



ING Group Annual Report **2014**

Empowering people

We believe all sustainable progress is driven by people with the imagination and determination to improve their future and the futures of those around them.

We empower people and organisations to realise their own vision for a better future – however modest or grand.

Empowering people to stay a step ahead in life and in business

ING at a glance

Who we are

We are a global financial institution with a strong European base, offering banking services.

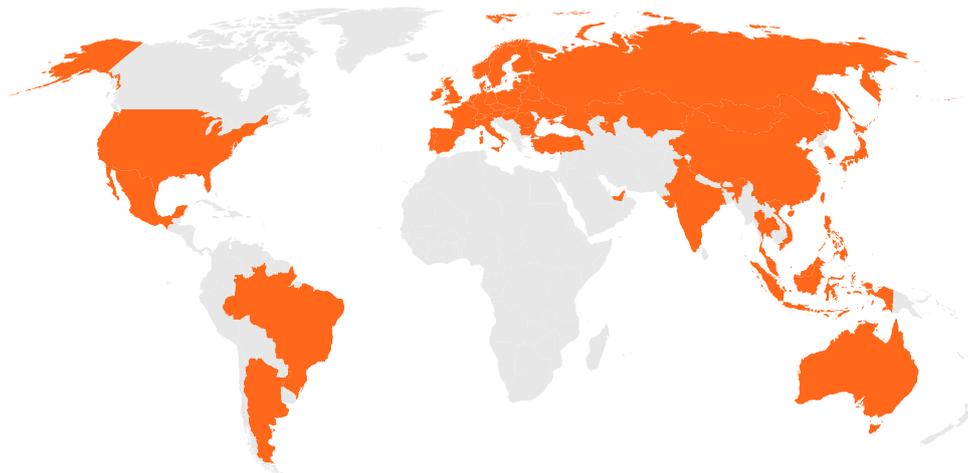
Our customers are at the heart of what we do.

2014 highlights

- › Good customer satisfaction scores in all our retail banking markets.
- › Net loan growth of 3% spread across Retail and Commercial Banking.
- › Presentation and implementation of ING's renewed purpose, strategy and sustainability direction.
- › Number one ranked 'diversified financials' company in the Dow Jones Sustainability Index.
- › Full repayment to the Dutch State.
- › The IPO of NN Group, our former European/ Japanese insurance businesses, largely completing our restructuring.
- › Comfortably passed the European Central Bank's Asset Quality Review and stress test.
- › Strong profitability, capital, liquidity and funding
- › Dividend payments reinstated.

Where we operate

We operate in more than 40 countries in Europe, North America, South America, Middle-East, Asia and Australia



Our customers

>32 million
(Year-end 2014)

#1 ranking

Our customer-centric focus has resulted in nine countries achieving first place in NPS compared with two or more selected local peers. NPS surveys were held in 11 countries with retail banking activities.

Our employees

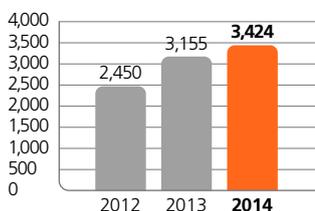
>53,000
(Year-end 2014)

75%

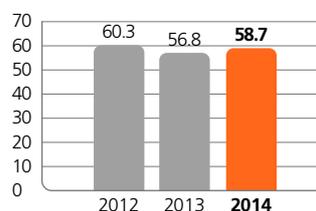
Employee engagement score.

Financial highlights banking

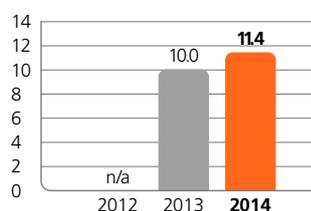
Underlying net result Banking (€ mln)



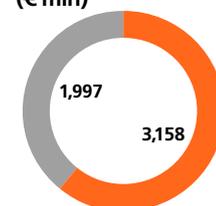
Underlying cost/income ratio (%)



Common Equity Tier 1 ratio fully loaded (%)

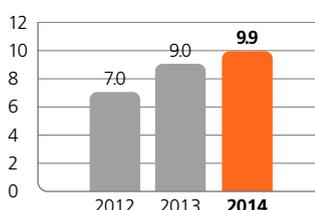


Underlying result before tax Banking excl. corporate line (€ mln)



● Retail Banking ● Commercial Banking

Underlying return on equity (%)



One-year price development of ING depositary receipts for shares

Our share price has increased by 7.2% in 2014, outperforming all three banks indices.



Our brand value

Number 26 most valuable bank brand in the world (EUR 7.3 billion, year-end 2014).⁽¹⁾

Our size

Number 9 European bank by market capitalisation (EUR 42 billion, year-end 2014).⁽²⁾

(1) Source: Brand Finance plc, February 2015.
(2) Source: MSCI, Bloomberg, January 2015.

Welcome to ING's Annual Report.

Our aim is to inform stakeholders about our financial and non-financial performance in 2014, to provide a full and clear account of how we create value over time, and how the new Think Forward strategy has been designed and implemented to meet the new challenges, risks and prospects ING faces in a fast-changing world.

The main external developments in 2014 are described in the chapter 'Market and regulatory context', followed by one discussing the issues our stakeholders find most important. These issues are also addressed throughout this report. 'How we are balancing our responsibilities' is illustrated with examples.

After the 'Key figures' chapter, we explain how Retail and Commercial Banking activities are furthering ING's strategy. Then the key resources we deploy to create value take centre stage in two chapters: 'People' and 'Innovation and information technology'. The 'Risk and capital management' chapter describes how we manage risks and ensure optimal use of capital for value creation. The 'ING Shares' chapter contains key information for our shareholders. The integrated report which encompasses the 'Report of the Executive Board' section is concluded with the assurance report of our external auditor.

The following, more conventional sections are 'Corporate Governance' and the annual accounts. Other and additional information is included at the end of this report and in a separate Sustainability Annex.

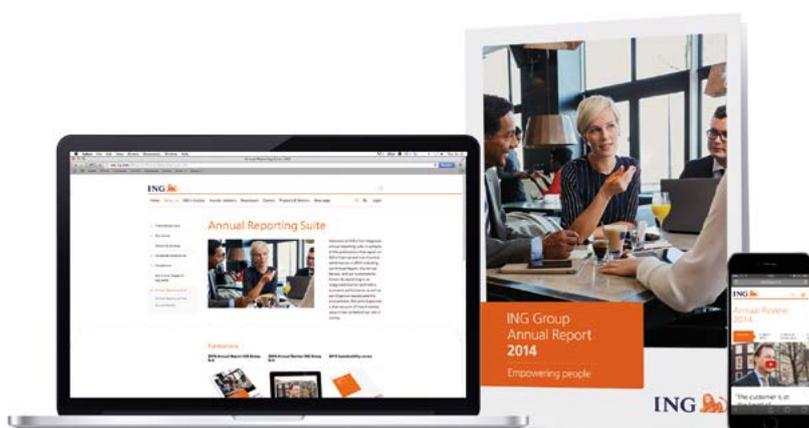
Icons used in the report

-  **Read more**
-  **Find out more online**
-  **Awards**
-  **Deals**

ING Group annual reports

These reports can be read on desktop, tablet and mobile devices at www.ing.com. The ING Group Annual Report is also available in print.

For any questions on these reports:
communication@ing.com.



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CEO statement

“Empowering people”

2014 was an important year for our customers and for ING. We launched our Think Forward strategy and have been working hard to raise the customer experience to a higher level.

Customers across the world acknowledge our efforts. More and more want to do business with us.

We extended more credit to support our business clients and accelerated sustainable transitions with our lending activities.

This first integrated annual report highlights our efforts. I am proud to present a new report for a bank with a sharper purpose and a new strategy.

