee has oversight over operational risk and receives quarterly reports to that effect.

## Cyber and Information Security risk

### Overview and definition

Cyber and Information Security risk is defined as the inability to manage a cyber or data breach while continuing to conduct business activities as usual.

### Approach to managing Cyber and Information Security risk

#### Infrastructure and data protection

The Bank ensures security through infrastructure and data protection. Infrastructure protection involves securing systems, hardware, software, networks and physical security. Data protection prevents unauthorised actions on information, ensuring confidentiality, integrity, availability and privacy.

The Bank employs advanced security measures to fortify its network. Beyond traditional layers, which include multiple firewalls and a web application firewall filtering out malicious traffic, the Bank uses Intrusion Detection and Prevention Systems to identify and thwart unauthorised access. The recent implementation of an advanced network monitoring appliance, leveraging artificial intelligence, has significantly elevated the network's threat detection capabilities, enabling a prompt and effective response to malicious activities.

The Bank prioritises application security through regular code reviews, to identify and address potential security issues. The Bank has adopted secure coding practices, incorporating guidelines like least privilege and defence in depth, to prevent vulnerabilities such as SQL injection and cross-site scripting. These measures collectively contribute to a robust and secure application environment within the Bank.

Endpoint security is a core focus area. The Bank uses various tools and techniques to protect its devices and data from cyber threats. Some of them include antivirus and anti-malware software, patch management, data encryption, device control, Endpoint Detection and Response, Mobile Device Management and Multi-Factor Authentication.

Compliance with the Mauritius Data Protection Act and the General Data Protection Regulation is key. The Bank ensures robust data security through the implementation of encryption protocols for data in transit and at rest, assuring the confidentiality and integrity of sensitive information. A meticulous data classification and labelling system is in place, facilitating prioritised data handling with tailored controls based on its significance. Embracing a layered approach, the integration of encryption with data classification enhances overall resilience against potential threats.

To assess and validate the configuration and security frameworks, a predetermined schedule of security testing is implemented. This includes a combination of internal and external penetration testing, application penetration testing, Red Team and Purple Team exercises, API security testing and other relevant assessments.

# Risk Management

## Monitoring and awareness

The Bank enhances its cybersecurity framework by incorporating continuous monitoring and using advanced Security Information and Event Management systems. These systems enable real-time analysis of logs, network traffic and user behaviours, facilitating the prompt identification of anomalies or malicious patterns. The Bank employs intrusion detection and prevention systems to monitor and respond swiftly to potential security incidents. In tandem, educational programmes are integrated into employee training and development, featuring regular cybersecurity training sessions, awareness campaigns and informative material distribution, to educate employees and stakeholders about cybersecurity risks and best practices.

The Bank enhances its security posture through its dedicated Security Operation Centre, overseeing the Security Information and Event Management systems for comprehensive visibility. Proactive measures include continuous surveillance of network activities, system logs and user behaviours, to promptly detect anomalies or suspicious patterns. With a vigilant approach, the Bank has established a robust security monitoring system, ensuring swift identification and response to potential security threats, contributing to the overall resilience of its security infrastructure. Concurrently, the Bank has developed robust incident response plans and playbooks to ensure efficient and effective responses to security incidents, reflecting its commitment to proactive security management.

Prioritising a security-conscious culture, the Bank emphasises employee education through robust security and awareness programmes. Regular training sessions for staff and directors highlight cybersecurity best practices, addressing potential threats like phishing and social engineering. The Bank actively conducts simulated social engineering exercises to evaluate training effectiveness and foster a vigilant organisational ethos. This security-oriented approach extends to customers, offering insights into secure banking practices. Emphasising prompt reporting of abnormal events, the Bank maintains clear communication channels for timely reporting of security incidents to all stakeholders.

## Regulatory requirements

The Bank of Mauritius introduced the Guideline on Cyber and Technology Risk Management in 2023. The Guideline enforces strict controls, covering governance, risk identification, protection, detection, response capabilities, assurance testing, awareness and training. This underscores the need for a structured approach to technology risk management in the banking sector, advocating for proactive measures, identification and mitigation of evolving cyber and technology risks. The holistic framework extends controls to various cybersecurity dimensions, ensuring a robust defence against a dynamic threat landscape. Regulatory emphasis on assurance testing underscores ongoing validation while the focus on awareness and training reflects a commitment to a well-prepared and cyber-resilient banking sector.

The Bank's independent gap assessment against the Guideline shows a comfortable compliance level for most controls. Partial compliance exists in some areas, while some controls are deemed not applicable. The Bank has established a remediation plan to attain a full compliance status.

## Governance and reporting

Cybersecurity governance involves integrated strategies for the proactive prevention of cyber threats, encompassing accountability frameworks, decision hierarchies, risk alignment with business objectives and oversight processes. Cybersecurity management focuses on operationalising governance policies, ensuring day-to-day security through efficient resource allocation. The collaboration between governance and management aims to protect digital assets, reduce cyber threats and provide a strategic security outlook involving risk appetite definition and decision-making responsibilities.

The Bank has implemented a robust governance framework for cybersecurity and information security, aiming to ensure efficacy. This includes the enforcement of comprehensive security policies aligned with industry regulations and strict adherence to the Bank of Mauritius Guideline on Cyber and Technology Risk Management. To maintain compliance with regulatory requirements, the Bank is subject to regular audits and assessments.

In the realm of policy and compliance, the Bank undertakes the development and enforcement of security policies, encompassing acceptable use, access controls, data classification and incident response procedures. The approach includes a commitment to aligning with industry regulations and best practices.

In the domain of Cybersecurity and Information Risk Management, the Bank adopts a comprehensive framework, conducts regular risk assessments to identify and evaluate potential cyber threats and implements mitigation strategies involving advanced security measures, encryption protocols and multi-factor authentication. The Bank also prioritises continuous monitoring and active gathering of threat intelligence, to proactively stay ahead of emerging risks.

The Bank has strategically fortified its Security Governance by establishing a structured organisational framework, appointing responsible staffs and fostering communication channels.

The Bank actively engages in collaborative efforts with industry peers to strengthen its cybersecurity posture. The Bank also participates proactively in information-sharing initiatives, demonstrating a commitment to enhancing overall security through shared insights and industry cooperation.

Cyber and Information risk is managed through the Management Integrated Risk Committee. The Board Risk Management Committee has oversight over Cyber and Information risk and receives quarterly reports to that effect.

## Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) risk

### Overview and definition

ESG risk refers to the potential threats the Bank's impact on Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) factors pose to its reputation and financial performance. These factors go beyond traditional financial metrics and delve into how the Bank interacts with and impacts on the environment, its employees and stakeholders.

Climate risk is a component of ESG risk. It refers to financially material risks arising from the effects of climate change on the Bank or from exposure to activities that may be affected by environmental degradation and the loss of ecosystem services, which create an impact on the Bank's activities.

Climate-related and environmental financial risks encompass the challenges organisations confront due to climate change, categorised into physical and transition risks by the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD).

Physical risks involve the impact of climate change on assets, operations and supply chains, ranging from extreme weather events to long-term shifts in climate patterns. For instance, a company with coastal facilities may experience increased risks from rising sea levels and more frequent cyclones, leading to infrastructure damage and higher operational costs.

Transition risks, on the other hand, arise from the global shift towards a low-carbon economy and sustainable practices. These risks can be policy-driven, technological, market-related or reputational. Policy-driven transition risks result from regulatory changes like carbon pricing, while technological risks may emerge as new technologies that make existing products obsolete. Market-related risks include shifts in consumer preferences for sustainable products. Reputational risks stem from public perception of a company's environmental responsibility, or the strength of its management of climate-related impacts to the business.

### Approach to managing Climate risk

The Bank's approach to climate risk management is to operationalise the requirements of the Bank of Mauritius Guideline on Climate-related and Environmental Financial Risk Management, in alignment with the TCFD recommendations as the underlying framework. In 2023, the Bank initiated the groundwork for a robust climate risk management mechanism, by rethinking governance, strategy and risk management, with appropriate metrics and targets to guide a balanced approach.

Recognising climate change as a major financial risk and driver of existing risk categories, the Bank is integrating its management into existing governance. The Board has approved a Climate Risk Policy, which will culminate in a broader Climate Related Risk Management Framework.

The Bank of Mauritius Guideline on climate risk management presents scenario analysis and stress testing as central tools for identifying and understanding the financial threats posed by climate change and environmental damage to the business models of financial institutions. The Bank piloted its first ever climate scenario planning in 2023, to inform its strategy and stress testing. Scenarios address both physical and transition risks across short-, medium- and long-term horizons. They leverage internal climate data and external reference scenarios, considering impacts on revenue, assets and capital.

In 2023, the Bank piloted a Climate Risk Review Procedure for clients. This assessed counterparty-level climate risks through data collection, risk scans and tailored due diligence. Risks were categorised and influenced client acceptance and terms. In Q42023, a portfolio scan refined data availability and developed key risk indicators to inform a climate risk appetite. Embedding climate into credit risk assessment across the credit lifecycle will be a key focus in 2024.



# Risk Management

Since 2020, the Bank has been progressively developing a robust Environmental and Social Management System (ESMS), in line with the IFC Performance Standards, to ensure greater environmental and social efficacy among its customers. The ESMS makes it possible to:

- Bring the Bank's lending activities into compliance with good practices on social and environmental standards;
- Establishing applicable Environmental and Social (E&S) due diligence as per risk category during credit assessment;
- Ensuring adequate monitoring of projects during the reimbursement period.

The ESMS adopted by the Bank aims to identify, as early as possible, all impacts on the environment and social impacts of its financing and, where applicable, provide corrective measures to avoid, mitigate or reduce these impacts during the maturity of the loans.

## Governance and reporting

Climate risk is managed through the Management Integrated Risk Committee. The Board Risk Management Committee has oversight over climate risk and receives quarterly reports to that effect.

## Compliance risk

### Overview and definition

Compliance Risk is defined as the risk for potential losses and legal penalties, due to failure to comply with laws and/or regulations.

### Approach to managing Compliance risk

An independent compliance function is in place to identify, assess, monitor and report on whether the Bank is complying with applicable laws, regulations and internal requirements.

Compliance risk is mitigated through the implementation of adequate policies and procedures and internal controls throughout the Bank. Policies and procedures ensure the Bank operates within the parameters of the laws and international regulations, as applicable, as well as international best practices, whilst internal controls ensure staffs comply with internal policies and procedures. Employees are also provided with relevant training on the application of policies and procedures, as well as on the regulatory framework in general.

The compliance team is accountable for the implementation of an effective regulatory and compliance framework, as outlined below:

1. Identifying and assessing compliance risks;
2. Providing advice/guidance on risk mitigation to compliance risk owners;
3. Monitoring the adequacy and effectiveness of risk mitigation and control; and
4. Reporting on the compliance risk status.

The focus is to further embed the compliance culture across the Bank and enable the business to fully assume its first line of defence responsibilities.

## Governance and reporting

The Regulatory and Compliance Framework is now governed through the Regulatory Risk and Compliance Committee, which meets monthly and reports to the Management Integrated Risk Committee and the Board Risk Management Committee.

## People risk

### Overview and definition

People risk is defined as the risk of financial losses and negative performance related to inadequacies in human capital and the management of human resources. There are numerous and multi-faceted risks, ranging from workplace safety, absenteeism and succession planning, through to loss of key people and internal issues such as fraud and theft of material and intellectual property. Other issues include having the right skillset and right sizing the business to achieve its goals.

### Approach to managing People risk

The success of the Bank is highly dependent on people. Programmes of work are ongoing to adjust the Bank's value proposition and inform its retention strategies. The Bank has instituted a range of reward and recognition initiatives to support client centricity, retain top talent and ensure its sustainable long-term performance. Executive Management has a strong focus on the identification and development of diverse talent pools. A dedicated team of Human Resource professionals is constantly in liaison with the Executive Committee and all employees to ensure effective and efficient people risk management.

## Governance and reporting

People risk is managed through the Human Resources Committee and the Executive Committee. The Board Governance, Nomination and Remuneration Committee has oversight over people risk and receives quarterly detailed reports to that effect.

## Strategic/Business risk

### Overview and definition

Strategic/Business risk is defined as the risk of non-attainment of the planned strategic objectives, the consequences of inappropriate strategies or the decline in income or margins, that negatively affect profitability.

### Approach to managing Strategic/Business risk

The Bank approaches strategic position and execution risks management as follows:

- Conduct of impact analysis on the risk profile from growth plans, strategic initiatives and business model vulnerabilities, with the aim of proactively identifying and managing new risks or existing risks that need to be reprioritized as part of the strategy review process.
- Detailed business case analysis.
- Embedment of framework to evaluate risks and mitigate controls of new products and processes.
- Close monitoring of the profitability of product lines and customer segments.
- Maintaining tight control over the cost base, including the management of its cost-to-income ratio, which allows for early intervention and management action to reduce costs.

The strategic direction of the Bank is reviewed once a year and forms part of the annual business budget and operating plan of the Bank. This is done in conjunction with the ICAAP and Risk Appetite review so that a comprehensive approach is prudently adopted.

## Governance and reporting

The Board Strategic and Investment Committee has oversight on Strategic/Business risk. The Strategy Committee, a sub-committee of the Executive Committee, manages Strategic/Business risk operationally, over and above strategy being debated at the Management Integrated Risk Committee.

# Risk Management

## Reputational risk

### Overview and definition

Reputational risk is defined as the current or potential risk to earnings and capital, driven by the adverse perception of the Bank on the part of clients, counterparties, employees or regulators.

### Approach to managing Reputational risk

Principles are in place to identify, assess, escalate and effectively manage Reputational risk. The Bank continues to dynamically assess and monitor Reputational risk on a qualitative basis. A Reputational Risk Management Framework is in place to ensure the effective and consistent treatment of Reputational risks across the Bank.

### Governance and reporting

Reputational risk is managed through the Reputational Risk Management Framework, with monthly reporting to the Management Integrated Risk Committee. The Board Risk Management Committee has oversight over the Bank's reputational risks and receives quarterly reports to that effect.

## Capital Management

### Capital Adequacy Assessment

As per Basel III guidelines, the Bank is required to maintain a minimum Capital Adequacy Ratio (CAR) of 12.5% for the year 2023 onwards.

Therefore, the Bank is maintaining a capital conservation buffer of 2.5% for this year. The Bank has computed its CAR as at 31 December 2023 and ensures capital levels at all-time exceed the minimum capital requirements set by the regulator of 12.5%. The capital charge for operational risk is calculated under the Basic Indicator Approach and the capital charge for credit and market risk under the Standardised Approach.

As at December 2023, the Bank's CAR stood at 16.85% (*against a regulatory requirement of 12.5%*), out of which the Common Equity Tier I (CET I) CAR was 12.74% (*against minimum regulatory requirement of 6.5%*), which is well above the minimum requirement.

### Core capital (Tier 1 capital)

	Basel III Dec-21 Rs'000	Basel III Dec-22 Rs'000	Basel III Dec-23 Rs'000
Paid up capital	1,456,456	1,456,456	1,456,456
Statutory reserve	463,552	537,625	650,996
Retained earnings	1,725,369	1,646,082	2,021,147
<b>Deductions</b>			
Intangibles	(130,667)	(133,583)	(124,338)
Deferred tax	(45,937)	(44,015)	(31,540)
Defined benefits pension assets	-	-	(118,206)
Loss on fair value securities	-	(123,748)	(62,711)
Investment in other bank	(30,021)	(36,057)	(32,022)
<b>Total Tier 1 Capital</b>	<b>3,438,752</b>	<b>3,302,260</b>	<b>3,759,784</b>

### Supplementary capital (Tier 2 capital)

Reserves arising from revaluation of assets	43,791	60,218	60,218
Portfolio provision	218,290	249,915	133,071
General banking reserves	57,867	68,906	69,780
Subordinated debt	1,316,545	1,114,989	946,953
<b>Total tier 2 capital</b>	<b>1,636,493</b>	<b>1,494,027</b>	<b>1,210,021</b>
<b>Total capital base</b>	<b>5,075,244</b>	<b>4,796,287</b>	<b>4,969,804</b>

### Risk weighted assets for:

Credit risk	22,092,561	25,505,633	27,127,460
Market risk	96,415	95,336	37,393
Operational risk	2,103,468	2,102,156	2,336,973
<b>Total risk weighted assets</b>	<b>24,292,444</b>	<b>27,703,125</b>	<b>29,501,826</b>
<b>Tier 1 ratio</b>	14.16%	11.92%	12.74%
<b>Capital Adequacy Ratio</b>	<b>20.89%</b>	<b>17.31%</b>	<b>16.85%</b>

### Risk weighted on-balance sheet items

			Dec-21	Dec-22	Dec-23
		Risk weight			
	Rs'000	%	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000
Cash in hand & with Central Bank	2,024,279	0%	-	-	-
Balance and placements with banks	8,142,137	20-100%	3,242,884	3,822,677	2,007,152
Balance in process of collection	20,518	20%	2,653	2,804	4,104
Treasury bills and GOM bills	4,499,754	0%	-	-	-
Other investment	8,788,506	0-50%	1,566,397	1,508,404	1,104,523
Fixed and other assets	792,563	100%	683,331	803,713	792,563
Loans and advances	27,834,813	0 – 150%	16,113,479	18,331,709	22,073,396
	<b>52,102,570</b>		<b>21,608,744</b>	<b>24,469,307</b>	<b>25,981,737</b>



# Risk Management

## Risk weighted off-balance sheet items

			Dec-21	Dec-22	Dec-23
	Credit conversion factor (%)	Risk weight %	Rs'000	Risk weighted Rs'000	Rs'000
Acceptances and bill of exchange	100%	100%	369,025	1,006,587	1,013,949
Guarantees, bonds, etc.	50%	100%	78,441	19,570	79,420
Letter of credit	20%	100%	25,580	1,412	45,396
Foreign exchange contracts	1% to 7.5%	20-100%	10,771	8,757	6,958
			<b>483,817</b>	<b>1,036,326</b>	<b>1,145,723</b>

## Risk weighted exposures

	Dec-21	Dec-22	Dec-23
	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000
Risk weighted on balance sheet assets	21,608,744	24,497,082	25,981,737
Risk weighted off balance sheet exposures	446,542	483,817	1,145,723
Risk weighted on market risk	96,415	95,336	37,393
Risk weighted on operational risk	2,103,468	2,102,062	2,336,973
<b>Total risk weighted assets</b>	<b>24,292,444</b>	<b>27,730,806</b>	<b>29,501,826</b>

## Risk weighted assets for Market risk

	Dec-21	Dec-22	Dec-23
	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000
Foreign exchange risk	96,415	95,336	37,393
<b>Equivalent risk weighted assets</b>	<b>96,415</b>	<b>95,336</b>	<b>37,393</b>

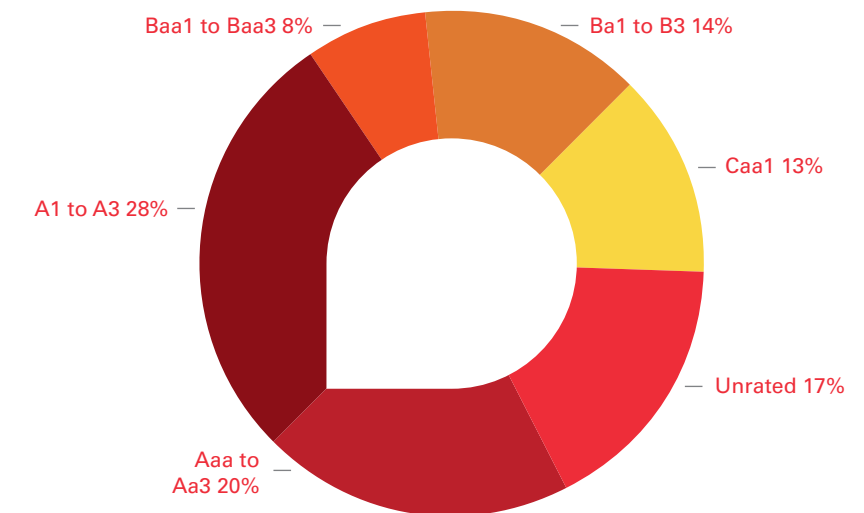
## Risk weighted assets for Operational risk

	Dec-21	Dec-22	Dec-23
	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000
Average gross income for last 3 years	1,402,312	1,401,375	1,557,982
Capital charge	210,346	210,206	233,697
<b>Equivalent risk weighted assets</b>	<b>2,103,468</b>	<b>2,102,062</b>	<b>2,336,973</b>

In line with the recommendations of the Bank of Mauritius Guideline on the recognition and use of the External Credit Assessment Institutions (ECAI)<sup>1</sup>, the ratings from the agencies listed below have been used to compute the relative risk weights for balance with foreign banks, lending to foreign entities and banks, and other foreign investments.

<sup>1</sup> ECAI includes Moody's, Standard & Poor's, Fitch, CARE Ratings & GCR.

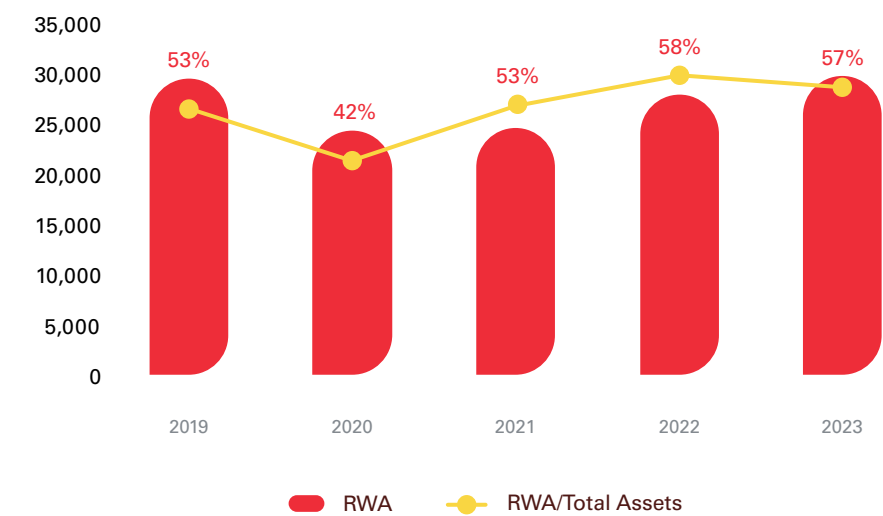
## Exposures by risk grade



Note: For each exposure, we have selected Moody's assignment for the different ratings.

The Bank has reviewed its portfolio to ensure a proper mix of assets class is maintained from a risk and tenor point of view.

## Risk weighted assets/Total assets



There has been a slight decrease in risk weighted assets to total assets in 2023.

# Risk Management

## Internal capital adequacy assessment and supervisory review process

The purpose of the ICAAP is to inform the Board of the ongoing assessment of risk and how the Bank expects to mitigate those risks and proactively develop strategies to maintain its capital at the desired level.

ICAAP is a simulation exercise carried out to inform the Board on the Bank's risks and their impact on the Bank's business. It identifies all existing and probable future risks, assess its risk management and their capital adequacy in relation to it, and ensures the institution holds adequate in relation to its risk profiles.

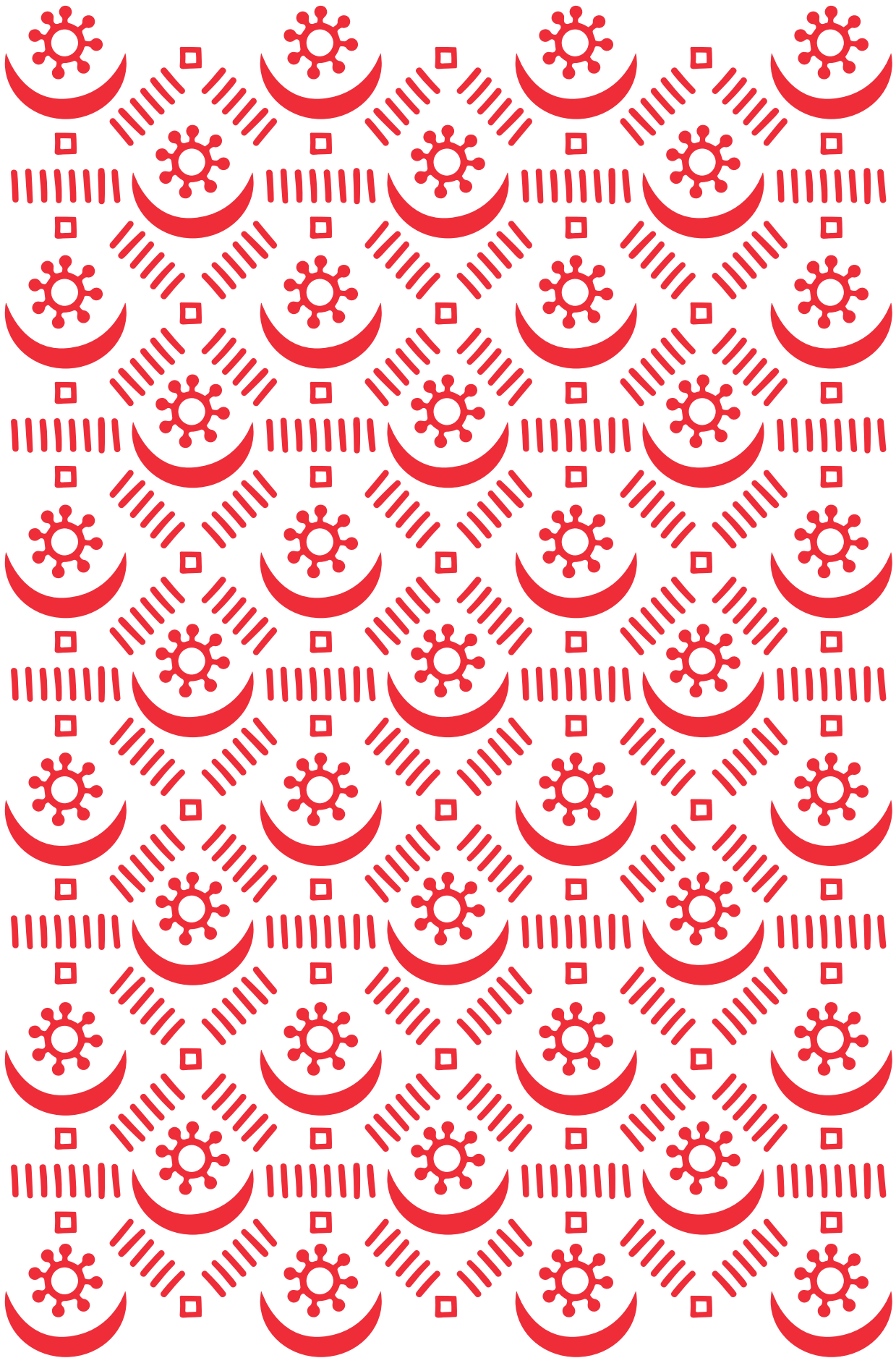
The Bank's ICAAP document is reviewed yearly, or earlier if warranted, where the level of capitalisation of Bank One is determined using different types of plausible as well as unexpected stress scenarios. This allows us to adopt a more prudential concept, by proactively mitigating risk through multiple actions such as reviewing and changing limits on highly risky exposures.

Stress testing forms an integral part of the ICAAP. It is performed monthly, to assess the impact for market risks, and reported to the Assets and Liabilities Committee. The Bank performs different kinds of stress testing techniques, including scenario analysis and other techniques used to evaluate the potential negative impact on the capital available, caused by specific event or movement in risk factors, ranging from plausible to extreme conditions, based on a three-year horizon.

Moreover, the supervisory review and evaluation process is used to evaluate the Bank's risk profile, including an assessment of the Bank's level of risk, its internal regulations and strategies and also the risk management systems for the main risks such as credit, operational, market, liquidity, strategic and reputation risks. It also determines whether sufficient capital cushion is available against any risks that may occur during distress period.

## Methodology and assumptions

Methodology & Assumptions	
Risk Type	Assessment Methodology
Compliance risk	Qualitative assessment
Concentration risk	HH Index and Stress Testing
Country risk	Quantitative and Qualitative Assessment
Credit risk	Moody's Risk Analyst & Risk Calc Models for Institutional Obligors and banks
Interest Rate Risk in Banking Book	Gap Analysis and Stress Testing
Liquidity risk	Ratio Analysis and Stress Testing
Operational risk	Risk and Control Self-Assessment
Reputational risk	Qualitative assessment
Strategic risk	MIRC and Board subcommittee created to assess the risks & opportunities





# Sustainability Report

## Sustainability: The cornerstone to drive our growth

### Evolving business landscape

2023 was a year of economic recovery, intertwined with pressing environmental and social challenges in Mauritius.

At Bank One, we do not view this as a dilemma but rather as an opportunity to drive innovation. Integrating Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) principles into our core strategy is not merely a responsible choice; it is a strategic investment in our sustainable future.

The evolving economic landscape presents exciting possibilities for ESG-focused businesses. The government's diversification towards green sectors opens doors for financial solutions, supporting renewable energy and ocean-based industries.

### ESG and financial performance

At Bank One, we have recognised the tangible benefits that the integration of ESG principles offers for our financial performance:

- **Enhanced risk management:** Proactively identifying and mitigating ESG risks associated with our portfolio strengthens our financial resilience.
- **Improved operational efficiency:** Embracing environmental best practices within our operations to gradually reduce energy consumption and waste, thereby lowering costs.
- **Fostering an inclusive and diverse workplace** attracts and retains top talent, thus boosting productivity and performance.
- **Brand differentiation and customer loyalty:** In a climate-conscious world, consumers increasingly choose brands aligned with their values. Demonstrating a commitment to ESG principles differentiates the Bank from competitors and attracts responsible investors and customers.

### ESG and social responsibility

Beyond financial benefits, embracing ESG allows the Bank to fulfil its responsibility to contribute to a better society. This involves proactive engagement in addressing social and environmental challenges. During the year under review, the Bank focused on the following areas:

- **Financial inclusion:** Bank One is committed to promoting financial literacy, which it regards as an important component of financial inclusion. It is working on innovative finance solutions in view of supporting SMEs and underserved communities, thus fostering economic growth and poverty reduction.
- **Climate action:** Through the ongoing implementation of its climate-related and environmental financial risk management framework, the Bank is actively identifying, assessing and monitoring the climate-related risks and opportunities that Bank One is likely to face.
- **Community engagement:** The Bank partners with local NGOs and development agencies to support various social causes, including education, healthcare and environmental conservation.

### Integrating ESG in core business

Moving forward, the Bank remains committed to continuously strengthening ESG integration across all facets of its business:

- **Robust ESG Governance Framework:** In 2023, Bank One formalised its 3-year ESG roadmap, including the development of governance frameworks, ensuring transparency, accountability and effective oversight of its sustainability efforts.
- **Deepened stakeholder engagement:** The Bank will engage with customers, employees, investors and regulators, to align its ESG strategy to meet their expectations.
- **Continuous assessment and refinement:** The Bank will continuously assess and refine its ESG metrics, making data-driven decisions to maximise our positive impact.

At Bank One, we believe ESG is not just a fad but rather a transformative force shaping the future of financial services. By actively embedding these principles into our core strategy, we contribute to a more sustainable Mauritius while securing our own long-term success.

### Shareholder involvement

The Bank's two shareholders, CIEL Finance Limited and I&M Group, play a vital role in shaping the Bank's commitment to sustainability. Their dedication to environmental and social responsibility is not simply a financial consideration but rather a core value embedded in their operations.

This shared vision resonates deeply with the Bank, translating into the very fabric of its long-term goals. It is not just about aligning with shareholder priorities; it is about actively engaging with a broader spectrum of stakeholders to build a truly sustainable future.

Bank One is transitioning from an era of simply listening to shareholder voices to actively incorporating stakeholder aspirations into its decision-making. This means open dialogue with customers, employees, NGOs and regulators, to understand their concerns and perspectives on ESG issues.

By creating collaborative platforms and fostering transparent communication, our teams leverage collective wisdom to build a responsible and successful Bank - one that not only delivers value to shareholders but also contributes meaningfully to the communities we serve.

### Our ESG Wheel (our 3-year journey)



Visualising the Bank's dedication to ESG, the circular model at the heart of its strategy spins on three pillars: Environment, Social and Governance. These interconnected segments reflect the Bank's unwavering commitment to a sustainable future.

# Sustainability Report

The emerald green quadrant embraces the “E” of Environment, nurturing sustainability within our very DNA. Digitalisation drives a leaner and greener operation while responsible resource management minimises our footprint.

The vibrant orange segment embodies the “S” of Social, illuminating the shared value we forge with our people, society and business. An engaged workforce, empowered by financial literacy, fuels our success. By embracing diversity and inclusion, we weave a tapestry of talents and perspectives that strengthen our community and ignite innovation.

The deep blue segment anchors the “G” of Governance, ensuring a firm foundation of trust and transparency. We prioritise climate and environmental resilience, safeguarding our operations for generations to come. Ethical conduct and unwavering compliance form the bedrock of our business, while open communication about our ESG journey builds bridges with stakeholders, fuelling collaborative progress.

This dynamic wheel exemplifies our holistic approach to ESG. Within each segment lies a world of potential and the connections between them create a powerful synergy. As we navigate the future, this model guides our steps, ensuring our financial success remains intertwined with the well-being of our planet and its people.

## Operationalising ESG at Bank One

### Sustainable finance

At Bank One, we recognise the evolving landscape of sustainable finance and its increasing significance to our clients and the future of our planet.

Sustainable finance will be crucial for a green and just transition of the economy. The Bank is committed to adapting and innovating to meet the evolving needs of this dynamic space.

### Operational footprint

Bank One recognises that its impact extends beyond the balance sheet. As a responsible financial institution, it is committed to minimising its environmental footprint and maximising its positive social impact. The Bank has adopted a proactive approach to tracking its operational footprint, with a view to better manage its resources and activities. To minimise its environmental footprint, the Bank is switching to energy-efficient LED lights and installing A/C timers to curb electricity consumption, its major source of carbon emissions. The Bank is also raising awareness amongst employees through campaigns and continuously monitoring usage to identify further reduction opportunities.

On the waste management front, the Bank responsibly disposes of and recycles paper, cardboard and electronic waste. Hybrid work models and a paperless approach are also being implemented to minimise waste generation.

These initiatives not only benefit the environment but also lead to cost savings for the Bank, creating a win-win situation for both the planet and the bottom line.

### Digitalisation

At Bank One, digitalisation is paving the way for a new era of banking, which is ever more customer focused and seamless.

### Engaged workforce

At the heart of our success is our engaged workforce. We foster a culture of ownership, empowerment and purpose, where voices are heard and contributions valued.

### Financial literacy

Empowering financial well-being is not just a service but rather a mission. We believe knowledge is the key to secure futures, so we prioritise financial literacy initiatives, equipping individuals with the tools and confidence to make informed decisions, build financial resilience and achieve their financial goals.

### Diversity and inclusion

Fostering a diverse and inclusive environment is not just a box to tick, it is the canvas where innovation thrives. At Bank One, we celebrate unique perspectives, champion equal opportunities and empower voices from every corner.

### Ethics and compliance

At the heart of our ESG commitment lies an unwavering dedication to ethical conduct and rigorous compliance.

A strong foundation of integrity not only mitigates risk and fosters good governance, it also fuels trust with stakeholders and empowers long-term success.

By upholding the highest ethical standards, we attract and retain responsible investors, ensure responsible resource allocation and ultimately contribute to a sustainable future for all.

### ESG communication

In the pursuit of a future we can bank on, transparency is of paramount importance.

Our commitment to sustainability thrives on open communication. Each year, we delve deeper into our annual reports, unveiling not just goals and metrics, but the very challenges we grapple with.

Through engaging digital platforms, we invite meaningful conversations that help shape our ESG journey.

## Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)

### Engagement through our Community Action Relief and Empowerment (CARE) Programme

In 2023, Bank One remained engaged towards its communities, through its Community Action Relief and Empowerment (CARE) programme.

The CARE framework aims at strengthening and maintaining long-term relationships with its communities, while providing opportunities to the Bank’s team members to participate in CSR activities focusing on financial inclusion, education and sustainable development.

Our Environmental and Social (E&S) Committee ensures the Bank’s implementation of CSR initiatives and ensures that staff volunteering is encouraged.

### Key CSR figures

- 7 CSR initiatives deployed.
- 2 joint initiatives with CIEL Foundation through the ACtTogether.mu social platform and The Ferney Valley Conservation Trust, respectively.
- +20 NGOs and over 150 beneficiaries impacted directly or indirectly through the Bank’s various CSR initiatives.



# Sustainability Report

## Education

### 1. École Père Henri Souchon

École Père Henri Souchon is a vocational primary school situated in the vicinity of Pointe aux Sables, supporting approximately 100 unprivileged children aged 7 to 17 and living within and outside the Pointe aux Sables region.

The school is administered by reputed NGO Oasis de Paix. The Bank brought the collaboration further in 2023, through a long-term programme destined to strengthen the NGO's staff capacity development in providing a state-of-the-art service to its beneficiaries.

One of the key initiatives was to improve their staff's skillset. To this end, the Bank supported a "Train the Trainer" programme, delivered by the Mauritius Institute of Training and Development (MITD) to 9 of its staffs. A formal certificate award ceremony was also organised by the Bank.



### 2. The Jean Blaise Learning Centre

The Bank's partnership with the Jean Blaise Learning Centre dates back to 2020. It is an evening school run by the NGO "Association des Frères Auxiliaires", situated at the heart of Jean Blaise in Pointe aux Sables.

Bank One has been supporting the NGO in its mission to empower some 50 kids aged 6 to 11, who are experiencing academic difficulties.

With a view to getting the kids to start their academic year in ideal conditions, the Bank donated academic books, school supplies, stationery and learning equipment as immediate support throughout this project.

Moreover, as part of the Learning Centre's operational support, it donated 2 full-fledged first aid kits and provided the NGO with funds to ensure all students have a tea and snack break before they start their classes.

Since the Covid-19 pandemic, the digital divide between the "haves" and the "have nots" has widened. To ensure that the Learning Centre had a state-of-the-art IT Corner, the Bank successfully set up an IT corner, which, going forward, will allow the kids from the Jean Blaise Learning Centre to have the appropriate IT infrastructure at their disposal to learn soft IT skills and access their online learning platform. Two brand new laptops and a multi-purpose printer and photocopier were donated to the Learning Centre, as part of the first phase of the IT corner set-up.



## Sustainable Development

### Support to Ferney Valley Conservation Trust

In partnership with the Ferney Valley Conservation Trust since 2021, the Bank remained supportive of the conservation trust, and ensured that conservation works continued to progress within the one-hectare of reforestation zone under the responsibility of the Bank.



## Financial Inclusion

### Collaboration with ACTogether.mu on PRO Workshop series

As part of its ongoing collaboration with ACTogether.mu since 2022 to promote capacity building in NGOs, Bank One hosted a PRO Workshop in its Corporate Office in Port Louis Waterfront and welcomed participants from 25 NGOs from across various sectors.

Moderated by Mr. Hurrysunny Bhunjun, a Bank One employee, a workshop on budget management was organised.

The Bank is looking forward to organising similar workshops which promote financial literacy and inclusion in 2024.



NGO participants and moderator, Mr. Hurrysunny Bhunjun, from Bank One, delivering a Budget Planning workshop as part of the PRO-Workshop series.



**Unwavering  
principles serve as  
our North Star.**



**AGYINDAWURU**  
Integrity

**CORPORATE  
GOVERNANCE**



# Corporate Profile

Established in 2008 through a strategic joint venture between CIEL Finance Limited, the financial arm of the Mauritian conglomerate CIEL Limited, and Kenya-based I&M Group PLC, Bank One Limited (referred to as “Bank One” or the “Bank”) stands as a distinctive player in the Mauritian banking sector.