Our journey

We made significant progress in 2014 on our road to becoming a standalone bank. Key milestones included the IPO of NN Group, the reinstatement of dividends and the final repayment to the Dutch State. I want to express our gratitude to the Dutch State and its citizens for their support and also thank customers for their continuing loyalty and our employees for their perseverance and commitment.

As a leading European bank active in more than 40 countries, we are well positioned for the future and are able to assist both our retail and commercial banking customers worldwide. I am proud that our customers value our efforts. ING was recognised by *Financial Times' The Banker* as Best Bank in the Netherlands for the third consecutive year and Best Bank in Belgium for the second time in a row. ING Australia was again chosen as Australia's most beloved bank by customers. These awards encourage us that we are delivering what our customers want and that we are fulfilling their needs. Furthermore, in 2014, ING welcomed over one million new customers and established half a million primary banking relationships. Earning the primary relationship is needed to get to know our customers well and to be relevant for them.

On 4 November 2014, when the ECB assumed banking supervision responsibilities across the eurozone, an important step was made towards a European Banking Union. This further strengthening of financial integration in Europe should help to foster economic growth. Many challenges remain, but the Single Supervisory Mechanism is, I believe, a step in the right direction.

We are also doing well from a financial perspective. We have comfortably passed the ECB's latest comprehensive assessment. The outcome reflects our strong capital position and resilient balance sheet.

We have further integrated sustainability into our key activities. We are proud of the external recognition that we received from raters, which acknowledges the work



that we have done in this field. What is important for me to state is that sustainability is part of how we do business. We consider our role in society as supporting and stimulating economic, social and environmental progress, and aiming for a better quality of life for people.

Our purpose and strategy – the rationale

To remain relevant for customers and stay in tune with all the changes in the financial sector we need a clear customer proposition that sets us apart from the competition and a well thought-out strategy drawing on our strengths. We co-created our new purpose and strategy with customers and employees. We challenged ourselves to rethink our identity: 'Who are we, why are we here and what do we stand for?'

We understand that people want a bank that shows a genuine interest in them and helps them get a good grip on their finances in order for them to succeed in life. We understand that companies want a bank that helps them to run a better business. I believe if we can get this right, we also serve other stakeholders.

When preparing the strategy, we spoke to many customers. What they said was: 'We don't need banks, but we do need banking'. We know. We can only be successful if we find ways to be relevant in their daily lives or in the daily operations of our business clients; we have to forge meaningful connections with people, with businesses and with society.

We also believe that all sustainable progress is driven by people with the imagination and determination to improve their future and the futures of those around them.

All of these insights have been incorporated in our purpose: empowering people to stay a step ahead in life and in business.

We have also laid out how we want to do this through our Customer Promise: being clear and easy; available anytime, anywhere; empowering people and anticipating their financial needs with the right information to make smart decisions; and striving to keep getting better every day. Unfortunately, the drive to simplify processes has also led to the recent announcement of further reductions in our workforce in the Netherlands. This is a necessary step as we move towards an omnichannel approach that better

serves our customers. More is explained in the Strategy and Retail Banking chapters.

During the year, I made a worldwide tour visiting our businesses to explain our strategy to employees and describe how their work and their businesses fit into it. There are already many examples of our strategy in action. For example, in Spain, we have launched a new digital platform which encourages clients to think about their future by helping them to analyse and manage their personal finances using customisable visuals. Through digital wallet initiatives we are aiming to make shopping safer and easier in Turkey, Spain, Poland and Italy. In Commercial Banking we progressed with the transformation programme we introduced in late 2012 to standardise products and channels and harmonise client services.

Our business is based upon trust. Only by acting with professionalism and integrity can we maintain stakeholders' confidence. With a new strategy and a changing external environment we started a programme to determine the values and behaviours we need. These values and behaviours were launched to all employees in early 2015.

Developing innovation and analytics skills

When we launched ING Direct in 1997, we changed the banking landscape. We were the disruptive challengers then and we need to disrupt again today. That disruptive spirit is an important source of strength. ING is a business in motion – we are thinking forward and acting now.

One of our key challenges is to accelerate innovation to find even better ways to serve customers. Innovation is happening now at ING, and you can find many examples in this report.

Our efforts are bearing fruit. The launch of voice recognition technology for the mobile app in the Netherlands was a first for European banks. It is making mobile banking easier and more accessible for our customers. In Belgium we introduced fingerprint technology. And in Germany, ING-DiBa's new video-based identification is simplifying the process of opening an account.

Again, we directly involved our employees. We asked them to think with us about innovation. I am proud to say that the first of our internal Innovation Days resulted in more than 700 employee-generated ideas. Seven winning concepts have been chosen and all received initial funding to turn the concepts into reality.

One of our key strategic priorities is developing analytics skills to understand our customers better. Advanced analytics are not only a means of combatting fraud and cybercrime, they can also give customers the tools to better understand their own finances, to make smarter decisions and reach their own goals. We continually assess how best to achieve our strategic goals of empowering customers, whilst respecting their privacy. This is an area I believe would benefit considerably from serious, informed public debate.

We are in constant dialogue with stakeholders. If we are to offer relevant customer propositions we have to understand what they want and how they think. Social media is a key channel for gauging opinions and identifying needs. ING France's Web Café is a good

example. In this online forum customers exchange views and help each other. The café brings customers into the innovation process and offers them an opportunity to co-create new products. Another example is ING Turuncu Destek (ING Orange Support) which ING Turkey uses to encourage suggestions that improve services. We received recognition by the jury of the Social Media Monitor in the Netherlands for how we visibly integrated social media into our business operations. We are building on these best practices in other countries. The more we know about customers' needs the better we are able to help them stay a step ahead.

Driving sustainable progress

We seek external direction and validation of our sustainability priorities by endorsing international standards such as the UN Global Compact, while considering those trends that could have an impact on our organisation.

In 2014, environmental and social risk assessments were further embedded in core processes. We were involved in many transactions that underscored our efforts to fund the transition to a more sustainable economy. The share of renewables among the electricity-generating projects in the Structured Finance Power portfolio continues a trend of gradual increase, from 23 percent in 2009 to 43 percent in 2014. The financing of the Sarulla Geothermal Power Project is a great example. This will deliver sustainable electricity to the Indonesian market and will significantly reduce the country's annual carbon dioxide emissions.

We actively look at opportunities and growth areas in the sustainability arena and are eager to partner with clients to finance their sustainability challenges. This resulted in a total amount of EUR 19.5 billion sustainable transitions financed at year-end 2014.

Looking forward

Our 2014 results were strong. We are on the right track and we are making progress. ING is well positioned to benefit from the transformation that is taking place in the banking landscape. There are still challenges ahead. In particular, we need to step up efforts to become faster, more agile and more innovative if we are to meet our customers' ever-changing expectations. We remain committed to realising our Ambition 2017 programme, which includes our intention to pay a minimum of 40 percent of ING Group's annual net profits to shareholders, through dividends, with effect from 2015. Furthermore, at the end of each financial year the Board will recommend whether to return additional capital to shareholders dependent on financial, strategic and regulatory considerations.

We want to improve today's practice and achieve our purpose. We are taking action now and thinking ahead to position ourselves as a leading European bank, empowering our customers to stay a step ahead in life and in business.

Ralph Hamers

Ralph Hamers
Chief Executive Officer ING Group
March 2015

How we create value

The ultimate role of a financial institution is to support and stimulate economic, social and environmental progress leading to a better quality of life for people in society. This is what the value we create for, and with, our stakeholders should be about. This naturally fits with our purpose: 'empowering people to stay a step ahead in life and in business'.

We add value by delivering products and services that improve people's lives and fuel economic growth. The illustration highlights the pivotal role we play as a bank in society, addressing how we create value for our customers and other stakeholders (balloons at the top) and how we earn our income and apply our resources (text at the bottom of the next page).

How our core functions add value

Our stakeholders rely on us to perform a wide variety of tasks seamlessly on their behalf. Individuals shop for groceries and receive salaries; companies receive payments from customers and manage working capital. Core tasks are to provide a safe repository for customer savings and generate returns. These savings are used to lend (a further core task) to people who may use them to buy a home- and to businesses to stimulate growth and economic activity.

Providing a payments infrastructure is also at the core of our business. Specifically for businesses, we facilitate payment transactions, but we also service companies' other operational needs such as liquidity management and protecting international trade transactions.

As a financial intermediary we take on financial risks that would otherwise be retained by individuals and within companies. At the same time we apply our expertise and resources to minimise the aggregate risk for ING.

Furthermore, our aim is to help people and businesses by providing them with financial insight, overview and advice, for example to manage their financial futures.

By doing all of these tasks effectively, we seek to accelerate economic activity. Both individuals and companies improve their ability to make and act on decisions that would not be possible without financial intermediation. Through facilitating and promoting responsible decisions and accelerating transitions towards a sustainable economy, we empower our customers, providing them with a strong financial platform.

We also advance the interests of many other stakeholders, including regulators.

How we create value for our customers and other



stakeholders in life and in business



Facilitating transactions

Many transactions were executed for customers by ING in 2014. We underpin economic activity by always aiming for prompt, accurate payments for both individuals and businesses.

Fuelling entrepreneurship and growth of SMEs and mid-corporates

More than EUR 3 bln net lending growth was provided to retail companies to start, maintain and expand their businesses locally and internationally.

Accelerating sustainable transitions

EUR 19.5 bln sustainable transitions financed, represents the volume of business that ING conducts with customers and projects that provide sustainable solutions and outperform their sector on environmental or social performance.

Supporting large companies' growth and export

EUR 9.3 bln net growth was achieved in Structured Finance and General Lending & Transaction Services through our Commercial Banking network in more than 40 countries.

How we are strengthening our own resources

- › Investing in our people: values, competencies, experience, motivations and behaviours
- › Building our capital base with retained profit
- › Developing networks: optimising coverage digitally/via branches; local presence and international network; developing relationships, sharing information internally and externally; reinforcing our social licence to operate.

Our core functions

- › Offering savings and investment opportunities
- › Offering credit to private individuals, companies and institutions
- › Facilitating payments
- › Servicing companies' other financial operational needs
- › Managing risks and assets
- › Providing financial insight, overview and advice
- › Providing access to capital markets for financing, hedging and investment purposes.

How we earn our income

- › The lion's share of our revenue is generated from interest income
- › We earn the difference between loan interest received and the interest we pay on our savings and borrowings
- › We also earn revenue from transactions and advisory services
- › We pay for costs, such as wages and the cost of delivering our core functions; we pay tax at regular rates
- › We reinvest part of our profits and have reinstated dividend payments to our shareholders.

Our resources

The main resources we have at our disposal to create value are our people, our capital and our network.

Our operations touch the lives of many stakeholders, including customers, employees, shareholders and suppliers. Each individual stakeholder can expect us to act with integrity. We have established a set of standards for all employees that we collectively value, strive to live up to and invite others to measure us by. They consist of values and behaviours. The ING values are principles we stick to – no matter what. We are honest, we are prudent and we are responsible.

ING behaviours are the commitments we make to each other and the standards by which we will measure each other's performance. Our behaviours are encapsulated in three phrases: you take it on and make it happen; you help others to be successful; and you are always a step ahead.

- 📖 People chapter for more information.
- 📖 Risk and capital management chapter for more information about our capital structure.
- 📖 Retail Banking chapter and Commercial Banking chapter for more information about our network.

Developing our capabilities

We perform our core tasks by combining our resources to best effect in the provision of our products and services. In a dynamic environment we will only continue to add value by enhancing our capabilities and executing our core tasks more efficiently.

Encouraging a culture of innovation is therefore a key business activity. We need to be able to respond in a competitive and fast-changing economic environment to generate new products and services that anticipate customer demand, introduce efficiencies and make better use of information technology.

- 📖 Innovation and information technology chapter for more information about how we are integrating innovation into our day-to-day business.

About the value we create

We create value with and for our stakeholders, both in a narrow economic sense and, more broadly, through our contribution to social progress and our efforts to help protect the environment. As a 'Systemically Important Financial Institution' (SIFI) our long-term performance is contingent on the overall impact of our activities for society as a whole. We believe that our own profitability and performance depends on our ability to marshal our resources to meet social, economic and environmental issues. From a long-term perspective, the broader measure is therefore the more accurate indicator of the value we create.

The success of our efforts should therefore be measured by the totality of the economic, social and environmental effects of our actions on all stakeholders. Some of these are currently not sufficiently captured by traditional management information systems. Like other organisations, we are gradually extending our knowledge and we are developing and/or implementing measurement systems that allow us to quantify these better so that we can communicate our performance more effectively to our diverse group of stakeholders.

Ultimately, our customers determine whether we have succeeded in offering them a valuable customer experience and empowering them to take smart financial decisions. We ask them, of course, whether we have delivered on our promises, but this also can be measured in customer loyalty numbers and the number of products and services they buy from us.

Executing value creation

At a more concrete level, we focus on meeting our ambitions by optimising our ability to execute our core functions. We create most value, for ourselves and for our stakeholders, by maximising the positive impact of our activities and by optimising or minimising the level of resources we need to deploy.

We act as an important financial intermediary, especially between individuals, groups and businesses. Our core activities are crucial to the smooth functioning of society. We are conscious of this responsibility. We are not complacent; we recognise that while banking services are indispensable, banks are not. Increasingly, alternative enterprises/mechanisms, often technologically based, are taking on roles that have traditionally been exclusively undertaken by banks.

It is therefore essential that we execute our core tasks increasingly efficiently and effectively. We do that through developing a performance culture that emphasises continual, incremental innovation as well as preparedness to disrupt ourselves before we are disrupted.

Our stakeholders

Our customers are key stakeholders for the business. We serve over 32 million customers in more than 40 countries. They include individuals, families, small businesses, large corporations and institutions (financial institutions, governments, public-private entities and supranational agencies). We report to our shareholders in the US, Europe and elsewhere in the world. Our other important stakeholders include other capital providers (bondholders), our more than 53,000 employees, supervisors, regulators, civil society organisations, citizens and society at large.

Value creation and our purpose and strategy

We have expressed our purpose as empowering people to stay a step ahead in life and in business.

Value creation with our stakeholders should be about supporting and stimulating economic, social and environmental progress, leading to a better quality of life for people in society. This is reflected in ING's structure, strategy and in the values and behaviours we embrace.

We are steadfast in our purpose and role in society. We want to accelerate the transition to a sustainable society in key areas linked to our core business. We view sustainability as part of our business rather than an end in itself. We also envision this as a decisive movement towards a stable society where everyone has access to financial services.

Our strategy is tuned to ensure we focus our efforts on activities that benefit our customers and other stakeholders. It takes the current and estimated future impact of changes in the external environment into account. The context in which we operate is of course dynamic and evolves rapidly. Circumstances and stakeholders' expectations change, requiring, in time, further refinement of definitions of value and progress, and ways of doing business that need to be slightly adapted or even changed radically.

This requires resilience from us and from our stakeholders: we need to be able not only to deal with adversity in challenging times, but to seize opportunities too. Societal trends such as digitisation, economic trends and regulatory developments which have an impact on our operations all influence the value we add now and in the future.

📖 Our strategy and progress chapter and the Market and regulatory context chapter for more information.

Our strategy and progress

In March 2014, we presented a new purpose and strategy to meet the new challenges we face as a bank in a fast-changing world. In this section we explain our strategy, report on progress so far and describe how this will shape our future activities.

Our purpose

In March 2014, we articulated our newly defined purpose and the Think Forward strategy. We have defined our purpose as: 'empowering people to stay a step ahead in life and in business'.