The Bank boasts a unique position as one of the few local banks with a tangible presence in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). Bank One is solidified through I&M Group’s extensive reach across Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda and Uganda, and CIEL Group’s banking operations in Madagascar.

Guided by the vision of establishing itself as Africa’s preferred gateway, Bank One draws strength from a team of seasoned professionals with decades of combined expertise. This adept workforce excels in addressing the unique dynamics of both local and African markets, strategically expanding the Bank’s presence throughout the continent. Covering its main lines of business: International Banking, Private Banking & Wealth Management, Personal Financial Services, Corporate Banking, and Treasury Services, the Bank crafts bespoke products and services tailored for clients both onshore and offshore.

In line with an ambitious digital transformation, Bank One has embarked on key initiatives, including the successful launch of POP in 2021, the first universal digital payment solution in Mauritius, and a comprehensive revamping of its Internet Banking and Mobile Banking platforms. This ongoing digital evolution underscores its commitment to delivering innovative solutions, with several more milestones planned for the short to medium term.

Bank One has deep development finance institution relationships and long-term funding lines in place with the German Investment Corporation (DEG), the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and the French Development Agency (Proparco). Bank One has been rated ‘BB-’ with a Stable Outlook by Fitch Ratings in June 2023.

## Directors in office during the financial year ended 31 December 2023

Ms. Roselyne Renel	Independent Chairperson of the Board
Mr. Mark R. P. Watkinson	Executive Director
Mr. Lakshman Bheenick	Non-Executive Director
Mr. Jérôme de Chasteauneuf	Non-Executive Director
Ms. Gauri A. Gupta	Non-Executive Director
Mr. A. Christopher M. Low	Non-Executive Director; Resigned as director on 31.08.2023
Mr. C. Kihara Maina	Non-Executive Director; Appointed as director on 01.09.2023
Mr. Leonard C. Mususa	Independent Director
Mr. Ignacio Serrahima Arbestain	Independent Director
Mr. Marc A. J. Israel	Independent Director
Mr. Tchang Fa (Cyril) Wong Sun Thiong	Independent Director; Appointed as director on 01.08.2023

## Secretary to the Board and Board Committees

Ms. Kareen Ng Chit Wing ACG

Kareen is an associate member of the Chartered Governance Institute UK & Ireland. She also holds a BSc in Computer Science and Information Systems from the University of South Africa. With over 10 years’ of experience as Company Secretary serving a diverse range of companies, including some listed on both the official and DEM markets of the Stock Exchange of Mauritius, Kareen has a vast exposure working with Boards in the banking and financial services industry, automobile, shipping & logistics, food and hotel industries.

## Executive management team

Chief Executive Officer	Mr. Mark R. P. Watkinson
Chief Operations Officer	Mr. Eric Hautefeuille
Chief Financial Officer	Mr. Ranjeevesingh Gowreesunkur
Interim Chief Risk Officer	Ms. Normela Maunick
Acting Head of International Banking	Mr. Thavin Audit
Acting Head of Corporate Banking	Mr. Philippe Peritamby
Head of Private Banking and Wealth Management	Mr. Guillaume Passebecq
Head of Personal Financial Services	Mr. Bhavya Shah
Head of Treasury	Mr. Rishyraj Lutchman
Head of Regulatory Affairs	Mr. John Alfred (Kenny) Morton
Head of Legal	Ms. Valérie Duval
Head of Human Resources	Ms. Priscilla Mutty

# Corporate Governance

Bank One Limited (the “Bank” or “Bank One”) is a bank regulated by the Bank of Mauritius and the Financial Services Commission. It is also a public interest entity (“PIE”) as defined by the Financial Reporting Act 2004. Throughout the year ended 31 December 2023 to the best of the Board’s knowledge, the Bank has applied all of the principles set out in the National Code of Corporate Governance for Mauritius (2016) (the “Code”) and explained how these principles have been applied.

## Principle 1: Governance Structure

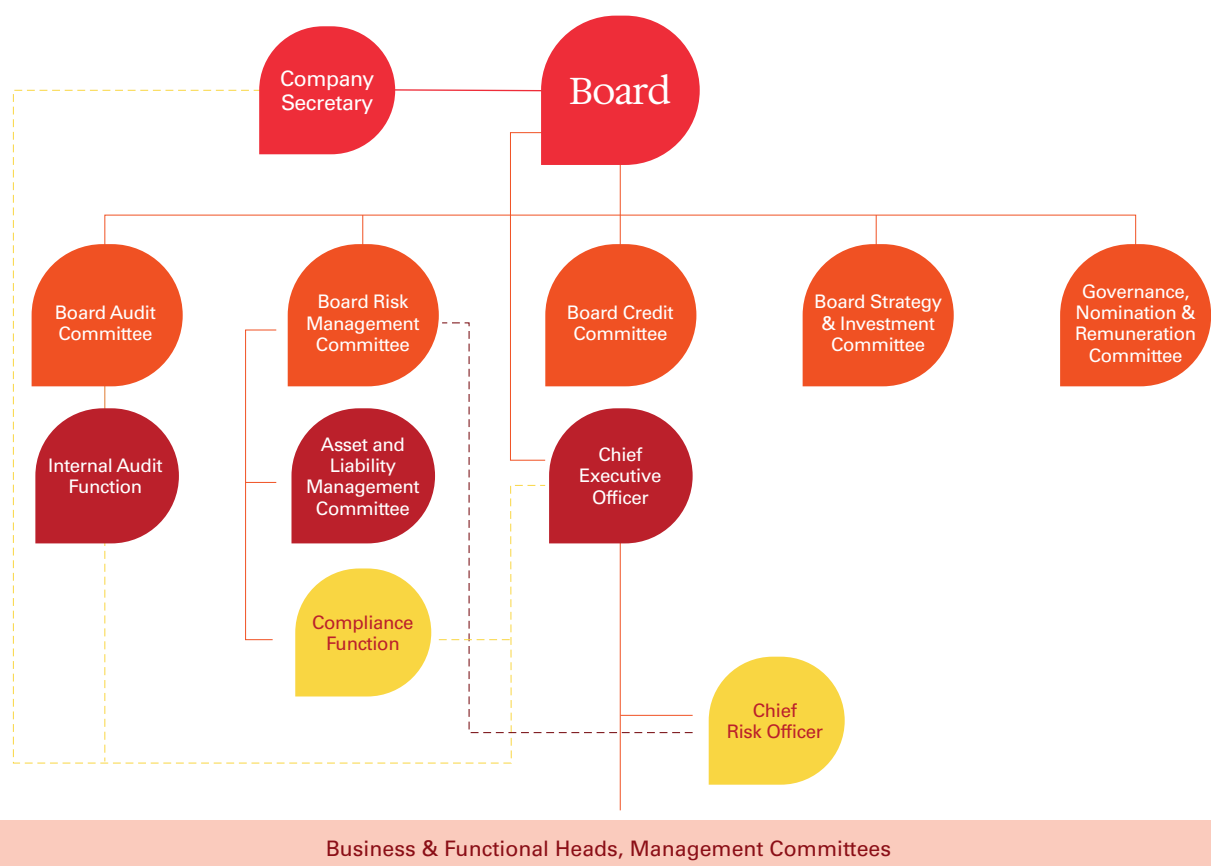
The Board of Directors is responsible for setting the strategic direction of the Bank and for leading, directing and supervising the management of the business in an ethical and responsible manner. It is also responsible for meeting all legal and regulatory requirements.

The Board is committed to upholding the highest standards of corporate governance and ethical conduct throughout the Bank’s operations, aiming to enhance shareholder value whilst considering the interests of other stakeholders at large. To achieve this, a robust governance framework has been established.

The discharge of the Board’s responsibilities involves a combination of direct involvement and delegation through board committees, for a more focused approach on specific areas. Such a structure ensures a comprehensive oversight of the Bank’s activities.

In the pursuit of effective governance, the day-to-day management and operations of the Bank’s business have been entrusted to the Chief Executive Officer, who is responsible for establishing a management structure that promotes accountability and transparency throughout the Bank, for the effective implementation of business strategies, risk management systems, risk culture, processes and controls.

### Governance Structure



## Board Charter

The Board Charter sets out the role, responsibilities, structure and processes of the Board and is complementary to the requirements of the legislations and regulations, the Bank’s constitution, the shareholders agreement. The Charter also sets out the committees which have been set up by the Board to assist it in the discharge of its responsibilities. The key senior governance positions are also defined therein, including their respective position statements.

The Board Charter along with the position statements for the key senior governance positions, and the Constitution of the Bank, is published in on the Bank’s website: <https://bankone.mu/en/directors/>

## Code of Ethics and Whistleblowing Policy

The Bank’s Code of Ethics and Whistleblowing Policy (the “Code”) lays out the values, standards of behavior and ethical practices expected in all the Bank’s dealings. It also provides the framework and guidance around whistleblowing, including the availability of an independent whistleblowing hotline, for employees to safely report illegal, unethical and fraudulent behaviors and malpractices without fear of reprisal. The Code is reviewed by the Board every 3 years. An earlier review is made in the event of any circumstances warranting same. The Governance, Nomination & Remuneration Committee has been delegated oversight responsibility on all matters relating to ethical standards within the Bank and reports to the Board thereon. The abridged version of the Code can be accessed on the Governance Section of the Bank’s website: <https://bankone.mu/en/corporate-governance/>.

## Principle 2: Structure of the Board and its Committees

Bank One is headed by a unitary board. Its Constitution provides that the Board of Directors shall consist of a minimum of 7 directors and a maximum of 10 directors. The Chairperson of the Board is an Independent Director and the role and functions of the Chairperson are separate from that of the CEO. In line with the shareholders’ agreement, the two shareholders are each entitled to appoint two representatives to represent them on the Board of Bank One. All directors submit themselves to re-election at the Annual Meeting of Shareholders (AMS).

The Governance, Nomination & Remuneration Committee regularly reviews the size, composition and skills set on the Board and ensures adequate succession of the directors. It also ensures the continued independence of the Bank’s independent directors as well as the continued fitness and probity of all the directors. The Board believes that, given the shareholding structure and size of the Bank, there is a right mix both in terms of the categories (Executive, Non-executive and Independent) and skills of its directors.

During the year under review, Mr. Kihara Maina was appointed as Non-Executive Director in replacement of Mr. Christopher Low who resigned from the Board. Mr. Cyril Wong was also appointed as Independent Director during the year under review.

The responsibilities of the Board of Directors are set out in its Board Charter which is reviewed on an annual basis by the Board. The responsibilities of the Board include, inter alia:

- Approving the objectives, strategies and business plans of the Bank;
- Retaining full and effective control over the Bank and being responsible for the appointment and monitoring of Management in its implementation of the Board’s approved plans and strategies;
- Ensuring that policies and systems in place are effective to achieve a prudential balance between risks and returns to shareholders;
- Ensuring compliance with laws and regulations, including risk management and corporate governance practices and disclosure requirements;
- Exercising leadership, enterprise, integrity and judgement in directing the Bank.



# Corporate Governance

## Board Committees

Five Board Committees, as set out below, have been set up by the Board to assist it in the discharge of its duties and responsibilities. The terms of reference of the Board Committees are reviewed on an annual basis to ensure that Board Committees are working within the remit of the laws, regulations and best practices and adequately focused to support the strategic direction of the Bank.

### Board Audit Committee (BAC)

Frequency of Meetings	At least every quarter
Main Terms of Reference	Assist the Board in fulfilling its responsibilities in relation to the oversight of the quality and integrity of financial reporting, risk management and internal control, statutory compliance and audit functions. The full terms of reference of the BAC can be accessed on the Governance Section of the Bank's website: <a href="https://bankone.mu/en/corporate-governance/">https://bankone.mu/en/corporate-governance/</a>
Membership	Mr. Leonard Mususa (Chairperson) Mr. Ignasi Serrahima Mr. Marc Israel Mr. Cyril Wong

### Board Risk Management Committee (BRMC)

Frequency of Meetings	At least every quarter
Main Terms of Reference	Advise the Board on the Bank's overall risk appetite, assess the level of the risks incurred against the Bank's risk appetite, oversee the senior management's implementation of the risk appetite framework, as well as necessary controls and mitigations, and assess and report on the state of the risk culture within the Bank. The full terms of reference of the BRMC can be accessed on the Governance Section of the Bank's website: <a href="https://bankone.mu/en/corporate-governance/">https://bankone.mu/en/corporate-governance/</a>
Membership	Mr. Lakshman Bheenick (Chairperson) Mr. Kihara Maina Mr. Leonard C. Mususa Mr. Mark Watkinson Ms. Roselyne Renel

### Board Credit Committee (BCC)

Frequency of Meetings	At least 6 times per annum
Main Terms of Reference	Provide guidance and recommendations on the Credit Risk Policy and the Credit Approval Framework and consider and decide on loans applications beyond the discretionary limits of the Management in line with the Credit Risk Policy. The BCC is also responsible to direct, monitor, review and consider all issues that may materially impact on the present and future quality of the Bank's credit risk management. The full terms of reference of the BCC can be accessed on the Governance Section of the Bank's website: <a href="https://bankone.mu/en/corporate-governance/">https://bankone.mu/en/corporate-governance/</a>
Membership	Ms. Gauri A. Gupta (Chairperson) Mr. Lakshman Bheenick Ms. Roselyne Renel

### Board Strategy & Investment Committee (BSIC)

Frequency of Meetings	At least every quarter
Main Terms of Reference	Assist the Board in validating and monitoring the implementation of the Bank's strategic projects and the required investment to achieve its strategic objectives. The full terms of reference of the BSIC can be accessed on the Governance Section of the Bank's website: <a href="https://bankone.mu/en/corporate-governance/">https://bankone.mu/en/corporate-governance/</a>
Membership	Mr. Lakshman Bheenick (Chairperson) Mr. Kihara Maina Mr. Ignasi Serrahima Mr. Mark Watkinson Ms. Roselyne Renel Mr. Marc Israel

### Governance, Nomination & Remuneration Committee (GNRC)

Frequency of Meetings	At least twice per annum
Main Terms of Reference	Oversee the governance framework of the Bank, approve and recommend to the Board, nominations and remuneration of directors and senior management, and oversee the execution of the HR strategy for the Bank. The full terms of reference of the GNRC can be accessed on the Governance Section of the Bank's website: <a href="https://bankone.mu/en/corporate-governance/">https://bankone.mu/en/corporate-governance/</a>
Membership	Ms. Gauri A. Gupta (Chairperson) Mr. Lakshman Bheenick Mr. Ignasi Serrahima Ms. Roselyne Renel

## Principle 3: Director Appointment Procedures

### Board Succession Planning

The Board, in consultation with the shareholders, is responsible for the succession planning and the appointment of new directors to the Board. A Board Succession Policy, which defines the guiding principles for a planned and orderly succession of directors and for filling any unplanned vacancy on the Board, has been put in place to guide the Board around any recruitment of candidates to the Board. The succession planning of the directors is reviewed on an annual basis by the Governance, Nomination and Remuneration Committee.

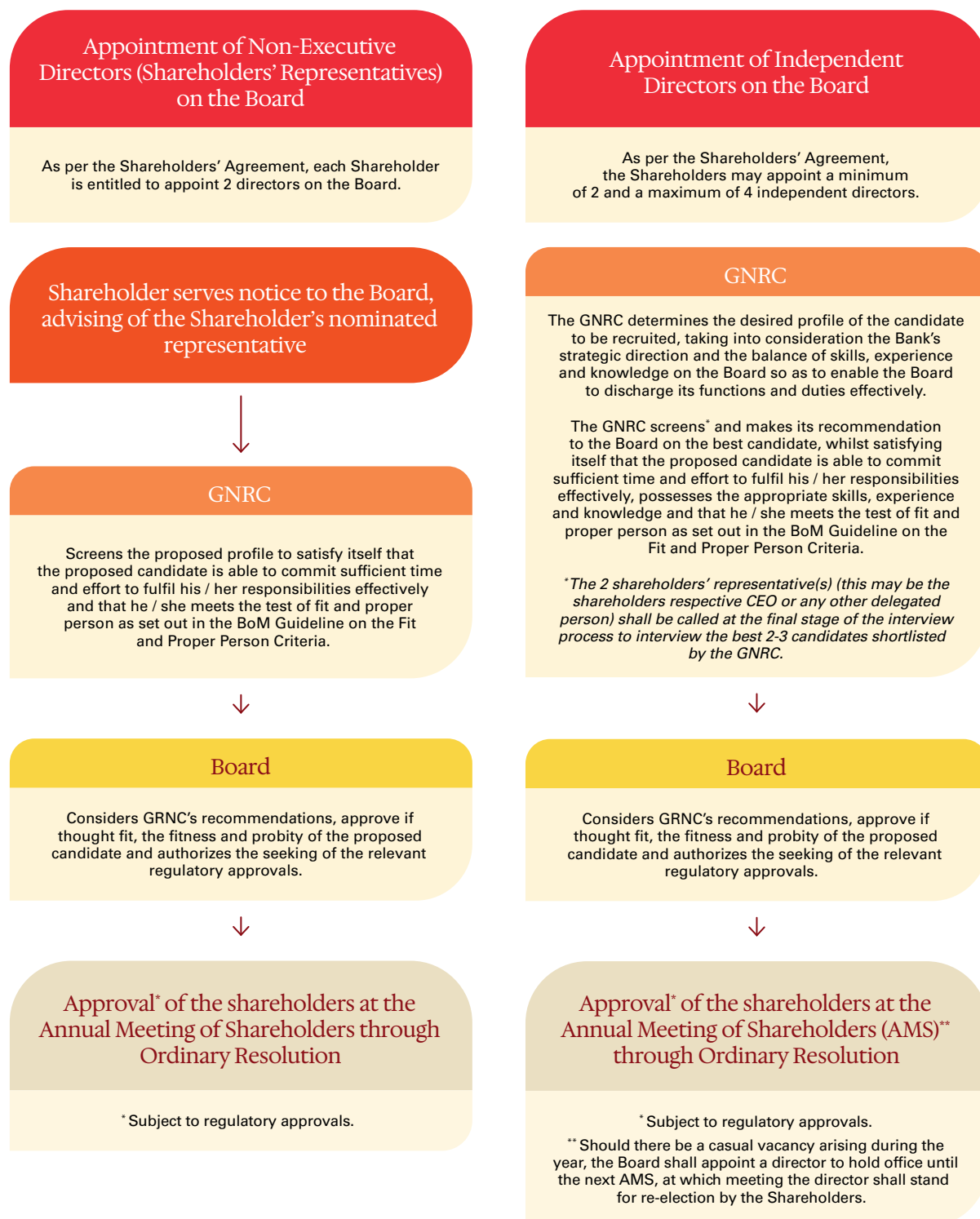
The Board uses a Board Skills Matrix to help it in identifying the competencies and skills desired by the Board as a whole to fulfil its role. The matrix is tailored to the unique circumstances and requirements of the Bank in terms of size, business maturity and competencies that the Board would require in light of the Bank's strategic direction. The Board Skills Matrix is reviewed every two years or whenever there is a change in board membership, whichever the earlier.

The Board Skills Matrix is used as a tool in the succession planning process, where the Matrix allows for an easy identification of any gaps in skills and competencies that may be created by the forthcoming retirement of a director(s). It is therefore used as a guidance in the search for a Board member who will best complement the current mix of capability on the Board and to identify any skills gap may be bridged through training and upskilling.

# Corporate Governance

## Nomination & Appointment Process

The directors' nomination and appointment process is guided by the legal and regulatory requirements and the Bank's constitution and shareholders' agreement, and is as follows:



## Board Induction, Training & Development

The Board ensures that new directors receive a proper induction so that they are familiarized, as soon as possible, with the Bank's operations, senior management, business environment and corporate strategy, as well as their fiduciary duties and responsibilities as directors. Directors' induction is run by the Company Secretary, whereby new directors receive a comprehensive pack, containing a brief presentation on the affairs of the Bank, the governance structure and conduct of meetings, the director's duties and responsibilities, the Bank's Constitution and bylaws, the minutes of the last Board meeting, and such other useful documents. The Company Secretary also arranges for one-to-one meetings between the incoming director with the Board Chairperson, the Company Secretary, the CEO and with the Executive Management where the new Board member is briefed on the affairs of the Bank. Visits of some branches and the critical departments of the Bank are also arranged as part of the induction process.

Continuous training is essential to cope with the constant changes in the business environment. While directors have a duty to keep up to date with industry, legal and regulatory developments, it is also the responsibility of the Board to provide them with adequate training and development. In this respect, a training calendar is set on a yearly basis, taking into consideration the training needs of the directors and evolution in the banking business environment as well as the broader macroeconomic landscape.

## Principle 4: Director duties, remuneration and performance

Directors are made aware of their legal duties upon their appointment and during the induction process and are reminded of same annually. Directors are guided by the relevant legislations, board charter, constitution, Code of Ethics and bank policies, including the Conflicts of Interests Policy and Related Party Transactions Policy.

## Conflicts of Interests & Related Party Transactions

Transactions with related parties are guided by the Conflicts of Interests and Related Party Transactions Policies, as well as the Code of Ethics. Any related party transaction by directors and senior officers of the Bank are approved by the Board, which ensures that all such transactions are in line with market terms and conditions. A register of related party transactions is maintained by the Bank.

## Information Governance

The Bank's overall strategic direction, relating to information governance, information technology and security and related expenditures, is overseen by the Board Strategy and Investment Committee (BSIC). Refer to the Transformation & Digitalisation Section for further details.

The Board has, through its Board Risk Management Committee, approved a comprehensive Information Security Policy, which in itself contains sub-policies on data protection (Mauritius Data Protection Act and EU General Data Protection Regulation), internet banking, mobile banking, among others, as well as sub-policies directed at end-users and technical teams. Such policies are reviewed on an annual basis. Operational security-related matters are reported to, and considered at, the Management Integrated Risk Committee. Any risks areas are escalated to the Board Risk Management Committee for further discussion and mitigation.

## Board Effectiveness Review

In line with the National Code of Corporate Governance (2016) and the BoM guideline on corporate governance, the Board has established a mechanism to review the effectiveness of the Board as a whole as well as that of its sub committees through a self-assessment questionnaire. The process also includes the Board's assessment of the performance of the Chairperson of the Board, a peer-to-peer evaluation as well as an assessment of the performance of the Company Secretary. The Board Effectiveness Review is carried out on a yearly basis and the results, along with an action plan on areas to be improved, are compiled and presented to the Board thereafter.

The Board agreed that an independent review of the effectiveness of the Board was not warranted during the year given that it had mandated an independent governance review of the Bank with a view to enhancing governance processes and adopting best practices. An action plan was put forward and is now being tracked for execution and embedment.



# Corporate Governance

## Remuneration

Directors’ and senior executives’ remuneration are dealt with by the Governance, Nomination & Remuneration Committee and approved by the Board of Directors. Independent and non-executive directors are remunerated in the form of a yearly retainer fee. An attendance fee is also paid for each meeting sitting. Such remuneration is commensurate with the size and complexity of the business, as well as the workload and responsibilities involved. The remuneration of non-executive directors is not linked to organisational performance.

The CEO is not remunerated for serving on the Board and Board Committees. In addition to his monthly salary, the CEO is entitled to an annual performance bonus based on the financial results of the Bank, as well as on his individual contribution thereto. He is also entitled to a long-term incentive, which is based on the Bank’s KPI results over the tenure of his employment contract.

Employees’ remuneration is composed of a basic pay and a performance bonus, the main objective of which is to improve productivity by rewarding the staff for meeting and exceeding business goals, whilst operating in a cost effective and efficient manner within the risk culture of the Bank. A long-term incentive scheme is also in place for key management personnel – payments under such a scheme are over a period of three years with a view to retain high performers whilst ensuring a claw back mechanism.

## Directors’ attendance and remuneration

Directors	Status	Board	BAC	GNRC	BRMC	BSIC	BCC	Total Remuneration FY 2023 (Rs)
Roselyne Renel	IC	6/6		5/5	5/5	4/5	6/6	1,726,316
Mark Watkinson <sup>1</sup>	ED	6/6			5/5	5/5		34,003,864
Gauri Gupta	NED	6/6		5/5			6/6	1,142,400
Chris Low <sup>2</sup>	NED	3/6			3/5	2/5		492,395
Lakshman Bheenick <sup>4</sup>	NED	6/6		5/5	5/5	5/5	6/6	1,980,000
Jerome de Chasteauneuf <sup>4</sup>	NED	6/6						480,000
Kihara Maina <sup>2</sup>	NED	3/6			2/5	3/5		442,000
Leonard Mususa	ID	6/6	4/4		4/5			1,091,944
Ignacio Serrahima Arbestain	ID	6/6	4/4	4/5		4/5		1,156,544
Marc Israel	ID	5/6	4/4			5/5		901,000
Cyril Wong <sup>3</sup>	ID	3/6	2/4					433,500
								43,849,963

IC - Independent Chairperson   ED - Executive Director   NED - Non-Executive Director   ID - Independent Director

- Other than through his remuneration for serving as CEO, the latter is not paid an additional remuneration for serving on the Board of Directors.
- Mr. Kihara Maina was appointed as Non-Executive Director and member of the BRMC and BSIC on 01 September 2023 in the stead of Mr. Chris Low who resigned from the Board on 31 August 2023.
- Mr. Cyril Wong was appointed as Independent Director and member of the BAC on 01 August 2023.
- Director fees for Mr. Lakshman Bheenick and Mr. Jerome de Chasteauneuf are paid to CIEL Finance Ltd.

## Principle 5: Risk governance and internal control

The Board is responsible for maintaining a robust risk management and internal control system. It ensures the necessary framework, processes and systems are in place to identify, measure, monitor and mitigate risks within the overall strategic direction of the Bank. The oversight of the Bank’s risk management system has been delegated to the Board Risk Management Committee (BRMC). The Chairperson of the BRMC reports to the Board, at each Board Meeting, on matters dealt with at the Committee level to provide the Board with the necessary assurance that risks are effectively managed.

The BRMC reviews and approves, on an annual basis, the Bank’s risk appetite, including key metrics and targets, which are then monitored by the risk department and reported back to the BRMC on a quarterly basis. Notwithstanding the quarterly reporting, an escalation matrix ensures timely reporting of risk events at various levels, depending on the severity of such events. The risk culture implementation is driven by the CEO, with regular progress updates being presented to the BRMC

The Board has also approved the Bank’s risk policies and guidelines, and management has been delegated the responsibility of the effective execution of the same through the implementation of appropriate procedures, to ensure that all risks are mitigated to an acceptable level, taking into consideration the Bank’s risk appetite, objectives and strategies, as approved by the Board. Compliance to internally established policies and procedures, as well as with laws, regulations and codes in order to protect the Bank’s assets and reputation, are also monitored and reported to the BRMC on a quarterly basis.

To further strengthen the risk management framework, the Board has also put in place a risk control self-assessment process, the implementation of which has been delegated to the operational risk unit.

Moreover, the Bank’s internal control framework ensures the reliability of financial reporting, operations and systems. The Board is assisted in its responsibilities in this regard by the Board Audit Committee, which ensures that processes are in place to monitor the effectiveness of internal controls. In carrying out its duties, the committee receives regular reports from internal audit. The committee also meets with the Head of Internal Audit and the External Auditors on a quarterly basis and without management being present, to ensure that there are no unresolved material issues of concern.

The risk management section of this Annual Report, provides additional information on the risk management framework and risks that the Bank is exposed to.

## Principle 6: Reporting with integrity

The Board of Directors is responsible for the preparation of an Annual Report, including financial statements, in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. Financial statements are also prepared in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards.

Directors’ responsibilities in respect of the preparation of financial statements are disclosed in the statement of directors’ responsibilities section of this Annual Report. The full Annual Report is available on the Bank’s website: <https://bankone.mu/en/financial-information/>

Information regarding the Bank’s financial, environmental, social and performance outlook are included in the Performance and Strategy sections of this annual report.

## Principle 7: Audit

### Internal Audit

Bank One’s Internal Audit function is established as an independent and objective assurance and consulting activity, designed to add value and improve Bank One’s operations. It helps the Bank to accomplish its objectives by bringing a systematic, disciplined approach to the evaluation and improvement of risk management, control and governance processes.

In line with the Banking Act 2004 requirements, Bank One’s Internal Audit functionally reports to the Board Audit Committee (BAC). The Head of Internal Audit is a standing invitee to all BAC meetings, as well as the Board Risk Management Committee meetings. He has unrestricted access to the BAC’s Chairperson and members and regularly meets with the BAC, without the presence of Management.

The department’s internal audit plan is approved annually by the BAC, and progress is reviewed on a quarterly basis. The Internal Audit team is granted unrestricted access to all the records of the Bank, its management, and employees.

# Corporate Governance

## Internal Audit (cont)

Bank One's Internal Audit Methodology has been designed to align to the Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing, as prescribed by the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA), while catering for a more agile audit approach to allow for ad-hoc requests by the Board and Management.

The department delivers on assurance and consulting activities in a risk-based approach, aligned to laws, regulations, and the Bank's strategic objectives. The Head of Internal Audit and senior members of the audit team are standing invitees on various management committees to aid the Bank in the timely identification of risk.

Internal Audit tracks and reports on the timelines and effectiveness of the implementation of audit recommendations.

During the year, Internal Audit has covered key risk areas within the Bank on a risk-based approach and which were further derived from its annual planning methodology.

More information on the Bank's Internal Audit function can be found on the Bank's website under: <https://bankone.mu/en/internal-audit/>

## External Audit

Upon the recommendation of the Board Audit Committee ("BAC"), Deloitte was appointed as the Bank's external auditors in 2019 following a tender exercise made around end of 2018. Four audit firms were invited to submit their proposals to the Bank and were also invited to make a presentation to the BAC. Tenderers were assessed based on their profiles, the quality of the proposed audit team and their banking experience, the audit and quality assurance approach, amongst others.

External auditors report on a quarterly basis to the BAC on the quarterly financial statements, and at year end on the yearly audited financial results of the Bank. The BAC also regularly meets with External Auditors, without management being present.

## The Board Audit Committee

All of the BAC members are well versed in financial matters, with the Chairperson holding extensive experience in the financial field, including over 35 years' experience within PwC, of which 14 years were spent serving as a Country Senior Partner with PwCTanzania.

During the year under review, the BAC reviewed internal audit reports on assignments carried out as per the approved internal audit plan and discussed the key findings. The audited results and quarterly financial results were also looked into by the Committee. No significant issues arose in relation to the financial statements.

The BAC ensures that both Internal and External Auditors' independence and objectivity are maintained. With regards to External Auditors, any non-audit services provided by Deloitte are subject to the approval of the BAC, which evaluates the terms of the engagement, the progress of execution and the reporting of such services. Non-audit services provided by Deloitte during the year pertained to assistance regarding dividend declaration assessment, AML CFT review and tax advisory services.

*The fees paid/payable to Deloitte for audit and other services are detailed in the other statutory disclosures section of this Annual Report.*

## Principle 8: Relationships with shareholders and other key stakeholders

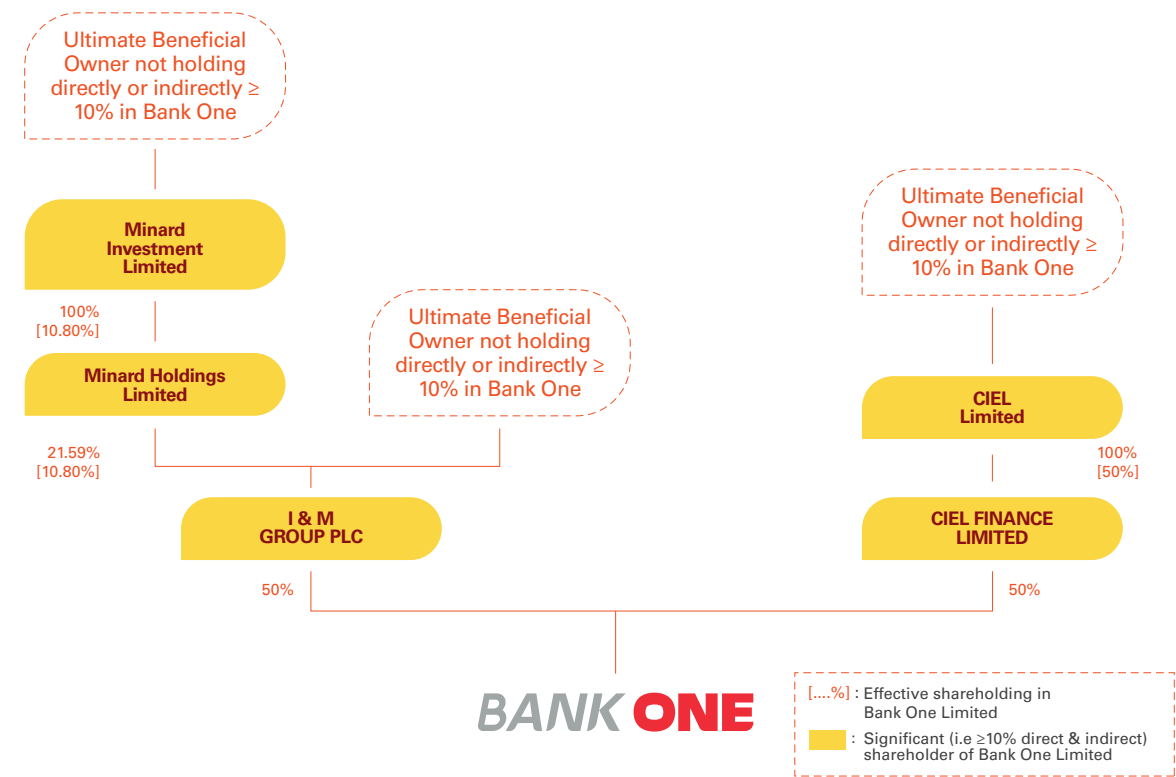
<div>Shareholders</div> <div>Each shareholder has two representatives sitting on the Board of the Bank. The Bank also engages with the shareholders on a regular basis to keep them apprised on the affairs of the Bank and progress against the set KPIs. Given the shareholding structure and close and frequent communication with the two shareholder groups, written resolutions of the shareholders are passed in lieu of holding an Annual General Meeting.</div>	<div>Financial Partners</div> <div>Communication is usually around the Bank's financial performance and compliance with the terms and conditions set out by the financial partners which the Bank's strives to comply to at all times.</div>	<div>Regulators</div> <div>The Bank, by nature of its activities, is a highly regulated entity. Bank One Limited strives to comply with all regulatory provisions and guidelines in the conduct of its activities.</div>
<div>Government Agencies &amp; Authorities</div> <div>The Bank builds and maintains close relationships with this stakeholder group through ongoing and consistent communication to ensure credible and effective relations are maintained, ensuring a connected approach which boosts trust and commitment.</div>	<div>Employees</div> <div>Townhalls were organized for information sharing. Work from home and flexible working arrangements are now well established in the Bank One culture.  A Culture Transformation initiative is currently in progress.</div>	<div>Customers</div> <div>In addition to regular customer satisfaction surveys, each line of business regularly holds forums with their clients, whether in the form of investors' circles, breakfast meetings, etc.</div>
<div>Suppliers</div> <div>The Bank engages with third party suppliers to support its business offerings and operations by leveraging on skills and expertise not available internally. Third party risks are managed by the procurement and supplier risk management policy which sets forth the principles and governance structure on which the Bank operates on.</div>	<div>Community</div> <div>Bank One remained engaged in Pointe aux Sables in Port Louis in 2023 through its community action by supporting its longstanding NGO partners, The Ecole Pere Henri Souchon School, and the Jean Blaise Learning Centre respectively. The Bank's objective has remained unchanged which is to promote education as a means in advancing economic development to alleviate poverty in this region.</div>	<div>Media</div> <div>The Bank continues to establish and nurture a strong relationship with the local media whilst developing good media relations in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) for its future strategic plans. It also leverages on CIEL and I&amp;M Group Communications support and their partner networks as and when required.</div>



# Corporate Governance

## Shareholding structure and shareholders

Bank One Limited’s share capital stood at MUR 1,456,456,000, represented by 14,564,560 ordinary shares of no par value, held equally between CIEL Finance Limited and I&M Group PLC. The shareholding structure is illustrated below:



## CIEL Finance Limited

5<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR, EBÈNE SKIES, RUE DE L'INSTITUT, EBÈNE, MAURITIUS

CIEL Finance is the financial services cluster of CIEL, actively involved in 2 sub-sectors, namely banking and fiduciary services.

With a strategic presence in Sub-Saharan Africa and positioning itself within the financial hub of the Indian Ocean, CIEL Finance supports its regional development while promoting synergies across financial operators.

CIEL is an international Mauritian Group, listed on the Stock Exchange of Mauritius and on the SEM Sustainability Index. The Group invests and operates in 6 strategic sectors, namely Agriculture, Finance, Healthcare, Hospitality, Property and Textile. Founded in 1912, CIEL is today present in more than 10 countries across Africa and Asia and employs 37,500 talented individuals. With a market capitalisation of about MUR 11Bn and a consolidated turnover of MUR 35.4Bn for the 12 months’ period ended 30 June 2023, CIEL’s portfolio was valued at MUR 21.3Bn and the group total assets at MUR 98.1Bn as at 30 June 2023.

## I&M Group PLC

1 PARK AVENUE, 1<sup>ST</sup> PARKLANDS AVENUE, NAIROBI, KENYA

I&M Group PLC is a non-operating holding company listed on the Nairobi Securities Exchange (NSE) and is the parent entity of the I&M banking and non-banking subsidiaries in the region. I&M Group has interests in Banking and Financial services, Insurance, Property and Real Estate, through its subsidiaries, joint venture and associates. It is regulated by the Capital Markets Authority, the Central Bank of Kenya as a non-operating holding company, and the Nairobi Securities Exchange. Following a major corporate restructuring in 2013-2014, I&M Group Plc became the parent company of all I&M banking entities in the region.

I&M Group PLC operates in five countries: Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, Uganda and Mauritius. As at September 2023, its total assets were approximately USD 3.7 billion. As at December 2023, it had a branch network of 89 branches and a staff complement of over 2,700 spread across the five countries. Based on the share price as at November 2023, the company’s market capitalisation was approximately USD195M. I&M Bank Limited Kenya, founded in 1974 is a wholly owned subsidiary of I&M Group PLC and the flagship entity of I&M Bank group.

With a rich history spanning over 50 years and offering a full range of personal, business, alternative banking products and adoption of digital technologies, I&M Bank is a dominant player in the East African banking industry.

**Roselyne Renel**

Chairperson of the Board

22 March 2024

**Kareen Ng**

Company secretary

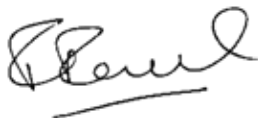
# Statement of compliance

(Section 75 (3) of the Financial Reporting Act)

**Name of PIE:** Bank One Limited

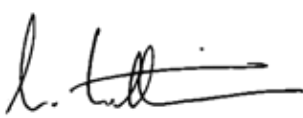
**Reporting Period:** Financial year ended December 2023

We, the Directors of Bank One Limited, confirm that, to the best of our knowledge, the Bank has complied with all of its obligations and requirements under the National Code of Corporate Governance for Mauritius (2016), in all material aspects.



**Roselyne Renel**  
Chairperson of the Board

22 March 2024



**Mark Watkinson**  
Chief Executive Officer

# Other statutory disclosures

Under section 221 of the Companies Act 2001

## Directors in office as at 31 December 2023

Refer to page 94.