Driving sustainable progress

At the beginning of 2014, as we entered the final stage of the restructuring, it was time to put more focus on placing the customer at the heart of everything we do.

In a fast-changing and ever-digitising world, customer behaviour and customer needs are continuously changing, and we needed a clear sense of purpose and direction guiding how to serve our customers best.

Many of our customers are self-directed. They expect solid support from their banking partner, but want to make their own decisions.

We empower people and organisations to realise their own vision for a better future in life and in business.

We believe that the ultimate purpose of a financial institution is to support and stimulate economic, social and environmental progress leading to a better quality of life for people in society. We don't just want to mitigate harm and do good; we also want to drive progress. We believe all sustainable progress is driven by people with the imagination and determination to improve their future and the future of those around them. Facilitating economic growth by playing our role as a bank should go hand in hand with social progress and environmental preservation or else our results cannot be sustained in the long term. One of the ways in which we strive to accelerate the transition to a more sustainable economy is by backing ambitious and responsible entrepreneurs and companies. We also believe that doing so will create a higher quality asset portfolio in the long term.

The more successful we are in accomplishing our mission, the more society at large will benefit.

Our strategy in context

Delivering on restructuring

We have been on a journey since late 2008 to radically simplify our operations. In 2009, a restructuring programme that met the European Commission's requirements was agreed. In the successive years we have put that into effect with only a few steps remaining. We have conducted over 50 divestment transactions over a five-year period. The total transaction value would reach around EUR 40 billion, if we include the market value of our remaining stake in NN Group as it was at year-end 2014. We believe the effect of these divestment transactions leaves our company stronger, simpler and more sustainable.

In July 2014, NN Group, the European/Japanese insurance business, listed on the Euronext Amsterdam stock exchange. Through the listing, ING's stake in NN Group was reduced to 68.1 percent, which remained ING's ownership position at the end of 2014. In February 2015, ING's stake was reduced to 54.6 percent. This is required to fall to less than 50 percent and to be deconsolidated in 2015, and to reach zero in 2016.

We had also reduced our stake in Voya Financial, Inc. ('Voya'), our former American insurance business. We are required to fully divest our Voya holding by 2016. At year-end 2013 our stake was 57 percent, at year-end 2014 this had been reduced to approximately 19 percent. In March 2015, we completed the divestment of Voya shares.

The Dutch State has been repaid in full. In November 2008, ING received EUR 10 billion in aid from the Dutch State in the form of core Tier 1 securities. In 2009, we started repaying the Dutch State and made the final payment on 7 November 2014. This was achieved six months ahead of the repayment schedule agreed with the European Commission in 2012.

Total payments on this aid package amount to EUR 13.5 billion, resulting in an annualised return of 12.7 percent for the Dutch State.

In 2009, ING and the Dutch State agreed to transfer/sell a portfolio of US mortgage securities. The agreement to unwind this facility, also known as the Illiquid Assets Back-up Facility (IABF), was completed at the end of 2013. The actual unwinding took place and was completed early 2014, when the Dutch State sold the remaining securities in the market. This generated a EUR 1.4 billion cash profit for the Dutch State.

Finally, the remaining Government Guaranteed Notes still outstanding in 2014 were all redeemed. Over the years, ING has paid EUR 0.4 billion to the Dutch State to benefit from this scheme.

 Risk and capital management chapter for more information about the sale of non-core assets and the repayment to the Dutch state.

Our strategy on a page

With the launch of our Think Forward strategy in March 2014, a one-page overview was created to show our new strategy in a clear and visual way to all our stakeholders.

▶ Purpose

Empowering people to stay a step ahead in life and in business.

▶ Customer Promise



Clear and Easy



Anytime, Anywhere



Empower



Keep Getting Better

▶ Strategic Priorities

Creating a differentiating customer experience

- 1 Earn the primary relationship
- 2 Develop analytics skills to understand our customers better
- 3 Increase the pace of innovation to serve changing customer needs
- 4 Think beyond traditional banking to develop new services and business models

▶ Enablers

Simplify & Streamline

Operational Excellence

Performance Culture

Lending Capabilities

Some commitments remain

We are executing the Restructuring Plan as agreed with the European Commission and met key milestones in 2014. Only limited commitments remain outstanding. These include:

› Divestments

We plan to divest our remaining stake in NN Group in line with agreed timelines and we expect that this divestment will also realise two further commitments:

1. To reduce our balance sheet by approximately 45 percent 'pro rata' – excluding growth of the balance sheet of existing business in the meantime (compared to Q3 2008).
2. To eliminate our Group debt. At year-end 2014 this stood at EUR 1.5 billion (2013: EUR 4.9 billion). The combined market value of our remaining stakes in NN Group and Voya (EUR 7.5 billion at year-end 2014), the latter of which is now fully divested should comfortably facilitate the elimination of our outstanding Group debt.

› NN Bank

ING committed to create NN Bank as part of NN Group as a viable, standalone and competitive business. This project is underway.

› Acquisition and price leadership

ING agreed not to acquire (parts of) financial companies until 18 November 2015 or the deconsolidation of NN Group, whichever comes first. These deadlines also apply to the price leadership ban, which means that we agreed not to be a price leader on standardised products in certain markets.

Reassessing our role

The financial crisis gave us the opportunity to rethink our role in society. Our focus now is on having enduring relevance for our customers. We want to empower them to realise their own vision for a better future. This is the essence of our new strategy.

Putting our strategy into practice

Our Customer Promise

Our Customer Promise is all about empowering people and creating a differentiating customer experience. Staying true to this Promise means that we aim to empower by making it easy for people to understand, convenient for people to use, possible for people to manage their finances effectively and to stay a step ahead every day.

Clear and easy

Banking doesn't have to be difficult and time consuming. Less is more. It's mostly about clear products, plain language, fair prices and simple processes. This saves both time and money.

Anytime, anywhere

We work to make our services available where our customers are and when they need them. Banking should be possible anytime and anywhere.

Empower

The best financial decisions are informed decisions. Customers want relevant, up-to-date information at their fingertips. They need to understand their choices, and the implications, both today and for the future.

Keep getting better

Life and business are about moving forward. We will keep looking for new ways to make things better with new ideas, new solutions and new approaches to make things easier for our customers. That way, we can all stay a step ahead.

Our strategic priorities

We have identified four strategic priorities that serve to create a differentiating customer experience.

Earn the primary relationship

To be relevant for customers we have to understand them. We can use our understanding to empower customers to make smarter decisions, but we can only get to know them well if we enjoy a primary banking relationship. To earn this position, we need a strong foundation based on high-quality basic services.

In Retail Banking our primary relationships are with customers who have a payment account with recurrent income and at least one other product with ING. In Commercial Banking, we use lending capabilities, sector knowledge and transaction services to anchor primary customer relationships.

The number of retail primary accounts is increasing. In 2014, we welcomed over one million individual customers and established half-a-million primary banking relationships.

Develop analytics skills to understand our customers better

Banking has always been about analysing customers' information. However, with more and more digital interaction instead of face-to-face contact, our approach to analysing data to understand our customers better needs to be adapted. The more we understand our customers the more relevant we can make our services. Using customer data and other data, we can develop financial tools that empower our customers, helping them to make smarter decisions for themselves, based on better quality financial information. Data analytics also serve our customers' interests by strengthening fraud detection and prevention, and improving operational excellence. We are focusing on realising these benefits without compromising security or privacy.

We appointed a head of Advanced Analytics in August 2014 responsible for increasing ING's advanced analytics skills. We are establishing centres of excellence in data science in the Netherlands and in Germany, to support ING units with technology, education, knowledge and hands-on capabilities in advanced analytics.

Increase the pace of innovation to serve changing customer needs

Not only do new technological developments lead to improved ways of serving our customers, customers even expect the bank to be on top of these possibilities to make things simple and clear. Innovation is key as we strive to enhance the customer experience and differentiate ourselves from the competition. Rapid technological change, especially in mobile developments and payments systems, is shifting the competitive landscape.

If we want to keep improving the customer experience, we have to accelerate the innovation cycle so that we can identify more good ideas and introduce useful improvements and technologies sooner.

Successful innovation depends on progress on multiple fronts. We need to ensure fluid transition from best practice sharing to common development. We need a constant stream of ideas and reliable mechanisms for choosing the best ones and executing them well.

Our overall approach to innovation is based on deep understanding of our customers. That helps to ensure we focus on ideas that genuinely make customers' lives better.

📖 Innovation and information technology chapter for more information.

In July 2014, we appointed a chief innovation officer (CInO) responsible for developing and promoting innovative ideas and solutions, applying new technologies and delivering/improving the speed-to-market of successful ideas.

Think beyond traditional banking to develop new services and business models

The marketplace to meet customers, whether retail or business clients, is evolving towards virtual networks. In order to address the future needs of customers, we need to think beyond traditional banking. Our customers will still be needing banking services, but it is less obvious that they need banks to deliver those.

There is increasing competition, much of it from new entrants from outside the industry. We are investing to stay relevant for current and future customers. As a consequence, we need to develop new services and business models. We have to be prepared to disrupt ourselves before we are disrupted.

Our enablers

The following enablers help us to maintain key skills and organisational resources in support of our strategic priorities.

Simplify and streamline

To serve our customers effectively we need to operate as an agile, responsive business. The right people need to be able to take important decisions quickly.

Therefore we have been streamlining our policies and controls, while making sure that we retain solid processes.

We are reviewing existing mandates to give employees more scope to take decisions. Committees are only formed where decisions run across several mandates.

Changes to our governance, which came into effect in July 2014, encourage more effective cooperation between globally steered functions and local country organisations, and prioritise innovation. For countries with both retail and commercial banking businesses (One Bank), the country CEOs take responsibility for both Retail and Commercial Banking.

Operational excellence

Operational excellence is key to delivering on the Customer Promise to our customers and serving them better and more efficiently in a digital world. To maintain this focus, we are working on setting clear operational excellence benchmarks and measuring performance throughout the company.

In April 2014, we appointed a chief operations officer (COO). Our COO is responsible for Operations & IT, change management and procurement. He is a member of the MBB. With his appointment, we have intensified our focus on operational excellence.

Performance culture

Culture is our third enabler. We need to excel at attracting and keeping the talent to get us where we need to go. We want to foster a culture where employees are empowered to deliver for our customers.

We surveyed over 13,000 employees to find out what they thought about ING's culture. This provided positive feedback on our strong customer focus, our shared vision, our professional standards, and our dedicated talent development.

Our employees indicated that progress on internal process efficiencies was slow and that this was beginning to build frustration in the company. They also signalled that senior leaders should pay more attention to employees' opinions.

We have responded by articulating what we mean by performance culture. We have developed new global behaviours together with our people and have improved performance management.

📖 People chapter for more information.

Lending capabilities

ING Bank is currently in the comfortable position of being able to fund its assets from its deposits to a large extent. We have strong savings gathering and lending capabilities and have achieved a lot through balance sheet optimisation, but savings and lending are not evenly distributed across our business units.

Broadening our lending capabilities to match deposit franchises will help us to build stronger, more sustainable local businesses. We are aiming for continued growth in net lending.

We strive to diversify our asset base as we continue to grow client franchises. We have identified specific opportunities in retail banking, such as consumer finance and SME lending.

At Commercial Banking, we are growing our capabilities in Industry Lending, Working Capital Solutions and Trade Finance. Structured Finance has achieved a top-10 position globally.

We aim to increase lending to SMEs. The SME and self-employed segments have a natural affinity with ING's main Retail banking segment – self-directed customers. We also plan to grow our asset portfolio in consumer lending, a segment where ING has been under-represented in the past.

To facilitate this process, we appointed a head of Consumer and SME lending in July 2014, with overall responsibility for steering commercial strategy and business development.

Net lending increased by 3 percent in 2014. In our Ambition 2017 programme we aim for an approximate 4 percent annual increase.

Building on our strengths

We are currently well positioned to be successful in the coming years.

We believe we have strong deposit-gathering capabilities across Europe, a significant position in European digital banking and a successful commercial bank.

These strategic strengths are supported by a disciplined and rigorous approach to managing costs, risk and capital resources.

The strength of our balance sheet attests to the quality of our risk management. We have consistently demonstrated our ability to generate capital and now have a limited requirement for professional funding.

Internationally, our thriving commercial banking network is active in over 40 countries. We operate a good mix of mature and growth businesses worldwide, which we believe provides both earnings stability and significant upside potential.

Our geographic profile

We have designated three distinct categories of markets and have developed our strategy accordingly. They are characterised as market leaders, challengers and growth markets.

Market leaders

These are the Benelux countries where we have leading market positions in retail and commercial banking.

Challengers

We strive to strengthen our market position in these markets. Our business units offer both retail and commercial banking services. Our retail activities are mainly direct banking services delivered online which provide a cost advantage over traditional banks.

Geographic areas in which we are active



● **Market leaders** Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg

● **Challengers** Germany, Austria, Spain, Italy, France, Australia

● **Growth Markets** Poland, Turkey, Romania and business units in Asia

● **Commercial Banking activities only**

Growth markets

Growth markets are where we offer a full range of retail and commercial banking services in strongly expanding economies that offer good growth opportunities.

Differentiating strategy implementation by country

We are delivering on strategy differently, depending on the characteristics of geographical markets in which we are active. Our strategic priorities and enablers remain consistent, but the detailed implementation is adapted for local conditions.

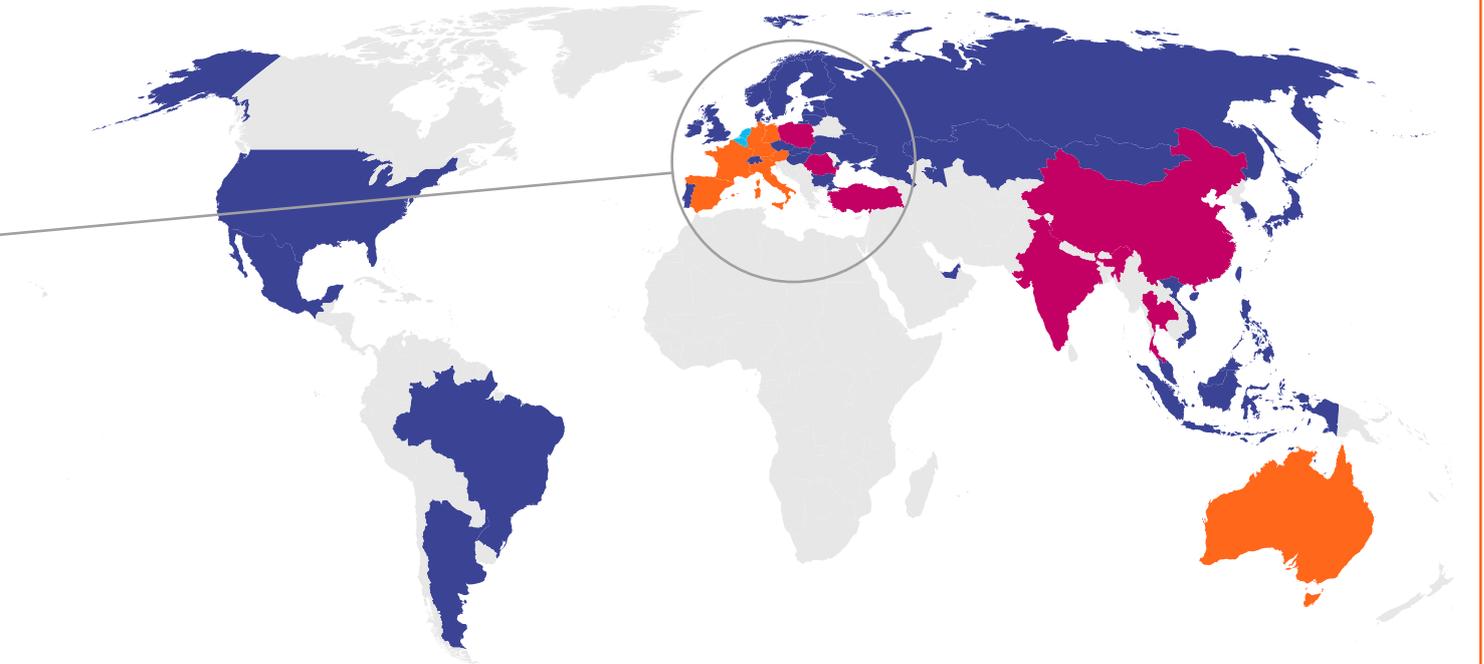
Market Leaders

In Benelux countries our strategy is to grow in selected segments, continue to develop towards a direct-first model, invest in digital leadership and deliver on operational excellence programmes.