## Directors’ fixed-term service contracts

Mark Watkinson’s fixed-term employment contract has been renewed till August 2024. It contains no material clause for compensation on termination of contract.

## Directors’ and Officers’ Liability Insurance

A Directors’ and Officers’ Liability Insurance Policy has been subscribed to by the Bank.

## Fees payable to Deloitte

Type	Description	Fees FY 2023 (MUR)
Audit fees	Yearly, half-yearly and quarterly statutory audits / reviews	6,639,325
Other fees	Tax advisory	149,500
	Dividend declaration assessment	172,500
	AML CFT	862,500

## Interests Register

In accordance with section 271 of the Companies Act 2001, the shareholders have, through a written resolution of shareholders dated 07 December 2017, dispensed the Bank from the requirement to keep an interests register. Any disclosures required under the Companies Act 2001 and section 48(6) of the Banking Act 2004 are disclosed to the Board and recorded in the minutes of proceedings of the relevant Board meeting.

## Charitable donations and political funding

Apart from contribution to CSR projects as detailed in the Corporate Sustainability Report, no political funding or other charitable donations were made during the year under review.

## Major transactions

The Bank did not enter into any major transaction during the year under review.



## Company Secretary's certificate

In my capacity as Company Secretary, I confirm that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the Bank has filed with the Registrar of Companies, in respect of the financial year ended 31 December 2023, all such returns as are required under the Mauritius Companies Act 2001, in terms of section 166(d).



**Kareen Ng, ACIS**

Company Secretary

22 March 2024

## Statement of directors' responsibilities in respect of financial statements

The directors are responsible for the preparation of financial statements, which give a true and fair view of the financial position, financial performance and cash flows of the Bank, and which comply with the Mauritius Companies Act 2001, the Banking Act 2004, the Financial Reporting Act 2004 and the International Financial Reporting Standards.

In preparing those financial statements, the directors are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether International Financial Reporting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Bank will continue in business.

The directors are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Bank and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The directors confirm that they have complied with the above requirements in preparing the Annual Report and financial statements. The Board acknowledges its responsibility for ensuring the preparation of the financial statements, in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards and the responsibility of external auditors to report on these financial statements. The Board also acknowledges its responsibility to ensure the maintenance of adequate accounting records and an effective system of internal controls and risk management.


Approved by the Board of Directors on 22 March 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



**Roselyne Renel**  
Independent Chairperson



**Tchang Fa Wong  
Sun Thiong**  
Member of the Board Audit  
Committee



**Mark Watkinson**  
Chief Executive Officer

# Statement of management’s responsibilities in respect of financial statements

The Bank’s financial statements, presented in this Annual Report, have been prepared by management, who is responsible for their integrity, consistency, objectivity and reliability. International Accounting Standards/International Financial Reporting Standards as well as the requirements of the Banking Act 2004 and the guidelines issued thereunder, have been applied. Management has exercised its judgement and made the best estimates where deemed necessary.

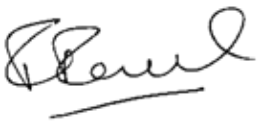
The Bank has designed and maintained its accounting systems, related internal controls and supporting procedures, to provide reasonable assurance that financial records are complete and accurate, and that assets are safeguarded against loss from unauthorized use or disposal. These supporting procedures include careful selection and training of qualified staff, the implementation of organisational and governance structures providing a well-defined division of responsibilities, authorization levels and accountability for performance, and the communication of the Bank’s policies, procedures manuals and guidelines of the Bank of Mauritius throughout the Bank.

The Bank’s Board of Directors, acting in part through the Board Audit Committee and the Board Risk Management Committee, oversees management’s responsibility for financial reporting, internal controls, assessment and control of major risk areas, and assessment of significant and related party transactions.

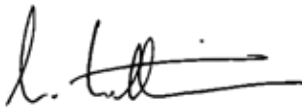
The Bank’s Internal Auditor, who has full and free access to the Audit Committee, conducts a well-designed programme of internal audits in coordination with the Bank’s External Auditors. In addition, the Bank’s compliance function maintains policies, procedures and programmes directed at ensuring compliance with regulatory requirements.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Banking Act 2004, the Bank of Mauritius makes such examination and inquiry into the operations and affairs of the Bank as it deems necessary.

The Bank’s External Auditor, Deloitte, has full and free access to the Board of Directors and its committees, to discuss the audit and matters arising therefrom, such as their observations on the fairness of financial reporting and the adequacy of internal controls.



**Roselyne Renel**  
Chairperson of the Board of Directors

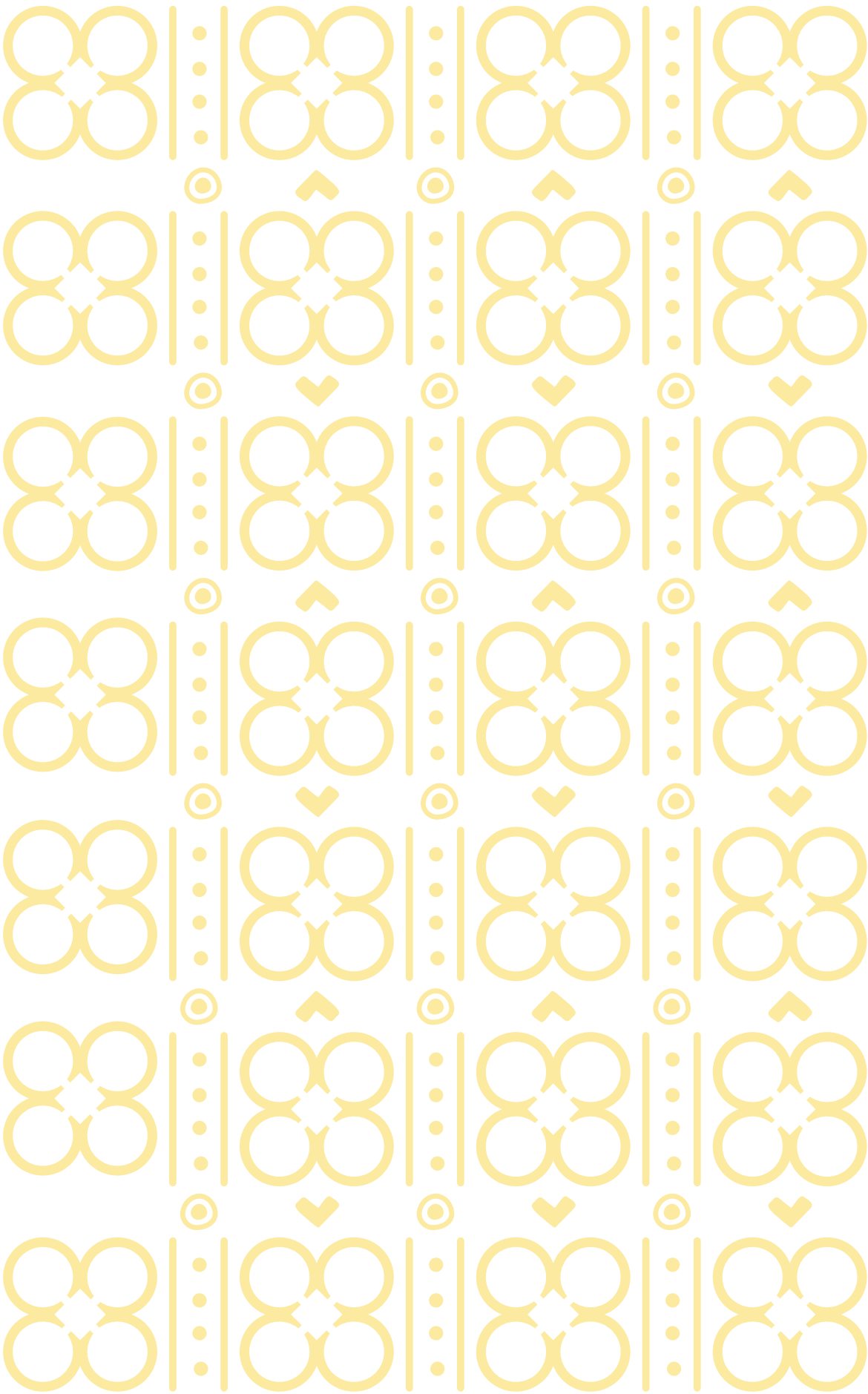


**Mark Watkinson**  
Chief Executive Officer



**Tchang Fa Wong Sun Thiong**  
Member of the Board Audit Committee

22 March 2024







**Respect and fairness at  
the core of our results.**

**FINANCIAL  
STATEMENTS**



**AKOMA NTOASO**  
Respect



# Independent Auditor’s Report

to the shareholders of Bank One Limited

## Report on the audit of the financial statements

### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of **Bank One Limited** (the “Bank” and the “Public Interest Entity”) set out on pages 120 to 123, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2023, and the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of material accounting policy information.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Bank as at 31 December 2023, and of its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs), and comply with the requirements of the Mauritius Companies Act 2001, the Financial Reporting Act 2004 and the Banking Act 2004.

### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those Standards are further described in the Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Bank in accordance with the International Ethics Standard Board for Accountants’ International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including International Independence Standards) (the “IESBA Code”), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the IESBA Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

# Independent Auditor’s Report

to the shareholders of Bank One Limited

### Key audit matters

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgement, were of most significance in our audit of the financial statements of the current period. These matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the financial statements as a whole, and in forming our opinion thereon, and we do not provide a separate opinion on these matters.

Key audit matter	How our audit addressed by the key audit matter
<p><b>Provision for expected credit losses</b></p> <p>Management determines the allowances for expected credit losses (‘ECL’) on financial instruments as required under IFRS 9 Financial Instruments. The key areas where we identified significant management judgements and estimates in the application of IFRS 9 are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Model estimations – Statistical modelling is used to estimate ECLs which involves determining Probabilities of Default (‘PD’), Loss Given Default (‘LGD’), and Exposures at Default (‘EAD’). The PD and LGD models are the key drivers of the ECL results and are therefore critical in the ECL modelling approach.</li><li>• Macro-Economic Forecasts – IFRS 9 requires the measurement of ECL on a forward-looking basis using the most appropriate macro-economic forecasts.</li><li>• Significant Increase in Credit Risk (‘SICR’) – Determining and identifying SICR involves a higher level of judgement, especially where facilities have maturity of greater than 12 months.</li><li>• Qualitative adjustments - Adjustments to the model-driven ECL results are raised by management to address known impairment model limitations or emerging trends. Such adjustments are inherently uncertain which involve significant management judgement.</li></ul> <p>For impaired credits, the most significant judgements are whether impairment events have occurred and the valuation of any underlying collaterals, along with the determination of the corresponding PD and LGD.</p> <p>Due to the significance of the judgements and estimated involved in the overall determination of the allowances for ECL, this item is considered as a key audit matter.</p> <p>The details of the policies and processes for the determination of the allowances for ECL are disclosed in Note 1.2 (g) to the financial statements.</p>	<p>Our procedures included the following amongst others:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Involving our specialist team to validate the IFRS 9 model, including:</li><li>• Evaluating the appropriateness of the impairment methodologies applied by the Bank against the requirements of IFRS 9;</li><li>• Assessing the appropriateness of macro-economic forecasts used; and</li><li>• Independently assessing assumptions underlying the PD, LGD and EAD.</li><li>• Testing the completeness and accuracy of data used for ECL calculation through sample testing;</li><li>• Reviewing the criteria for staging of credit exposures and ensure these are in line with the requirements of IFRS 9.</li><li>• Inspecting the minutes of the Risk Management and Credit Risk Committee to ensure that there are governance controls in place in relation to the assessment of the allowances for ECL;</li></ul> <p>For impaired credits, we have further:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Performed a risk-based test of loans and advances to customers to ensure timely identification of impaired loans to ensure appropriate and adequate allowances for ECL; and</li><li>• Performed substantive tests of details on Stage 3 provisioning including validation of valuation of collateral securities and future cash flows.</li></ul>



# Independent Auditor’s Report

to the shareholders of Bank One Limited

### Other information

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the sections on the Overview, Leadership, Performance, Strategy and Corporate Governance Report, Statement of compliance, Other statutory disclosures, Company Secretary’s certificate, Statement of directors’ responsibilities in respect of financial statements and Statement of management’s responsibilities in respect of financial statements. The other information does not include the financial statements and our auditor’s report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance or conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

### Responsibilities of directors for the financial statements

The directors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards, and in compliance with the requirements of the Mauritius Companies Act 2001, the Banking Act 2004, and the Financial Reporting Act 2004 and they are also responsible for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the Bank’s ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Bank or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The directors are responsible for overseeing the Bank’s financial reporting process.

### Auditor’s responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor’s report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Bank’s internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors’ use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Bank’s ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor’s report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor’s report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Bank to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

# Independent Auditor’s Report

to the shareholders of Bank One Limited

### Report on other legal and regulatory requirements

#### Mauritius Companies Act 2001

In accordance with the requirements of the Mauritius Companies Act 2001, we report as follows:

- we have no relationship with, or interest in, the Bank other than in our capacity as auditor and tax advisor;
- we have obtained all information and explanations that we have required; and
- in our opinion, proper accounting records have been kept by the Bank as far as appears from our examination of those records.

#### Financial Reporting Act 2004

##### Corporate Governance Report

Our responsibility under the Financial Reporting Act 2004 is to report on the compliance with the Code of Corporate Governance (“the code”) disclosed in the annual report and assess the explanations given for non-compliance with any requirement of the Code. From our assessment of the disclosures made on corporate governance in the annual report, the Public Interest Entity has, pursuant to section 75 of the Financial Reporting Act 2004, complied with the requirements of the Code.

#### Banking Act 2004

- In our opinion, the financial statements have been prepared on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year and are complete, fair and properly drawn up and comply with the provisions of the Banking Act 2004 and the regulations and guidelines of the Bank of Mauritius; and
- the explanations or information called for or given to us by the officers or agents of the Bank were satisfactory.

### Use of this report

This report is made solely to the Bank’s shareholders, as a body, in accordance with section 205 of the Mauritius Companies Act 2001. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Bank’s shareholders those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor’s report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Bank and the Bank’s shareholders as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

**Deloitte**  
Chartered Accountants

22 March 2024

**Rajeev Tatiah, FCCA**  
Licensed by FRC

# Statement of Financial Position

as at 31 December 2023

	Notes	Dec-23 Rs 000	Dec-22 Rs 000	Dec-21 Rs 000
<b>ASSETS</b>				
Cash and cash equivalents	12	8,462,698	6,898,615	10,449,280
Derivative assets held for risk management	13	4,580	3,116	42,826
Non-current asset held-for-sale	18	-	45,000	-
Loans and advances to banks	14	8,873,984	5,147,185	3,336,245
Loans and advances to customers	15	19,129,086	20,180,265	17,474,549
Investment in financial instruments measured at fair value through Other Comprehensive Income (FVTOCI)	16(a)	2,427,459	1,402,874	2,083,101
Investment in financial instruments measured at amortised cost	16(b)	10,617,591	10,922,555	10,320,960
Right-of-use assets	17	69,774	76,965	89,359
Property and equipment	18	420,993	403,005	435,830
Intangible assets	19	124,338	133,583	130,666
Deferred tax assets	20	31,539	44,515	45,936
Other assets	21	2,008,376	1,571,519	1,387,575
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>52,170,418</b>	<b>46,829,197</b>	<b>45,796,327</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>				
Deposits from customers	22	44,847,282	38,242,254	37,915,989
Derivative liabilities held for risk management	13	39,434	26,439	3,112
Other borrowed funds	23	1,299,929	2,932,664	2,055,978
Subordinated liabilities	24	1,112,897	1,289,279	1,396,543
Pension obligations	28	121,264	84,453	60,810
Current tax liabilities	25	36,942	22,657	27,553
Other liabilities	26	482,325	512,143	528,230
Lease liabilities	27	79,065	84,617	96,615
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<b>48,019,138</b>	<b>43,194,506</b>	<b>42,084,830</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>				
Stated capital	29	1,456,456	1,456,456	1,456,456
Retained earnings		2,021,147	1,646,082	1,725,369
Other reserves		673,677	532,153	529,672
<b>Total equity</b>		<b>4,151,280</b>	<b>3,634,691</b>	<b>3,711,497</b>
<b>Total equity and liabilities</b>		<b>52,170,418</b>	<b>46,829,197</b>	<b>45,796,327</b>

These financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 22 March 2024.

**Roselyne Renel**  
Chairperson of the Board of Directors

**Mark Watkinson**  
Chief Executive Officer

**Tchang Fa Wong Sun Thiong**  
Director

The notes on pages 124 to 210 form an integral part of these financial statements.

# Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income

for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Notes	Dec-23 Rs 000	Dec-22 Rs 000	Dec-21 Rs 000
Interest income		2,352,766	1,393,221	1,155,343
Interest expense		(1,083,860)	(399,407)	(340,336)
<b>Net interest income</b>	3	<b>1,268,906</b>	<b>993,814</b>	<b>815,007</b>
Fee and commission income		400,946	457,051	607,911
Fee and commission expense		(138,951)	(127,650)	(329,633)
<b>Net fee and commission income</b>	4	<b>261,995</b>	<b>329,401</b>	<b>278,278</b>
Net gain on dealing in foreign currencies and derivatives	5	255,594	178,747	164,391
Net gain from derecognition of financial assets measured at fair value through other comprehensive income ("FVTOCI")	6	733	3,111	93,224
Other operating (loss)/income	6	(55)	1,746	29,053
		<b>256,272</b>	<b>183,604</b>	<b>286,668</b>
<b>Operating income</b>		<b>1,787,173</b>	<b>1,506,819</b>	<b>1,379,953</b>
Personnel expenses	8	(674,637)	(617,351)	(557,059)
Depreciation and amortisation	17, 18 and 19	(110,637)	(96,901)	(75,861)
Other expenses	9	(323,319)	(290,473)	(296,366)
		<b>(1,108,593)</b>	<b>(1,004,725)</b>	<b>(929,286)</b>
<b>Profit before impairment</b>		<b>678,580</b>	<b>502,094</b>	<b>450,667</b>
Net impairment reversal on financial assets	7	132,150	33,476	71,799
<b>Total impairment reversal</b>		<b>132,150</b>	<b>33,476</b>	<b>71,799</b>
<b>Profit before income tax</b>		<b>810,730</b>	<b>535,570</b>	<b>522,466</b>
Income tax expense	10	(54,920)	(41,745)	(109,042)
<b>Profit for the year</b>		<b>755,810</b>	<b>493,825</b>	<b>413,424</b>
<b>Earnings per share (Rs)</b>	11	<b>51.89</b>	<b>33.91</b>	<b>28.39</b>
<b>Profit for the year</b>		<b>755,810</b>	<b>493,825</b>	<b>413,424</b>
<b>Other Comprehensive Income</b>				
<i>Items that will not be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss:</i>				
Remeasurement of defined benefit obligation, net of tax		(33,759)	(14,643)	27,361
Revaluation on building, net of tax		-	36,505	-
Movement in fair value reserve for equity instruments at FVTOCI		(4,076)	6,080	(1,882)
<i>Items that may be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss:</i>				
Movement in fair value reserve for debt instruments at FVTOCI investment securities, net of tax:				
Reclassification of gains on disposal of FVTOCI debt instruments during the year		(733)	(3,111)	(93,224)
(Credit)/loss allowance relating to debt instruments held at FVTOCI		(1,152)	(146)	1,264
Gains/(losses) on FVTOCI instruments during the year		66,999	(107,316)	(54,103)
<b>Other comprehensive income for the year</b>		<b>27,279</b>	<b>(82,631)</b>	<b>(120,584)</b>
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>		<b>783,089</b>	<b>411,194</b>	<b>292,840</b>

The notes on pages 124 to 210 form an integral part of these financial statements.



## Statement of Changes in Equity

for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Stated capital	Revaluation surplus	Statutory reserve	General banking reserve	Fair value reserve	Retirement Benefit Plan reserve	Retained earnings	Total equity
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
<b>Balance as at 1 January 2021</b>	1,456,456	97,313	401,538	55,589	128,689	(97,165)	1,376,237	3,418,657
Profit for the year	-	-	-	-	-	-	413,424	413,424
Other comprehensive loss for the year	-	-	-	-	(147,945)	27,361	-	(120,584)
Transfer to general banking reserve	-	-	-	2,279	-	-	(2,279)	-
Transfer to statutory reserve	-	-	62,013	-	-	-	(62,013)	-
Total comprehensive income	-	-	62,013	2,279	(147,945)	27,361	349,132	292,840
<b>Balance as at 31 December 2021</b>	1,456,456	97,313	463,551	57,868	(19,256)	(69,804)	1,725,369	3,711,497
<b>Balance as at 1 January 2022</b>	1,456,456	97,313	463,551	57,868	(19,256)	(69,804)	1,725,369	3,711,497
Profit for the year	-	-	-	-	-	-	493,825	493,825
Other comprehensive loss for the year	-	36,505	-	-	(104,493)	(14,643)	-	(82,631)
Transfer to general banking reserve	-	-	-	11,038	-	-	(11,038)	-
Transfer to statutory reserve	-	-	74,074	-	-	-	(74,074)	-
Total comprehensive income	-	36,505	74,074	11,038	(104,493)	(14,643)	408,713	411,194
<b>Transactions with owners</b>								
Dividend	-	-	-	-	-	-	(488,000)	(488,000)
Total transactions with owners	-	-	-	-	-	-	(488,000)	(488,000)
<b>Balance as at 31 December 2022</b>	1,456,456	133,818	537,625	68,906	(123,749)	(84,447)	1,646,082	3,634,691
<b>Balance as at 1 January 2023</b>	1,456,456	133,818	537,625	68,906	(123,749)	(84,447)	1,646,082	3,634,691
Profit for the year	-	-	-	-	-	-	755,810	755,810
Other comprehensive income for the year	-	-	-	-	61,038	(33,759)	-	27,279
Transfer to general banking reserve	-	-	-	874	-	-	(874)	-
Transfer to statutory reserve	-	-	113,371	-	-	-	(113,371)	-
Total comprehensive income	-	-	113,371	874	61,038	(33,759)	641,565	783,089
<b>Transactions with owners</b>								
Dividend	-	-	-	-	-	-	(266,500)	(266,500)
Total transactions with owners	-	-	-	-	-	-	(266,500)	(266,500)
<b>Balance as at 31 December 2023</b>	1,456,456	133,818	650,996	69,780	(62,711)	(118,206)	2,021,147	4,151,280

### Revaluation surplus

Revaluation surplus, comprises changes in the carrying amount arising on revaluation of property and equipment.

### Statutory reserve

Statutory reserve comprises accumulated annual transfer of 15% of the net profit for the year in line with Section 21(1) of the Banking Act 2004.

### Fair value reserve

Fair value reserve comprises cumulative net change in the fair value of financial assets classified under fair value through OCI that has been recognised in other comprehensive income until the investments are derecognised or impaired.

### General Banking Reserve

General banking reserve comprises prudential portfolio provisions made by management for exposures in specific industries, in line with regulatory requirements.

### Dividend

Pursuant to the board meeting held on 07 March 2023, a final dividend of Rs.266.5 million (Rs18.30 per share) (2022: Rs488 million) was approved for distribution as dividend to shareholders and was paid in June 2023, out of retained earnings, after all regulatory approvals were obtained.

The notes on pages 124 to 210 form an integral part of these financial statements.

## Statement of Cash Flows

for the year ended 31 December 2023

### Cash flows from operating activities

Profit before income tax	810,730	535,570	522,466
Net change on provision for credit impairment (note 7)	(132,150)	(33,476)	(71,799)
Depreciation (notes 17 and 18)	60,024	59,146	40,543
Amortisation (note 19)	50,613	37,755	35,318
Loss/(gain) on disposal of property and equipment/small equipment (note 6)	55	82	(245)
Change in pensions obligations	765	7,995	9,915
Net gain from derecognition of financial assets measured at fair value through other comprehensive income ("FVTOCI")	(733)	(3,111)	(122,032)
Net interest income	(1,268,906)	(993,814)	(815,007)
	(479,602)	(389,853)	(400,841)

### Changes in operating assets and liabilities

Movement in derivatives	11,531	63,037	(19,864)
(Increase)/decrease in loans and advances			
- to banks	(3,685,429)	(1,891,009)	(2,061,525)
- to customers	1,128,569	(2,582,403)	1,944,693
Increase in other assets	(327,426)	(75,229)	(27,831)
Increase/(decrease) in deposits from customers	6,480,500	373,084	(10,124,845)
(Decrease)/increase in other liabilities	(14,604)	(20,162)	154,907
Interest received	2,358,306	1,384,163	1,210,884
Interest paid	(952,875)	(439,325)	(345,794)
Income tax paid	(29,946)	(38,462)	(31,258)
<b>Net cash generated from/(used in) operating activities</b>	<b>4,489,024</b>	<b>(3,616,159)</b>	<b>(9,701,474)</b>

### Cash flows used in investing activities

Purchase of investment securities	(18,403,797)	(11,690,734)	(31,189,349)
Proceeds from sale of investment securities	17,638,987	11,563,302	41,056,959
Purchase of property and equipment (note 18)	(18,057)	(21,570)	(113,156)
Proceeds from sale of property and equipment	21	-	296
Purchase of intangible assets (note 19)	(41,483)	(42,254)	(64,999)
<b>Net cash (used in)/generated from investing activities</b>	<b>(824,329)</b>	<b>(191,256)</b>	<b>9,689,751</b>

### Cash flows from financing activities

Repayment of subordinated liabilities	(177,088)	(104,806)	-
Proceeds from subordinated liabilities	-	-	7,840
Repayment of other borrowed funds	(2,008,514)	(539,431)	(1,711,917)
Proceeds from other borrowed funds	371,339	1,408,885	-
Dividend paid	(266,500)	(488,000)	-
Repayment of the lease liabilities	(19,849)	(19,898)	(11,699)
<b>Net cash (used in)/generated from financing activities</b>	<b>(2,100,612)</b>	<b>256,750</b>	<b>(1,715,776)</b>

### Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year (note 12)

Net cash generated from/(used in) operating activities	4,489,024	(3,616,159)	(9,701,474)
Net cash (used in)/generated from investing activities	(824,329)	(191,256)	9,689,751
Net cash (used in)/generated from financing activities	(2,100,612)	256,750	(1,715,776)
<b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>1,564,083</b>	<b>(3,550,665)</b>	<b>(1,727,499)</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year (note 12)</b>	<b>8,462,698</b>	<b>6,898,615</b>	<b>10,449,280</b>

The notes on pages 124 to 210 form an integral part of these financial statements.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 1 General Information

Bank One Limited (the “Bank”) is a privately owned entity incorporated on 26 March 2002 in the Republic of Mauritius and licensed with the Bank of Mauritius to carry out Banking business. The Bank is owned jointly by Ciel Finance Ltd and I&M Group Plc, with 50% shareholding each. The Bank is domiciled in the Republic of Mauritius with registered address as follows:

Bank One Limited  
16, Sir William Newton Street  
Port Louis  
Mauritius

### 1.1 Application of New and Revised International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs)

In the current year, the Bank has applied all of the new and revised standard and interpretations issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (“IASB”) and the International Financial Reporting Interpretations Committee (“IFRIC”) of the IASB that are relevant to its operations and effective for accounting periods beginning on 1 January 2023.

#### New and revised IFRSs that are effective for the current year

The following relevant revised Standards have been applied in these financial statements. Their application has not had any significant impact on the amounts reported for the current and prior periods but may affect the accounting treatment for future transactions or arrangements.

IAS 1	Presentation of Financial Statements and IFRS Practice Statement 2 Making Materiality Judgements - Amendments regarding the disclosure of accounting policies
IAS 8	Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors - Amendments regarding the definition of accounting estimates
IAS 12	Income Taxes - Amendments regarding deferred tax on leases and decommissioning obligations
IAS 12	Income Taxes - Amendments to provide a temporary exception to the requirements regarding deferred tax assets and liabilities related to pillar two income taxes

#### New and revised standards in issue but not yet effective

At the date of authorisation of these financial statements, the following relevant standards were in issue but effective on annual periods beginning on or after the respective dates as indicated:

IAS 1	Presentation of Financial Statements - Amendments regarding the classification of liabilities as current or non-current (effective 01 January 2024)
IAS 1	Presentation of Financial Statements - Amendments to defer the effective date of the January 2020 amendments (effective 01 January 2024)
IAS 1	Presentation of Financial Statements: Amendments regarding the classification of debt with covenants (effective 01 January 2024)
IAS 7	Statement of cash flows: Amendments regarding supplier finance arrangements (effective 01 January 2024)
IFRS 7	Financial instruments: Disclosures - Amendments regarding supplier finance arrangements (effective 01 January 2024)
IFRS 16	Leases - Amendments to classify how a seller-lessee subsequently measures sale and leaseback transactions (effective 01 January 2024)
IFRS S1	General Requirements for Disclosure of Sustainability - related financial information - Original issue (effective 01 January 2024)
IFRS S2	Climate-related Disclosures (effective 01 January 2024)

The directors anticipate that these standards and interpretation will be applied in the Bank’s financial statements at the above effective dates in future periods and have not yet assessed the potential impact of the application of these amendments.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 1.2 Material Accounting Policy Information

The material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

### (a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements of Bank One Limited comply with the Mauritius Companies Act 2001, the regulations and guidelines issued by the Bank of Mauritius, the Financial Reporting Act 2004 and the Banking Act 2004 and have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), Guidelines and Guidance Notes issued by the Bank of Mauritius, in so far as the operations of the Bank are concerned. Where necessary, comparative figures in the notes to the financial statements have been amended to confirm with changes in current year’s presentation.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, except for the following assets and liabilities that are measured at fair value:

- 1) Financial assets measured at fair value through other comprehensive income;
- 2) Certain classes of property and equipment - measured at revalued amount;
- 3) Defined pensions benefits plan assets measured at fair value; and
- 4) Derivative assets and liabilities held for risk management purposes (FVTPL).

Historical cost is generally based on the fair value of the consideration given in exchange for goods and services.

Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The fair value measurement is based on the presumption that the transaction to sell the asset or transfer the liability takes place either:

- In the principal market for the asset or liability, or
- In the absence of a principal market, in the most advantageous market for the asset or liability.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with IFRS requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires the directors to exercise judgement in the process of applying the Bank’s accounting policies. Changes in assumptions may have a significant impact on the financial statements in the period the assumptions changed. The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements, are disclosed in Note 1.3.

### (b) Foreign currency translation

#### (i) Functional and presentation currency

These financial statements are prepared in Mauritian Rupees (Rs), which is the Bank’s functional and presentation currency. Except as indicated, the financial statements and related notes presented in Mauritian rupees have been rounded to the nearest thousand.

#### (ii) Transactions and balances

Foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency using the exchange rates prevailing on the dates of the transactions. Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from the settlement of such transactions and from the translation at year-end exchange rates of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are recognised in profit or loss. Transactions denominated in foreign currencies are accounted for at the closing rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction.

Monetary assets and liabilities expressed in foreign currencies are reported at the closing rate of exchange ruling at the reporting date. Differences arising from reporting monetary items are dealt with in the profit or loss.

Non-monetary items that are measured at historical cost in a foreign currency are translated using the exchange rate at the date of the transaction. Non-monetary items that are measured at fair value in a foreign currency are translated using the exchange rates at the date the fair value was determined.

Translation differences on non monetary items, such as investments in equities classified as fair value through other comprehensive income, are included in the fair value reserve in other comprehensive income.



# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 1.2 Material Accounting Policy Information (Cont'd)

### (c) Interest income and expense

Interest income and expense for all financial instruments except for those classified as held for trading or those measured or designated as at fair value through profit or loss are recognised in 'Net interest income' as 'Interest income' and 'Interest expense' in the profit or loss using the effective interest method.

The effective interest method is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a financial asset or a financial liability and of allocating the interest income or interest expense over the relevant period. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments or receipts through the expected life of the financial instrument or, when appropriate, a shorter period to the net carrying amount of the financial asset or financial liability. When calculating the effective interest rate, the Bank estimates cash flows considering all contractual terms of the financial instrument (for example, prepayment options) but does not consider future credit losses. The calculation includes all fees received between parties to the contract that are an integral part of the effective interest rate, transaction costs and all other premiums or discounts. When a receivable is impaired, the Bank reduces the carrying amount to its recoverable amount, being the estimated future cash flow discounted at the original effective interest rate of the instrument, and continues unwinding the discount as interest income. For credit-impaired financial assets the interest income is calculated by applying the EIR to the amortised cost of the credit-impaired financial assets (i.e. the gross carrying amount less the allowance for expected credit losses ("ECL"). The interest is suspended and recognised only upon receipt. If, in subsequent reporting periods the credit risk on the credit impaired financial instrument improves so that the financial asset is no longer credit impaired, interest income is recognised by applying the effective interest rate to the gross carrying amount of the financial asset.

### (d) Fees, commissions and dividend income

Fees and commissions are generally recognised on an accrual basis when the service has been provided. Other fee and commission expenses relate mainly to transaction and service fees, which are expensed as the services are rendered. Loan commitment fees for loans that are likely to be drawn down are deferred (together with related direct costs) and recognised as an adjustment to the effective interest rate on the loan. Loan syndication fees are recognised as revenue when the syndication has been completed and the Bank has retained no part of the loan package for itself or has retained a part at the same effective interest rate as the other participants. Commission and fees arising from negotiating, or participating in the negotiation of, a transaction for a third party - such as the arrangement of the acquisition of shares or other securities are recognised on completion of the underlying transaction.

Portfolio and other management advisory and service fees are recognised based on the applicable service contracts, usually on a time-apportionate basis. Performance-linked fees or fee components are recognised when the performance criteria are fulfilled.

Dividend income is recognised when the Bank's right to receive the dividend is established.

### (e) Net gain/(loss) on dealing in foreign currencies and derivatives

Net gain/(loss) on dealing in foreign currencies and derivatives comprise of net gains on foreign exchange transactions, fair value gain/(loss) on derivatives and translation differences.

### (f) Financial Instruments

#### Financial Assets

All financial assets are recognised and derecognised on a trade date where the purchase or sale of a financial asset is under a contract whose terms require delivery of the financial asset within the timeframe established by the market concerned, and are initially measured at fair value, plus transaction costs, except for those financial assets classified as at FVTPL. Transaction costs directly attributable to the acquisition of financial assets classified as at FVTPL are recognised immediately in profit or loss. For all financial assets the amount presented on the statement of financial position represent all amounts receivable including interest accruals.

All recognised financial assets that are within the scope of IFRS 9 are required to be subsequently measured at amortised cost or fair value on the basis of the Bank's business model for managing the financial assets and the contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial assets.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 1.2 Material Accounting Policy Information (Cont'd)

### (f) Financial Instruments (Cont'd)

#### Financial Assets (Cont'd)

Specifically:

- debt instruments that are held within a business model whose objective is to collect the contractual cash flows, and that have contractual cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding (SPPI), are subsequently measured at amortised cost;
- debt instruments that are held within a business model whose objective is both to collect the contractual cash flows and to sell the debt instruments, and that have contractual cash flows that are SPPI, are subsequently measured at fair value through other comprehensive income (FVTOCI);
- all other debt instruments (e.g. debt instruments managed on a fair value basis, or held for sale) and equity investments are subsequently measured at FVTPL.

However, the Bank may make the following irrevocable election / designation at initial recognition of a financial asset on an asset-by-asset basis:

- the Bank may irrevocably elect to present subsequent changes in fair value of an equity investment that is neither held for trading nor contingent consideration recognised by an acquirer in a business combination to which IFRS 3 applies, in OCI; and
- the Bank may irrevocably designate a debt instrument that meets the amortised cost or FVTOCI criteria as measured at FVTPL if doing so eliminates or significantly reduces an accounting mismatch (referred to as the fair value option).

#### Debt instruments at amortised cost or at FVTOCI

The Bank assesses the classification and measurement of a financial asset based on the contractual cash flow characteristics of the asset and the Bank's business model for managing the asset.

For an asset to be classified and measured at amortised cost or at FVTOCI, its contractual terms should give rise to cash flows that are SPPI.

For the purpose of SPPI test, principal is the fair value of the financial asset at initial recognition. That principal amount may change over the life of the financial asset (e.g. if there are repayments of principal). Interest consists of consideration for the time value of money, for the credit risk associated with the principal amount outstanding during a particular period of time and for other basic lending risks and costs, as well as a profit margin. The SPPI assessment is made in the currency in which the financial asset is denominated.

Contractual cash flows that are SPPI are consistent with a basic lending arrangement. Contractual terms that introduce exposure to risks or volatility in the contractual cash flows that are unrelated to a basic lending arrangement, such as exposure to changes in equity prices or commodity prices, do not give rise to contractual cash flows that are SPPI. An originated or an acquired financial asset can be a basic lending arrangement irrespective of whether it is a loan in its legal form.

An assessment of business models for managing financial assets is fundamental to the classification of a financial asset. The Bank determines the business models at a level that reflects how groups of financial assets are managed together to achieve a particular business objective. The Bank's business model does not depend on management's intentions for an individual instrument, therefore the business model assessment is performed at a higher level of aggregation rather than on an instrument-by-instrument basis.

The Bank has more than one business model for managing its financial instruments which reflect how the Bank manages its financial assets in order to generate cash flows. The Bank's business models determine whether cash flows will result from collecting contractual cash flows, selling financial assets or both.

The Bank considers all relevant information available when making the business model assessment. However this assessment is not performed on the basis of scenarios that the Bank does not reasonably expect to occur, such as so-called 'worst case' or 'stress case' scenarios. The Bank takes into account all relevant evidence available such as:

- how the performance of the business model and the financial assets held within that business model are evaluated and reported to the Bank's key management personnel;
- the risks that affect the performance of the business model (and the financial assets held within that business model) and, in particular, the way in which those risks are managed; and
- how managers of the business are compensated (e.g. whether the compensation is based on the fair value of the assets managed or on the contractual cash flows collected).

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 1.2 Material Accounting Policy Information (Cont'd)

(f) **Financial Instruments (Cont'd)**

**Financial Assets (Cont'd)**

**Debt instruments at amortised cost or at FVTOCI (Cont'd)**

At initial recognition of a financial asset, the Bank determines whether newly recognised financial assets are part of an existing business model or whether they reflect the commencement of a new business model. The Bank reassesses its business models each reporting period to determine whether the business models have changed since the preceding period. There have been no such changes in the current and prior years.

When a debt instrument measured at FVTOCI is derecognised, the cumulative gain/loss previously recognised in OCI is reclassified from equity to profit or loss.

Debt instruments that are subsequently measured at amortised cost or at FVTOCI are subject to impairment.

**Financial assets at FVTPL**

Financial assets at FVTPL are:

- assets with contractual cash flows that are not SPPI; or/and
- assets that are held in a business model other than held to collect contractual cash flows or held to collect and sell; or
- assets designated at FVTPL using the fair value option.

These assets are measured at fair value, with any gains/losses arising on remeasurement recognised in profit or loss.

**Equity instruments designated at FVTOCI**

On initial recognition, the Bank may make an irrevocable election (on an instrument by instrument basis) to designate investments in equity instruments as at FVTOCI. Designation at FVTOCI is not permitted if the equity investment is held for trading or if it is contingent consideration recognised by an acquirer in a business combination.

A financial asset is held for trading if:

- it has been acquired principally for the purpose of selling it in the near term; or
- on initial recognition it is part of a portfolio of identified financial instruments that the Bank manages together and has evidence of a recent actual pattern of short term profit taking; or
- it is a derivative (except for a derivative that is a financial guarantee contract or a designated and effective hedging instrument).