Challengers

We plan to invest in our Challenger markets to use our strong savings franchises and expand into payments accounts to build primary banking relationships with customers.

We seek to use our direct banking expertise to grow our lending business at low cost in areas like consumer lending and lending to SMEs. We will also seek to grow our corporate client base and develop capabilities in Industry Lending and Transaction Services in most of these countries.



Growth markets

We strive to invest to achieve sustainable share and will focus on digital leadership by converging to the direct-first model and prioritising innovation.

Commercial Banking

We are a network bank for our clients across Europe with global reach and we are investing in our business transformation programme, the Commercial Banking Target Operating Model. We have a number of global franchises. We are targeting continued growth in our client base and in Industry Lending and Transaction Services. In Challenger countries we are expanding our asset generating capabilities to promote locally optimised balance sheets and broader franchises.

Our financial roadmap

We have published financial targets for 2017 reflecting our ambitions. These include a common equity Tier 1 ratio above 10 percent, a leverage ratio at around 4 percent, 50–53 percent cost/income ratio and a 10–13 percent return on equity. As also stated in our Ambition 2017 programme, ING is committed to returning capital to shareholders through a sustainable dividend policy.

Effective from 2015, ING intends to pay a minimum of 40 percent of ING Group's annual net profits by way of dividend, consisting of both an interim and a final dividend. Furthermore, the Board will recommend whether to return additional capital to shareholders at the end of each financial year. Such decisions will

reflect considerations including expected future capital requirements, growth opportunities available to the Group, the net earnings of the Group, and regulatory approvals as appropriate. The Board proposes to pay a final 2014 dividend of EUR 470 million, or EUR 0.12 per (depository receipt for an) ordinary share, subject to the approval of shareholders at the Annual General Meeting in May 2015.

The financial roadmap for the period until 2017 will differ according to the country. In general, we are pursuing sustainable profit growth in our challenger and high-growth markets. We are managing our market leader businesses in Benelux countries to maintain income levels.

We plan to maintain our cost discipline, which should help to get the underlying cost/income ratio from the current 58.7 percent at year-end 2014 to the 50–53 percent range. We strive for all businesses to deliver an improving cost/income ratio. We will therefore need to cut costs at the operations in the Benelux to fund sustainable and profitable growth in other countries.

Market and regulatory context

Three key trends are having a major impact on ING and its competitors. First, our revenue and profitability are linked with the economic environment. Second, the financial services sector is subject to increasing regulatory scrutiny. Third, digitisation and changing customer behaviour are reframing our markets. In combination, these trends are altering the competitive context in which we operate.

Macroeconomic developments

In 2014, the development trajectories of the US and the UK on the one hand, and Europe on the other, diverged. The US economy continued to grow steadily and the Federal Reserve (Fed) was able to end part of its unconventional monetary policies, the monthly buying of securities (i.e. quantitative easing). For investors worldwide, one question dominated the picture in the second half of the year: when would the Fed start raising rates? This is expected sometime in 2015. The UK also saw healthy economic growth with interest rate increases expected there in 2015 as well.

Meanwhile in the eurozone, the recovery remained weak, unstable and uneven. Persistently low inflation (averaging 0.4 percent in 2014) and worries about imminent deflation prompted the European Central Bank (ECB) to take a series of unconventional measures. The main refinancing rate was lowered to 0.05 percent in 2014, while the interest rate on deposits held by banks at the ECB moved into negative territory, to -0.2 percent. The ECB implemented conditional long-term refinance operations and announced purchase programmes for covered bonds and asset-backed securities.

The Dutch economy, with its housing market stabilised and domestic demand no longer acting as a drag on growth, performed slightly better than the eurozone average.

Meanwhile the Italian recession continued. The French economy underperformed while the German economy decelerated as the loss of momentum in emerging markets, ongoing tensions in eastern Ukraine and sanctions imposed on and by Russia affected exports. A weakening euro during 2014 was one positive for European exports.

With the European economic recovery still distinctly lacklustre, the last quarter of 2014 saw the ECB repeatedly allude to possible additional measures in 2015. Quantitative easing was subsequently announced in January 2015.

Financial markets rallied for most of the year, with US stock markets reaching record highs. Yields on US Treasury bonds moved with changing expectations for the timing of future Fed interest hikes. European stock markets followed the US upwards, although as the year progressed the effects of the crisis in Ukraine and the weakness of the European recovery started to weigh more on markets. European bond yields fell and spreads between European sovereigns decreased in line with ECB policy.

Progress on regulatory initiatives that are most relevant to us

This was an important year for ING, and for European banks in general.

November 2014, saw the start of the Single Supervisory Mechanism (SSM). The ECB took over responsibility for the supervision of the major European banks. The ECB had already prepared the ground with a comprehensive assessment of all supervised banks to test the stability of the financial system in stressed conditions.

 Risk and capital management chapter for more information.

ING firmly supports the establishment of the SSM and the supervisory responsibility of the ECB. As a predominantly European, cross-border universal bank, we have a strong interest in properly functioning European financial markets and advocate a harmonised approach to European supervision. The SSM should contribute to removing barriers to the free flow of capital and liquidity in the Internal Market. We expect to see a gradual elimination in the fragmentation caused by national regulation and supervision.

In 2014, agreement was also reached on the Single Resolution Mechanism (SRM) consisting of a Single Resolution Board (SRB) and a Single Resolution Fund (SRF). The SRM will apply to banks covered by the SSM to ensure an orderly resolution of failing banks within the eurozone. ING is supportive of the SRM as an important second pillar of the Banking Union.

The Capital Requirements Directive IV (CRD IV) came into force on 1 January 2014. This, and later refinements, implemented European regulation on capital, liquidity and other aspects such as remuneration. Broadly speaking, CRD IV is an essential step towards a single rule book in the European Union. However, we do have concerns with regard to the relatively large scope allowed for discretionary national measures.

☞ Risk and capital management chapter for more information.

The Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive (BRRD) also came into effect in 2014. This requires European banks and authorities to put recovery and resolution plans in place and mandates the establishment of national resolution funds to be financed by banks. We support the BRRD which significantly reduces the likelihood that the failure of a systemically important bank will contaminate the system and burden taxpayers.

☞ Risk and capital management chapter for more information.

In 2014, EU agreement was reached regarding a revision of the Deposit Guarantee Scheme (DGS) directive. EU Member States are obliged to build up ex-ante deposit guarantee funds of an (in principle) minimum target size of 0.8 percent of covered deposits in 10 years. Banks' contributions will be risk based taking into account EBA guidance. The DGS directive will be applicable as of 2015 and ING will start to contribute to the Dutch DGS fund as of mid-2015.

Further, there have been various regulatory developments that impact our product offerings and therefore our customers directly, currently or in future years. Other important reforms in this regard seek to enhance an efficient and competitive internal market for consumers by removing barriers to cross-border activity and promoting a level playing field between providers, e.g. the European Mortgages Credit Directive. Besides this, the improvement of the European payments market also remains an important objective, and is addressed by the Payments Services Directive II.

Finally, the Dutch Parliament has approved the introduction of the Banker's Oath, a set of principles that reconfirms the industry's commitment to ethical behaviour. From 1 January 2015, it includes a disciplinary sanction mechanism for all Netherlands-based employees. Oath taking has been a requirement already for Members of the Executive and Supervisory Boards since 1 January 2013. The adopted legislation extends this to all internal and external employees working in the Netherlands who have a contract of employment with ING.

The financial system has already been strengthened considerably in recent years and the risks for customers and society as a whole have been substantially reduced. In general we support the measures described above, as they should contribute to creating a true level playing field. They help to safeguard the financial system, improve individual banks' financial resilience and support an increasing focus on customers across the industry.

Digitisation and changing customer behaviour

The future of banking will be in the digital domain. This digital revolution is already underway with customers adopting digital channels en-masse, especially with respect to mobile banking. The shift to mobile in retail banking is starting to be mirrored in commercial banking, albeit at a slower pace (and probably less far-reaching).

This presents a huge opportunity for banks. Mobile users tend to check in much more frequently than other users. There is the potential for more frequent contact with our customers. The richness and the quantity of data available to banks allow them to create a platform for more tailor-made services.

Increasingly, our customers are self-directed. Many of our retail customers are avid users of technological devices. They are well informed, they know what they want and they want it immediately.

This can mean they expect to receive new services before we can develop them. Often, it is not us advising customers, but them telling us what they now need to get the service they require.

Channelling all this information and converting it into concrete customer propositions is a key challenge. We maintain a constant dialogue with our customers, especially on social media. There is scope for us to improve our use of social media to anticipate potential customer requirements.

☞ What matters most to our stakeholders chapter for more information about stakeholder dialogue.

We believe we are one of the front-runners in digital innovation in the banking sector, but we cannot afford to be complacent. We are investing resources to ensure that we become faster and more agile, and increase our innovative capabilities. We do that to meet the ever-changing expectations of our customers, while respecting the fact that they are entrusting us with their banking matters which are personal and confidential in nature. At the same time we are maintaining options for face-to-face service.

☞ Innovation and information technology chapter for more information.

Competitive landscape

Technology is collapsing the barriers to entry that once protected our business. Competition is coming from many different directions, with relatively new players providing more segmented offers to our customers and clients. Technology giants, payment specialists, retailers, telecommunication companies, crowd-funding initiatives and aggregators are all encroaching on traditional banking services. In general, they don't want to become banks, they are more interested in the transaction data that ING and other banks have in abundance. Just as we are keen to gain traction from other data sources so we can better serve our customers.

The banking industry is highly regulated. Banks have all the requirements in place to act in the full interests of their customers. Safe banking requires specific knowledge of financial services and in-depth knowledge of customers as well as rigorous risk-management systems. As competition from outside the banking sector continues to increase, we have to become faster, more agile and more innovative.

ING's solid foundations give us an excellent platform from which to face existing and future challenges, and become a better company for all our stakeholders. We have a long legacy as a financial institution. We are a leader in digital banking.

We are investing in building profitable, mutually beneficial relationships with our customers, based on the quality of our service. We intend to continue working hard on regaining trust, demonstrating that we care about our customers and all other stakeholders, and to be even clearer about the strategic choices we make.

The diagram below shows what we perceive to be our strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats.

Our perceived strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats

Strengths

- › Presence in Challengers and Growth market countries with moderate to strong economic growth.
- › Well-known, strong brand with positive recognition from customers in many countries.
- › Strong financial position.
- › Omnichannel distribution strategy.
- › International network.
- › Sustainability leader in the category 'diversified financials'.
- › One of the leaders in digital banking.

Weaknesses

- › Currently low/subdued economic growth in markets where ING has significant market positions.
- › Some legacy IT/operational systems in Market Leader countries.
- › Need for more agility.
- › Suboptimal work processes regarding efficiency and teamwork.
- › Diversity challenges.

Opportunities

- › Regaining trust by demonstrating care, especially towards customers and by explaining better why strategic choices are made (transparency).
- › Further improving the customer experience by accelerating innovation. Front-runner status in digital solutions gives the Bank an edge.
- › Further improving efficiency.
- › Cultural change. Tapping more into the talents of employees. Further developing a transparent and diverse no-nonsense culture.

Threats

- › Ongoing uncertainty about regulatory changes.
- › Lack of an international level playing field.
- › Possibility of threats from new entrants from outside of the industry.
- › Financial sector has an unfavourable public image in many countries.
- › Cybercrime.
- › Low interest rate environment.

What matters most to our stakeholders

In this chapter, we describe the issues that matter most to our various stakeholders and our business. These should therefore receive attention in this Annual Report and should be our highest priority in our daily business. We regularly evaluate the impact of our business on our stakeholders. We listen to and engage with them, and strive to respond to their views and concerns as much as possible. Their input helps us balance competing expectations, address issues in an informed way and, crucially, helps us to improve.

Materiality: finding out what matters most

If we are to improve as an organisation, we need to identify and understand the most important issues for our stakeholders and how these relate to the actions and decisions that we take. To gain this understanding, we conduct regular materiality assessments to find out what the key priorities for our stakeholders are and their potential impact on our organisation. The results guide us in our strategic decision-making, stakeholder engagement agenda and reporting framework.

An extensive network of ING experts, from across business disciplines and regions regularly engages with both internal and external stakeholders. For the 2014 materiality assessment, this network reached out to seven stakeholder groups in seven countries through a materiality survey. They were asked to rank a range of topics by significance. In total, over 1,600 respondents provided us with their insights into what issues are material to them.

📖 Sustainability Annex 2014 for more information about the materiality process and methodology.

The materiality matrix as shown in the figure represents the outcomes of the 2014 materiality assessment. It combines the results of the 2014 stakeholder materiality survey with our own extensive analysis of the impact of these issues on our business. The issues with the highest priority for stakeholders and the biggest estimated impact on our business appear in the top right of the chart.

High-priority material issues

The table on the following pages describes the 15 high-priority issues identified in our 2014 materiality assessment. Because of their importance, we report on each of these high-impact/high-stakeholder significance issues in greater depth throughout this Report.

What the materiality matrix tells us

The high-priority material issues show that we need to balance financial and non-financial expectations if we are to address stakeholders' concerns effectively. We are addressing these issues directly and through integrated reporting. This year's report incorporates considerably more non-financial information.

The materiality assessment also confirms that our purpose puts us on the right track for meeting stakeholders' priorities. Empowering people to stay a step ahead in life and business encompasses both financial and non-financial components.

Stakeholders believe our financial performance is highly important. Both internal and external stakeholders considered this a priority. The outcome of the ECB's comprehensive assessment and stress tests, announced in November 2014, confirmed the stability of our financial position. We have also been extending more credit in the markets where we are active.

ING's risk and capital management framework and procedures are designed to maintain financial stability for our customers, shareholders and other stakeholders. Through ING's effective risk management we are able to create the right balance between mitigating the potential impact of unexpected events and creating value for our customers. We are also increasing the strength of our capital base to protect customers and contribute to a sustainable financial environment.

The indirect social and environmental impacts of our finance and investment policies are gaining more attention. Our stakeholders confirmed this in the materiality assessment: 'Sustainable finance and investment policies' moved up the list of high-priority issues. In recent years we have increasingly integrated sustainability into our core activities, which has also led to an increased focus on mitigating the harm of our finance and investment activities. We have an evolving Environmental and Social Risk framework and sustainable lending practices which guide our conduct in this area.