Investments in equity instruments at FVTOCI are initially measured at fair value plus transaction costs. Subsequently, they are measured at fair value with gains and losses arising from changes in fair value recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in the fair value reserve. The cumulative gain or loss is not to be reclassified to profit or loss on disposal of the equity investments, instead, it is transferred to retained earnings.

**Financial instruments - initial recognition and subsequent measurement**

*Reclassifications*

If the business model under which the Bank holds financial assets changes, the financial assets affected are reclassified. The classification and measurement requirements related to the new category apply prospectively from the first day of the first reporting period following the change in business model that results in reclassifying the Bank's financial assets. During the current financial year and previous accounting period there was no change in the business model under which the Bank holds financial assets and therefore no reclassifications were made. Changes in contractual cash flows are considered under the accounting policy on "Modification and derecognition of financial assets".

*Foreign exchange gains and losses*

The carrying amount of financial assets that are denominated in a foreign currency is determined in that foreign currency and translated at the spot rate at the end of each reporting period. For financial assets measured at amortised cost, debt instruments measured at FVTOCI and derivatives, exchange differences are recognised in profit or loss in the 'Net gain on dealing in foreign currencies and derivatives' line item.

*Cash and cash equivalents*

Cash and cash equivalents' include notes and coins on hand, unrestricted balances held with central banks and highly liquid financial assets with original maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisition that are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in their fair value, and are used by the Bank in the management of its short-term commitments.

Cash and cash equivalents are carried at amortised cost in the statement of financial position.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 1.2 Material Accounting Policy Information (Cont'd)

(f) **Financial Instruments (Cont'd)**

**Financial Assets (Cont'd)**

**Financial instruments - initial recognition and subsequent measurement (Cont'd)**

*Investment securities*

The investment securities include:

- debt investment securities measured at amortised cost; these are initially measured at fair value plus incremental direct transaction costs, and subsequently at their amortised cost using the effective interest method;
- debt securities measured at FVTOCI; and
- equity investment securities designated as at FVTOCI.

For debt securities measured at FVTOCI, gains and losses are recognised in other comprehensive income, except for the following, which are recognised in profit or loss in the same manner as for financial assets measured at amortised cost:

- interest revenue using the effective interest method;
- ECL and reversals; and
- foreign exchange gains and losses.

When debt security measured at FVTOCI is derecognised, the cumulative gain or loss previously recognised in OCI is reclassified from equity to profit or loss.

The Bank elects to present changes in the fair value of certain investments in equity instruments that are not held for trading in OCI. The election is made on an instrument-by-instrument basis on initial recognition and is irrevocable.

Fair value gains and losses on such equity instruments are never reclassified to profit or loss and no impairment is recognised in profit or loss. Cumulative gains and losses recognised in OCI are transferred to retained earnings on disposal of an investment.

**Financial liabilities**

Debt and equity instruments that are issued are classified as either financial liabilities or as equity in accordance with the substance of the contractual arrangement.

A financial liability is a contractual obligation to deliver cash or another financial asset or to exchange financial assets or financial liabilities with another Bank under conditions that are potentially unfavourable to the Bank or a contract that will or may be settled in the Bank's own equity instruments and is a non-derivative contract for which the Bank is or may be obliged to deliver a variable number of its own equity instruments, or a derivative contract over own equity that will or may be settled other than by the exchange of a fixed amount of cash (or another financial asset) for a fixed number of the Bank's own equity instruments.

Financial liabilities are classified as either financial liabilities 'at FVTPL' or 'other financial liabilities'. For all financial liabilities the amount presented on the statement of financial position represent all amounts payable including interest accruals.

Other financial liabilities, including deposits and borrowings, are initially measured at fair value, net of transaction costs. Other financial liabilities are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

**Acceptances, letters of credit and Financial guarantee contracts**

*Acceptances and letters of credit*

Acceptances comprise undertakings by the Bank to pay bills of exchange drawn on customers. The Bank expects most acceptances to be settled simultaneously with the reimbursement from customers. Acceptances and letters of credit are accounted for as off-balance sheet items and are disclosed as contingent liabilities and commitments.

*Financial guarantee contracts*

Financial guarantee contracts are contracts that require the issuer to make specified payments to reimburse the holder for a loss it incurs because a specified debtor fails to make payments when due, in accordance with the terms of a debt instrument. Such financial guarantees are given to banks, financial institutions and other bodies on behalf of customers to secure loans, overdrafts and other banking facilities.



# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 1.2 Material Accounting Policy Information (Cont'd)

### (f) Financial Instruments (Cont'd)

#### Financial Assets (Cont'd)

##### Acceptances, letters of credit and Financial guarantee contracts

##### Financial guarantee contracts (Cont'd)

Financial guarantees are initially recognised in the financial statements at fair value on the date the guarantee was given. The fair value of a financial guarantee at the time of signature is zero because all guarantees are agreed on arm's length terms and the value of the premium agreed corresponds to the value of the guarantee obligation. No receivable for the future premiums is recognised. Subsequent to initial recognition, the Bank's liabilities under such guarantees are measured at the higher of the initial amount, less amortisation calculated to recognise in profit or loss the fee income earned on a straight-line basis over the life of the guarantee and the best estimate of the expenditure required to settle the guarantee. These estimates are determined based on experience of similar transactions and history of past losses, supplemented by the judgement of management. Any increase in the liability relating to guarantees is taken to profit or loss.

##### Impairment of financial assets

The Bank applies a three-stage approach to measuring expected credit losses (ECL) on debt instruments accounted for at amortised cost and FVTOCI. Assets migrate through the following three stages based on the change in credit quality since initial recognition:

#### i) Stage 1: 12-months ECL

For exposures where there has not been a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition and that are not credit impaired upon origination, the portion of the lifetime ECL associated with the probability of default events occurring within the next 12 months is recognised.

#### ii) Stage 2: Lifetime ECL - not credit impaired

For credit exposures where there has been a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition but that are not credit impaired, a lifetime ECL is recognised.

#### iii) Stage 3: Lifetime ECL - credit impaired

Financial assets are assessed as credit impaired when one or more events that have a detrimental impact on the estimated future cash flows of that asset have occurred. For financial assets that have become credit impaired, a lifetime ECL is recognised and interest revenue is calculated by applying the effective interest rate to the amortised cost (net of provision) rather than the gross carrying amount.

At each reporting date, the Bank assesses whether there has been a significant increase in credit risk for financial assets since initial recognition by comparing the risk of default occurring over the expected life between the reporting date and the date of initial recognition.

In determining whether credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition, the Bank uses its internal credit risk grading system, external risk ratings and forecast information to assess deterioration in credit quality of a financial asset.

The Bank assesses whether the credit risk on a financial asset has increased significantly on an individual or collective basis. For the purposes of a collective evaluation of impairment, financial assets are grouped on the basis of shared credit risk characteristics, taking into account instrument type, credit risk ratings, date of initial recognition, remaining term to maturity, industry, geographical location of the borrower and other relevant factors.

The amount of ECL is measured as the probability-weighted present value of all cash shortfalls over the expected life of the financial asset discounted at its original effective interest rate. The cash shortfall is the difference between all contractual cash flows that are due to the Bank and all the cash flows that the Bank expects to receive. The ECL is recognised in the provision account.

The Bank considers its historical loss experience and adjusts this for current observable data. In addition, the Bank uses reasonable and supportable forecasts of future economic conditions including experienced judgement to estimate the amount of an expected impairment loss. IFRS 9 introduces the use of macroeconomic factors which include, but is not limited to, unemployment, interest rates, gross domestic product, inflation and commercial property prices, and requires an evaluation of both the current and forecast direction of the economic cycle. Incorporating forward-looking information increases the level of judgement as to how changes in these macroeconomic factors will affect ECL. The methodology and assumptions including any forecasts of future economic conditions are reviewed regularly.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 1.2 Material Accounting Policy Information (Cont'd)

### (f) Financial Instruments (Cont'd)

#### Impairment of financial assets (Cont'd)

If, in a subsequent period, credit quality improves and reverses any previously assessed significant increase in credit risk since origination, then the provision for doubtful debts reverts from lifetime ECL to 12-months ECL.

In the case of the new asset category for debt instruments measured at FVTOCI, the measurement of ECL is based on the three-stage approach as applied to financial assets at amortised cost. The Bank recognises the provision charge in profit and loss, with the corresponding amount recognised in other comprehensive income, with no reduction in the carrying amount of the asset in the statement of financial position.

### (g) Classes of financial instruments

- (i) The Bank classifies the financial instruments into classes that reflect the nature of information and take into account the characteristics of those financial instruments.

The classification is disclosed in the table below:

Category		Class		Subclasses
Financial Assets	Loans and advances at amortised cost	Loans and advances to Banks		Term Loans
		Loans and advances to customers	Loans to individuals	Credit cards
				Mortgages
				Other Retail Loans
			Loans to corporate entities	Corporate Customers
	Securities purchased under agreement to resell	Loans to corporate entities	Loans to entities outside Mauritius	Offshore Retail and Corporate Loans
	Investments at amortised cost		Loans to corporate entities	Corporate Customers
	Investments at FVTOCI	Investment securities Debt instruments		Unlisted
		Investment securities Debt instruments		Unlisted
		Investment securities Equity instruments		Unlisted
Off balance sheet financial Instruments	Derivative financial assets (FVTPL)	Derivatives held for risk management		Unlisted
	Cash and cash equivalents	Cash and cash equivalents		Unlisted

Category		Class		Subclasses
Financial Liabilities	Deposits from customers at amortised cost	Deposits from customers	Retail Corporate International	
	Derivatives financial liabilities (FVTPL)	Derivatives held for risk management	Unlisted	
	Financial liabilities at amortised cost	Other borrowed funds	Local and foreign Banks	
		Subordinated liabilities		
Off balance sheet financial Instruments	Loans commitments	Loans commitments	Retail Corporate International Private	
	Guarantees, acceptances and other financial facilities	Acceptances Guarantees Letter of credit	Retail Corporate International Private	

### (ii) Credit risk measurement

#### Loans and advances

The estimation of credit exposure for risk management purposes is complex and requires the use of models, as the exposures vary with changes in market conditions, expected cash flows and the passage of time. The assessment of credit risk of a portfolio of assets entails further estimations as to the likelihood of defaults occurring, of the associated loss ratios and of default correlations between counterparties. The Bank measures credit risk using Probability of Default (PD), Exposure at Default (EAD) and Loss Given Default (LGD). This is similar to the approach used for the purposes of measuring Expected Credit Loss (ECL) under IFRS 9. Refer to "Measuring ECL- Explanation of inputs, assumptions and estimation techniques"

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

1.2 Material Accounting Policy Information (Cont'd)

(g) Classes of financial instruments (Cont'd)

(ii) Credit risk measurement (Cont'd)

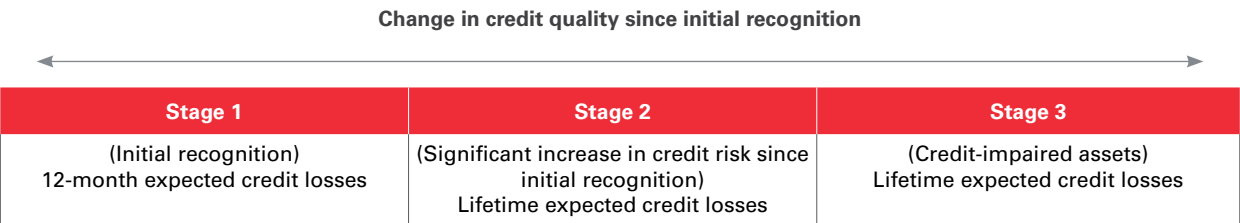
Expected credit loss measurement (ECL)

IFRS 9 outlines a 'three-stage' model for impairment based on changes in credit quality since initial recognition as summarised below:

- A financial instrument that is not credit-impaired on initial recognition is classified in 'stage 1' and has its credit risk continuously monitored by the Bank.
- If a significant increase in credit risk ('SICR') since initial recognition is identified, the financial instrument is moved to 'stage 2' but is not yet deemed credit-impaired.
- If the financial instrument is credit-impaired, the financial instrument is then moved to 'stage 3'.
- Financial instruments in stage 1 have their ECL measured at an amount equal to the portion of lifetime expected credit losses that result from default events within the next 12 months. Instruments in stages 2/3 have their ECL measured on expected credit losses on a lifetime basis.
- A pervasive concept in measuring ECL in accordance with IFRS 9 is that it should consider forward-looking information.
- Purchased or originated credit-impaired financial assets are those financial assets that are credit-impaired on initial recognition. Their ECL is always measured on a lifetime basis (stage 3). Currently the Bank does not have any purchased or originated credit-impaired financial assets on its books.

Further explanation is also provided of how the Bank determines appropriate groupings when ECL is measured on a collective basis.

The following diagram summarises the impairment requirements under IFRS 9 (other than purchased or originated credit-impaired financial assets):



The key judgements and assumptions adopted by the Bank is addressing the requirements of the standard are discussed below:

Significant increase in credit risk (SICR)

The Bank considers a financial instrument to have experienced a significant increase in credit risk when one or more of the following qualitative or backstop criteria have been met.

(iii) Qualitative criteria

For retail portfolios, if the borrower meets one or more of the following criteria:

- In short-term forbearance
- Direct debit cancellation
- Extension to the terms granted
- Previous arrears within the last (12) months

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

1.2 Material Accounting Policy Information (Cont'd)

(g) Classes of financial instruments (Cont'd)

(iii) Qualitative criteria (Cont'd)

For Corporate and Investment portfolios, if the borrower is on the Watchlist and/or the instrument meets one or more of the following criteria:

- Significant increase in credit spread
- Significant adverse changes in business, financial and/or economic conditions in which the borrower operates
- Actual or expected forbearance or restructuring
- Actual or expected significant adverse change in operating results of the borrower
- Significant change in collateral value (secured facilities only) which is expected to increase risk of default
- Early sign of cashflow/liquidity problems such as delay in servicing of trade creditors/ loans

The assessment of SICR incorporates forward-looking information (refer to note SICR for further information) and is performed on a quarterly basis at a portfolio level for all retail financial instruments held by the Bank. In addition to corporate and investment financial instruments, where a Watchlist is used to monitor credit risk, this assessment is performed at the counterparty level on a quarterly basis. The criteria used to identify SICR are monitored and reviewed periodically for appropriateness by the independent Credit Risk team.

(iv) Backstop

A backstop is applied and the financial instrument considered to have experienced a significant increase in credit risk if the borrower is more than 30 days past due on its contractual payments.

Definition of default and credit-impaired assets

The Bank defines a financial instrument as in default, which is fully aligned with the definition of credit-impaired, when it meets one or more of the following criteria:

Quantitative criteria

The borrower is more than 90 days past due on its contractual payments.

The borrower meets unlikelihood to pay criteria which indicates the borrower is in significant financial difficulty. These are instances where:

- The borrower is in long-term forbearance
- The borrower is deceased
- The borrower is insolvent
- The borrower is in breach of financial covenant(s)
- An active market for that financial asset has disappeared because of financial difficulties
- Concessions have been made by the lender relating to the borrower's financial difficulty
- It is becoming probable than the borrower will enter bankruptcy
- Financial assets are purchased or originated at a deep discount that reflects the incurred credit losses

The criteria above have been applied to all financial instruments held by the Bank and are consistent with the definition of default used for internal credit risk management purposes. The default definition has been applied consistently to model the Probability of Default (PD), Exposure at Default (EAD) and Loss Given Default (LGD) throughout the Bank expected loss calculations.

The 90 days past due default definition has been aligned with the definition used for regulatory capital purposes.

An instrument is considered to be no longer in default (i.e. to have cured) when it no longer meets any default criteria for a consecutive period of six instalments or six months. The period of six months/instalments has been determined based on definition prescribed by the Central Bank.



# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 1.2 Material Accounting Policy Information (Cont'd)

### (g) Classes of financial instruments (Cont'd)

#### Definition of default and credit-impaired assets (Cont'd)

#### (v) Measuring ECL- Explanation of inputs, assumptions and estimation techniques

The Expected Credit Loss (ECL) is measured on either a 12-month (12M) or Lifetime basis depending on whether a significant increase in credit risk has occurred since initial recognition or whether an asset is considered to be credit-impaired. Expected credit losses are discounted product of the Probability of Default (PD), Exposure at Default (EAD) and Loss Given Default (LGD), defined as follows:

- The PD represents the likelihood of a borrower defaulting on its financial obligation (as per 'Definition of default and credit-impaired' above), either over the next 12 months (12M PD), or over the remaining lifetime (Lifetime ED) of the obligation.
- EAD is based on the amounts the Bank expects to be owed at the time of default, over the next 12 months (12M PD), or over the remaining lifetime (Lifetime EAD). For example, for a revolving commitment, the Bank includes the current drawn balance plus any further amount that is expected to be drawn up to the current contractual limit by the time of default, should it occur.
- Loss Given Default (LGD) represents the Bank expectation of the extent of loss on a defaulted exposure. LGD varies by type of counterparty, type and seniority of claim and availability of collateral or other credit support.

LGD is expressed as a percentage loss per unit of exposure at the time of default (EAD). LGD is calculated on a 12-month or lifetime basis, where 12-month LGD is the percentage loss expected to be made if the default occurs in the next 12 months and Lifetime LGD is the percentage of loss expected to be made if the default occurs over the remaining expected lifetime of the loan.

The ECL is determined by projecting the PD, LGD and EAD for each future year and for each individual exposure or collective segment. These three components are multiplied together and adjusted for the likelihood of survival (i.e. the exposure has not prepaid or defaulted in an earlier month). This effectively calculates an ECL for each future year, which is then discounted back to the reporting date and summed. The discount rate used in the ECL calculation is the original effective interest rate or an approximation thereof.

The lifetime PD is developed by applying a maturity profile to the current 12M PD. The maturity profile looks at how defaults develop on a portfolio from the point of initial recognition throughout the lifetime of the loans. The maturity profile is based on historical observed data and is assumed to be the same across all assets within a portfolio, which is supported by historical analysis.

The 12-month and lifetime EADs are determined based on the expected payment profile, which varies by product type.

- For amortising products and bullet repayment loans, this is based on the contractual repayments owned by the borrower over a 12M or lifetime basis. This will be adjusted for any expected overpayments made by a borrower. Early repayment/ refinance assumptions are also incorporated into the calculation.
- For revolving products, the exposure at default is predicted by taking current drawn balance and adding a 'credit conversion factor' (CCF) which allows for the expected drawdown of the remaining limit by adding the time of default. These assumptions vary by product type and current limit utilisation band, based on analysis of the Bank's recent default data.

The 12-month and lifetime LGDs are determined based on the factors which impact the recoveries made post default. These vary by product type.

- For secured products, this is primarily based on collateral type and projected collateral values, historical discounts to market/book values due to forced sales, time to repossession and recovery costs observed.
- For unsecured products, LGD's are typically set at product level due to limited differentiation in recoveries achieved across different borrowers.

Forward-looking economic information is also included in determining the 12-month and lifetime PD, EAD and LGD.

The assumptions under the ECL calculation- such as how the maturity profile of the PDs and how collateral value change, etc.- are monitored and reviewed on a quarterly basis.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 1.2 Material Accounting Policy Information (Cont'd)

### (g) Classes of financial instruments (Cont'd)

#### (vi) Forward-looking information incorporated in the ECL models

The assessment of SICR and the calculation of ECL both incorporate forward-looking information. The Bank has performed a historical analysis and identified the key economic variables impacting credit risk and the expected credit losses for each portfolio. These economic variables and their associated impact on the PD, EAD and LGD vary by financial instrument.

The impact of these economic variables on the PD, EAD and LGD has been determined by performing statistical regression analysis to understand the impact changes in these variables have historically on default rates and on the components of LGD and EAD.

#### Sensitivity Analysis

The most significant assumptions affecting the ECL allowances are as follows:

- (i) Unemployment rate, given its impact on secured and unsecured borrower's ability to meet their contractual repayments;
- (ii) GDP, given the significant impact on individual and companies' performance and collateral valuations; and
- (iii) Inflation rate, given its impact on likelihood of default.

#### Grouping of instruments for losses measured on a collective basis

For expected credit loss provisions modelled on a collective basis, a grouping of exposures is performed on the basis of shared risk characteristics, such that risk exposures within the Bank are homogeneous.

In performing this grouping, there must be sufficient information for the Bank to be statistically credible. Where sufficient information is not available internally, the Bank has considered benchmarking against internal/ external supplementary data to use for modelling purposes. The characteristics and any supplementary data used to determine groupings are outlined below:

Retail- Groupings for collective measurement:

- Product type (e.g. residential loan, overdraft, etc.)
- Repayment type (e.g. interest only)

Corporate- Groupings for collective measurement

- Industry
- Collateral type

The stage 3 exposures are assessed individually. The appropriateness of groupings is monitored and reviewed on a periodic basis by the Credit Risk team.

### (h) Write-off policy

The Bank writes off financial assets, in whole or in part, when it has exhausted all practical recovery efforts and has concluded there is no reasonable expectation of recovery. Indicators that there is no reasonable recovery include (i) ceasing enforcement activity; and (ii) where the Bank's recovery method is foreclosing on collateral and the value of the collateral is such that there is no reasonable expectation of recovering in full.

The Bank may write off financial assets that are still subject to enforcement activity. The Bank still seeks to recover amounts it is legally owed in full, but which have been partially written off due to no reasonable expectation of full recovery.

### (i) Modification and derecognition of financial assets

The Bank sometimes modifies the terms of loans provided to customers due to commercial renegotiations, or for distressed loans, with a view to maximising recovery. Such restructuring activities may include extended payment term arrangements, payment holidays and payment forgiveness. Restructuring policies and practices are based on indicators or criteria which, in the judgement of management indicate that payment will most likely continue. These policies are kept under continuous review. Restructuring is most commonly applied to term loans.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 1.2 Material Accounting Policy Information (Cont'd)

(i) **Modification and derecognition of financial assets (Cont'd)**

The risk of default of such assets after modification is assessed at the reporting date and compared with the risk under the original terms at initial recognition, when the modification is not substantial and so does not result in derecognition of the original assets. The Bank monitors the subsequent performance of modified assets. The Bank may determine that the credit risk has significantly improved after restructuring, so that the assets are moved from Stage 3 or Stage 2. This is only the case for assets which have performed in accordance with the new terms for six consecutive months or more.

The Bank derecognises a financial asset only when the contractual rights to the asset's cash flows expire (including expiry arising from a modification with substantially different terms), or when the financial asset and substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of the asset are transferred to another entity.

If the Bank neither transfers nor retains substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership and continues to control the transferred asset, the Bank recognises the retained interest in the asset and an associated liability for amounts it may have to pay. If the Bank retains substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of a transferred financial asset, the Bank continues to recognise the financial asset and also recognises a collateralised borrowing for the proceeds received. On derecognition of a financial asset in its entirety, the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the sum of the consideration received and receivable and the cumulative gain/loss that had been recognised in OCI and accumulated in equity is recognised in profit or loss, with the exception of equity investment designated as measured at FVTOCI, where the cumulative gain/loss previously recognised in OCI is not subsequently reclassified to profit or loss. On derecognition of a financial asset other than in its entirety (e.g. when the Bank retains an option to repurchase part of a transferred asset), the Bank allocates the previous carrying amount of the financial asset between the part it continues to recognise under continuing involvement, and the part it no longer recognises on the basis of the relative fair values of those parts on the date of the transfer.

(j) **Modification and derecognition of financial liabilities**

The Bank derecognises financial liabilities when, and only when, the Bank's obligations are discharged, cancelled or have expired. The difference between the carrying amount of the financial liability derecognised and the consideration paid and payable is recognised in profit or loss.

When the Bank exchanges with the existing lender one debt instrument into another one with substantially different terms, such exchange is accounted for as an extinguishment of the original financial liability and the recognition of a new financial liability. Similarly, the Bank accounts for substantial modification of terms of an existing liability or part of it as an extinguishment of the original financial liability and the recognition of a new liability. To determine if the modified terms of a liability are substantially different to the original terms a similar process with modification of financial assets is followed. The modification is assessed at first on a qualitative basis, factors such as a change in currency or the introduction of a non-closely related embedded derivative that significantly modifies the cash flows are regarded as substantially different. If it is not clear from the qualitative assessment that a modification has resulted in a substantial change in a financial liability, a quantitative assessment is applied. It is assumed that the terms of the financial liability are substantially different if the discounted present value of the cash flows under the new terms, including any fees paid net of any fees received and discounted using the original effective rate is at least 10 per cent different from the discounted present value of the remaining cash flows of the original financial liability.

If the modification is not substantial, the Bank recalculates the amortised cost of the modified financial liability by discounting the modified contractual cash flows using the original effective interest rate. The Bank recognises any adjustment to the amortised cost of the financial liability in profit or loss as income or expense at the date of the modification. The financial liability modification gain/loss is not significant for the Bank. Modification gains are presented in 'other income' and modification losses are presented in 'other expenses' in profit or loss

(k) **Fair value measurements**

The Bank measures financial instruments, such as, derivatives at fair value at each reporting date. Also, fair values of financial instruments measured at amortised cost are disclosed in **Note 2 (h)**.

The principal or the most advantageous market must be accessible to the Bank.

The fair value of an asset or a liability is measured using the assumptions that market participants would use when pricing the asset or liability, assuming that market participants act in their economic best interest. A fair value measurement of a non-financial asset takes into account a market participant's ability to generate economic benefits by using the asset in its highest and best use or by selling it to another market participant that would use the asset in its highest and best use.

The Bank uses valuation techniques that are appropriate in the circumstances and for which sufficient data are available to measure fair value, maximising the use of relevant observable inputs and minimising the use of unobservable inputs.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 1.2 Material Accounting Policy Information (Cont'd)

(l) **Derivative financial instruments**

Derivative financial instruments include foreign exchange contracts and currency swaps. These are initially recognised in the statement of financial position at cost and subsequently remeasured at their fair value.

Fair values of derivatives between two external currencies are based on interest rate differential between the two currencies. Fair values of forwards involving Mauritian Rupees are based on treasury bills rate or SOFR. All derivatives are carried as assets when fair value is positive and as liabilities when fair value is negative. Transaction costs are charged immediately through profit or loss.

The Bank's derivative transactions, while providing effective economic hedges under the Bank's risk management policies, do not qualify for hedge accounting under the specific rules of IAS 39 and are therefore treated as derivatives held for trading with fair value gains and losses reported through profit and loss.

(m) **Property and equipment**

Property and equipment (except land and buildings) are carried at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment. Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the items. Land and buildings are stated at revalued amounts. Subsequent costs are included in the assets carrying amount or recognised as a separate asset as appropriate, only when it is probable that the future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the Bank and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. The carrying amount of the replaced part is derecognised. All other repairs and maintenance costs are charged to the profit or loss during the financial period in which they are incurred.

Land and work-in-progress are not depreciated. Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost or amount of the valuation of such assets to their residual values on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Buildings	50 years
Laptops	3 years
Mobile phones	3 years
Computer and other equipment	5 years
Furniture and fittings	10 years
Motor vehicles	5 years

The assets' residual values and useful lives and depreciation methods are reviewed and adjusted prospectively, if appropriate, at the end of each reporting period. Where the carrying amount of an asset is greater than its estimated recoverable amount, it is written down immediately to its recoverable amount.

Gains or losses on disposal of property and equipment are determined by reference to their carrying amount and are recognised as income or expense in profit or loss. On disposal of revalued assets, the corresponding amounts included in the revaluation surplus are transferred to retained earnings.

Work-in-Progress ("WIP") is not subject to depreciation. Once the WIP is ready to be used, it will be capitalised and will be depreciated over its useful life.

**Revaluation of property**

Properties are subject to revaluation every 3 years to ensure that the carrying amount does not differ materially from that which would be determined using fair value at the end of the reporting period. Increases in the carrying amount arising on revaluation are credited to other comprehensive income and increase the revaluation surplus in equity. Decreases that offset previous increases of the same asset are recognised in other comprehensive Income and decrease the previously recognised revaluation surplus in equity; all other decreases are charged to profit or loss for the year. The revaluation reserve for premises included in equity is transferred directly to retained earnings when the revaluation surplus is realised on the retirement or disposal of the asset.

(n) **Intangible assets**

*Computer software*

Acquired computer software licences are capitalised on the basis of the costs incurred to acquire and bring to use the specific software. These costs are amortised over their estimated useful lives of five years.



# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 1.2 Material Accounting Policy Information (Cont'd)

(n) **Intangible assets (Cont'd)**

*Computer software (Cont'd)*

Costs associated with developing or maintaining computer software programmes are recognised as an expense as incurred. Development costs that are directly attributable to the design and testing of identifiable and unique software products controlled by the Bank are recognised as intangible assets when the following criteria are met:

- It is technically feasible to complete the software product so that it will be available for use;
- Management intends to complete the software product and use or sell it;
- There is an ability to use or sell the software product;
- It can be demonstrated how the software product will generate probable future economic benefits;
- Adequate technical, financial and other resources to complete the development and to use or sell the software product are available; and
- The expenditure attributable to the software product during its development can be reliably measured.

Directly attributable costs that are capitalised as part of the software product include the software development employee costs and an appropriate portion of relevant overheads. Other development expenditures that do not meet these criteria are recognised as an expense as incurred.

Development costs previously recognised as an expense are not recognised as an asset in a subsequent period. Computer software development costs recognised as assets are amortised over their estimated useful lives, which does not exceed five years.

(o) **Impairment of non-financial assets**

Non-financial assets are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use. For the purpose of assessing impairment, assets are grouped at the lowest levels for which there is separately identifiable cash flow (cash generating units).

The impairment test also can be performed on a single asset when the fair value less cost to sell or the value in use can be determined reliably. Non-financial assets that suffered impairment are reviewed for possible reversal of the impairment at each reporting date.

(p) **Stated Capital**

Ordinary shares are classified as equity. Incremental costs directly attributable to the issue of new shares are shown in equity as a deduction, net of tax, from the proceeds.

(q) **Dividend policy**

Dividends are recorded in equity in the period in which they are declared. Any dividends declared after the end of the reporting period and before the financial statements are authorised for issue, are disclosed in the subsequent events note. The statutory accounting results of the Bank are the basis for profit distribution and other appropriations.

(r) **Deposits from customers, other borrowed funds and subordinated liabilities**

Deposits, other borrowed funds and subordinated liabilities are the Bank's main sources of debt funding.

Deposits, other borrowed funds and subordinated liabilities are initially measured at fair value minus incremental direct transaction costs. Subsequently, they are measured at their amortised cost using the effective interest method.

(s) **Provisions for liabilities**

Provisions are recognised when the Bank has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events, it is probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation, and a reliable estimate of the amount of the obligation can be made.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 1.2 Material Accounting Policy Information (Cont'd)

(t) **Employee Benefits**

(i) *Short-term employee benefits*

Short-term employee benefits are expensed as the related service is provided. A liability is recognised for the amount expected to be paid if the Bank has a present legal or constructive obligation to pay this amount as a result of past service provided by the employee and the obligation can be estimated reliably.

(ii) *Defined contribution pension plan*

The Bank operates a defined contribution pension plan. The contribution payable to the defined contribution plan is in proportion to the services rendered to the Bank by the employees and is recorded as an expense under 'Personnel expenses'. Unpaid contributions are recorded as a liability.

(iii) *Retirement and other benefit obligations*

The present value of retirement gratuity as provided under the Workers Rights Act 2019 is recognised in the statement of financial position as a liability.

Re-measurement, comprising actuarial gains and losses, is reflected immediately in the statement of financial position with a charge or credit recognised in other comprehensive income in the period in which they occur. Re-measurement recognised in other comprehensive income is reflected immediately in retained earnings and will not be reclassified to profit or loss. Past service cost is recognised in profit or loss in the period of a plan amendment. Net interest is calculated by applying the discount rate at the beginning of the period to the net defined benefit liability or asset.

Defined benefit costs are categorised as follows:

- Service cost (including current service cost, past service cost, as well as gains and losses on curtailments and settlements)
- Net interest expense or income
- Remeasurement

The Bank presents the first two components of defined benefit costs in profit or loss in the line item "Personel expenses" as part of staff costs. Curtailment gains and losses are accounted for as past service costs.

State plan

Contributions to the Contribution Sociale Généralisée (CSG) are expensed to profit or loss in the period in which they fall due.

Defined benefit plans

The Bank also operates a defined benefit pension plan.

A defined benefit plan is a pension plan that is not a defined contribution plan. Typically defined benefit plans define an amount of pension benefit that an employee will receive on retirement, usually dependent on one or more factors such as age, years of service and compensation.

The liability recognised in the statement of financial position in respect of defined benefit pension plans is the present value of the defined benefit obligation at the end of the reporting period less the fair value of plan assets. The defined benefit obligation is calculated annually by independent actuaries using the projected unit credit method. The present value of the defined benefit obligation is determined by discounting the estimated future cash flow using interest rates of high quality corporate or government bonds that are denominated in the currency in which the benefits will be paid, and that have terms to maturity approximating the terms of the related pension obligations.

Actuarial gains and losses arising from experience adjustments and changes in actuarial assumptions are charged or credited to equity in other comprehensive income in the period in which they occur.

The Bank determines the net interest expense/(income) on the net defined benefit liability/(asset) for the period by applying the discount rate to the net defined benefit liability/(asset) and the fair value of the planned asset.

Net interest expense/(income) is recognised in of profit or loss.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 1.2 Material Accounting Policy Information (Cont'd)

### (t) Employee Benefits (Cont'd)

#### (iii) Retirement and other benefit obligations (Cont'd)

Service costs comprising current service cost and past service cost are recognised immediately in the statement of profit or loss. Current service cost reflects the increase in the defined benefit obligation resulting from employee service in the current year, benefit charges curtailments and settlements.

#### (iv) Preferential rate loans to employees

The Bank grants loans to its employees at preferential rates. The prepaid employee benefits on these loans is accounted for under 'other assets' and is recognised in profit or loss over the shorter of the life of the loan and the expected service life of the employee. The interest rate on the loan reverts to market rate from the day the employee is no longer employed by the Bank. There may be cases where, following special arrangements, the Bank agrees to keep the loan of the leavers at preferential rates. The prepaid employee benefits are the difference between the present value of future cash flows discounted at commercial rate (which are rates that would be given to similar customers in arm's length transactions), and the carrying amount of the loan. Interest on such loans is then recognised at market rate over the life of the loan.

#### (v) Termination Benefits

Termination benefits are payable when employment is terminated by the Bank before the normal retirement date, or when the employee accepts voluntary redundancy in exchange of these benefits. The Bank recognises termination benefits at the earlier of the following dates:

- (a) When the Bank can no longer withdraw the offer of those benefits;
- (b) When the Bank recognises costs for a restructuring that is within the scope of IAS 37 and involves payment of termination benefits.

In the case of an offer made to encourage voluntary redundancy, the termination benefits are measured based on the number of employees expected to accept the offer. Benefits falling due more than 12 months after the end of the reporting period are discounted to present value.

As at 31 December 2023, no provision has been made for termination benefits (2022 and 2021: Nil).

### (u) Income Tax

Tax expense for the period includes current and deferred tax. Tax is recognised in the statement of profit or loss, except to the extent that it relates to items recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity. In such cases, the tax is recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity, respectively.

#### (i) Current tax

Current income tax assets and/or liabilities comprise those obligations to, or claims from, fiscal authorities relating to the current or prior reporting periods, that are recoverable or unpaid at the reporting date. Current tax is payable on taxable profit, which differs from profit or loss in the financial statements. Calculation of current tax is based on tax rates and tax laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the end of the reporting period.

#### (ii) Special Levy

Special levy on Banks having leviable income not exceeding Rs 1.2 billion are calculated at the rate of 5.5% of net interest income and other income before deduction of expenses. Special levy is not applicable on income derived from transactions with Global Business Licence holders and Mauritian companies to the extent of their Banking transactions carried out through a foreign permanent establishment.

The levy for a Bank in operation as at 30 September 2018 is capped at 1.5 times of the levy payable for the year of assessment 2017-2018. No levy shall be paid for an accounting period where a bank incurred a loss in the accounting period.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 1.2 Material Accounting Policy Information (Cont'd)

### (u) Income Tax (Cont'd)

#### (iii) Corporate Social Responsibility

The Bank also makes a statutory provision for CSR activities at the rate of 2% of chargeable income (Segment A only) as per Income Tax Act 1995 Section 50L.

The required CSR fund for the year is recognised in tax expense in profit or loss. The net amount of CSR fund payable to the taxation authority is included in current tax liabilities in the statement of financial position.

#### (iv) Deferred income tax

Deferred tax is provided for, using the liability method, on all taxable temporary differences arising between the tax bases of assets and liabilities and their carrying amounts in the financial statements.

The principal temporary differences arise from depreciation of property and equipment, provisions for impairment losses on loans and advances and provisions for employee benefits. Deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profit will be available against which deductible temporary differences can be utilised.

Deferred income tax is determined using tax rates (and laws) that have been enacted or substantially enacted by the reporting date and are expected to apply when the related deferred income tax asset is realised or the deferred income tax liability is settled.

Deferred income tax assets and liabilities are offset when there is a legally enforceable right to offset current tax assets against current tax liabilities and when the deferred income tax assets and liabilities relate to income taxes levied by the same tax authorities.

The carrying amount of deferred tax assets is reviewed at each reporting date and reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that sufficient taxable profits will be available to allow all or part of the asset to be recovered.

As per the Mauritian Finance (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2018, the tax rate was amended to 5% (2016-17- 15% less the foreign tax credit of 80%) effective as from 1 July 2020. The directors have agreed to amend the deferred income tax asset rate to 7% (Segment A) and 5% (Segment B) as from 2018.

### (v) Leases

#### The Bank as a lessee

The Bank assesses whether a contract is or contains a lease, at inception of the contract. The Bank recognises a right-of-use asset and a corresponding lease liability with respect to all lease arrangements in which it is the lessee, except for short-term leases (defined as leases with a lease term of 12 months or less) and leases of low value assets (such as tablets and personal computers, small items of office furniture and telephones). For these leases, the Bank recognises the lease payments as an operating expense on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease unless another systematic basis is more representative of the time pattern in which economic benefits from the leased assets are consumed.

The lease liability is initially measured at the present value of the lease payments that are not paid at the commencement date, discounted by using the rate implicit in the lease. If this rate cannot be readily determined, the lessee uses its incremental borrowing rate.

The incremental borrowing rate depends on the term, currency and start date of the lease and is determined based on a series of inputs including: the risk-free rate based on government bond rates; a country-specific risk adjustment; a credit risk adjustment based on bond yields; and an entity-specific adjustment when the risk profile of the entity that enters into the lease is different to that of the Bank and the lease does not benefit from a guarantee from the Bank.

Lease payments included in the measurement of the lease liability comprise:

- Fixed lease payments (including in-substance fixed payments), less any lease incentives receivable;
- Variable lease payments that depend on an index or rate, initially measured using the index or rate at the commencement date;
- The amount expected to be payable by the lessee under residual value guarantees;
- The exercise price of purchase options, if the lessee is reasonably certain to exercise the options; and
- Payments of penalties for terminating the lease, if the lease term reflects the exercise of an option to terminate the lease.

The lease liability is presented as a separate line in the statement of financial position.



# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 1.2 Material Accounting Policy Information (Cont'd)

### (v) Leases (Cont'd)

The lease liability is subsequently measured by increasing the carrying amount to reflect interest on the lease liability (using the effective interest method) and by reducing the carrying amount to reflect the lease payments made.

The Bank remeasures the lease liability (and makes a corresponding adjustment to the related right-of-use asset) whenever:

- The lease term has changed or there is a significant event or change in circumstances resulting in a change in the assessment of exercise of a purchase option, in which case the lease liability is remeasured by discounting the revised lease payments using a revised discount rate.
- The lease payments change due to changes in an index or rate or a change in expected payment under a guaranteed residual value, in which cases the lease liability is remeasured by discounting the revised lease payments using an unchanged discount rate (unless the lease payments change is due to a change in a floating interest rate, in which case a revised discount rate is used).
- A lease contract is modified and the lease modification is not accounted for as a separate lease, in which case the lease liability is remeasured based on the lease term of the modified lease by discounting the revised lease payments using a revised discount rate at the effective date of the modification.

The Bank did not make any such adjustments in the current and prior years.

The right-of-use assets comprise the initial measurement of the corresponding lease liability, lease payments made at or before the commencement day, less any lease incentives received and any initial direct costs. They are subsequently measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Whenever the Bank incurs an obligation for costs to dismantle and remove a leased asset, restore the site on which it is located or restore the underlying asset to the condition required by the terms and conditions of the lease, a provision is recognised and measured under IAS 37 Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets. To the extent that the costs relate to a right-of-use asset, the costs are included in the related right-of-use assets.

Right-of-use assets are depreciated over the shorter period of lease term and useful life of the underlying asset. If a lease transfers ownership of the underlying asset or the cost of the right-of-use asset reflects that the Bank expects to exercise a purchase option, the related right-of-use asset is depreciated over the useful life of the underlying asset. The depreciation starts at the commencement date of the lease.

The right-of-use assets are presented as a separate line item in the statement of financial position.

The Bank applies IAS 36 Impairment of Assets to determine whether a right-of-use asset is impaired and accounts for any identified impairment loss as described in the "Impairment of non-financial assets" policy.

Variable rents that do not depend on an index or rate are not included in the measurement of the lease liability and the right-of-use asset. The related payments are recognised as an expense in the period in which the event or condition that triggers those payments occurs and are included in 'Other expenses' in profit or loss.

As a practical expedient, IFRS 16 permits a lessee not to separate non-lease components, and instead account for any lease and associated non-lease components as a single arrangement. The Bank has not used this practical expedient. For contracts that contain a lease component and one or more additional lease or non-lease components, the Bank allocates the consideration in the contract to each lease component on the basis of the relative stand-alone price of the lease component and the aggregate stand-alone price of the non-lease components.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 1.2 Material Accounting Policy Information (Cont'd)

### (v) Leases (Cont'd)

#### *The Bank as a lessor*

The Bank is engaged in the provision of finance leases to both individuals and corporates. The Bank's portfolio is made up of principally motor vehicles and equipment. The credit quality of the lease book is monitored by a dedicated Credit Risk Team, with the Bank having established strong credit quality assessment criteria, with monitoring of credit limits and collateralisation.

Leases for which the Bank is a lessor are classified as finance leases.

#### (i) *Recognition and initial measurement for finance lease receivables*

Under a finance lease, substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to legal ownership are transferred by the Bank, and thus the lease payment receivable is treated by the Bank as repayment of principal and interest income to reimburse and reward the lessor for its investment and services. The difference between the gross receivable and the present value of the receivable is recognised as unearned finance income.

Initial direct costs such as commissions, legal fees and internal costs that are incremental and directly attributable to negotiating and arranging a lease, but excluding general overheads, are included in the initial measurement of the finance lease receivable and reduce the amount of income recognised over the lease term. The interest rate implicit in the lease is defined in such a way that the initial direct costs are included automatically in the finance lease receivable; there is no need to add them separately.

#### (ii) *Subsequent measurement*

The recognition of interest income shall be based on a pattern reflecting a constant periodic rate of return on the lessor's net investment in the finance lease. The Bank aims to allocate interest income over the lease term on a systematic and rational basis. This income allocation is based on a pattern reflecting a constant periodic return on the Bank's finance lease receivable.

Finance lease income is calculated with reference to the gross carrying amount of the lease receivables, except for credit-impaired financial assets for which interest income is calculated with reference to their amortised cost (i.e. after a deduction of the loss allowance).

Amounts due from lessees under finance leases are recognised as receivables at the amount of the Bank's net investment in finance lease receivables. Subsequent to initial recognition, the Bank regularly reviews the estimated unguaranteed residual value and applies the impairment requirements of IFRS 9, recognising an allowance for expected credit losses on the lease receivables.

Lease repayments relating to the period, excluding cost for services, are applied against the gross investment in the lease receivables to reduce both the principal and the unearned finance income. Estimated unguaranteed residual values used in computing the Bank's gross investment in a lease are reviewed regularly. If there has been a reduction in the estimated unguaranteed residual value, the income allocation over the lease is revised and any reduction in respect of amounts accrued is recognised immediately.

### (w) Related parties

For the purposes of these financial statements, parties are considered to be related to the Bank if they have the ability, directly or indirectly, to control the Bank or exercises significant influence over the Bank in making financial and operating decisions, or vice versa, or if they and the Bank are subject to common control. Related parties may be individuals or other entities.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 1.2 Material Accounting Policy Information (Cont'd)

### (x) Segment reporting

The Bank has prepared its separate financial statements in line with the requirements of the Bank of Mauritius Guideline on 'Segmental Reporting under a Single Banking Licence Regime' and Bank of Mauritius Guideline on 'Public Disclosure of Information' which require that segment information should be provided by Segment A and Segment B banking businesses.

Segment B is essentially directed to the provision of international financial services that gives rise to foreign source income. Such services may be fund based or non-fund based.

Segment A relates to Banking business other than Segment B business.

Expenditure incurred by the Bank but which is not directly attributable to its income derived from Mauritius or its foreign source income is apportioned in a fair and reasonable manner.

Neither these guidelines nor IFRS mandate the application of IFRS 8 Operating Segments to the financial statements of the Bank. The financial statements do not purport to comply with the requirements of IFRS 8.

## 1.3 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

The Bank makes estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year. All estimates and assumptions required in conformity with IFRS are best estimates undertaken in accordance with the applicable standard. Estimates and judgements are evaluated on a continuous basis, and are based on past experience and other factors, including expectations with regard to future events.

Accounting policies and directors' judgements for certain items are especially critical for the Bank's results and financial situation due to their materiality.

### (a) Going concern

Directors have made an assessment of the the Bank's ability to continue as a going concern and are satisfied that the Bank have the resources to continue in business for the foreseeable future. Furthermore, directors are not aware of any material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt upon the Bank's ability to continue as a going concern. Hence, the financial statements continue to be prepared on the going concern basis.

### (b) Determination of functional currency

The determination of the functional currency of the Bank is critical since the way in which every transaction is recorded and whether exchange differences arise are dependent on the functional currency selected. The directors have considered those factors therein and have determined the functional currency of the Bank as Mauritian Rupees (MUR).

### (c) Business model assessment

Classification and measurement of financial assets depends on the results of the SPPI and the business model test (please see financial assets sections of Note 1.1 (g)). The Bank determines the business model at a level that reflects how groups of financial assets are managed together to achieve a particular business objective. This assessment includes judgement reflecting all relevant evidence including how the performance of the assets is evaluated and their performance is measured, the risks that affect the performance of the assets and how these are managed and how the managers of the assets are compensated. The Bank monitors financial assets measured at amortised cost or fair value through other comprehensive income that are derecognised prior to their maturity to understand the reason for their disposal and whether the reasons are consistent with the objective of the business for which the asset was held. Monitoring is part of the Bank's continuous assessment of whether the business model for which the remaining financial assets are held continues to be appropriate and if it is not appropriate whether there has been a change in business model and so a prospective change to the classification of those assets.

### (d) Calculation of ECL allowance

Significant increase of credit risk: As explained in note 1.2(g), ECL are measured as an allowance equal to 12-month ECL for stage 1 assets, or lifetime ECL for stage 2 or stage 3 assets. An asset moves to stage 2 when its credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition. IFRS 9 does not define what constitutes a significant increase in credit risk. In assessing whether the credit risk of an asset has significantly increased the Bank takes into account qualitative and quantitative reasonable and supportable forward-looking information.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 1.3 Critical accounting estimates and judgements (Cont'd)

### (d) Calculation of ECL allowance (Cont'd)

Establishing groups of assets with similar credit risk characteristics: When ECLs are measured on a collective basis, the financial instruments are grouped on the basis of shared risk characteristics. Refer to Note 1.2(g) for details of the characteristics considered in this judgement. The Bank monitors the appropriateness of the credit risk characteristics on an ongoing basis to assess whether they continue to be similar. This is required in order to ensure that should credit risk characteristics change there is appropriate re-segmentation of the assets. This may result in new portfolios being created or assets moving to an existing portfolio that better reflects the similar credit risk characteristics of that group of assets. Re-segmentation of portfolios and movement between portfolios is more common when there is a significant increase in credit risk (or when that significant increase reverses) and so assets move from 12-month to lifetime ECLs, or vice versa, but it can also occur within portfolios that continue to be measured on the same basis of 12-month or lifetime ECLs but the amount of ECL changes because the credit risk of the portfolios differs.

Models and assumptions used: The Bank uses various models and assumptions in measuring fair value of financial assets as well as in estimating ECL. Judgement is applied in identifying the most appropriate model for each type of asset, as well as for determining the assumptions used in these models, including assumptions that relate to key drivers of credit risk.

- When measuring ECL the Bank uses reasonable and supportable forward-looking information, which is based on assumptions for the future movement of different economic drivers and how these drivers will affect each other.
- Probability of default: PD constitutes a key input in measuring ECL. PD is an estimate of the likelihood of default over a given time horizon, the calculation of which includes historical information, assumptions and expectations of future conditions.
- Loss Given Default: LGD is an estimate of the loss arising on default. It is based on the difference between the contractual cash flows due and those that the lender would expect to receive, taking into account cash flows from collateral and integral credit enhancements. Refer to Note 1.2(g) for more details.

Actual loss experience may differ from changes in estimated forward looking information and economic drivers.

The Bank reviews its individually significant loans and advances at each reporting date to assess whether an impairment loss should be recorded in profit or loss. In particular, judgement by management is required in the estimation of the amount and timing of future cash flows when determining the impairment loss. In estimating these cash flows, the Bank makes judgements about the borrower's financial situation and the net realisable value of collaterals. These estimates are based on assumptions about a number of factors and actual results may differ, resulting in future changes to the allowance.

### (e) Fair value of financial instruments

Where the fair values of financial assets and financial liabilities recorded on the statements of financial position cannot be derived from active markets, they are determined using a variety of valuation techniques that include the use of mathematical models. The input to these models is taken from observable market data where possible, but where observable data is not available, a degree of judgement is required in establishing fair values. The judgements include considerations of liquidity and model inputs such as correlation and volatility for longer dated derivatives. Further details on the fair valuation of financial instruments are included in Note 2(i) to the financial statements.

### (f) Retirement benefits

The present value of the retirement benefit obligations depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a number of assumptions. Any changes in these assumptions will impact the carrying amount of pension obligations.

The assumptions used in determining the net cost (income) for pensions include the discount rate. The actuarial report determines the appropriate discount rate at the end of each year and which is validated by the Bank. This is the interest rate that should be used to determine the present value of estimated future cash outflows expected to be required to settle the pension obligations. In determining the appropriate discount rate, the actuary considers the interest rates of high-quality corporate bonds that are denominated in the currency in which the benefits will be paid and that have terms to maturity approximating the terms of the related pension liability. Other key assumptions for pension obligations are based in part on current market conditions.

Further information on the carrying amounts of the Bank's retirement benefit obligations and the sensitivity of those amounts to changes in discount rate are provided in note 28.

### (g) Leases

The application of IFRS 16 requires significant judgements and certain key estimations. Critical judgements include determination of whether it is reasonably certain that an extension or termination option will be exercised. Key sources of estimation uncertainty in the application of IFRS 16 include estimation of the lease terms, determination of the appropriate rate to discount the lease payments and assessment of whether a right-of-use asset is impaired.



# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 1.3 Critical accounting estimates and judgements (Cont'd)

### (h) Provisions and other contingent liabilities

Provision is recognised in the financial statements when the Bank has met the recognition criterion. The directors measure the provision at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date. Actual results may be different from their estimates.

In specific circumstances, significant judgment is required from directors to identify the financial effects to be disclosed attributable to the uncertainties inherent in contingent liabilities.

## 2 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT

### (a) Strategy in using financial instruments

The Bank's business involves taking risks in a targeted manner and managing them professionally. The core functions of the Bank's risk management are to identify all key risks for the Bank, measure these risks, manage the risk positions and determine capital allocations. The Bank regularly reviews its risk management policies and systems to reflect changes in markets, products and best market practice.

The Bank's aim is to achieve an appropriate balance between risk and return and minimise potential adverse effects on the Bank's financial performance. The Bank defines risk as the possibility of losses or profits foregone, which may be caused by internal or external factors.

Risk Management is carried out by the Risk Department under policies approved by the Board of Directors. The Risk Department identifies, evaluates and monitors financial risk in close collaboration with the operating units including Treasury.

### (b) Credit risk

Credit Risk is the risk of suffering financial loss, should any of the Bank's customers, clients or market counterparties fail to fulfil their contractual obligations to the Bank. Credit Risk arises mainly from commercial and consumer advances, credit cards, and loan commitments arising from such lending activities, but can also arise from credit enhancement provided, financial guarantees, letters of credit, endorsements and acceptances.

The Bank is also exposed to other credit risks arising from investments in debt securities and other exposures arising from its trading activities, including non-equity trading portfolio assets, derivatives and settlement balances with market counterparties.

Credit risk is the single largest risk for the Bank's business. The directors therefore carefully manage the exposure of the Bank to credit risk. The credit risk management and control are centralised in a credit risk management team, which reports to the Chief Risk Officer who in turn reports to the Chief Executive Officer.

Analysis of loans and advances

	Dec-23 Rs 000	Dec-22 Rs 000	Dec-21 Rs 000
Stage 1	27,114,980	24,500,602	20,554,010
Stage 2	347,469	990,854	419,461
Stage 3	1,205,299	580,214	700,531
Gross	28,667,748	26,071,670	21,674,002
Less allowance for credit impairment	(664,678)	(744,220)	(863,208)
Net	28,003,070	25,327,450	20,810,794
Loans and advances renegotiated	94,313	28,930	9,814
Fair value of collaterals	94,313	28,930	9,269

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 2 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (CONT'D)

### (b) Credit risk (Cont'd)

#### (i) Maximum exposure to credit risk before collateral and other credit risk enhancements

Credit risk exposures relating to on balance sheet assets are as follows:

	Dec-23 Rs 000	Dec-22 Rs 000	Dec-21 Rs 000
Balances with Banks in Mauritius, Banks abroad and inter Bank placements	8,462,698	6,898,615	10,449,280
Derivative assets held for risk management	4,580	3,116	42,826
Government of Mauritius/Bank of Mauritius securities	4,496,054	3,680,651	5,252,863
Other Investments	8,548,996	8,644,778	7,151,198
Loans and advances to customers and Banks	28,003,070	25,327,450	20,810,794
Others	1,724,124	1,314,092	1,259,106
Credit risk exposures relating to off balance sheet assets are as follows:			
Financial guarantees	2,967,346	2,387,488	920,689
Loans commitments and other credit related liabilities	2,795,582	1,976,757	4,108,310
<b>Total</b>	<b>57,002,450</b>	<b>50,232,947</b>	<b>49,995,066</b>

#### (ii) Maximum exposure to credit risk- Financial instruments subject to impairment

The following table contains an analysis of the credit risk exposure of financial instruments for which an ECL allowance is recognised. The gross carrying amount of financial assets below also represents the Bank's maximum exposure to credit risk on these assets:

#### (a) Loans and advances to Banks at amortised cost

##### Loans and advances to Banks at amortised cost

	2023			
	Stage 1 12M ECL	Stage 2 Lifetime ECL	Stage 3 Lifetime ECL	Total
	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000
Performing	8,917,253	-	-	8,917,253
Special Mention	-	-	-	-
Sub-Standard	-	-	-	-
Doubtful	-	-	-	-
Loss	-	-	-	-
<b>Gross carrying amount</b>	<b>8,917,253</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,917,253</b>
Loss allowance	(43,269)	-	-	(43,269)
<b>Carrying amount</b>	<b>8,873,984</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,873,984</b>

##### Loans and advances to Banks at amortised cost

	2022			
	Stage 1 12M ECL	Stage 2 Lifetime ECL	Stage 3 Lifetime ECL	Total
	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000
Performing	5,150,285	-	-	5,150,285
Special Mention	-	-	-	-
Sub-Standard	-	-	-	-
Doubtful	-	-	-	-
Loss	-	-	-	-
<b>Gross carrying amount</b>	<b>5,150,285</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,150,285</b>
Loss allowance	(3,100)	-	-	(3,100)
<b>Carrying amount</b>	<b>5,147,185</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,147,185</b>

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

2 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (CONT'D)

(b) Credit risk (Cont'd)

(ii) Maximum exposure to credit risk- Financial instruments subject to impairment (Cont'd)

(a) Loans and advances to Banks at amortised cost (Cont'd)

Loans and advances to Banks at amortised cost

	2021			
	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Total
	12M ECL	Lifetime ECL	Lifetime ECL	
	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000
Performing	3,339,038	-	-	3,339,038
Special Mention	-	-	-	-
Sub-Standard	-	-	-	-
Doubtful	-	-	-	-
Loss	-	-	-	-
Gross carrying amount	3,339,038	-	-	3,339,038
Loss allowance	(2,793)	-	-	(2,793)
Carrying amount	3,336,245	-	-	3,336,245

(b) Loans and advances to customers at amortised cost

Loans and advances to customers at amortised cost

	2023			
	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Total
	12M ECL	Lifetime ECL	Lifetime ECL	
	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000
Performing	18,369,218	-	-	18,369,218
Special Mention	-	175,978	-	175,978
Sub Standard	-	-	734,544	734,544
Doubtful	-	-	310,113	310,113
Loss	-	-	160,642	160,642
Gross carrying amount	18,369,218	175,978	1,205,299	19,750,495
Loss allowance	(49,673)	(6,393)	(565,343)	(621,409)
Carrying amount	18,319,545	169,585	639,956	19,129,086

Loans and advances to customers at amortised cost

	2022			
	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Total
	12M ECL	Lifetime ECL	Lifetime ECL	
	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000
Performing	19,350,317	-	-	19,350,317
Special Mention	-	990,854	-	990,854
Sub Standard	-	-	307,156	307,156
Doubtful	-	-	142,567	142,567
Loss	-	-	130,491	130,491
Gross carrying amount	19,350,317	990,854	580,214	20,921,385
Loss allowance	(160,788)	(61,389)	(518,943)	(741,120)
Carrying amount	19,189,529	929,465	61,271	20,180,265

Loans and advances to customers at amortised cost

	2021			
	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Total
	12M ECL	Lifetime ECL	Lifetime ECL	
	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000
Performing	17,214,972	-	-	17,214,972
Special Mention	-	419,461	-	419,461
Sub Standard	-	-	99,600	99,600
Doubtful	-	-	382,887	382,887
Loss	-	-	218,044	218,044
Gross carrying amount	17,214,972	419,461	700,531	18,334,964
Loss allowance	(255,994)	(21,178)	(583,243)	(860,415)
Carrying amount	16,958,978	398,283	117,288	17,474,549

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

2 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (CONT'D)

(b) Credit risk (Cont'd)

(ii) Maximum exposure to credit risk- Financial instruments subject to impairment (Cont'd)

(c) Investments in debt instruments at amortised cost

Investments in debt instruments at amortised cost

	2023			
	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Total
	12M ECL	Lifetime ECL	Lifetime ECL	
	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000
Performing	10,625,229	-	-	10,625,229
Special Mention	-	-	-	-
Sub Standard	-	-	-	-
Doubtful	-	-	-	-
Loss	-	-	-	-
Gross carrying amount	10,625,229	-	-	10,625,229
Loss allowance	(7,638)	-	-	(7,638)
Carrying amount	10,617,591	-	-	10,617,591

Investments in debt instruments at amortised cost

	2022			
	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Total
	12M ECL	Lifetime ECL	Lifetime ECL	
	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000
Performing	10,937,676	-	-	10,937,676
Special Mention	-	-	-	-
Sub Standard	-	-	-	-
Doubtful	-	-	-	-
Loss	-	-	-	-
Gross carrying amount	10,937,676	-	-	10,937,676
Loss allowance	(15,121)	-	-	(15,121)
Carrying amount	10,922,555	-	-	10,922,555

Investments in debt instruments at amortised cost

	2021			
	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Total
	12M ECL	Lifetime ECL	Lifetime ECL	
	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000
Performing	10,339,563	-	-	10,339,563
Special Mention	-	-	-	-
Sub Standard	-	-	-	-
Doubtful	-	-	-	-
Loss	-	-	-	-
Gross carrying amount	10,339,563	-	-	10,339,563
Loss allowance	(18,603)	-	-	(18,603)
Carrying amount	10,320,960	-	-	10,320,960

(d) Investments in debt instruments at FVTOCI

Investments in debt instruments at FVTOCI

	2023			
	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Total
	12M ECL	Lifetime ECL	Lifetime ECL	
	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000
Performing	2,395,437	-	-	2,395,437
Special Mention	-	-	-	-
Sub-Standard	-	-	-	-
Doubtful	-	-	-	-
Loss	-	-	-	-
Gross carrying amount	2,395,437	-	-	2,395,437



# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 2 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (CONT'D)

(b) Credit risk (Cont'd)

(ii) Maximum exposure to credit risk- Financial instruments subject to impairment (Cont'd)

(d) Investments in debt instruments at FVTOCI (Cont'd)

Investments in debt instruments at FVTOCI

	2022			Total
	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	
	12M ECL	Lifetime ECL	Lifetime ECL	
	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000
Performing	1,366,817	-	-	1,366,817
Special Mention	-	-	-	-
Sub-Standard	-	-	-	-
Doubtful	-	-	-	-
Loss	-	-	-	-
Gross carrying amount	1,366,817	-	-	1,366,817

Investments in debt instruments at FVTOCI

	2021			Total
	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	
	12M ECL	Lifetime ECL	Lifetime ECL	
	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000
Performing	2,053,080	-	-	2,053,080
Special Mention	-	-	-	-
Sub-Standard	-	-	-	-
Doubtful	-	-	-	-
Loss	-	-	-	-
Gross carrying amount	2,053,080	-	-	2,053,080

(e) Financial guarantees

Financial guarantees

	2023			Total
	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	
	12M ECL	Lifetime ECL	Lifetime ECL	
	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000
Performing	2,964,262	-	-	2,964,262
Special Mention	-	3,084	-	3,084
Sub-Standard	-	-	-	-
Doubtful	-	-	-	-
Loss	-	-	-	-
Gross carrying amount	2,964,262	3,084	-	2,967,346
Loss allowance	(5,079)	-	-	(5,079)
Carrying amount	2,959,183	3,084	-	2,962,267

Financial guarantees

	2022			Total
	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	
	12M ECL	Lifetime ECL	Lifetime ECL	
	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000
Performing	2,385,040	-	-	2,385,040
Special Mention	-	2,448	-	2,448
Sub-Standard	-	-	-	-
Doubtful	-	-	-	-
Loss	-	-	-	-
Gross carrying amount	2,385,040	2,448	-	2,387,488
Loss allowance	(15,528)	(36)	-	(15,564)
Carrying amount	2,369,512	2,412	-	2,371,924

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 2 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (CONT'D)

(b) Credit risk (Cont'd)

(ii) Maximum exposure to credit risk- Financial instruments subject to impairment (Cont'd)

Financial guarantees

	2021			Total
	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	
	12M ECL	Lifetime ECL	Lifetime ECL	
	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000
Performing	898,299	-	-	898,299
Special Mention	-	22,390	-	22,390
Sub-Standard	-	-	-	-
Doubtful	-	-	-	-
Loss	-	-	-	-
Gross carrying amount	898,299	22,390	-	920,689
Loss allowance	(7,125)	(1,211)	-	(8,336)
Carrying amount	891,174	21,179	-	912,353

Collateral and other credit enhancements

The Bank employs a range of policies and practices to mitigate credit risk. The most common of these is accepting collateral for funds advanced. The Bank has internal policies on the acceptability of specific classes of collateral or credit risk mitigation.

The Bank prepares a valuation of the collateral obtained as part of the loan origination process. The principal collateral types for loans and advances are:

- Mortgages over residential properties;
- Charges over business assets such as premises, inventory and accounts receivable; and
- Charges over financial instruments such as debt instruments and equity securities.

Longer term finance and lending to corporate entities are generally secured; revolving individual credit facilities are generally unsecured.

Collateral held as security for financial assets other than loans and advances depends on the nature of the instrument. Debt instruments or other investments are generally unsecured. The Bank's policies regarding obtaining collateral have not significantly changed during the reporting period and there has been no significant change in the overall quality of the collateral held by the Bank since the prior period.

The Bank closely monitors collateral held for financial assets considered to be credit-impaired, as it becomes more likely that the Bank will take possession of collateral to mitigate potential credit losses. Financial assets that are credit-impaired and related collateral held in order to mitigate potential losses are shown below:

(f) Credit impaired assets

Credit-impaired assets

	2023			Fair Value of collateral held
	Gross Exposure	Impairment Allowance	Carrying Amount	
	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000
Loans to individuals:				
Personal Loan	48,968	48,419	549	1,700
Housing Loan	44,702	17,388	27,314	148,363
Car Loan	985	396	589	22,011
Property Loan	10,460	991	9,469	104,345
Other	15,483	12,423	3,060	59,655
Loans to corporate entities:				
State and Local government	563,215	70,574	492,641	528,905
Loans to corporate entities:				
Large corporate customers	497,722	407,973	89,749	534,233
Small and Medium sized enterprises (SMEs)				
Other	23,764	7,179	16,585	115,581
Total credit-impaired assets	1,205,299	565,343	639,956	1,514,793

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

2 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (CONT'D)

(b) Credit risk (Cont'd)

(ii) Maximum exposure to credit risk- Financial instruments subject to impairment (Cont'd)

(f) Credit impaired assets (Cont'd)

Credit-impaired assets

Loans to individuals:

Personal Loan
Housing Loan
Car Loan
Property Loan
Other
Loans to corporate entities:
Large corporate customers
Small and Medium sized enterprises (SMEs)
Other
Total credit-impaired assets

Credit-impaired assets

Loans to individuals:

Personal Loan
Housing Loan
Car Loan
Property Loan
Other
Loans to corporate entities:
Large corporate customers
Small and Medium sized enterprises (SMEs)
Other
Total credit-impaired assets

(g) The table summarises the distribution of LTV ratios for the Bank's credit-impaired portfolio

Portfolio-LTV distribution

Lower than 50%
50-60%
60-70%
70-80%
80-90%
90-100%
Higher than 100%
Total

2022

Gross Exposure	Impairment Allowance	Carrying Amount	Fair Value of collateral held
Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000
54,102	51,101	3,001	36,069
57,136	23,471	33,665	174,954
1,164	382	782	4,291
17,058	4,619	12,439	116,622
8,394	5,502	2,892	51,337
429,862	427,074	2,788	655,532
12,498	6,794	5,704	47,100
580,214	518,943	61,271	1,085,905

2021

Gross Exposure	Impairment Allowance	Carrying Amount	Fair Value of collateral held
Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000
52,119	52,116	3	119
52,620	20,149	32,471	124,468
870	367	503	1,409
41,107	16,627	24,480	132,367
26,861	16,772	10,089	113,655
511,747	470,649	41,098	591,211
15,207	6,563	8,644	40,267
700,531	583,243	117,288	1,003,496

2023

Credit -impaired (Gross carrying amount)			International Banking
Retail	Corporate		
Rs'000	Rs'000		Rs'000
115,922	8,471		259,083
-	-		-
14,956	127,468		-
1,129	-		-
3,874	-		-
2,789	-		-
4,612	104,681		562,314
143,282	240,620		821,397

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

2 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (CONT'D)

(b) Credit risk (Cont'd)

(ii) Maximum exposure to credit risk- Financial instruments subject to impairment (Cont'd)

(g) The table summarises the distribution of LTV ratios for the Bank's credit-impaired portfolio (Cont'd)

Portfolio-LTV distribution

Lower than 50%
50-60%
60-70%
70-80%
80-90%
90-100%
Higher than 100%
Total

Portfolio-LTV distribution

Lower than 50%
50-60%
60-70%
70-80%
80-90%
90-100%
Higher than 100%
Total

(iii) Loss allowance

The loss allowance recognised in the period is impacted by a variety of factors, as described below:

- Transfers between Stage 1 and Stages 2 or 3 due to financial instruments experiencing significant increases (or decreases) or credit risk or becoming credit-impaired in the period, and the consequent 'step up' (or 'step down') between 12-month and lifetime ECL;
- Additional allowances for new financial instruments recognised during the period, as well as releases for financial instruments derecognised in the period;
- Impact on the measurement of ECL due to changes in PDs. EADs and LGDs in the period, arising from regular refreshing of inputs to models;
- Impacts on the measurement of ECL due to changes made to models and assumptions;
- Discount unwind within ECL due to the passage of time, as ECL is measured on a present value basis;
- Foreign exchange retranslations for assets denominated in foreign currencies and other movements; and
- Financial assets derecognised during the period and write-offs of allowances related to assets that were written off during the period.



Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

2 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (CONT'D)

(b) Credit risk (Cont'd)

(iii) Loss allowance (Cont'd)

The following tables explain the changes in the loss allowance between the beginning and the end of the annual period due to these factors:

	Stage 1 12-month ECL	Stage 2 Lifetime ECL	Stage 3 Lifetime ECL	Total
Loss allowance - Class of Asset - Retail	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000
Loss allowance as at 01 January 2023	54,825	3,121	97,102	155,048
Movements with P&L impact				-
Transfers:				-
Transfer from stage 1 to stage 2	(1,320)	1,320	-	-
Transfer from stage 1 to stage 3	(1,183)	-	1,183	-
Transfer from stage 2 to stage 1	96	(96)	-	-
New financial assets originated or purchased	37,310	441	-	37,751
Changes to PDs/LGDs/EADs	(69,133)	20,335	(50,968)	(99,766)
Total net P&L charge during the year	(34,230)	22,000	(49,785)	(62,015)
Other movement with no P&L impact				-
Transfers:				-
Transfer from stage 2 to stage 3	-	(22,421)	22,421	-
Financial assets derecognised during the year	(2,559)	(329)	(10,463)	(13,351)
Write-offs	-	-	26,625	26,625
Loss allowance as at 31 December 2023	18,036	2,371	85,900	106,307

	Stage 1 12-month ECL	Stage 2 Lifetime ECL	Stage 3 Lifetime ECL	Total
Loss allowance - Class of Asset - Retail	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000
Loss allowance as at 01 January 2022	75,029	6,533	131,550	213,112
Movements with P&L impact				-
Transfers:				-
Transfer from stage 1 to stage 2	(2,309)	2,309	-	-
Transfer from stage 1 to stage 3	(4,719)	-	4,719	-
Transfer from stage 2 to stage 1	48	(48)	-	-
New financial assets originated or purchased	13,722	499	-	14,221
Changes to PDs/LGDs/EADs	(19,408)	934	(117,462)	(135,936)
Total net P&L charge during the year	(12,666)	3,694	(112,743)	(121,715)
Other movement with no P&L impact				-
Transfers:				-
Transfer from stage 3 to stage 2	-	(5,103)	5,103	-
Financial assets derecognised during the year	(7,538)	(2,003)	-	(9,541)
Write-offs	-	-	73,192	73,192
Loss allowance as at 31 December 2022	54,825	3,121	97,102	155,048

	Stage 1 12-month ECL	Stage 2 Lifetime ECL	Stage 3 Lifetime ECL	Total
Loss allowance - Class of Asset - Retail	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000
Loss allowance as at 01 January 2021	127,057	4,854	170,668	302,579
Movements with P&L impact				-
Transfers:				-
Transfer from stage 1 to stage 2	(2,956)	2,956	-	-
Transfer from stage 1 to stage 3	(9,457)	-	9,457	-
Transfer from stage 2 to stage 1	298	(298)	-	-
New financial assets originated or purchased	14,735	425	3,753	18,913
Changes to PDs/LGDs/EADs	(47,357)	2,586	(55,914)	(100,685)
Total net P&L charge during the year	(44,737)	5,669	(42,704)	(81,772)
Other movement with no P&L impact				-
Transfers:				-
Transfer from stage 2 to stage 3	-	(3,586)	3,586	-
Financial assets derecognised during the year	(7,291)	(404)	-	(7,695)
Loss allowance as at 31 December 2021	75,029	6,533	131,550	213,112

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

2 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (CONT'D)

(b) Credit risk (Cont'd)

(iii) Loss allowance (Cont'd)

Loss allowance - Class of Asset - Corporate

Loss allowance as at 01 January 2023			
Movements with P&L impact			-
Transfers:			-
Transfer from stage 1 to stage 2	-	26	-
Transfer from stage 2 to stage 1	9	(9)	-
New financial assets originated or purchased	4,663	62	437
Changes to PDs/LGDs/EADs	(71,920)	5,420	(597)
Total net P&L charge during the year	(67,248)	5,499	(160)
Other movement with no P&L impact			-
Transfers:			-
Transfer from stage 2 to stage 3	-	(9,050)	30,405
Financial assets derecognised during the year	(12,405)	(9,418)	(39,712)
Write-offs	-	-	(10,303)
Loss allowance as at 31 December 2023	24,601	2,040	149,383

Loss allowance - Class of Asset - Corporate

Loss allowance as at 01 January 2022			
Movements with P&L impact			-
Transfers:			-
Transfer from stage 1 to stage 2	(1,366)	1,366	-
Transfer from stage 2 to stage 1	620	(620)	-
New financial assets originated or purchased	6,528	62	436
Changes to PDs/LGDs/EADs	(58,076)	1,309	(11,356)
Total net P&L charge during the year	(52,294)	2,117	(10,920)
Other movement with no P&L impact			-
Transfers:			-
Financial assets derecognised during the year	(30,609)	(2,905)	-
Write-offs	-	-	(34,199)
Loss allowance as at 31 December 2022	104,254	15,009	169,153

Loss allowance- Class of Asset - Corporate

Loss allowance as at 01 January 2021			
Movements with P&L impact			-
Transfers:			-
Transfer from stage 1 to stage 2	(2,551)	2,551	-
Transfer from stage 2 to stage 1	12,263	(12,263)	-
New financial assets originated or purchased	9,232	168	-
Changes to PDs/LGDs/EADs	48,790	(22,190)	(87,855)
Total net P&L charge during the year	67,734	(31,734)	(87,855)
Other movement with no P&L impact			-
Transfers:			-
Financial assets derecognised during the year	(26,705)	(2,530)	-
Write-offs	-	-	-
Loss allowance as at 31 December 2021	187,157	15,797	214,272

Stage 1 12-month ECL	Stage 2 Lifetime ECL	Stage 3 Lifetime ECL	Total
Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000
104,254	15,009	169,153	288,416
			-
			-
-	26	-	26
9	(9)	-	-
4,663	62	437	5,162
(71,920)	5,420	(597)	(67,097)
(67,248)	5,499	(160)	(61,909)
			-
			-
-	(9,050)	30,405	21,355
(12,405)	(9,418)	(39,712)	(61,535)
-	-	(10,303)	(10,303)
24,601	2,040	149,383	176,024

Stage 1 12-month ECL	Stage 2 Lifetime ECL	Stage 3 Lifetime ECL	Total
Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000
187,157	15,797	214,272	417,226
			-
			-
(1,366)	1,366	-	-
620	(620)	-	-
6,528	62	436	7,026
(58,076)	1,309	(11,356)	(68,123)
(52,294)	2,117	(10,920)	(61,097)
			-
			-
(30,609)	(2,905)	-	(33,514)
-	-	(34,199)	(34,199)
104,254	15,009	169,153	288,416

Stage 1 12-month ECL	Stage 2 Lifetime ECL	Stage 3 Lifetime ECL	Total
Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000
146,128	50,061	302,127	498,316
			-
			-
(2,551)	2,551	-	-
12,263	(12,263)	-	-
9,232	168	-	9,400
48,790	(22,190)	(87,855)	(61,255)
67,734	(31,734)	(87,855)	(51,855)
			-
			-
(26,705)	(2,530)	-	(29,235)
-	-	-	-
187,157	15,797	214,272	417,226

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 2 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (CONT'D)

### (b) Credit risk (Cont'd)

#### (iii) Loss allowance (Cont'd)

#### Loss allowance - Class of Asset - IBD

#### Loss allowance as at 01 January 2023

#### Movements with P&L impact

Transfers:

New financial assets originated or purchased

Changes to PDs/LGDs/EADs

#### Total net P&L charge during the year

Other movement with no P&L impact

Transfers:

Transfer from stage 2 to stage 3

Financial assets derecognised during the year

#### Loss allowance as at 31 December 2023

#### Loss allowance - Class of Asset - IBD

#### Loss allowance as at 01 January 2022

#### Movements with P&L impact

Transfers:

New financial assets originated or purchased

Changes to PDs/LGDs/EADs

#### Total net P&L charge during the year

Other movement with no P&L impact

Transfers:

Financial assets derecognised during the year

#### Loss allowance as at 31 December 2022

#### Loss allowance - Class of Asset - IBD

#### Loss allowance as at 01 January 2021

#### Movements with P&L impact

Transfers:

New financial assets originated or purchased

Changes to PDs/LGDs/EADs

Write-offs

#### Total net P&L charge during the year

Other movement with no P&L impact

Transfers:

Financial assets derecognised during the year

#### Loss allowance as at 31 December 2021

	Stage 1 12-month ECL	Stage 2 Lifetime ECL	Stage 3 Lifetime ECL	Total
	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000
Loss allowance as at 01 January 2023	47,842	43,589	252,687	344,118
Movements with P&L impact				
Transfers:				
New financial assets originated or purchased	2,447	-	-	2,447
Changes to PDs/LGDs/EADs	5,234	43,561	(17,026)	31,769
Total net P&L charge during the year	7,681	43,561	(17,026)	34,216
Other movement with no P&L impact	-	-	-	-
Transfers:				
Transfer from stage 2 to stage 3	-	(43,589)	70,200	26,611
Financial assets derecognised during the year	(3,236)	(43,561)	24,200	(22,597)
Loss allowance as at 31 December 2023	52,287	-	330,061	382,348

	Stage 1 12-month ECL	Stage 2 Lifetime ECL	Stage 3 Lifetime ECL	Total
	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000
Loss allowance as at 01 January 2022	40,318	57	237,424	277,799
Movements with P&L impact				
Transfers:				
New financial assets originated or purchased	811	-	-	811
Changes to PDs/LGDs/EADs	15,273	43,532	15,263	74,068
Total net P&L charge during the year	16,084	43,532	15,263	74,879
Other movement with no P&L impact	-	-	-	-
Transfers:				
Financial assets derecognised during the year	(8,560)	-	-	(8,560)
Loss allowance as at 31 December 2022	47,842	43,589	252,687	344,118

	Stage 1 12-month ECL	Stage 2 Lifetime ECL	Stage 3 Lifetime ECL	Total
	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000	Rs'000
Loss allowance as at 01 January 2021	81,684	27	1,058,561	1,140,272
Movements with P&L impact				
Transfers:				
New financial assets originated or purchased	481	-	42	523
Changes to PDs/LGDs/EADs	(424)	30	119,336	118,942
Write-offs	-	-	(940,515)	(940,515)
Total net P&L charge during the year	57	30	(821,137)	(821,050)
Other movement with no P&L impact	-	-	-	-
Transfers:				
Financial assets derecognised during the year	(41,423)	-	-	(41,423)
Loss allowance as at 31 December 2021	40,318	57	237,424	277,799

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 2 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (CONT'D)

### (b) Credit risk (Cont'd)

#### Types of collateral and credit enhancements held at year end

- Fixed and Floating charges on Properties and other assets
- Privilege d'Inscription
- Lien on vehicle/equipment/machinery
- Pledge on shares/rent/proceeds of crops
- Lien on deposits
- Assignment of Life Policy/general insurance policy
- Bank Guarantee/personal guarantee/Government Guarantee
- Nantissement de Parts Sociales dans le capital d'une Société
- Leasing of Machinery/Equipment/ Vehicle with the Bank as a Lessor
- Pledge of deposits from other Financial Institution/Licensed Deposit Taker

#### Concentration of risk of financial assets with credit risk exposure by Geography:

	Dec-23 Rs 000	Mauritius Rs 000	Africa Rs 000	Europe Rs 000	Others Rs 000
<b>ASSETS</b>					
Cash and cash equivalents	8,462,698	2,558,424	964,188	1,683,268	3,256,818
Derivative assets held for risk management	4,580	1,970	2,319	291	-
Loans and advances to Banks	8,873,984	-	8,873,984	-	-
Loans and advances to customers	19,129,086	16,760,920	2,060,193	136,971	171,002
Government of Mauritius/ Bank of Mauritius securities	4,496,054	4,496,054	-	-	-
Other Investments	8,548,996	1,000,352	29,363	2,484,660	5,034,621
Other assets	1,724,124	1,724,124	-	-	-
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>51,239,522</b>	<b>26,541,844</b>	<b>11,930,047</b>	<b>4,305,190</b>	<b>8,462,441</b>
<b>On balance sheet country region percentage</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>17%</b>

#### Credit risk exposure relating to off balance sheet items as follows:

Financial guarantees and other credit related liabilities	2,967,347	1,954,801	958,292	-	54,254
<b>Off balance sheet country region percentage</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>2%</b>

	Dec-22 Rs 000	Mauritius Rs 000	Africa Rs 000	Europe Rs 000	Others Rs 000
<b>ASSETS</b>					
Cash and cash equivalents	6,898,615	258,188	1,100,132	2,506,363	3,033,932
Derivative assets held for risk management	3,116	3,044	30	42	-
Loans and advances to Banks	5,147,185	-	5,147,185	-	-
Loans and advances to customers	20,180,265	17,479,759	2,311,938	151,913	236,655
Government of Mauritius/Bank of Mauritius securities	3,680,651	3,680,651	-	-	-
Other Investments	8,644,778	-	2,119,689	3,225,939	3,299,150
Other assets	1,314,093	1,314,093	-	-	-
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>45,868,703</b>	<b>22,735,735</b>	<b>10,678,974</b>	<b>5,884,257</b>	<b>6,569,737</b>
<b>On balance sheet country region percentage</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>14%</b>

#### Credit risk exposure relating to off balance sheet items as follows:

Financial guarantees and other credit related liabilities	2,387,488	1,878,773	508,665	-	50
<b>Off balance sheet country region percentage</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>79%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>



# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 2 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (CONT'D)

### (b) Credit risk (Cont'd)

	Dec-21	Mauritius	Africa	Europe	Others
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
<b>ASSETS</b>					
Cash and cash equivalents	10,449,280	483,457	808,367	3,239,555	5,917,901
Derivative assets held for risk management	42,826	-	3,143	39,683	-
Loans and advances to Banks	3,336,245	-	3,336,245	-	-
Loans and advances to customers	17,474,549	15,429,412	1,936,593	108,544	-
Government of Mauritius/Bank of Mauritius securities	5,252,863	5,252,863	-	-	-
Other Investments	7,151,198	-	1,114,410	3,236,287	2,800,501
Other assets	1,259,106	1,259,106	-	-	-
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>44,966,067</b>	<b>22,424,838</b>	<b>7,198,758</b>	<b>6,624,069</b>	<b>8,718,402</b>
<b>On balance sheet country region percentage</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>19%</b>
<b>Credit risk exposure relating to off balance sheet items as follows:</b>					
Financial guarantees and other credit related liabilities	920,689	585,658	334,981	-	50
<b>Off balance sheet country region percentage</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>64%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>

The table below represents an analysis of trading assets and investments securities at 31 December 2023 and comparatives for December 2022 and 2021. Since the Bank does not have any internal rating tool, the ratings (where applicable) are based on assessment effected by Standard & Poor's agency at end of each financial year.

	Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
<b>Cash and cash equivalents</b>			
AAA TO AA	12,347	780	-
AA- To A	4,723,054	4,485,022	8,061,377
BBB+ To BB	2,307,453	1,595,103	1,798,693
UNRATED	1,419,844	817,710	589,210
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,462,698</b>	<b>6,898,615</b>	<b>10,449,280</b>
<b>Derivatives Assets</b>			
AA- To A	291	42	39,684
BBB+	383	-	28
UNRATED	3,906	3,074	3,114
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,580</b>	<b>3,116</b>	<b>42,826</b>
<b>Government of Mauritius/Bank of Mauritius securities</b>			
UNRATED	4,496,054	3,680,651	5,252,863
<b>Investments securities</b>			
AAA to A+	7,516,622	5,410,800	5,394,898
B+ to BBB-	1,000,353	3,044,262	1,292,363
UNRATED	32,021	189,716	463,938
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,548,996</b>	<b>8,644,778</b>	<b>7,151,199</b>

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 2 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (CONT'D)

### (b) Credit risk (Cont'd)

#### Loans and advances to Banks

	Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
AAA to A-	221,445	1,109,304	613,859
BBB+ to B	4,189,325	2,396,638	745,401
CCC	2,096,685	-	-
UNRATED	2,366,529	1,641,243	1,976,985
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,873,984</b>	<b>5,147,185</b>	<b>3,336,245</b>

#### Loans and advances to customers

	Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
AAATo A-	1,252,645	1,340,881	108,544
BBB- To B	-	-	1,431,188
UNRATED	17,876,441	18,839,384	15,934,817
<b>Total</b>	<b>19,129,086</b>	<b>20,180,265</b>	<b>17,474,549</b>

#### Other Assets

	Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
UNRATED	1,724,124	1,314,093	1,259,106
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,724,124</b>	<b>1,314,093</b>	<b>1,259,106</b>

#### Off balance sheet ratings

	Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
BBB- To B	-	-	130
UNRATED	2,967,346	2,387,488	920,559
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,967,346</b>	<b>2,387,488</b>	<b>920,689</b>

### (c) Capital Structure

The Bank's objectives when managing capital are:

- to comply with the capital requirements set by the Bank of Mauritius,
- to safeguard the Bank's ability to continue as a going concern so that it can continue to provide returns for shareholders and benefits for other stakeholders and
- to maintain a strong capital base to support the development of its business.

Details of Tier 1 capital, Tier 2 capital, total Risk Weighted Assets and capital adequacy ratio are given below:

	Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
Tier 1 Capital	3,759,784	3,302,260	3,438,753
Tier 2 Capital	1,210,021	1,494,027	1,636,492
<b>Total Capital Base</b>	<b>4,969,805</b>	<b>4,796,287</b>	<b>5,075,245</b>
<b>Total Risk Weighted Assets</b>	<b>29,501,825</b>	<b>27,703,125</b>	<b>24,295,444</b>
<b>Capital Adequacy Ratio</b>	<b>16.85%</b>	<b>17.31%</b>	<b>20.89%</b>

The minimum statutory capital adequacy ratio is fixed at 12.50%.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 2. FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (CONT'D)

### (d) Market risk

The Bank is exposed to market risks, which is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. Market risks arise from open positions in interest rates, currency and equity products, all of which are exposed to general and specific market movements and changes in the level of volatility of market rates or prices such as interest rates, foreign exchange rates and equity prices. The Bank separates exposures to market risk into either trading or non-trading portfolios.

The market risk arising from trading and non trading activities are concentrated in Bank Treasury and Market risk teams. Regular reports are submitted to the Management and the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors approves the risk strategy, risk policies and prudential limits within which the operations are to be carried out.

Implementation of the policies and business strategies are delegated to Management and the Risk Management Unit.

### (e) Currency risk

The Bank takes on exposure to the effects of fluctuations in the prevailing foreign currency exchange rates on its financial position and cash flows. The Board sets limits on the level of exposure by currency and in aggregate for both overnight and intra day positions, which are monitored daily. The table below summarises the Bank's exposure to foreign exchange risk as at 31 December 2023. Included in the table are the Bank's financial instruments at carrying amounts, categorised by currency.

At 31 December 2023	USD	EURO	GBP	OTHERS	TOTAL
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
<b>ASSETS</b>					
Cash and cash equivalents	6,107,550	404,119	277,005	921,776	7,710,450
Derivative assets held for risk management	4	2,300	444	1,814	4,562
Loans and advances to Banks	7,063,850	1,808,186	-	-	8,872,036
Loans and advances to customers	2,051,191	3,633,147	-	-	5,684,338
Investment Securities	5,034,621	2,660	-	-	5,037,281
Other assets	180,704	77,062	12,495	-	270,261
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>20,437,920</b>	<b>5,927,474</b>	<b>289,944</b>	<b>923,590</b>	<b>27,578,928</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>					
Deposits	22,486,262	4,885,683	682,903	113,900	28,168,748
Derivative liabilities held for risk management	-	3,608	135	1,827	5,570
Other borrowed funds	-	318,510	-	-	318,510
Subordinated liabilities	1,288,622	-	-	-	1,288,622
Other liabilities	7,071	1,309	4,530	2,542	15,452
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>23,781,955</b>	<b>5,209,110</b>	<b>687,568</b>	<b>118,269</b>	<b>29,796,902</b>
<b>Net on balance sheet position</b>	<b>(3,344,035)</b>	<b>718,364</b>	<b>(397,624)</b>	<b>805,321</b>	<b>(2,217,974)</b>
<b>Credit commitments undrawn</b>	<b>674,657</b>	<b>499,434</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,174,091</b>

The effect of a reasonably possible movement of the currency rates, to which the Bank had significant exposures as at 31 December 2023, against the MUR, with all other variables held constant, on the profit or loss is as follows:

	Increase/(decrease) in profit or loss		
	USD	EURO	GBP
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
+5% in currency rate	(167,069)	35,445	(19,881)
-5% in currency rate	167,069	(35,445)	19,881

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 2. FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (CONT'D)

### (e) Currency risk (Cont'd)

At 31 December 2022	USD	EURO	GBP	OTHERS	TOTAL
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
<b>ASSETS</b>					
Cash and cash equivalents	6,024,006	285,313	139,040	283,692	6,732,051
Derivative assets held for risk management	4	3,086	-	12	3,102
Loans and advances to Banks	4,393,096	299,219	-	454,870	5,147,185
Loans and advances to customers	2,519,646	4,075,439	550	-	6,595,635
Investment Securities	7,983,571	625,149	-	-	8,608,720
Other assets	137,375	33,329	7,651	566	178,921
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>21,057,698</b>	<b>5,321,535</b>	<b>147,241</b>	<b>739,140</b>	<b>27,265,614</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>					
Deposits	20,262,695	3,227,114	655,984	221,800	24,367,593
Derivative liabilities held for risk management	14	14,030	-	12,395	26,439
Other borrowed funds	1,597,044	-	-	-	1,597,044
Subordinated liabilities	-	394,999	-	-	394,999
Other liabilities	390,645	28,585	4,720	2,704	426,654
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>22,250,398</b>	<b>3,664,728</b>	<b>660,704</b>	<b>236,899</b>	<b>26,812,729</b>
<b>Net on balance sheet position</b>	<b>(1,192,700)</b>	<b>1,656,807</b>	<b>(513,463)</b>	<b>502,241</b>	<b>452,885</b>
<b>Credit commitments undrawn</b>	<b>502,459</b>	<b>16,461</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>518,920</b>

The effect of a reasonably possible movement of the currency rates, to which the Bank had significant exposures as at 31 December 2022, against the MUR, with all other variables held constant, on the profit or loss is as follows:

	Increase/(decrease) in profit or loss		
	USD	EURO	GBP
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
+5% in currency rate	(59,635)	82,960	(25,673)
-5% in currency rate	59,635	(82,960)	25,673



# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 2. FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (CONT'D)

### (e) Currency risk (Cont'd)

At 31 December 2021	USD	EURO	GBP	OTHERS	TOTAL
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
<b>ASSETS</b>					
Cash and cash equivalents	6,135,750	2,937,529	654,622	439,902	10,167,803
Derivative assets held for risk management	25,061	3,116	-	14,649	42,826
Loans and advances to Banks	3,339,038	-	-	-	3,339,038
Loans and advances to customers	2,808,069	3,225,484	606	-	6,034,159
Investment Securities	6,481,729	2,080	-	639,448	7,123,257
Other assets	151,914	34,529	9,325	1,241,325	1,437,093
	18,941,561	6,202,738	664,553	2,335,324	28,144,176
<b>LIABILITIES</b>					
Deposits	16,716,511	5,670,342	670,532	929,119	23,986,504
Derivative liabilities held for risk management	12	3,100	-	-	3,112
Other borrowed funds	2,055,978	-	-	-	2,055,978
Subordinated liabilities	-	502,528	-	-	502,528
Other liabilities	47,158	14,532	401	32,417	94,508
<b>Total liabilities</b>	18,819,659	6,190,502	670,933	961,536	26,642,630
<b>Net on balance sheet position</b>	121,902	12,236	(6,380)	1,373,788	1,501,546
<b>Credit commitments undrawn</b>	484,993	1,154,290	-	-	1,639,283

The effect of a reasonably possible movement of the currency rates, to which the Bank had significant exposures as at 31 December 2021, against the MUR, with all other variables held constant, on the profit or loss is as follows:

	Increase/(decrease) in profit or loss		
	USD	EURO	GBP
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
+5% in currency rate	6,095	612	(319)
-5% in currency rate	(6,095)	(612)	319

### (f) Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. Fair value interest rate risk is the risk that the value of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. The Bank takes on exposure to the effects of fluctuations in the prevailing levels of market interest rates on both its fair value and cash flow risks. Interest margins may increase as a result of such changes but may reduce losses in the event that unexpected movements arise.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 2. FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (CONT'D)

### (f) Interest rate risk (Cont'd)

The table below summarises the Bank's non-trading book fair value exposure to interest rate risks. It includes the Bank's financial instruments at carrying value categorised by the earlier of contractual maturity and date of repricing.

#### Interest Sensitivity of Assets and Liabilities- Repricing Gap Analysis

At 31 December 2023	Up to 1 mth	1-3 mths	3-6 mths	6-12 mths	1-3 Yrs	> 3 Yrs	Non Interest Bearing	TOTAL
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
<b>ASSETS</b>								
Cash and cash equivalents	8,139,734	-	-	-	-	-	322,964	8,462,698
Derivative assets held for risk management	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,580	4,580
Loans and advances to Banks	8,873,984	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,873,984
Loans and advances to customers	12,577,512	3,162,613	73,631	403,917	1,145,364	470,829	1,205,297	19,039,163
Investment securities	2,427,459	4,303,684	991,069	782,417	4,540,421	-	-	13,045,050
Other assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,724,124	1,724,124
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>32,018,689</b>	<b>7,466,297</b>	<b>1,064,700</b>	<b>1,186,334</b>	<b>5,685,785</b>	<b>470,829</b>	<b>3,256,965</b>	<b>51,149,599</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>								
Deposits	3,140,222	32,426,090	3,101,220	4,143,953	1,495,566	364,168	176,063	44,847,282
Derivative liabilities held for risk management	-	-	-	-	-	-	39,434	39,434
Other borrowed funds	371,339	-	-	364,633	563,957	-	-	1,299,929
Subordinated liabilities	199,143	-	-	-	-	913,754	-	1,112,897
Other liabilities	-	-	-	-	-	-	236,793	236,793
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>3,710,704</b>	<b>32,426,090</b>	<b>3,101,220</b>	<b>4,508,586</b>	<b>2,059,523</b>	<b>1,277,922</b>	<b>452,290</b>	<b>47,536,335</b>
<b>Interest rate sensitivity gap</b>	<b>28,307,985</b>	<b>(24,959,793)</b>	<b>(2,036,520)</b>	<b>(3,322,252)</b>	<b>3,626,262</b>	<b>(807,093)</b>	<b>2,804,675</b>	<b>3,613,264</b>

The impact on earnings of a 100bps movement in MUR and USD interest rates will amount to MUR3.05m and USD1.32m respectively.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 2. FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (CONT'D)

### (f) Interest rate risk (Cont'd)

#### Interest Sensitivity of Assets and Liabilities- Repricing Gap Analysis

At 31 December 2022

	Up to 1 mth	1-3 mths	3-6 mths	6-12 mths	1-3 Yrs	> 3 Yrs	Non Interest Bearing	TOTAL
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
<b>ASSETS</b>								
Cash and cash equivalents	6,640,427	-	-	-	-	-	258,188	6,898,615
Derivative assets held for risk management	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,116	3,116
Loans and advances to Banks	-	5,147,185	-	-	-	-	-	5,147,185
Loans and advances to customers	1,111,874	15,557,886	486,537	108,341	1,411,524	923,887	580,216	20,180,265
Investment securities	-	2,313,032	1,170,669	1,174,262	6,264,591	-	-	10,922,555
Other assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,314,093	1,314,093
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>7,752,301</b>	<b>23,018,103</b>	<b>1,657,206</b>	<b>1,282,603</b>	<b>7,676,115</b>	<b>923,887</b>	<b>2,155,613</b>	<b>44,465,829</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>								
Deposits	2,741,483	25,564,131	2,856,198	4,296,703	1,092,793	415,475	1,275,471	38,242,254
Derivative liabilities held for risk management	-	-	-	-	-	-	26,439	26,439
Other borrowed funds	299,036	-	-	-	-	990,243	-	1,289,279
Subordinated liabilities	1,414,503	-	-	-	732,257	785,904	-	2,932,664
Other liabilities	-	-	-	-	-	-	272,655	272,655
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>4,455,022</b>	<b>25,564,131</b>	<b>2,856,198</b>	<b>4,296,703</b>	<b>1,825,050</b>	<b>2,191,622</b>	<b>1,574,565</b>	<b>42,763,291</b>
<b>Interest rate sensitivity gap</b>	<b>3,297,279</b>	<b>(2,546,028)</b>	<b>(1,198,992)</b>	<b>(3,014,100)</b>	<b>5,851,065</b>	<b>(1,267,735)</b>	<b>581,048</b>	<b>1,702,538</b>

The impact on earnings of a 100bps movement in MUR and USD interest rates will amount to MUR0.5m and USD0.9m respectively.

At 31 December 2021

	Up to 1 mth	1-3 mths	3-6 mths	6-12 mths	1-3 Yrs	> 3 Yrs	Non Interest Bearing	TOTAL
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
<b>ASSETS</b>								
Cash and cash equivalents	9,965,823	-	-	-	-	-	483,457	10,449,280
Derivative assets held for risk management	-	-	-	-	-	-	42,826	42,826
Loans and advances to Banks	-	3,336,245	-	-	-	-	-	3,336,245
Loans and advances to customers	584,217	13,378,764	681,957	104,846	1,444,110	580,124	700,531	17,474,549
Investment securities	-	8,000	113,959	1,020,938	3,501,000	5,677,063	-	10,320,960
Other assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,259,106	1,259,106
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>10,550,040</b>	<b>16,723,009</b>	<b>795,916</b>	<b>1,125,784</b>	<b>4,945,110</b>	<b>6,257,187</b>	<b>2,485,920</b>	<b>42,882,966</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>								
Deposits	19,704,100	10,521,405	1,346,517	3,951,020	656,984	305,646	1,430,317	37,915,989
Derivative liabilities held for risk management	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,112	3,112
Other borrowed funds	-	-	-	-	-	2,055,978	-	2,055,978
Subordinated liabilities	-	-	-	298,772	-	1,097,772	-	1,396,544
Other liabilities	-	-	-	-	-	-	246,663	246,663
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>19,704,100</b>	<b>10,521,405</b>	<b>1,346,517</b>	<b>4,249,792</b>	<b>656,984</b>	<b>3,459,396</b>	<b>1,680,092</b>	<b>41,618,286</b>
<b>Interest rate sensitivity gap</b>	<b>(9,154,060)</b>	<b>6,201,604</b>	<b>(550,601)</b>	<b>(3,124,008)</b>	<b>4,288,126</b>	<b>2,797,791</b>	<b>805,828</b>	<b>1,264,680</b>

The impact on earnings of a 100bps movement in MUR and USD interest rates will amount to MUR4.7m and USD0.5m respectively.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 2. FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (CONT'D)

### (g) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Bank is unable to meet its obligations when they fall due as a result of customer deposits being withdrawn, cash requirements from contractual commitments, or other cash outflows, such as debt maturities or margin calls for derivatives. Such outflows would deplete available cash resources for client lending, trading activities and investments. The Bank's liquidity management process is carried out by the Bank Treasury team. The Bank uses the maturity gap report for measurement and management of liquidity risk. The maturity gap report slots the inflows and outflows in different maturity buckets as defined by the Bank of Mauritius, according to the expected timing of cash flows.

#### Maturities of Assets and Liabilities

At 31 December 2023

	Up to 1 month	1 to 3 months	3 to 6 months	6 to 12 months	1 to 3 Years	> 3 Years	Non Maturity Items	TOTAL
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
<b>ASSETS</b>								
Cash and cash equivalents	8,466,299	-	-	-	-	-	(3,601)	8,462,698
Derivative assets held for risk management	4,580	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,580
Loans and advances to Banks	1,275,604	861,952	3,446,754	2,892,281	445,379	-	-	8,921,970
Loans and advances to customers	200,121	458,604	687,657	1,733,910	3,930,613	15,190,715	-	22,201,620
Investment securities	2,427,459	4,306,780	991,782	782,978	4,543,687	-	(7,638)	13,045,048
Other assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,724,124	1,724,124
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>12,374,063</b>	<b>5,627,336</b>	<b>5,126,193</b>	<b>5,409,169</b>	<b>8,919,679</b>	<b>15,190,715</b>	<b>1,712,885</b>	<b>54,360,040</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>								
Deposits	29,849,982	5,284,838	3,536,665	6,605,813	2,315,812	1,460,272	176,063	49,229,445
Derivative liabilities held for risk management	5,571	-	33,863	-	-	-	-	39,434
Other borrowed funds	371,339	121,220	190,783	309,751	343,374	5,000	-	1,341,467
Subordinated liabilities	1,971	5,913	11,825	23,650	371,060	1,061,440	-	1,475,859
Other liabilities	-	-	-	-	-	-	365,291	365,291
Finance liabilities	1,661	4,982	4,982	8,304	40,046	38,406	-	98,381
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>30,230,524</b>	<b>5,416,953</b>	<b>3,778,118</b>	<b>6,947,518</b>	<b>3,070,292</b>	<b>2,565,118</b>	<b>541,354</b>	<b>52,549,877</b>
<b>Net liquidity gap</b>	<b>(17,856,461)</b>	<b>210,383</b>	<b>1,348,075</b>	<b>(1,538,349)</b>	<b>5,849,387</b>	<b>12,625,597</b>	<b>1,171,531</b>	<b>1,810,163</b>
<b>Financial guarantees</b>	<b>2,967,346</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,967,346</b>
<b>Credit commitment undrawn</b>	<b>2,795,582</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,795,582</b>

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

2. FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (CONT'D)

(g) Liquidity risk (cont'd)

Maturities of Assets and Liabilities (cont'd)

At 31 December 2022

	Up to 1 month	1 to 3 months	3 to 6 months	6 to 12 months	1 to 3 Years	> 3 Years	Non Maturity Items	TOTAL
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
<b>ASSETS</b>								
Cash and cash equivalents	6,898,615	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,898,615
Derivative assets held for risk management	105	943	2,068	-	-	-	-	3,116
Loans and advances to Banks	-	2,254,165	1,035,116	1,712,070	369,684	-	-	5,371,035
Loans and advances to customers	189,286	525,227	763,526	2,474,798	7,261,484	15,610,823	-	26,825,144
Investment securities	-	2,313,032	1,170,669	1,173,212	6,265,642	-	-	10,922,555
Other assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,314,093	1,314,093
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>7,088,006</b>	<b>5,093,367</b>	<b>2,971,379</b>	<b>5,360,080</b>	<b>13,896,810</b>	<b>15,610,823</b>	<b>1,314,093</b>	<b>51,334,558</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>								
Deposits	27,168,676	1,969,923	3,299,746	6,768,077	1,917,725	1,512,310	1,275,471	43,911,928
Derivative liabilities held for risk management	10,473	12,259	3,707	-	-	-	-	26,439
Other borrowed funds	1,414,503	112,768	183,960	296,641	809,417	115,375	-	2,932,664
Subordinated liabilities	1,971	5,913	11,825	23,650	371,060	1,061,441	-	1,475,860
Other liabilities	-	-	-	-	-	-	272,655	272,655
Finance liabilities	1,578	4,735	4,735	7,891	37,784	49,839	-	106,562
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>28,597,201</b>	<b>2,105,598</b>	<b>3,503,973</b>	<b>7,096,259</b>	<b>3,135,986</b>	<b>2,738,965</b>	<b>1,548,126</b>	<b>48,726,108</b>
<b>Net liquidity gap</b>	<b>(21,509,195)</b>	<b>2,987,769</b>	<b>(532,594)</b>	<b>(1,736,179)</b>	<b>10,760,824</b>	<b>12,871,858</b>	<b>(234,033)</b>	<b>2,608,450</b>
Financial guarantees	2,387,488	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,387,488
Credit commitment undrawn	1,976,757	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,976,757

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

2. FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (CONT'D)

(g) Liquidity risk (cont'd)

Maturities of Assets and Liabilities (cont'd)

At 31 December 2021

	Up to 1 month	1 to 3 months	3 to 6 months	6 to 12 months	1 to 3 Years	> 3 Years	Non Maturity Items	TOTAL
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
<b>ASSETS</b>								
Cash and cash equivalents	10,449,280	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,449,280
Derivative assets held for risk management	27,950	14,876	-	-	-	-	-	42,826
Loans and advances to Banks	-	490,896	1,570,866	634,042	647,466	-	-	3,343,270
Loans and advances to customers	197,058	509,219	753,438	1,878,703	5,000,894	11,156,038	-	19,495,350
Investment securities	2,083,102	8,000	119,000	1,020,938	3,495,337	5,645,003	32,682	12,404,062
Other assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,259,106	1,259,106
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>12,757,390</b>	<b>1,022,991</b>	<b>2,443,304</b>	<b>3,533,683</b>	<b>9,143,697</b>	<b>16,801,041</b>	<b>1,291,788</b>	<b>46,993,894</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>								
Deposits	27,328,788	1,846,185	1,346,112	5,829,710	2,083,478	1,549,474	1,080,069	41,063,816
Derivative liabilities held for risk management	31	3,081	-	-	-	-	-	3,112
Other borrowed funds	-	128,370	203,925	326,193	320,086	1,077,404	-	2,055,978
Subordinated liabilities	1,971	5,913	11,825	23,650	371,060	1,061,440	-	1,475,859
Other liabilities	-	-	-	-	-	-	246,663	246,663
Finance liabilities	1,388	2,779	4,165	8,328	38,279	69,226	-	124,165
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>27,332,178</b>	<b>1,986,328</b>	<b>1,566,027</b>	<b>6,187,881</b>	<b>2,812,903</b>	<b>3,757,544</b>	<b>1,326,732</b>	<b>44,969,593</b>
<b>Net liquidity gap</b>	<b>(14,574,788)</b>	<b>(963,337)</b>	<b>877,277</b>	<b>(2,654,198)</b>	<b>6,330,794</b>	<b>13,043,497</b>	<b>(34,944)</b>	<b>2,024,301</b>
Financial guarantees	920,689	-	-	-	-	-	-	920,689
Credit commitment undrawn	4,108,310	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,108,310

Derivative Cash Flows

As at 31 December 2023

	Up to 1 month	1 to 3 months	3 to 6 months	6 to 12 months	1 to 3 Years	> 3 Years	Non Maturity Items	TOTAL
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
<b>Inflows</b>	<b>4,580</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,580</b>
<b>Outflows</b>	<b>5,571</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>33,863</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>39,434</b>
<b>As at 31 December 2022</b>								
Inflows	1,240,169	620,725	178,542	-	-	-	-	2,039,436
Outflows	1,249,007	629,748	178,837	-	-	-	-	2,057,592
<b>As at 31 December 2021</b>								
Inflows	1,049,203	848,174	118,163	-	-	-	-	2,015,540
Outflows	1,021,221	834,899	118,147	-	-	-	-	1,974,267



# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 2. FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (CONT'D)

### (h) Financial Instruments not measured at fair value

The table below summarises the carrying amounts and fair values of those financial assets and liabilities not presented at fair value compared to carrying amounts shown in the financial statement.

	Carrying value			Fair value		
	Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21	Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
<b>Financial assets</b>						
Cash and cash equivalents	8,462,698	6,898,615	10,449,280	8,437,916	6,898,615	10,449,280
Loans and advances	28,003,070	25,327,450	20,810,794	27,890,506	25,227,670	20,754,325
Investment securities	10,617,591	10,922,555	10,320,960	10,437,986	10,527,027	10,384,509
Other assets	1,724,124	1,314,093	1,259,106	1,724,124	1,314,093	1,259,106
<b>Financial liabilities</b>						
Deposits	44,847,282	38,242,254	37,915,989	44,840,577	38,231,109	37,896,203
Other borrowed funds	1,299,929	2,932,664	2,055,978	1,299,929	2,932,664	2,055,978
Subordinated liabilities	1,112,897	1,289,279	1,396,543	1,112,897	1,289,279	1,396,543
Other liabilities	236,793	272,655	246,663	236,793	272,655	246,663
<b>Off-balance sheet</b>						
Loan commitments	2,795,582	1,976,757	4,108,310	2,795,582	1,976,757	4,108,310
Other contingent liabilities	2,967,346	2,387,488	920,669	2,967,346	2,387,488	920,669

### (i) Cash resources

The fair value of cash resources is equal to their carrying amount as these are for short terms only.

### (ii) Loans and advances to Banks and to customers

Loans and advances are net of provisions for impairment. The estimated fair value of loans and advances represents the discounted amount of estimated future cash flows expected to be received. The fair value is calculated by applying the market rates to the fixed rate term loans.

### (iii) Investment securities

Interest-bearing amortised cost investments include Treasury Notes whose fair values are based on market prices or broker/dealer price quotations. Financial assets classified as FVTOCI represent investment in Treasury Bills whose fair value are based on bid price and yield published by the Bank of Mauritius.

### (iv) Deposits and subordinated liabilities

The estimated fair value of deposits with no stated maturity, which includes non-interest-bearing deposits, is the amount repayable on demand.

The estimated fair value of fixed interest-bearing deposits and debt securities issued not quoted in an active market is based on discounted cash flows using interest rates for new debts with similar remaining maturity.

### (v) Other financial assets and liabilities on the statement of financial position

The fair values of other assets, other borrowed funds, provisions and other liabilities at the reporting date approximate their fair values.

### (vi) Off-balance sheet financial instruments

Guarantees, acceptances, loans commitments and other financial liabilities are shown at their fair values.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 2. FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (CONT'D)

### (i) Fair value hierarchy

IFRS 13 specifies a hierarchy of valuation techniques based on whether the inputs to those valuation techniques are observable or unobservable. Observable inputs reflect market data obtained from independent sources; unobservable inputs reflect the Bank's market assumptions. These two types of inputs have created the following fair value hierarchy:

Level - 1 Quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities. This level includes listed equity securities and debt instruments on exchanges.

Level - 2 Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (that is, as prices) or indirectly (that is, derived from prices). This level includes the majority of the Over-The-Counter derivative contracts, traded loans, issued structured debt and other investment securities.

Level - 3 Inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs). This level includes equity investments and debt instruments with significant unobservable components.

This hierarchy requires the use of observable market data when available. The Bank considers relevant and observable market prices in its valuations where possible.

The Bank's Level 2 instruments consists of Derivatives held for risk management and investment securities. The input used in the fair value of these instruments relates to Libor interest rate, as published by Reuters, and yield curve by the Government of Mauritius.

As at 31 December 2023, the Bank holds equity investments with significant unobservable components falling under the Level 3 fair value hierarchy. The equity investment has been fair valued based on the market approach. Derivatives held for risk management falling under category Level 2, uses Quoted prices using Reuters platform. Level 3 fair values of land and building have been derived using the services of a chartered valuer.

The hierarchy requires the use of observable market data when applicable.

### At 31 December 2023

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
<b>Non-equity Investments</b>				
Derivative assets held for risk management	-	4,580	-	4,580
Investment securities	-	2,395,437	-	2,395,437
Property and equipment	-	-	257,183	257,183
<b>Equity Investments</b>				
Investment securities	-	-	32,021	32,021
<b>Total assets</b>	-	2,400,017	289,204	2,689,221
Derivative liabilities held for risk management	-	39,434	-	39,434
<b>Total liabilities</b>	-	39,434	-	39,434

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 2. FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (CONT'D)

### (i) Fair value hierarchy (Cont'd)

At 31 December 2022

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
<b>Non-equity Investments</b>				
Derivative assets held for risk management	-	3,116	-	3,116
Investment securities	-	1,366,817	-	1,366,817
Property and equipment	-	-	217,071	217,071
<b>Equity Investments</b>				
Investment securities	-	-	36,057	36,057
<b>Total assets</b>	-	1,369,933	253,128	1,623,061
Derivative liabilities held for risk management	-	26,439	-	26,439
<b>Total liabilities</b>	-	26,439	-	26,439

At 31 December 2021

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
<b>Non-equity Investments</b>				
Derivative assets held for risk management	-	42,826	-	42,826
Investment securities	-	2,053,080	-	2,053,080
Property and equipment	-	-	227,253	227,253
<b>Equity Investments</b>				
Investment securities	-	-	30,021	30,021
<b>Total assets</b>	-	2,095,906	257,274	2,353,180
Derivative liabilities held for risk management	-	3,112	-	3,112
<b>Total liabilities</b>	-	3,112	-	3,112

The valuation techniques used in determining the fair value of financial assets and liabilities classified within level 3.

Financial instrument	Fair value Rs000	Unobservable input	Rate	Relationship of unobservable inputs to fair value
FVTOCI investment: M Oriental Bank Ltd	26,086	Illiquidity discount	13%	A decrease of 5% in the discount rate from 20% to 25% would increase the fair value of the investment by MUR1.3m and an increase of 5% would decrease the fair value by MUR1.3m.
FVTOCI investment: SME Equity Fund (Mauritius) Ltd	3,276	Net asset	N/A	N/A
FVTOCI investment: S.W.I.FT SCRL	2,659	Net asset	N/A	N/A

### Reconciliation of level 3 fair value measurement

	Rs 000
Balance as at 01 January 2021	261,487
Fair value	(4,213)
Balance as at 31 December 2021	257,274
Fair value	(4,146)
Balance as at 31 December 2022	253,128
<b>Fair value</b>	<b>36,076</b>
<b>Balance as at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>289,204</b>

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 2. FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (CONT'D)

### (i) Fair value hierarchy (Cont'd)

Transfer between levels

No transfer arose between levels during the year.

### Valuation process

The valuations of non-property items required for financial reporting purposes, including level 3 fair values are performed at Finance department led by the Chief Financial Officer (CFO).

### (j) Financial instruments by category

At 31 December 2023

	Amortised cost Rs 000	Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss Rs 000	FVTOCI Rs 000	Total Rs 000
<b>Financial assets</b>				
Cash and cash equivalents	8,437,916	-	-	8,437,916
Derivative assets held for risk management	-	4,580	-	4,580
Loan and advances to Banks	8,913,446	-	-	8,913,446
Loan and advances to customers	19,038,519	-	-	19,038,519
Investment securities	10,612,944	-	2,427,458	13,040,402
Other assets	1,724,124	-	-	1,724,124
	48,726,949	4,580	2,427,458	51,158,987

	Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss Rs 000	Financial liabilities at amortised cost Rs 000	Total Rs 000
<b>Financial liabilities</b>			
Deposits from customers	-	44,847,282	44,847,282
Derivative liabilities held for risk management	39,434	-	39,434
Other borrowed funds	-	1,299,929	1,299,929
Subordinated liabilities	-	1,112,897	1,112,897
Other liabilities	-	236,793	236,793
	39,434	47,496,901	47,536,335

At 31 December 2022

	Amortised cost Rs 000	Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss Rs 000	FVTOCI Rs 000	Total Rs 000
<b>Financial assets</b>				
Cash and cash equivalents	6,898,615	-	-	6,898,615
Derivative assets held for risk management	-	3,116	-	3,116
Loan and advances to Banks	5,147,185	-	-	5,147,185
Loan and advances to customers	20,180,265	-	-	20,180,265
Investment securities	10,922,555	-	1,402,874	12,325,429
Other assets	1,314,092	-	-	1,314,092
	44,462,712	3,116	1,402,874	45,868,702

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

2. FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (CONT'D)

(j) Financial instruments by category (Cont'd)

At 31 December 2022 (Cont'd)

	Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss	Financial liabilities at amortised cost	Total
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
Financial liabilities			
Deposits from customers	-	38,242,254	38,242,254
Derivative liabilities held for risk management	26,439	-	26,439
Other borrowed funds	-	2,932,664	2,932,664
Subordinated liabilities	-	1,289,279	1,289,279
Other liabilities	-	272,655	272,655
	26,439	42,736,852	42,763,291

At 31 December 2021

	Amortised cost	Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	FVTOCI	Total
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
Financial assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	10,449,280	-	-	10,449,280
Derivative assets held for risk management	-	42,826	-	42,826
Loan and advances to Banks	3,336,245	-	-	3,336,245
Loan and advances to customers	17,474,549	-	-	17,474,549
Investment securities	10,320,960	-	2,083,101	12,404,061
Other assets	1,259,106	-	-	1,259,106
	42,840,140	42,826	2,083,101	44,966,067

	Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss	Financial liabilities at amortised cost	Total
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
Financial liabilities			
Deposits from customers	-	37,915,989	37,915,989
Derivative liabilities held for risk management	3,112	-	3,112
Other borrowed funds	-	2,055,978	2,055,978
Subordinated liabilities	-	1,396,543	1,396,543
Other liabilities	-	246,663	246,663
	3,112	41,615,173	41,618,285

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

3. NET INTEREST INCOME

Interest income

Loans and advances to banks
Loans and advances to customers
Investments securities
Cash and cash equivalents and placements

Total interest income calculated using the effective interest method

Interest expense

Deposits from customers
Borrowings from banks
Subordinated liabilities
Lease liabilities

Total interest expense

Net interest income

(a) Segment A

Interest income

Loans and advances to customers
Investments securities
Cash and cash equivalents and placements

Total interest income calculated using the effective interest method

Interest expense

Deposits from customers
Borrowings from banks
Subordinated liabilities
Lease liabilities

Total interest expense

Net interest income

(b) Segment B

Interest income

Loans and advances to banks
Loans and advances to customers
Investments securities
Cash and cash equivalents and placements

Total interest income calculated using the effective interest method

Interest expense

Deposits from customers
Borrowings from banks
Subordinated liabilities

Total interest expense

Net interest income

Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
339,172	148,356	127,979
1,375,402	840,929	779,104
270,635	233,277	229,695
367,557	170,659	18,565
2,352,766	1,393,221	1,155,343
(845,756)	(235,303)	(197,183)
(157,598)	(75,274)	(52,074)
(74,049)	(81,930)	(86,879)
(6,457)	(6,900)	(4,200)
(1,083,860)	(399,407)	(340,336)
1,268,906	993,814	815,007
1,045,915	551,486	654,652
129,349	113,748	121,334
31,450	-	190
1,206,714	665,234	776,176
(440,730)	(136,279)	(122,411)
(39,128)	(6,268)	(4,285)
(47,839)	(50,274)	(48,603)
(6,457)	(6,900)	(4,200)
(534,154)	(199,721)	(179,499)
672,560	465,513	596,677
339,172	148,356	127,979
329,487	289,443	124,452
141,286	119,529	108,361
336,107	170,659	18,375
1,146,052	727,987	379,167
(405,026)	(99,024)	(74,772)
(118,470)	(69,006)	(47,789)
(26,210)	(31,656)	(38,276)
(549,706)	(199,686)	(160,837)
596,346	528,301	218,330



## for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
<b>Recognised on financial assets measured at amortised cost</b>			
<b>Interest Income</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents and placements	367,557	170,659	18,565
Loans and advances to banks	339,172	148,356	127,979
Loans and advances to customers	1,354,434	825,787	763,735
Investments securities	194,428	197,573	185,752
Lease receivables	20,968	15,142	15,368
<b>Recognised on financial assets measured at FVTOCI</b>			
Investment securities	76,207	35,704	43,944
<b>Total interest income calculated using the effective interest method</b>	<b>2,352,766</b>	<b>1,393,221</b>	<b>1,155,343</b>
<b>Interest expense</b>			
<b>Recognised on financial liabilities measured at amortised cost</b>			
Deposits from customers	(845,756)	(235,303)	(197,183)
Interest expense on lease liabilities	(6,457)	(6,900)	(4,200)
Borrowings from Banks	(157,598)	(75,274)	(52,074)
Subordinated liabilities	(74,049)	(81,930)	(86,879)
<b>Total interest expense</b>	<b>(1,083,860)</b>	<b>(399,407)</b>	<b>(340,336)</b>
<b>Net interest income</b>	<b>1,268,906</b>	<b>993,814</b>	<b>815,007</b>
<b>Segment A</b>			
<b>Recognised on financial assets measured at amortised cost</b>			
<b>Interest Income</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents and placements	31,450	-	190
Loans and advances to customers	1,024,947	536,344	639,284
Investments securities	53,142	78,044	77,391
Lease receivables	20,968	15,142	15,368
<b>Recognised on financial assets measured at FVTOCI</b>			
Investment securities	76,207	35,704	43,943
<b>Total interest income calculated using the effective interest method</b>	<b>1,206,714</b>	<b>665,234</b>	<b>776,176</b>
<b>Interest expense</b>			
<b>Recognised on financial liabilities measured at amortised cost</b>			
Deposits from customers	(440,730)	(136,279)	(122,411)
Interest expense on lease liabilities	(6,457)	(6,900)	(4,200)
Borrowings from Banks	(39,128)	(6,268)	(4,285)
Subordinated liabilities	(47,839)	(50,274)	(48,603)
<b>Total interest expense</b>	<b>(534,154)</b>	<b>(199,721)</b>	<b>(179,499)</b>
<b>Net interest income</b>	<b>672,560</b>	<b>465,513</b>	<b>596,677</b>
<b>Segment B</b>			
<b>Recognised on financial assets measured at amortised cost</b>			
<b>Interest Income</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents and placements	336,107	170,659	18,375
Loans and advances to banks	339,172	148,356	127,979
Loans and advances to customers	329,487	289,443	124,452
Investments securities	141,286	119,529	108,361
<b>Total interest income calculated using the effective interest method</b>	<b>1,146,052</b>	<b>727,987</b>	<b>379,167</b>
<b>Interest expense</b>			
<b>Recognised on financial liabilities measured at amortised cost</b>			
Deposits from customers	(405,026)	(99,024)	(74,772)
Borrowings from Banks	(118,470)	(69,006)	(47,789)
Subordinated liabilities	(26,210)	(31,656)	(38,276)
<b>Total interest expense</b>	<b>(549,706)</b>	<b>(199,686)</b>	<b>(160,837)</b>
<b>Net interest income</b>	<b>596,346</b>	<b>528,301</b>	<b>218,330</b>

## for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
<b>Fee and commission income</b>			
Retail Banking customer fees	19,656	14,207	14,691
Corporate Banking credit related fees	25,674	23,759	31,544
International Banking customer fees	216,757	268,891	266,371
Guarantees	17,072	17,388	8,382
Credit cards and e-commerce related fees	22,634	16,537	207,433
Others	99,153	116,269	79,490
<b>Total fee and commission income</b>	<b>400,946</b>	<b>457,051</b>	<b>607,911</b>
<b>Fee and commission expense</b>			
InterBank transaction fees	(30,999)	(18,679)	(19,844)
Credit cards and e-commerce related fees	(23,603)	(29,713)	(239,195)
Others	(84,349)	(79,258)	(70,594)
<b>Total fee and commission expense</b>	<b>(138,951)</b>	<b>(127,650)</b>	<b>(329,633)</b>
<b>Net fee and commission income</b>	<b>261,995</b>	<b>329,401</b>	<b>278,278</b>
<b>(a) Segment A</b>			
<b>Fee and commission income</b>			
Retail Banking customer fees	19,656	14,207	14,691
Corporate Banking credit related fees	25,674	23,759	31,544
Guarantees	6,683	7,335	4,968
Credit cards	22,247	16,517	17,340
Others	48,443	45,422	46,963
<b>Total fee and commission income</b>	<b>122,703</b>	<b>107,240</b>	<b>115,506</b>
<b>Fee and commission expense</b>			
InterBank transaction fees	(7,391)	(4,120)	(2,136)
Credit cards	(23,603)	(14,721)	(9,635)
Others	(39,847)	(36,342)	(31,688)
<b>Total fee and commission expense</b>	<b>(70,841)</b>	<b>(55,183)</b>	<b>(43,459)</b>
<b>Net fee and commission income</b>	<b>51,862</b>	<b>52,057</b>	<b>72,047</b>
<b>(b) Segment B</b>			
<b>Fee and commission income</b>			
International Banking customer fees	216,757	268,891	266,371
Guarantees	10,389	10,053	3,414
Credit cards and e-commerce related fees	387	20	190,093
Others	50,710	70,847	32,527
<b>Total fee and commission income</b>	<b>278,243</b>	<b>349,811</b>	<b>492,405</b>
<b>Fee and commission expense</b>			
InterBank transaction fees	(23,608)	(14,559)	(17,708)
Credit cards and e-commerce related fees	-	(14,992)	(229,560)
Others	(44,502)	(42,916)	(38,906)
<b>Total fee and commission expense</b>	<b>(68,110)</b>	<b>(72,467)</b>	<b>(286,174)</b>
<b>Net fee and commission income</b>	<b>210,133</b>	<b>277,344</b>	<b>206,231</b>

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

5. NET GAIN ON DEALING IN FOREIGN CURRENCIES AND DERIVATIVES

	Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
Profit arising from dealing in foreign currencies	290,448	202,070	124,677
Net (loss)/gain from derivatives	(34,854)	(23,323)	39,714
	255,594	178,747	164,391
(a) Segment A			
Profit arising from dealing in foreign currencies	91,271	84,192	53,750
Net (loss)/gain from derivatives	(31,896)	2,219	-
	59,375	86,411	53,750
(b) Segment B			
Profit arising from dealing in foreign currencies	199,177	117,878	70,927
Net (loss)/gain from derivatives	(2,958)	(25,542)	39,714
	196,219	92,336	110,641

6. OTHER OPERATING INCOME

	Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
(Loss)/gain on disposal/scrap of property and equipment	(55)	82	245
Others	733	1,664	28,808
	678	1,746	29,053
Others include gain/loss on disposal of securities.			
(a) Segment A			
(Loss)/gain on disposal/scrap of property and equipment	(55)	82	245
Others	733	1,664	-
	678	1,746	245
(b) Segment B			
Others	-	-	28,808

7. NET IMPAIRMENT REVERSAL ON FINANCIAL ASSETS

	Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
Impairment loss for the year	(127,564)	(165,299)	(193,358)
Bad debts written off for which no provisions were made	(246)	(43)	(1,817)
Provisions released during the year	250,781	175,886	254,740
Recoveries of advances written off	9,179	22,932	12,234
Net impairment reversal on financial assets	132,150	33,476	71,799
(a) Segment A			
Impairment loss for the year	(63,718)	(109,309)	(102,549)
Bad debts written off for which no provisions were made	(21)	(43)	(1,817)
Provisions released during the year	174,787	167,253	141,832
Recoveries of advances written off	9,179	9,750	12,234
Net impairment reversal on financial assets	120,227	67,651	49,700

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

7. NET IMPAIRMENT LOSS ON FINANCIAL ASSETS (CONT'D)

	Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
(b) Segment B			
Impairment loss for the year	(63,846)	(55,990)	(90,809)
Bad debts written off for which no provisions were made	(225)	-	-
Provisions released during the year	75,994	8,633	112,908
Recoveries of advances written off	-	13,182	-
Net impairment reversal/(loss) on financial assets	11,923	(34,175)	22,099

8. PERSONNEL EXPENSES

	Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
Wages and salaries	(455,895)	(404,885)	(345,672)
Compulsory social security obligations	(26,635)	(24,130)	(20,333)
Funded pension costs (note 28)	(12,086)	(10,427)	(11,361)
Unfunded pension costs (note 28)	5,175	(4,959)	(5,264)
Defined contribution plan	(32,161)	(28,958)	(25,629)
Other personnel expenses	(153,035)	(143,992)	(148,800)
	(674,637)	(617,351)	(557,059)
(a) Segment A			
Wages and salaries	(301,354)	(285,657)	(245,076)
Compulsory social security obligations	(18,219)	(16,563)	(14,245)
Funded pension costs	(9,486)	(8,714)	(8,294)
Unfunded pension costs	3,467	(3,525)	(3,843)
Defined contribution plan	(23,971)	(21,003)	(18,709)
Other personnel expenses	(103,919)	(103,421)	(115,033)
	(453,482)	(438,883)	(405,200)
(b) Segment B			
Wages and salaries	(154,541)	(119,228)	(100,596)
Compulsory social security obligations	(8,416)	(7,567)	(6,088)
Funded pension costs	(2,600)	(1,714)	(3,067)
Unfunded pension costs	1,708	(1,434)	(1,421)
Defined contribution plan	(8,190)	(7,955)	(6,920)
Other personnel expenses	(49,116)	(40,570)	(33,767)
	(221,155)	(178,468)	(151,859)

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 9. OTHER EXPENSES

	Dec-23 Rs 000	Dec-22 Rs 000	Dec-21 Rs 000
Software licensing and other information technology cost	(150,878)	(142,884)	(142,433)
Premises related expenses	(63,919)	(62,753)	(52,747)
Legal and professional expenses	(25,921)	(22,273)	(46,228)
Others	(82,601)	(62,563)	(54,958)
	(323,319)	(290,473)	(296,366)
Others include directors expenses, subscriptions and marketing and promotion expenses.			
(a) <b>Segment A</b>			
Software licensing and other information technology cost	(127,429)	(121,040)	(123,500)
Premises related expenses	(49,113)	(46,165)	(41,672)
Legal and professional expenses	(12,868)	(4,758)	(24,103)
Others	(47,467)	(41,103)	(31,753)
	(236,877)	(213,066)	(221,028)
(b) <b>Segment B</b>			
Software licensing and other information technology cost	(23,449)	(21,844)	(18,933)
Premises related expenses	(14,806)	(16,588)	(11,075)
Legal and professional expenses	(13,053)	(17,515)	(22,125)
Others	(35,134)	(21,460)	(23,205)
	(86,442)	(77,407)	(75,338)

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 10. INCOME TAX EXPENSE

- (a) Income tax expense is recognised based on management's estimate of the weighted average annual income tax rate expected for the full financial year.

Prior to the enactment of the Finance Act 2023, the tax regime applicable to banks was as follows for financial years ended 31 December 2021 to 31 December 2022, subject to Banks satisfying some prescribed conditions:

Up to Rs 1.5 bn	5%
Above Rs 1.5 bn and up to the amount equivalent to the chargeable income of the base year (FY 31 December 2017)	15%
Remainder	5%

Following enactment of the Finance Act 2023 in July 2023, the reduced incentive rate of 5% applicable to banks on chargeable income exceeding MUR 1.5 billion has been abolished. Banks are now taxed at 5% on a chargeable income of less than MUR 1.5 billion and at 15% on a chargeable income exceeding MUR 1.5 billion.

Deferred tax asset is calculated at the rate of 7% for Segment A and 5% for Segment B.

- (d) Special levy on banks having leviable income not exceeding Rs 1.2 billion is calculated at the rate of 5.5% of net interest income and other income before deduction of expenses. Special levy is not applicable on income derived from transactions with Global Business Licence holders and Mauritian companies to the extent of their banking transactions carried out through a foreign permanent establishment.

	Dec-23 Rs 000	Dec-22 Rs 000	Dec-21 Rs 000
(a) <b>Current tax expense</b>			
Tax expense (including Special levy and CSR)	44,645	33,566	57,087
(b) <b>Deferred tax expense/(credit)</b>			
Originated and reversal of temporary differences (Note 20)	10,275	8,179	51,955
	54,920	41,745	109,042
(c) <b>Reconciliation of effective tax rate</b>			
Profit/(loss) before income tax	810,730	535,570	522,466
Taxed at 5% (2022 and 2021: 5%)	35,799	26,778	26,123
Non-deductible expenses	531	414	466
Income not subject to tax	(459)	(1,147)	(612)
Special levy on Banks	9,625	9,624	7,693
Corporate social responsibility fund	-	2,410	3,369
Other permanent differences, including write-off of loans	1,211	1,556	43,746
Differences in rates	1,261	2,110	28,257
Total income tax in statement of profit or loss	47,968	41,745	109,042
<b>Segment A</b>			
<b>Current tax expense</b>			
Tax expense/(credit) (including Special levy and CSR)	10,409	12,075	39,280
<b>Deferred tax expense</b>			
Originated and reversal of temporary differences	9,613	10,505	7,153



# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 10. INCOME TAX EXPENSE (CONT'D)

### Segment B

#### Current tax expense

Current year

#### Deferred tax credit

Originated and reversal of temporary differences

	Dec-23 Rs 000	Dec-22 Rs 000	Dec-21 Rs 000
Current year	34,236	21,491	17,807
Originated and reversal of temporary differences	662	(2,326)	44,802

## 11. EARNINGS PER SHARE

Profit for the year (Rs 000)

Weighted average number of ordinary shares

Earnings per share (Rs.)

	Dec-23 Rs 000	Dec-22 Rs 000	Dec-21 Rs 000
Profit for the year (Rs 000)	755,810	493,825	413,424
Weighted average number of ordinary shares	14,564,560	14,564,560	14,564,560
Earnings per share (Rs.)	51.89	33.91	28.39

## 12. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash in hand

Foreign currency notes and coins

Unrestricted balances with central Banks

Balance due in clearing

Money market placements

Balances with Banks abroad

Less: allowance for expected credit loss (Stage 1)

Current

### Segment A

Cash in hand

Foreign currency notes and coins

Unrestricted balances with central Banks

Balance due in clearing

Money market placements

Less: allowance for expected credit loss (Stage 1)

### Segment B

Money market placements

Balance with Banks abroad

Less: allowance for expected credit loss

	Dec-23 Rs 000	Dec-22 Rs 000	Dec-21 Rs 000
Cash in hand	141,477	137,132	118,967
Foreign currency notes and coins	12,254	29,135	39,236
Unrestricted balances with central Banks	149,912	77,900	311,987
Balance due in clearing	20,518	14,021	13,267
Money market placements	4,304,793	3,859,470	3,598,830
Balances with Banks abroad	3,837,344	2,785,146	6,373,457
Less: allowance for expected credit loss (Stage 1)	(3,600)	(4,189)	(6,464)
	8,462,698	6,898,615	10,449,280
Current	8,462,698	6,898,615	10,449,280
Segment A			
Cash in hand	141,477	137,132	118,967
Foreign currency notes and coins	12,254	29,135	39,236
Unrestricted balances with central Banks	149,912	77,900	311,987
Balance due in clearing	20,518	14,021	13,267
Money market placements	2,235,922	-	-
Less: allowance for expected credit loss (Stage 1)	(1,258)	-	-
	2,558,825	258,188	483,457
Segment B			
Money market placements	2,068,871	3,859,470	3,598,830
Balance with Banks abroad	3,837,344	2,785,146	6,373,457
Less: allowance for expected credit loss	(2,342)	(4,189)	(6,464)
	5,903,873	6,640,427	9,965,823

There were no transfer between stages during the year (2022 and 2021: Nil)

### Reconciliation of liabilities arising from financing activities

The table below details changes in the Bank's liabilities arising from financing activities, including both cash and non-cash changes. Liabilities arising from financing activities are those for which cash flows were, or future cash flows will be, classified in the Bank's statement of cash flows as cash flows from financing activities.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 12. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS (CONT'D)

### Reconciliation of liabilities arising from financing activities (Cont'd)

	Balance as at 01 January 2023 Rs 000	Financing cash flows (i) Rs 000	Non-cash changes New R-O-U Rs 000	Other Changes (ii) Rs 000	Balance as at 31 December 2023 Rs 000
Other borrowed funds	2,932,664	(1,637,175)	-	4,440	1,299,929
Subordinated liabilities	1,289,279	(177,088)	-	706	1,112,897
Lease liabilities	84,617	(19,849)	7,840	6,457	79,065
	4,306,560	(1,834,112)	7,840	11,603	2,491,891

	Balance as at 01 January 2022 Rs 000	Financing cash flows (i) Rs 000	Non-cash changes New R-O-U Rs 000	Other Changes (ii) Rs 000	Balance as at 31 December 2022 Rs 000
Other borrowed funds	2,055,978	869,454	-	7,232	2,932,664
Subordinated liabilities	1,396,543	(104,806)	-	(2,458)	1,289,279
Lease liabilities	96,615	(19,898)	-	7,900	84,617
	3,549,136	744,750	-	12,674	4,306,560

	Balance as at 01 January 2021 Rs 000	Financing cash flows (i) Rs 000	Non-cash changes New R-O-U Rs 000	Other Changes (ii) Rs 000	Balance as at 31 December 2021 Rs 000
Other borrowed funds	3,767,074	(1,711,917)	-	821	2,055,978
Subordinated liabilities	1,387,217	-	-	9,326	1,396,543
Lease liabilities	48,074	(8,083)	56,493	131	96,615
	5,202,365	(1,720,000)	56,493	10,278	3,549,136

(i) The cash flows from rights of use, subordinated and other borrowed funds make up the net amount of proceeds from borrowings and repayments against borrowings in the statement of cash flows under financing activities.

(ii) Other changes include interest accruals, exchange gains or losses, amortisation and interest payments.

## for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Contractual/ Nominal Amount	Assets Fair Value	Liabilities Fair Value
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
<b>As at 31 December 2023</b>			
Currency forwards	<b>1,039,698</b>	<b>2,739</b>	<b>3,139</b>
Currency Swaps	<b>1,717,580</b>	<b>1,841</b>	<b>36,295</b>
	<b>2,757,278</b>	<b>4,580</b>	<b>39,434</b>
Segment A	<b>1,976,334</b>	<b>1,971</b>	<b>33,867</b>
Segment B	<b>780,944</b>	<b>2,609</b>	<b>5,567</b>
<b>Current</b>	<b>2,757,278</b>	<b>4,580</b>	<b>39,434</b>
<b>As at 31 December 2022</b>			
Currency forwards	155,412	1,059	933
Currency Swaps	1,895,918	2,057	25,506
	2,051,330	3,116	26,439
Segment A	115,625	3,041	818
Segment B	1,935,705	75	25,621
<b>Current</b>	2,051,330	3,116	26,439
<b>As at 31 December 2021</b>			
Currency forwards	559,113	3,153	3,112
Currency Swaps	1,456,426	39,673	-
	2,015,539	42,826	3,112
Segment B	2,015,539	42,826	3,112
<b>Current</b>	2,015,539	42,826	3,112

## for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Dec-23 Rs 000	Dec-22 Rs 000	Dec-21 Rs 000
In and outside Mauritius	8,917,253	5,150,285	3,339,038
Less: allowance for expected credit loss	(43,269)	(3,100)	(2,793)
	8,873,984	5,147,185	3,336,245
Current	8,431,094	4,481,670	2,685,635
Non Current	442,890	665,515	650,610
	8,873,984	5,147,185	3,336,245
<b>(i) Segment B</b>			
Outside Mauritius	8,917,253	5,150,285	3,339,038
Less: allowance for expected credit loss	(43,269)	(3,100)	(2,793)
	8,873,984	5,147,185	3,336,245
<b>(ii) Remaining term to maturity</b>			
Up to 3 months	2,799,502	2,030,554	493,693
Over 3 months and up to 6 months	3,297,472	887,888	1,579,817
Over 6 months and up to 12 months	2,375,231	1,565,927	614,373
Over 1 year and up to 5 years	445,048	665,916	651,155
	8,917,253	5,150,285	3,339,038
<b>(iii) Allowance for expected credit loss</b>			

Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
8,917,253	5,150,285	3,339,038
(43,269)	(3,100)	(2,793)
8,873,984	5,147,185	3,336,245
8,431,094	4,481,670	2,685,635
442,890	665,515	650,610
8,873,984	5,147,185	3,336,245
8,917,253	5,150,285	3,339,038
(43,269)	(3,100)	(2,793)
8,873,984	5,147,185	3,336,245
2,799,502	2,030,554	493,693
3,297,472	887,888	1,579,817
2,375,231	1,565,927	614,373
445,048	665,916	651,155
8,917,253	5,150,285	3,339,038

Stage 3	Stage 1 & 2	
ECL	ECL	Total
Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
-	2,417	2,417
-	376	376
-	2,793	2,793
-	307	307
-	3,100	3,100
-	40,169	40,169
-	<b>43,269</b>	<b>43,269</b>

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

15. LOANS AND ADVANCES TO CUSTOMERS

	Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
Retail customers			
- Credit cards	72,104	51,466	69,831
- Mortgages	7,837,976	6,790,438	4,247,861
- Other retail loans	3,362,367	2,925,435	3,416,474
Corporate customers	5,847,737	8,493,149	8,396,108
Entities outside Mauritius	2,630,311	2,660,897	2,204,690
	19,750,495	20,921,385	18,334,964
Less: allowance for credit impairment	(621,409)	(741,120)	(860,415)
	19,129,086	20,180,265	17,474,549
Current	3,829,006	4,095,251	4,000,668
Non current	15,300,080	16,085,014	13,473,881
	19,129,086	20,180,265	17,474,549
Net finance lease receivables included in loans and advances to customers (Note 15 g)	270,151	272,322	277,907

(a) Segment A

	Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
Retail customers			
- Credit cards	72,104	51,466	69,831
- Mortgages	7,712,944	6,673,828	4,184,021
- Other retail loans	3,242,600	2,790,805	3,218,502
Corporate customers	5,402,200	6,993,223	7,737,337
	16,429,848	16,509,322	15,209,691
Less allowance for credit impairment	(283,193)	(421,059)	(601,000)
	16,146,655	16,088,263	14,608,691

(b) Segment B

	Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
Retail customers			
- Mortgages	125,032	116,610	63,840
- Other retail loans	119,767	134,630	197,972
Corporate customers	445,537	1,499,926	658,771
Entities outside Mauritius	2,630,311	2,660,897	2,204,690
	3,320,647	4,412,063	3,125,273
Less allowance for expected credit loss	(338,216)	(320,061)	(259,415)
	2,982,431	4,092,002	2,865,858

(c) Remaining term to maturity

	Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
Up to 3 months	2,559,556	2,675,544	2,394,187
Over 3 months and up to 6 months	229,073	634,106	755,917
Over 6 months and up to 12 months	1,051,987	830,826	914,449
Over 1 year and up to 5 years	4,306,216	6,095,471	6,265,096
Over 5 years	11,603,663	10,685,438	8,005,315
	19,750,495	20,921,385	18,334,964

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

15. LOANS AND ADVANCES TO CUSTOMERS (CONT'D)

(d) Credit concentration of risk by industry sectors		Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
		Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
Agriculture and fishing		29,942	256,326	425,388
Manufacturing		47,856	314,594	36,187
of which Export Processing Zone License holders		8,672	19,619	21,441
Tourism		1,092,597	1,384,047	1,682,526
Transport		694,789	672,359	590,454
Construction		1,798,178	1,867,197	2,156,589
Financial and business services		1,714,392	1,989,706	2,588,138
Traders		2,405,685	2,816,970	3,493,100
Personal		9,599,800	8,606,326	5,901,600
of which Residential Mortgages		7,837,976	6,790,438	4,247,861
Professional		12,478	11,163	14,433
Global business license holders		456,855	1,054,997	672,979
Others		1,897,923	1,947,700	773,570
of which credit central government		1,326,516	1,355,644	512,881
		19,750,495	20,921,385	18,334,964

(i) Segment A

	Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
Agriculture and Fishing	29,942	256,326	423,979
Manufacturing	47,856	49,519	36,187
of which Export Processing Zone License holders	8,672	19,619	21,441
Tourism	1,092,597	1,384,047	1,637,355
Transport	434,443	417,912	355,752
Construction	1,749,585	1,811,861	2,033,531
Financial and business services	772,787	1,018,297	1,530,250
Traders	2,300,251	2,607,289	3,121,422
Personal	9,457,344	8,412,877	5,796,093
of which Residential Mortgages	7,712,944	6,673,828	4,184,021
Professional	12,478	11,163	14,433
Others	532,565	540,031	260,689
	16,429,848	16,509,322	15,209,691

(ii) Segment B

	Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
Agriculture and Fishing	-	-	1,409
Manufacturing	-	265,075	-
of which Export Processing Zone License holders	-	-	-
Tourism	-	-	45,171
Transport	260,346	254,447	234,702
Construction	48,593	55,336	123,058
Financial and business services	941,605	971,409	1,057,888
Traders	105,434	209,681	371,678
Personal	142,456	193,449	105,507
of which Residential Mortgages	125,032	116,610	63,840
Global business license holders	456,855	1,054,997	672,979
Others	1,365,358	1,407,669	512,881
of which credit central government	1,326,516	1,355,644	512,881
	3,320,647	4,412,063	3,125,273



# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 15. LOANS AND ADVANCES TO CUSTOMERS (CONT'D)

### (d) Credit concentration of risk by industry sectors (Cont'd)

Others include the following sectors: Media, Entertainment and Recreational Activities, Education, Modernisation and Expansion Enterprise Certificate Holders, Health Development Certificate Holders, Public Non financial Corporations, State and Local Government, Infrastructure, ICT, Freeport certificate holders and others.

#### Off balance sheet by industry sector

	Dec-23 Rs 000	Dec-22 Rs 000	Dec-21 Rs 000
Agriculture and Fishing	350,622	100,390	4,326
Manufacturing	425,208	224,338	386,973
Tourism	14,626	18,682	24,531
Transport	4,816	9,984	246,962
Construction	835,857	1,215,331	1,414,746
Financial and business services	1,527,236	509,370	291,836
Traders	841,934	488,300	905,677
Personal	387,637	316,792	643,952
Global business license holders	1,193,841	1,183,135	164,157
Others	181,151	297,923	945,839
	5,762,928	4,364,245	5,028,999

### (e) Allowance for expected credit loss

	Specific allowances for impairment Stage 3 ECL Rs 000	Portfolio allowances for impairment Stage 1 and 2 ECL Rs 000	Total Rs 000
Balance as at 1 January 2021	1,531,353	373,346	1,904,699
Provision for expected credit loss for the year	224,426	47,747	272,173
Loans written off out of allowance	(1,048,799)	-	(1,048,799)
Provisions released	(123,737)	(143,921)	(267,658)
Balance as at 31 December 2021	583,243	277,172	860,415
Provision for expected credit loss for the year	160,525	55,751	216,276
Loans written off out of allowance	(154,214)	-	(154,214)
Provisions released	(70,611)	(110,746)	(181,357)
<b>Balance as at 31 December 2022</b>	<b>518,943</b>	<b>222,177</b>	<b>741,120</b>
Provision for expected credit loss for the year	201,400	7,900	209,300
Loans written off out of allowance	(42,107)	-	(42,107)
Provisions released	(112,894)	(174,010)	(286,904)
<b>Balance as at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>565,342</b>	<b>56,067</b>	<b>621,409</b>

### (f) Allowance for credit impairment

	Dec-23 Rs 000	Dec-22 Rs 000	Dec-21 Rs 000
Retail customers			
- Credit cards	4,449	5,841	6,540
- Mortgages	25,227	51,441	33,802
- Other retail loans	81,874	88,698	119,716
Corporate customers	380,433	278,695	609,622
Entities outside Mauritius	129,426	316,445	90,735
	621,409	741,120	860,415

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 15. LOANS AND ADVANCES TO CUSTOMERS (CONT'D)

### (f) Allowance for credit impairment (Cont'd)

#### Segment A

	Dec-23 Rs 000	Dec-22 Rs 000	Dec-21 Rs 000
Retail customers			
- Credit cards	4,449	5,841	6,540
- Mortgages	25,147	51,032	33,800
- Other retail loans	80,710	86,465	115,535
Corporate customers	172,886	277,721	445,125
	283,192	421,059	601,000

#### Segment B

	Dec-23 Rs 000	Dec-22 Rs 000	Dec-21 Rs 000
Retail customers			
- Mortgages	80	409	2
- Other retail loans	1,164	2,232	4,181
Corporate customers	207,547	974	164,497
Entities outside Mauritius	129,426	316,446	90,735
	338,217	320,061	259,415

### (g) Investment in finance leases

The amount of investments in finance leases included in the loans and advances to customers.

	Up to 1 Year Rs 000	Between 1 - 2 years Rs 000	Between 2 - 3 years Rs 000	Between 3 - 4 years Rs 000	Between 4 - 5 years Rs 000	Over 5 years Rs 000	Dec-23 Total Rs 000	Dec-22 Total Rs 000	Dec-21 Total Rs 000
Gross investment in finance leases	8,824	65,892	65,069	125,280	88,022	235,237	588,324	606,327	607,800
Unearned finance income	(8,511)	(58,774)	(51,453)	(78,534)	(44,840)	(73,332)	(315,444)	(331,254)	(327,086)
<b>Present value of minimum lease payments</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>7,118</b>	<b>13,616</b>	<b>46,746</b>	<b>43,182</b>	<b>161,905</b>	<b>272,880</b>	<b>275,073</b>	<b>280,714</b>
Allowance for impairment	(3)	(71)	(136)	(468)	(432)	(1,619)	(2,729)	(2,751)	(2,807)
	310	7,047	13,480	46,278	42,750	160,286	270,151	272,322	277,907

Under finance lease, all the risks and rewards of ownership of the asset are transferred to the lessee. The term of the lease contract generally ranges from five to seven years. All finance lease receivables are secured over the asset leased and in some cases additional guarantees are taken from the lessee.

Amount due from lessees under finance leases are recorded under loans and advances. Finance lease income is allocated to the accounting period so as to reflect a constant periodic rate of return on the Bank's net investment outstanding in respect of the leases.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

15. LOANS AND ADVANCES TO CUSTOMERS (CONT'D)

(h) Allowance for expected credit loss by industry sectors

	Dec-23					Dec-22	Dec-21
	Gross amount of loans	Impaired loans	Stage 3 ECL	Stage 1 & 2 ECL	Total ECL	Total ECL	Total ECL
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
Agriculture and fishing	29,942	-	-	84	84	2,403	7,151
Manufacturing	47,856	-	-	135	135	5,299	1,232
of which Export Processing Zone License holders	8,672	-	-	-	-	4,046	-
Tourism	1,092,597	855	855	3,075	3,930	13,689	32,563
Transport	694,789	265,915	265,006	1,993	266,999	267,677	249,968
Construction	1,798,178	139,969	38,517	5,068	43,585	165,145	205,350
Financial and business services	1,714,392	854	854	4,961	5,815	25,086	34,184
Traders	2,405,685	111,938	111,223	6,786	118,009	144,011	222,603
Personal	9,599,800	122,459	78,688	27,039	105,727	72,024	90,209
of which Residential Mortgages	7,837,976	62,136	17,478	22,079	39,557	93,688	104,438
Professional	12,478	-	-	35	35	105	242
Global business license holders	456,855	-	-	1,352	1,352	16,103	4,745
Others	1,897,923	563,309	70,200	5,538	75,738	29,578	12,168
of which government	1,326,516	563,215	70,200	3,925	74,125	21,486	3,615
	19,750,495	1,205,299	565,343	56,066	621,409	741,120	860,415

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

15. LOANS AND ADVANCES TO CUSTOMERS (CONT'D)

(h) Allowance for credit impairment by industry sectors (cont'd)

Segment A	Dec-23					Dec-22	Dec-21
	Gross amount of loans	Impaired loans	Stage 3 ECL	Stage 1 & 2 ECL	Total ECL	Total ECL	Total ECL
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
Agriculture and Fishing	29,942	-	-	84	84	2,403	7,130
Manufacturing	47,856	-	-	135	135	1,253	1,232
of which Export Processing Zone License holders	8,672	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tourism	1,092,597	855	855	3,075	3,930	13,689	32,245
Transport	434,443	7,802	6,893	1,223	8,116	11,801	13,611
Construction	1,749,585	139,969	38,517	4,924	43,441	162,490	204,030
Financial and Business Services	772,787	854	854	2,175	3,029	10,259	26,726
Traders	2,300,251	111,938	111,223	6,474	117,697	140,117	217,316
Personal	9,457,344	120,614	78,608	26,618	105,226	70,850	89,915
of which Residential Mortgages	7,712,944	60,291	17,398	21,709	39,107	91,878	103,986
Professional	12,478	-	-	35	35	105	242
Others	532,565	95	-	1,499	1,499	8,092	8,553
	16,429,848	382,127	236,950	46,242	283,192	421,059	601,000
Segment B							
Agriculture and fishing	-	-	-	-	-	-	21
Manufacturing	-	-	-	-	-	4,046	-
of which Export Processing Zone License holders	-	-	-	-	-	4,046	-
Tourism	-	-	-	-	-	-	318
Transport	260,346	258,113	258,113	770	258,883	255,876	236,357
Construction	48,593	-	-	144	144	2,655	1,320
Financial and Business Services	941,605	-	-	2,786	2,786	14,827	7,458
Traders	105,434	-	-	312	312	3,894	5,287
Personal	142,456	1,845	80	421	501	1,173	294
of which Residential Mortgages	125,032	1,845	80	370	450	1,810	452
Global business license holders	456,855	-	-	1,352	1,352	16,103	4,745
Others	1,365,358	563,214	70,200	4,039	74,239	21,486	3,615
of which government	1,326,516	563,215	70,200	3,925	74,125	21,486	3,615
	3,320,647	823,172	328,393	9,824	338,217	320,060	259,415

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 16. INVESTMENT SECURITIES

	Dec-23 Rs 000	Dec-22 Rs 000	Dec-21 Rs 000
Investment securities at fair value through OCI	2,427,459	1,402,874	2,083,101
Investment securities at amortised cost	10,625,229	10,937,676	10,339,563
	13,052,688	12,340,550	12,422,664
Less: Allowance for expected loss	(7,638)	(15,121)	(18,603)
	13,045,050	12,325,429	12,404,061
Current	8,471,553	6,066,361	4,949,211
Non-current	4,573,497	6,259,068	7,454,850

	Dec-23 Rs 000	Dec-22 Rs 000	Dec-21 Rs 000
(a) <b>Investments at FVTOCI</b>			
Equity shares in M Oriental Bank Ltd (Kenya)	26,086	29,854	24,680
Other equity investments	5,936	6,203	5,341
Bank/Government of Mauritius securities and other corporate bonds	2,395,437	1,366,817	2,053,080
	2,427,459	1,402,874	2,083,101
<b>Segment A</b>			
Bank/Government of Mauritius securities	2,395,437	1,366,817	2,053,080
Others	3,276	3,801	3,261
	2,398,713	1,370,618	2,056,341
<b>Segment B</b>			
Equity shares in M Oriental Bank Ltd (Kenya)	26,086	29,854	24,680
Others	2,660	2,402	2,080
	28,746	32,256	26,760

The Bank holds 4,597,208 shares, representing 3.69% shareholding of M Oriental Bank Ltd, incorporated and operating in Kenya. The investment securities has been fair valued based on the market approach using the most recent transaction price. The investment held in Industrial Finance Corporation of Mauritius (Equity) Ltd (formerly known as SME Equity Fund Ltd) has been valued using net asset value basis and investment in SWIFT has been valued using observable price as at 31 December 2023. Refer to note 2 (i).

	Dec-23 Rs 000	Dec-22 Rs 000	Dec-21 Rs 000
(b) <b>Investments at amortised cost</b>			
Government of Mauritius bonds	1,315,358	1,328,331	1,581,273
Treasury Bills / Notes issued by Government of Mauritius	181,038	180,923	-
BOM notes/Treasury notes	1,608,413	811,918	1,627,266
Corporate Bonds/Other Bank Placements	7,520,420	8,616,504	7,131,024
	10,625,229	10,937,676	10,339,563
Less: Allowance for expected loss	(7,638)	(15,121)	(18,603)
	10,617,591	10,922,555	10,320,960
<b>Segment A</b>			
Government of Mauritius bonds	1,315,358	1,328,331	1,581,273
Treasury Bills /issued by Government of Mauritius	181,038	180,923	-
BOM notes/Treasury notes	1,608,413	811,918	1,627,266
	3,104,809	2,321,172	3,208,539
Less: Allowance for expected loss	(3,840)	(7,338)	(8,756)
	3,100,969	2,313,834	3,199,783
<b>Segment B</b>			
Corporate Bonds/Other Bank Placements	7,520,420	8,616,504	7,131,024
Less: Allowance for expected loss	(3,798)	(7,783)	(9,847)
	7,516,622	8,608,721	7,121,177

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 16. INVESTMENT SECURITIES (CONT'D)

### Investments at amortised cost (cont'd)

Remaining term to maturity - 2023	Up to 3 months	3-6 months	6-12 months	1-5 years	Total
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
Government of Mauritius bonds	-	191,928	201,222	922,208	1,315,358
Treasury Bills / Notes issued by Government of Mauritius	-	80,058	100,980	-	181,038
BOM notes/Treasury notes/Corporate Bonds/Other Bank Placements	4,306,780	719,796	480,778	3,621,479	9,128,833
	4,306,780	991,782	782,980	4,543,687	10,625,229

### Remaining term to maturity - 2022

	Up to 3 months	3-6 months	6-12 months	1-5 years	Total
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
Government of Mauritius bonds	-	10,077	-	1,318,254	1,328,331
Treasury Bills / Notes issued by Government of Mauritius	-	-	-	180,923	180,923
BOM notes/Treasury notes/Corporate Bonds/Other Bank Placements	2,315,161	1,163,197	1,175,592	4,774,472	9,428,422
	2,315,161	1,173,274	1,175,592	6,273,649	10,937,676

### Remaining term to maturity - 2021

	Up to 3 months	3-6 months	6-12 months	1-5 years	Total
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
Government of Mauritius bonds	-	-	250,145	1,331,128	1,581,273
Treasury Bills / Notes issued by Government of Mauritius	-	-	-	-	-
BOM notes/Treasury notes/Corporate Bonds/Other Bank Placements	648,480	1,206,403	779,686	6,123,721	8,758,290
	648,480	1,206,403	1,029,831	7,454,849	10,339,563



Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

17. RIGHT OF USE ASSETS

Segment A

Cost

At 1 January

Additions

Remeasurement

Terminations

At 31 December

Accumulated depreciation

At 1 January

Charge for the year

Terminations

At 31 December

Carrying amount

At 31 December

	Buildings		
	2023	2022	2021
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
At 1 January	108,940	106,318	55,365
Additions	7,840	-	56,493
Remeasurement	-	2,622	-
Terminations	-	-	(5,540)
At 31 December	116,780	108,940	106,318
At 1 January	31,975	16,959	14,990
Charge for the year	15,031	15,016	7,057
Terminations	-	-	(5,088)
At 31 December	47,006	31,975	16,959
At 31 December	69,774	76,965	89,359

The Bank leases various properties mainly to operate its branches. The average lease term is 5 years.

The Bank does not have an option to purchase the leased assets at the end of the lease term.

Amounts recognised in profit or loss under:

	Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
Depreciation and amortisation - depreciation expense on right-of-use assets	15,031	15,016	7,057
Interest expense - interest expense on lease liabilities	6,457	6,900	4,200
Other expenses - Loss arising on derecognition of right-of-use assets	-	-	1,090
Other expenses - expense relating to leases of low value assets	-	15	79
	21,488	21,931	12,426

At 31 December 2023, the Bank is committed to Rs 0.9 million (2022: Rs 1.1 million) for low-value assets.

The total cash outflow for leases amounted to Rs 19.9 million (2022: Rs 19.9 million) for the year.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

18. PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

Cost or Valuation

Balance as at 01 January 2021

Acquisitions

Transfer to equipment and furniture

Disposal

Reclassification from intangible assets

Write off/scrapped

Balance as at 31 December 2021

Acquisitions

Revaluation

Reclassification to non current assets held for sale

Reclassification to intangible assets

Expensed during the year

Write off/scrapped

Balance as at 31 December 2022

Acquisitions

Reclassification from non current assets held for sale

Transfer to equipment and furniture

Disposal

Write off/scrapped

Balance as at 31 December 2023

Accumulated depreciation

Balance as at 01 January 2021

Depreciation for the year

Disposal

Write off/scrapped

Balance as at 31 December 2021

Depreciation for the year

Reclassification to non current assets held for sale

Write off/scrapped

Balance as at 31 December 2022

Depreciation for the year

Disposal

Reclassification to non current assets held for sale

Write off/scrapped

Balance as at 31 December 2023

Net book value as at 31 December 2023

Net book value as at 31 December 2022

Net book value as at 31 December 2021

Net book value as at 31 December 2023 by segments

Segment A

Segment B

Net book value as at 31 December 2022 by segments

Segment A

Segment B

Net book value as at 31 December 2021 by segments

Segment A

Segment B

	Land and buildings	Computer and other equipment	Motor vehicles and furniture and fittings	Work in Progress	Total
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
Balance as at 01 January 2021	304,128	114,496	176,867	7,711	603,202
Acquisitions	-	19,076	1,120	92,960	113,156
Transfer to equipment and furniture	-	43,308	59,811	(103,119)	-
Disposal	-	-	(946)	-	(946)
Reclassification from intangible assets	-	-	-	10,600	10,600
Write off/scrapped	-	(129)	-	-	(129)
Balance as at 31 December 2021	304,128	176,751	236,852	8,152	725,883
Acquisitions	-	21,219	58	293	21,570
Revaluation	39,063	-	-	-	39,063
Reclassification to non current assets held for sale	(55,520)	-	-	-	(55,520)
Reclassification to intangible assets	-	-	-	(3,800)	(3,800)
Expensed during the year	-	-	-	(446)	(446)
Write off/scrapped	-	(480)	-	-	(480)
Balance as at 31 December 2022	287,671	197,490	236,910	4,199	726,270
Acquisitions	-	1,165	885	16,007	18,057
Reclassification from non current assets held for sale	55,520	-	-	-	55,520
Transfer to equipment and furniture	-	10,027	4,042	(14,069)	-
Disposal	-	(48)	-	-	(48)
Write off/scrapped	-	(13,475)	(5,367)	-	(18,842)
Balance as at 31 December 2023	343,191	195,159	236,470	6,137	780,957
Accumulated depreciation					
Balance as at 01 January 2021	72,625	90,940	94,030	-	257,595
Depreciation for the year	4,250	13,590	15,646	-	33,486
Disposal	-	-	(947)	-	(947)
Write off/scrapped	-	(77)	(4)	-	(81)
Balance as at 31 December 2021	76,875	104,453	108,725	-	290,053
Depreciation for the year	4,245	19,997	19,888	-	44,130
Reclassification to non current assets held for sale	(10,520)	-	-	-	(10,520)
Write off/scrapped	-	(398)	-	-	(398)
Balance as at 31 December 2022	70,600	124,052	128,613	-	323,265
Depreciation for the year	4,888	20,410	19,695	-	44,993
Disposal	-	(24)	-	-	(24)
Reclassification to non current assets held for sale	10,520	-	-	-	10,520
Write off/scrapped	-	(13,458)	(5,332)	-	(18,790)
Balance as at 31 December 2023	86,008	130,980	142,976	-	359,964
Net book value as at 31 December 2023	257,183	64,179	93,494	6,137	420,993
Net book value as at 31 December 2022	217,071	73,438	108,297	4,199	403,005
Net book value as at 31 December 2021	227,253	72,298	128,127	8,152	435,830
Net book value as at 31 December 2023 by segments					
Segment A	257,183	64,148	93,494	6,137	420,962
Segment B	-	31	-	-	31
	257,183	64,179	93,494	6,137	420,993
Net book value as at 31 December 2022 by segments					
Segment A	217,071	73,332	107,998	4,199	402,600
Segment B	-	106	299	-	405
	217,071	73,438	108,297	4,199	403,005
Net book value as at 31 December 2021 by segments					
Segment A	227,253	72,242	127,430	8,152	435,077
Segment B	-	56	697	-	753
	227,253	72,298	128,127	8,152	435,830

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

18. PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT (CONT'D)

	Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
Assets disposed/scrapped/written-off during the year (cost)			
Computer and equipment	13,523	480	129
Other assets	5,367	-	946
	18,890	480	1,075
Work in progress included in property and equipment as at year end were incurred for:			
(i) Renovation of branch	1,912	2,466	-
(ii) Others	4,225	1,733	8,152
	6,137	4,199	8,152

The Bank's land and buildings were last revalued in February 2022 by V.Ramjee & Associates Ltd (chartered valuer). The revalued amount was not materially different from the carrying amount at date of valuation. The basis of valuation is based on market value, defined in accordance with International Valuation Standard Committee.

The directors have assessed the fair value of the above assets at 31 December 2023 and have estimated the fair value to approximate their carrying value at that date.

The directors have assessed the carrying value of equipment and are of the opinion that no impairment is required at the reporting date. (2022: Nil, 2021: Nil)

During the year, management has resolved not to proceed with the disposal of the property earmarked for sale in 2022. Accordingly, the property has been reclassified to property, plant and equipment as per the requirements of IFRS 5.

Land and Buildings excluding revaluation

If these land and buildings were stated on the historical cost basis, the net book value would have as follows:

	Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
Cost	201,000	201,000	201,000
Accumulated depreciation	(86,924)	(82,569)	(78,549)
Net	114,076	118,431	122,451

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

19. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

Cost

Balance as at 01 January 2021

Additions  
Transfer to computer software  
Reclassification to property and equipment

Balance as at 31 December 2021

Additions  
Transfer to computer software  
Expensed during the year  
Reclassification from property and equipment

Balance as at 31 December 2022

Additions  
Transfer to computer software  
Expensed during the year

Balance as at 31 December 2023

Amortisation

Balance as at 01 January 2021

Charge for the year

Balance as at 31 December 2021

Charge for the year

Balance as at 31 December 2022

Charge for the year

Balance as at 31 December 2023

Net book value

Net book value as at 31 December 2023

Net book value as at 31 December 2022

Net book value as at 31 December 2021

Computer Software	Work in Progress	Total
Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
272,001	15,764	287,765
10,274	54,725	64,999
13,465	(13,465)	-
-	(10,600)	(10,600)
295,740	46,424	342,164
12,037	30,217	42,254
70,358	(70,358)	-
-	(5,382)	(5,382)
-	3,800	3,800
378,135	4,701	382,836
-	41,483	41,483
35,158	(35,158)	-
-	(115)	(115)
413,293	10,911	424,204
176,180	-	176,180
35,318	-	35,318
211,498	-	211,498
37,755	-	37,755
249,253	-	249,253
50,613	-	50,613
299,866	-	299,866
113,427	10,911	124,338
128,882	4,701	133,583
84,242	46,424	130,666

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 19. INTANGIBLE ASSETS (CONT'D)

The directors have assessed the carrying value of intangible assets and are of the opinion that no impairment is required at the reporting date. (2022: Nil, 2021: Nil)

	Computer Software	Work in Progress	Total
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
Net book value as at 31 December 2023 by segments			
Segment A	112,496	10,911	123,407
Segment B	931	-	931
	113,427	10,911	124,338
Net book value as at 31 December 2022 by segments			
Segment A	127,282	4,701	131,983
Segment B	1,600	-	1,600
	128,882	4,701	133,583
Net book value as at 31 December 2021 by segments			
Segment A	84,242	46,424	130,666
Segment B	-	-	-
	84,242	46,424	130,666

## 20. DEFERRED TAX ASSETS

The movement on the deferred income tax account is as follows:

	Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
Balance as at 1 January	44,515	45,936	88,682
Profit or loss charge (note 10)	(10,275)	(8,179)	(51,955)
Amount recognised directly in other comprehensive income:			
Deferred income tax on fair value adjustments on FVTOCI investments	(4,988)	8,312	11,117
Deferred tax on revaluation of buildings	-	(2,558)	-
Deferred tax on actuarial losses on retirement benefits obligations	2,287	1,004	(1,908)
Balance as at 31 December	31,539	44,515	45,936
Segment A	22,083	34,989	38,965
Segment B	9,456	9,526	6,971
	31,539	44,515	45,936
Deferred tax assets			
Allowances for expected credit losses	24,988	35,555	42,366
Securities classified at FVTOCI	5,686	10,674	2,354
Retirement benefit obligations	6,566	4,910	4,048
	37,240	51,139	48,768
Deferred tax liabilities			
Accelerated capital allowances	2,215	3,139	1,905
Revaluation reserve	3,485	3,485	927
	5,700	6,624	2,832
Net non-current	31,539	44,515	45,936

Deferred income tax is calculated on all temporary differences under the liability method using an effective tax rate of 7% (2022: 7% and 2021: 7%) for segment A and an effective tax rate of 5% (2022: 5% and 2021: 5%) for segment B.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 21. OTHER ASSETS

	Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
Mandatory balances with Central Bank*	1,720,635	1,296,753	1,240,759
Non-Banking assets acquired in satisfaction of debts**	9,104	9,104	9,104
Other receivables	292,692	269,638	144,579
	2,022,431	1,575,495	1,394,442
Less: Allowance for expected loss	(14,055)	(3,976)	(6,867)
	2,008,376	1,571,519	1,387,575
Current	1,993,488	1,548,262	1,371,797
Non Current	14,888	23,257	15,778

\* Balances to be maintained with Central Bank as cash reserve requirement.

\*\*The Bank's policy is to dispose of such assets depending on the market availability.

	Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
(a) Segment A			
Mandatory balances with Central Bank	1,720,635	1,296,753	1,240,759
Non-Banking assets acquired in satisfaction of debts	9,104	9,104	9,104
Other receivables	286,209	242,315	122,837
	2,015,948	1,548,172	1,372,700
Less: Allowance for expected loss	(14,055)	(3,976)	(6,867)
	2,001,893	1,544,196	1,365,833
Segment B			
Other receivables	6,483	27,323	21,742
	6,483	27,323	21,742

## 22. DEPOSITS FROM CUSTOMERS

	Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
(a) Deposits comprise the following:			
Retail customers	11,808,463	10,597,683	10,668,308
Corporate customers	4,301,439	3,681,227	4,695,117
International customers	28,502,451	22,523,388	21,791,134
Government	234,929	1,439,956	761,430
	44,847,282	38,242,254	37,915,989
Current	42,987,143	36,733,029	36,951,630
Non Current	1,860,139	1,509,225	964,359



Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

22. DEPOSITS FROM CUSTOMERS (CONT'D)

(b) The table below shows the remaining term to maturity for deposits by type of customer:

	Time deposits with remaining term to maturity							Total Rs 000
	Current accounts	Savings accounts	Up to 3 months	Over 3 months and up to 6 months	Over 6 months and up to 12 months	Over 1 year and up to 5 years	Over 5 years	
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	
At 31 December 2023								
Retail customers	1,678,399	6,790,934	499,395	646,720	1,237,344	955,070	601	11,808,463
Corporate customers	1,382,376	354,009	574,219	539,332	891,986	559,517	-	4,301,439
International customers	15,415,017	2,437,111	6,587,638	1,919,911	1,937,228	205,546	-	28,502,451
Government	-	14,710	-	-	80,814	139,405	-	234,929
Total	18,475,792	9,596,764	7,661,252	3,105,963	4,147,372	1,859,538	601	44,847,282
At 31 December 2022								
Retail customers	2,002,009	7,075,698	326,584	90,644	275,876	826,872	-	10,597,683
Corporate customers	1,431,296	412,325	369,558	474,419	610,657	352,657	30,314	3,681,226
International customers	12,370,871	2,186,262	3,108,069	1,925,252	2,811,552	121,382	-	22,523,388
Government	36,232	15,225	110,500	500,000	600,000	178,000	-	1,439,957
Total	15,840,408	9,689,510	3,914,711	2,990,315	4,298,085	1,478,911	30,314	38,242,254
At 31 December 2021								
Retail customers	1,848,749	7,145,412	229,080	175,996	661,456	607,615	-	10,668,308
Corporate customers	1,466,118	691,606	755,277	125,353	1,433,604	223,159	-	4,695,117
International customers	12,592,466	1,639,129	5,222,788	1,039,254	1,274,411	23,086	-	21,791,134
Government	43,230	7,701	-	-	600,000	110,499	-	761,430
Total	15,950,563	9,483,848	6,207,145	1,340,603	3,969,471	964,359	-	37,915,989

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

22. DEPOSITS FROM CUSTOMERS (CONT'D)

(c) Deposits by Segments

	Current accounts	Savings accounts	Up to 3 months	Over 3 months and up to 6 months	Over 6 months and up to 12 months	Over 1 year and up to 5 years	over 5 years	Total
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
At 31 December 2023								
Segment A	3,611,822	7,886,133	1,911,053	1,200,205	2,187,795	1,635,190	601	18,432,799
Segment B	14,863,970	1,710,631	5,750,199	1,905,758	1,959,577	224,348	-	26,414,483
At 31 December 2022								
Segment A	3,452,578	7,496,771	804,821	1,063,425	1,484,462	1,357,419	30,314	15,689,790
Segment B	12,387,830	2,192,739	3,109,890	1,926,890	2,813,623	121,492	-	22,552,464
At 31 December 2021								
Segment A	3,334,146	7,842,721	971,027	299,357	2,685,730	941,171	-	16,074,152
Segment B	12,616,417	1,641,127	5,236,118	1,041,246	1,283,741	23,188	-	21,841,837

23. OTHER BORROWED FUNDS

	Dec-23 Rs 000	Dec-22 Rs 000	Dec-21 Rs 000
Short term borrowings from banks	371,339	1,414,503	-
Long term borrowings from other financial institutions	923,588	1,513,159	2,050,976
Other borrowings	5,002	5,002	5,002
	1,299,929	2,932,664	2,055,978
Current	965,079	2,007,870	569,851
Non current	334,850	924,794	1,486,127
Segment A			
Short term borrowings from Banks	-	1,329,024	-
Other borrowings	5,002	5,002	5,002
	5,002	1,334,026	5,002
Long term domestic borrowing bear interest rates on average of 5%.			
Segment B			
Short term borrowings from banks abroad (at market rates)	371,339	85,479	-
Long term borrowings from other financial institutions	923,588	1,513,159	2,050,976
	1,294,927	1,598,638	2,050,976

Long term foreign borrowings bear interest rates ranging from 7.61% to 7.80%. (2022: 5% to 7.06%, 2021: 2.05% to 2.15%).

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

23. OTHER BORROWED FUNDS (CONT'D)

2023

Remaining term to maturity :	Up to 1 year	1-2 years	2-3 years	3-4 years	4-5 years	above 5 years	Total
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
Long term borrowings from other financial institutions/ bonds	593,740	219,900	109,950	-	-	5,000	928,590
Short term borrowings	371,339	-	-	-	-	-	371,339
	965,079	219,900	109,950	-	-	5,000	1,299,929

2022

Remaining term to maturity :	Up to 1 year	1-2 years	2-3 years	3-4 years	4-5 years	above 5 years	Total
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
Long term borrowings from other financial institutions/ bonds	593,367	588,667	220,750	110,375	-	5,002	1,518,161
Short term borrowings	1,414,503	-	-	-	-	-	1,414,503
	2,007,870	588,667	220,750	110,375	-	5,002	2,932,664

2021

Remaining term to maturity :	Up to 1 year	1-2 years	2-3 years	3-4 years	4-5 years	above 5 years	Total
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
Long term borrowings from other financial institutions/ bonds	569,851	578,000	578,000	216,750	108,375	5,002	2,055,978
	569,851	578,000	578,000	216,750	108,375	5,002	2,055,978

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

24. SUBORDINATED LIABILITIES

Remaining term to maturity :

Within 1 year  
Over 1 years and up to 2 years  
Over 2 years and up to 3 years  
Over 3 years and up to 4 years  
Over 4 years and up to 5 years  
Over 5 years

Current

Non current

Segment A

Within 1 year  
Over 1 years and up to 2 years  
Over 2 years and up to 3 years  
Over 3 years and up to 4 years  
Over 4 years and up to 5 years  
Over 5 years

Segment B

Within 1 year  
Over 1 years and up to 2 years  
Over 2 years and up to 3 years  
Over 3 years and up to 4 years  
Over 4 years and up to 5 years  
Over 5 years

Interest rates on the subordinated debts range between 5% and 8.825% (between 5% and 9.075% in 2022 and between 5% and 7.56% in 2021).

Movement in subordinated liabilities

Opening balance  
Additions  
Redemptions/amortisation/exchange difference  
Closing balance

25. CURRENT TAX LIABILITIES

Special levy on Banks  
Corporate social responsibility fund  
Income tax

Current

Dec-23 Rs 000	Dec-22 Rs 000	Dec-21 Rs 000
135,470	194,062	100,964
128,971	125,776	188,253
128,971	125,776	129,236
84,485	125,777	129,236
40,000	82,888	129,236
595,000	635,000	719,618
1,112,897	1,289,279	1,396,543
135,470	194,062	100,964
977,427	1,095,217	1,295,579
39,387	99,280	-
40,000	40,000	99,017
40,000	40,000	40,000
40,000	40,000	40,000
40,000	40,000	40,000
595,000	635,000	675,000
794,387	894,280	894,017
96,083	94,782	100,964
88,971	85,776	89,236
88,971	85,776	89,236
44,485	85,777	89,236
-	42,888	89,236
-	-	44,618
318,510	394,999	502,526

1,289,279	1,396,543	1,387,217
-	-	7,840
(176,382)	(107,264)	1,486
1,112,897	1,289,279	1,396,543

Dec-23 Rs 000	Dec-22 Rs 000	Dec-21 Rs 000
9,623	9,624	7,693
-	667	632
27,319	12,366	19,228
36,942	22,657	27,553
36,942	22,657	27,553

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

26. OTHER LIABILITIES

	Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
Bills payable	38,971	75,275	20,212
Other payables	438,275	421,304	499,680
Allowances for off balance sheet exposures	5,079	15,564	8,338
	482,325	512,143	528,230
Current	482,325	512,143	497,423
Non current	-	-	30,807
Other payables consist of provisions for expenses, card settlement payables, unclaimed items and others.			
Segment A			
Bills payable	38,971	75,275	20,212
Other payables	379,830	363,167	382,477
Allowances for off balance sheet exposures	1,010	15,564	8,338
	419,811	454,006	411,027
Segment B			
Other payables	58,445	58,137	117,203
Allowances for off balance sheet exposures	4,069	-	-
	62,514	58,137	117,203

27. LEASE LIABILITIES

	Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
Segment A			
Analysed as:			
Non-current	64,630	71,218	87,020
Current	14,435	13,399	9,595
	79,065	84,617	96,615
Disclosure required by IFRS 16			
Maturity analysis:			
Year 1	19,929	18,939	16,660
Year 2	20,007	18,853	18,999
Year 3	20,039	18,931	19,280
Year 4	20,072	18,963	19,667
Year 5	7,780	18,997	19,763
Onwards	10,554	11,879	29,796
	98,381	106,562	124,165

The Bank does not face a significant liquidity risk with regard to its lease liabilities. Lease liabilities are monitored within the Bank's Finance department.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

28. PENSION OBLIGATIONS

Pension obligations under defined benefit plan

Amounts recognised in the statement of financial position:  
Amounts charged to profit or loss statement (note 8)  
Amount charged/(credited) to other comprehensive income

Pension obligations under unfunded obligation

Amounts recognised in the statement of financial position:  
Amounts charged to profit or loss (note 8)  
Amount charged/(credited) to other comprehensive income

Amount in the statement of financial position

(a) Pension obligations under defined benefit plan  
(b) Pension obligations under unfunded obligation

Amounts charged to profit or loss statement (note 8)

(a) Pension obligations under defined benefit plan  
(b) Pension obligations under unfunded obligation

Amount charged/(credited) to other comprehensive income

(a) Pension obligations under defined benefit plan  
(b) Pension obligations under unfunded obligation

(a) Defined pension benefits

The plan is a defined benefit arrangement, with benefits based on final salary. It provides for a pension at retirement and a benefit on death or disablement in service before retirement. The assets of the funded plan are held and independently administered by Swan Life Ltd.

The following information is based on actuarial valuation report dated 12 February 2024 by Swan Life Ltd:

(i) The amounts recognised in the statement of financial position are as follows:

	Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
Present value of funded obligations	221,539	195,414	192,377
Fair value of plan assets	(137,914)	(139,764)	(150,375)
Liability in the statement of financial position	83,625	55,650	42,002

(ii) The movement in the defined benefit obligations over the year is as follows:

	Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
At 1 January	55,650	42,002	59,106
Amount recognised in profit or loss	12,086	10,429	11,361
Amount recognised in other comprehensive income (gross)	22,034	10,611	(21,754)
Contributions by the employer	(6,145)	(7,392)	(6,711)
At 31 December	83,625	55,650	42,002
Non-current	83,625	55,650	42,002



# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 28. PENSION OBLIGATIONS (CONT'D)

### (a) Defined pension benefits

(iii) The movement in the defined benefit obligations for the year is as follows:

	Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
At 1 January	195,413	192,377	199,865
Included in profit or loss			
Current service cost	8,276	8,222	9,593
Interest cost	11,438	7,186	4,752
Included in other comprehensive income			
Experience losses/(gains) on the liabilities	14,272	7,323	(4,709)
Changes in assumptions underlying the present value of the scheme	8,233	6,027	(13,400)
Other			
Benefits paid	(16,093)	(25,722)	(3,724)
At 31 December	221,539	195,413	192,377

(iv) The movement in the fair value of plan assets of the year is as follows:

	Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
At 1 January	139,763	150,375	140,759
Interest Income	8,209	5,639	3,409
Employer's contribution	6,146	7,392	6,711
Scheme expenses	(239)	(289)	(225)
Cost of insuring risk benefits	(343)	(371)	(200)
Actuarial gain	471	2,739	3,645
Benefits paid	(16,093)	(25,722)	(3,724)
At 31 December	137,914	139,763	150,375

(v) The amounts recognised in profit or loss are as follows:

	Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
Current service cost	8,276	8,222	9,593
Scheme expenses	239	289	225
Cost of insuring risk benefits	343	371	200
Net interest cost	3,228	1,547	1,343
Total included in employee benefit expense	12,086	10,429	11,361
Actual return on plan assets	8,680	8,378	7,054

(vi) The amounts recognised in other comprehensive income are as follows:

	Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
Gains on pension scheme assets	(471)	(2,739)	(3,645)
Experience losses on the liabilities	14,272	7,323	(4,709)
Changes in assumptions underlying the present value of the scheme	8,233	6,027	(13,400)
	22,034	10,611	(21,754)

(vii) Plan assets

The assets of the plan are invested in the Deposit Administration Policy underwritten by Swan Life Ltd. The Deposit Administration Policy is a pooled insurance product for Group Pension Schemes. It is a long-term investment Policy which aims to provide a smooth progression of returns from one year to the next without regular fluctuations associated with asset-linked investments such as Equity Funds. Moreover, the Deposit Administration Policy offers a minimum guaranteed return of 4% p.a.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 28. PENSION OBLIGATIONS (CONT'D)

### (a) Defined pension benefits (Cont'd)

(viii) As the pension fund is expected to produce a smooth return, a fairly reasonable indication of future returns can be obtained by looking at historical ones. Therefore, the long term expected return on asset assumption has been based on historical performance of the pension fund.

In terms of the individual expected returns, the expected return on equities has been based on an equity risk premium above a risk free rate. The risk free rate has been measured in accordance to the yields on government bonds at the measurement date.

The fixed interest portfolio includes government bonds, debentures, mortgages and cash. The expected return for this asset class has been based on yields of government bonds at the measurement date.

(ix) Average duration

The Weighted average duration of the liabilities at 31 December 2023 is 9 years (2022: 9 years) at the end of the reporting period.

(x) Future cash flows

The funding requirements of the defined benefit plan are based on the pension fund's actuarial measurement framework set out in the funding policies of the plan.

The Bank expects to pay MUR 6.71m in contributions to its post-employment benefit plans for the year ending 31 December 2024.

### (b) Liability for unfunded pension plan

The liability relates to employees who are entitled to Retirement Gratuities payable under the Workers' Right Act (WRA). The latter provides for a lump sum at retirement based on final salary and years of service. All employees joining after 2008 will be entitled to receive the gratuity payment under the WRA.

The movement in the obligation of the unfunded pension plan of the year is as follows:

	Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
At 1 January	28,803	18,808	21,040
Amount recognised in profit or loss:			
Current service cost	5,213	4,075	4,612
Past service cost	(12,203)	-	-
Net interest cost	1,814	884	652
Amount recognised in profit or loss	(5,176)	4,959	5,264
Amount recognised in other comprehensive income (gross)	14,012	5,036	(7,496)
At 31 December	37,639	28,803	18,808

The weighted average duration of the liability as at 31 December 2023 is 11 years (2022: 11 years).

### (c) Key assumption

The principal actuarial assumptions used for the purposes of the actuarial valuations were:

	Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
	%	%	%
<u>Funded pension liability</u>			
Discount rate	5.2	6.1	4.0
Future salary growth rate	3.5	3.5	3.0
<u>Unfunded pension liability</u>			
Discount rate	5.3	6.3	4.7
Future salary growth rate	3.5	3.5	3.0

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

28. PENSION OBLIGATIONS (CONT'D)

(d) Sensitivity analysis

Sensitivity analysis on both funded and unfunded benefit obligations to changes in the weighted principal assumptions is:

	Dec-23 Rs 000	Dec-22 Rs 000	Dec-21 Rs 000
<u>Defined benefit funded scheme:</u>			
1% increase in discount rate	16,912	15,034	15,733
1% decrease in discount rate	(19,190)	(17,093)	(17,981)
1% increase in future salary growth rate	20,449	19,905	21,313
1% decrease in future salary growth rate	(18,329)	(17,701)	(18,535)
<u>Unfunded obligations</u>			
1% increase in discount rate	(7,634)	(5,631)	(4,925)
1% decrease in discount rate	(9,375)	(7,326)	(6,511)
1% increase in future salary growth rate	9,431	7,011	5,411
1% decrease in future salary growth rate	(7,802)	(6,182)	(6,072)

The sensitivity analyses above have been determined based on sensibly possible changes of the discount rate or salary increase rate occurring at the end of the reporting period if all other assumptions remained unchanged.

The sensitivity analysis may not be representative of the actual change in the defined benefit obligation as it is unlikely that the change in assumptions would occur in isolation of one another as some of the assumptions may be correlated.

There was no change in the methods used in preparing the sensitivity analysis from prior years.

(e) Risk exposure

Through its defined pension benefit and unfunded plans, the Bank is exposed to a number of risks, the most significant of which are detailed below:

(i) Funded plan

Longevity risk: The plan liability is calculated by reference to the best estimate for the mortality of plan participants both during and after their employment. An increase in life expectancy of the plan participants will increase the plan liability.

Investment risk: The plan liability is calculated using a discount rate determined by reference to government bond yields; if the return on plan assets is below this rate, it will create a plan deficit and if it is higher, it will create a plan surplus.

(ii) Unfunded plan

Longevity risk: The plan liability is calculated by reference to the best estimate for the mortality of plan participants both during and after their employment. An increase in life expectancy of the plan participants will increase the plan liability.

29. STATED CAPITAL

	Dec-23 Rs 000	Dec-22 Rs 000	Dec-21 Rs 000
<u>Shares at no par value</u>			
Stated capital	1,456,456	1,456,456	1,456,456
At start of year and end of the year	1,456,456	1,456,456	1,456,456
No of ordinary shares in issue (no par value)	14,564,560	14,564,560	14,564,560

Bank One Limited's share capital stood at MUR 1,456,456,000, represented by 14,564,560 ordinary shares of no par value, held equally between CIEL Finance Limited and I&M Group PLC.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

29. STATED CAPITAL (CONT'D)

Each share confers on the holder the right to:

- one vote on a poll at a meeting of the Bank on any resolution;
- an equal share in dividends authorised by the Board; and
- an equal share in the distribution of the surplus assets of the Bank.

30. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

	Dec-23 Rs 000	Dec-22 Rs 000	Dec-21 Rs 000
Acceptances on account of customers	424,260	99,666	27,777
Guarantees on account of customers	1,952,352	1,517,969	764,363
Letters of credit and other obligations on account of customers	590,734	769,853	128,549
Other contingent items	1,133,081	586,992	95,274
	4,100,427	2,974,480	1,015,963
<b>Segment A</b>			
Acceptances on account of customers	8,448	11,864	7,077
Guarantees on account of customers	698,900	587,881	428,498
Letters of credit and other obligations on account of customers	1,670	7,777	7,027
Other contingent items	-	-	-
	709,018	607,522	442,602
<b>Segment B</b>			
Acceptances on account of customers	415,812	87,802	20,700
Guarantees on account of customers	1,253,452	930,088	335,865
Letters of credit and other obligations on account of customers	589,064	762,076	121,522
Other contingent items	1,133,081	586,992	95,274
	3,391,409	2,366,958	573,361

Legal claims

Litigation is a common occurrence in the Banking industry due to the nature of the business undertaken. The Bank has formal control and policies for managing legal claims. Once professional advice has been obtained and the amount of loss reasonably estimated, the Bank makes adjustments for any adverse effects which the claims may have on the financial standing.

31. COMMITMENTS

	Dec-23 Rs 000	Dec-22 Rs 000	Dec-21 Rs 000
(a) Undrawn credit facilities	2,795,582	1,976,757	4,108,310
Segment A	1,999,053	1,627,275	2,547,774
Segment B	796,529	349,482	1,560,536

(b) Securities pledged

GOM bonds as collateral for the purpose of overnight facility from the Bank of Mauritius when required:

Treasury notes and GOM bonds as collateral for facilities availed under the Special Foreign Currency line of credit.

	Dec-23 Rs 000	Dec-22 Rs 000	Dec-21 Rs 000
Treasury/GOM bonds	-	-	396,000
Treasury notes/bills	-	-	27,000
	-	-	423,000

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

32. RELATED PARTIES

Nature of relationship		Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
		Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
Cash and cash equivalents	Related companies	860,803	713,678	105,559
Loans and advances	Related companies	169,257	789,401	776,103
	Directors	-	-	-
	Key management personnel	75,326	102,873	74,491
Deposits	Related companies	1,082,978	1,187,028	1,458,218
	Directors	122	93	-
	Key management personnel	52,530	37,171	25,175
Borrowings	Related company	143,099	6,730	5,002
Interest income	Related companies	1,285	3,207	796
	Key management personnel	-	1,815	1,341
Interest expense	Related companies	7,348	1,979	250
	Directors	3	1	1
	Key management personnel	630	127	45
Fees and Expenses	Directors	11,030	9,528	9,030

Related companies relates to enterprises in which shareholders, key directors/key management personnel have significant interest as defined in the guideline issued by BOM.

Credit commitments for Director/Senior management personnel amounted to Rs21.75m. Bank guarantees and committed lines for related companies amounts to Rs241.63m.

Terms and conditions of transactions with related parties

The above related party transactions were carried out under normal business terms and conditions and were subject to interest wherever applicable. None of exposures granted to related parties was impaired at 31 December 2023 (2022 and 2021: nil).

(a) Key Management personnel compensation

	Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
Salaries and short term employee benefits	109,040	99,905	81,496
Post employment benefits	5,606	5,905	5,519

There are no other long term benefits, termination benefits or share based payments payable to key management personnel.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

33. SEGMENTAL STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Statement of Financial Position

	Dec-23			Dec-22			Dec-21		
	BANK	SEGMENT A	SEGMENT B	BANK	SEGMENT A	SEGMENT B	BANK	SEGMENT A	SEGMENT B
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
ASSETS									
Cash and cash equivalents	8,462,698	2,558,825	5,903,873	6,898,615	258,188	6,640,427	10,449,280	483,457	9,965,823
Derivative assets held for risk management	4,580	1,971	2,609	3,116	3,037	79	42,826	-	42,826
Non-current asset held for sale	-	-	-	45,000	45,000	-	-	-	-
Loan and advances to Banks	8,873,984	-	8,873,984	5,147,185	-	5,147,185	3,336,245	-	3,336,245
Loan and advances to customers	19,129,086	16,146,655	2,982,431	20,180,265	16,088,263	4,092,002	17,474,549	14,608,691	2,865,858
Investment securities - FVTOCI	2,427,459	2,398,713	28,746	1,402,874	1,370,618	32,256	2,083,101	2,056,341	26,760
Investment securities - Amortised cost	10,617,591	3,100,969	7,516,622	10,922,555	2,313,834	8,608,721	10,320,960	3,199,783	7,121,177
Right-Of-Use assets	69,774	69,774	-	76,965	76,965	-	89,359	89,359	-
Property and equipment	420,993	420,962	31	403,005	402,600	405	435,830	435,077	753
Intangible asset	124,338	123,407	931	133,583	131,983	1,600	130,666	130,666	-
Deferred tax asset	31,539	22,083	9,456	44,515	44,515	-	45,936	38,965	6,971
Other assets	2,008,376	2,001,893	6,483	1,571,519	1,544,196	27,323	1,387,575	1,365,833	21,742
Total assets	52,170,418	26,845,252	25,325,166	46,829,197	22,279,199	24,549,998	45,796,327	22,408,172	23,388,155
Liabilities									
Deposits from customers	44,847,282	18,432,799	26,414,483	38,242,254	15,689,790	22,552,464	37,915,989	16,074,152	21,841,837
Derivative liabilities held for risk management	39,434	33,867	5,567	26,439	818	25,621	3,112	-	3,112
Other borrowed funds	1,299,929	5,002	1,294,927	2,932,664	1,334,026	1,598,638	2,055,978	5,002	2,050,976
Subordinated liabilities	1,112,897	794,387	318,510	1,289,279	894,280	394,999	1,396,543	894,017	502,526
Pensions obligations	121,264	121,264	-	84,453	84,453	-	60,810	44,391	16,419
Current tax liabilities	36,942	36,942	-	22,657	22,657	-	27,553	27,553	-
Other liabilities	482,325	419,811	62,514	512,143	454,006	58,137	528,230	411,027	117,203
Lease liabilities	79,065	79,065	-	84,617	84,617	-	96,615	96,615	-
	48,019,138	19,923,137	28,096,001	43,194,506	18,564,647	24,629,859	42,084,830	17,552,757	24,532,073
Shareholders' Equity									
Stated Capital	1,456,456	-	-	1,456,456	-	-	1,456,456	-	-
Retained earnings	2,021,147	-	-	1,646,082	-	-	1,725,369	-	-
Other reserves	673,677	-	-	532,153	-	-	529,672	-	-
	4,151,280	-	-	3,634,691	-	-	3,711,497	-	-
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES	52,170,418	-	-	46,829,197	-	-	45,796,327	-	-



# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

## 34. SEGMENTAL STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS

Statement of profit or loss

	Dec-23			Dec-22			Dec-21		
	BANK	SEGMENT A	SEGMENT B	BANK	SEGMENT A	SEGMENT B	BANK	SEGMENT A	SEGMENT B
	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000	Rs 000
Interest income	2,352,766	1,206,714	1,146,052	1,393,221	665,234	727,987	1,155,343	776,176	379,167
Interest expense	(1,083,860)	(534,154)	(549,706)	(399,407)	(199,721)	(199,686)	(340,336)	(179,499)	(160,837)
Net interest income	1,268,906	672,560	596,346	993,814	465,513	528,301	815,007	596,677	218,330
Fee and commission income	400,946	122,703	278,243	457,051	107,240	349,811	607,911	115,506	492,405
Fee and commission expense	(138,951)	(70,841)	(68,110)	(127,650)	(55,183)	(72,467)	(329,633)	(43,459)	(286,174)
Net fee and commission income	261,995	51,862	210,133	329,401	52,057	277,344	278,278	72,047	206,231
Net gain on dealing in foreign currencies and derivatives	255,594	59,375	196,219	178,747	86,411	92,336	164,391	53,750	110,641
Net gain from derecognition of financial assets measured at fair value through other comprehensive income	733	733	-	3,111	3,111	-	93,224	93,224	-
Other operating income	(55)	(55)	-	1,746	1,746	-	29,053	245	28,808
	256,272	60,053	196,219	183,604	91,268	92,336	286,668	147,219	139,449
Operating income	1,787,173	784,475	1,002,698	1,506,819	608,838	897,981	1,379,953	815,943	564,010
Non Interest Expenses									
Personnel expenses	(674,637)	(453,482)	(221,155)	(617,351)	(438,883)	(178,468)	(557,059)	(405,200)	(151,859)
Depreciation and amortisation	(110,637)	(94,455)	(16,182)	(96,901)	(84,051)	(12,850)	(75,861)	(63,744)	(12,117)
Other Expenses	(323,319)	(236,877)	(86,442)	(290,473)	(213,066)	(77,407)	(296,366)	(221,028)	(75,338)
	(1,108,593)	(784,814)	(323,779)	(1,004,725)	(736,000)	(268,725)	(929,286)	(689,972)	(239,314)
Profit before Impairment	678,580	(339)	678,919	502,094	(127,162)	629,256	450,667	125,971	324,696
Net impairment (reversal)/loss on financial assets	132,150	120,227	11,923	33,476	67,651	(34,175)	71,799	49,700	22,099
Profit/(loss) before income tax	810,730	119,888	690,842	535,570	(59,511)	595,081	522,466	175,671	346,795
Income tax expense	(54,920)	(20,022)	(34,898)	(41,745)	(22,580)	(19,165)	(109,042)	(46,433)	(62,609)
Profit/(loss) after tax	755,810	99,866	655,944	493,825	(82,091)	575,916	413,424	129,238	284,186



## 35. SUBSEQUENT EVENT

No subsequent event to be reported.

## **Bank One Limited**

**Registered Office:** 16, Sir William Newton Street, Port Louis 11328, Mauritius

**T:** + 230 202 9200   **E:** [info@bankone.mu](mailto:info@bankone.mu)   **W:** [www.bankone.mu](http://www.bankone.mu)

**BRN:** C07040612