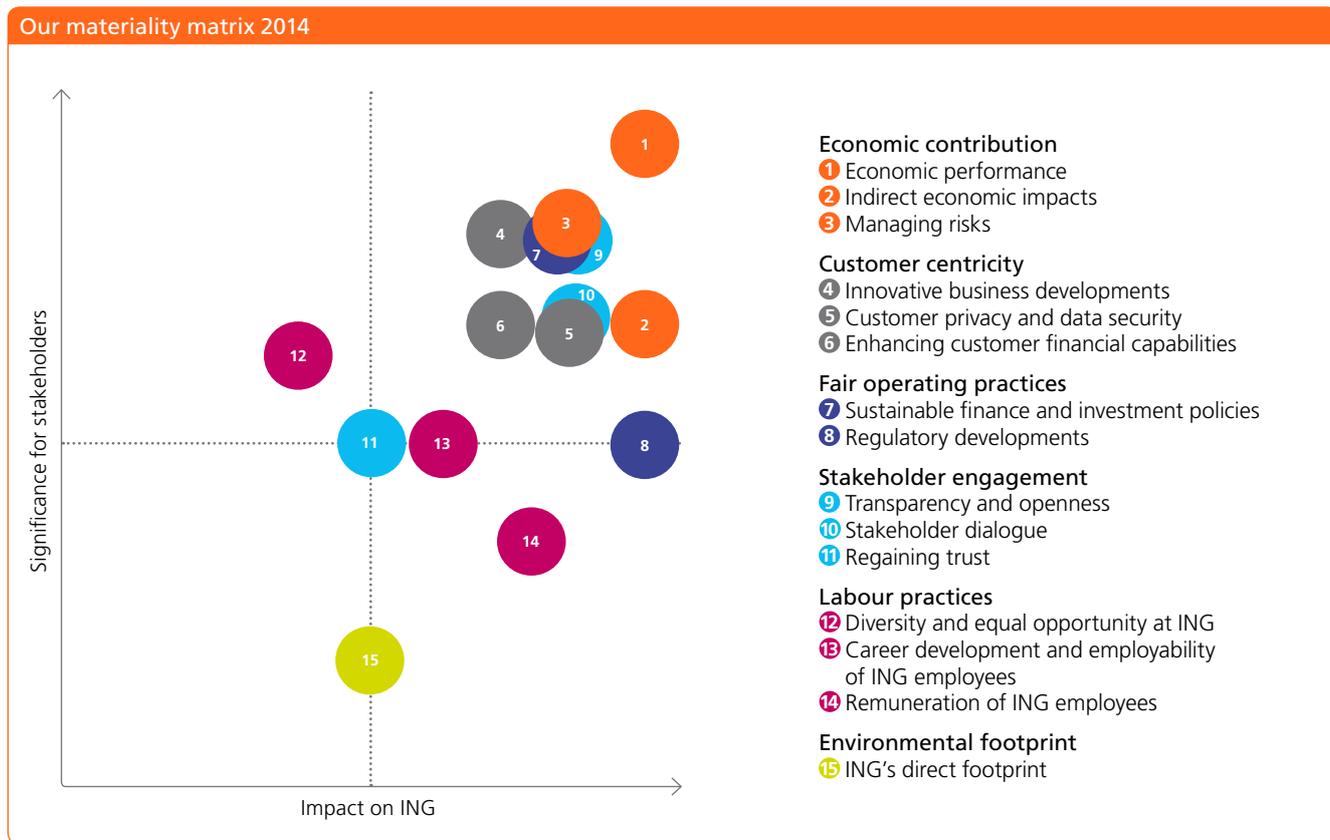
'Enhancing customers' financial capabilities' is another issue that is becoming more important to stakeholders. Our Customer Promise includes 'empower'; i.e. 'we want to empower our customers to make smart financial decisions'.

'Innovative business solutions' has also gained momentum. This is in line with our strategic priority 'to keep getting better'. We will keep looking for innovative solutions that keep us a step ahead.

📖 Innovation and information technology chapter for a list of actions taken in 2014.

The key outcomes of our materiality assessment coincide with our purpose, customer promise, and strategic priorities that were presented in March 2014. We are pleased with these results but we are not complacent. We will continue to assess the expectations of our stakeholders and work to improve our performance on high-priority material issues.

High priority issues for our stakeholders and ING



High-priority material issue Why it is important to our stakeholders How we managed it in 2014

High-priority material issue	Why it is important to our stakeholders	How we managed it in 2014
Economic contribution		
1 Economic performance	Our stakeholders want a financially healthy and stable company. It is one of our top priorities.	We posted strong commercial and financial results, with an increase in interest results and lower risk costs. □ CEO statement, Key figures and Risk and capital management.
2 Indirect economic impacts	Granting loans and enabling financial empowerment are part of our key role in society.	Net lending increased by 3 percent. □ Retail Banking and Commercial Banking.
3 Managing risks	We need to manage all financial and non-financial risks effectively. For example, we take and spread the financial risks of individuals and companies. This enables a sound financial reality for our customers, which is also important to many other stakeholders such as regulators.	Actively monitoring our risk portfolio as well as further strengthening our liquidity profile and capital base. □ Risk and capital management.
Customer centricity		
4 Innovative business solutions	We need to invest in product and service innovation to meet rapidly changing customer needs.	Focus on innovation led to a steady stream of innovative ideas, some of which were implemented. □ Innovation and information technology.
5 Customer privacy and data security	Trust is the cornerstone of successful banking relationships. Protecting the privacy of ING's customers and ensuring the security and confidential treatment of data through the right rules and regulations helps us retain and gain the trust of our customers.	Customer Privacy and Data Security remained key. □ How we are balancing our responsibilities and Innovation and information technology.
6 Enhancing customer financial capabilities	In our view financial empowerment is helping customers to manage their financial future.	We increased our focus on enhancing customer financial capabilities and stepped up our efforts. □ CEO statement, Our strategy and progress, Retail Banking and Sustainability Annex 2014.

High-priority material issue Why it is important to our stakeholders How we managed it in 2014

Fair operating practices

7 Sustainable finance and investment policies	We aim to prevent that our investments do harm. We are eager to finance activities that have a positive impact on society. These are increasingly important matters for our stakeholders and for us.	Total sustainable transitions financed in 2014 were EUR 19.5 billion. ☐ CEO statement, Retail Banking, Commercial Banking, Risk and capital management and Sustainability Annex 2014.
8 Regulatory developments	Compliance with laws and regulations is fundamental. We respect the law and the rules we set out for ourselves. We aim to act in accordance with the expectations of society.	We continued dealing with increasing regulatory scrutiny in the post-crisis environment ☐ Market and regulatory context.

Stakeholder engagement

9 Transparency and openness	Being transparent and open about our investments, products and services, and other topics is helping the business move forward and earning the trust of our stakeholders.	We made further efforts to improve transparency, e.g. by trying to align processes more directly with customer priorities. ☐ Retail Banking and Commercial Banking.
10 Stakeholder dialogue	Stakeholders expect us to engage with them and to incorporate their views and concerns. This helps us make informed decisions and become a better organisation.	We continued engaging with our stakeholders and weighing their interests carefully. ☐ How we are balancing our responsibilities and Sustainability Annex 2014.
11 Regaining trust	We have learnt in recent years how important it is to retain the trust of our stakeholders. Trust has to be earned consistently and over time.	We continued to work hard on regaining trust, demonstrating that we care about our customers and all other stakeholders, and we intend to be even clearer about why certain strategic choices are made. ☐ CEO statement and Market and regulatory context.

Labour practices

12 Diversity and equal opportunity at ING	The fact that we strive for equal opportunities for all, for example via our diversity programmes, contributes to our performance culture and is more and more expected by society at large.	We are reviewing our current leadership programmes and tailoring these to be much more integrated with values, behaviours and diversity principles. ☐ People.
13 Career development and employability of ING employees	Training and development opportunities and skills management programmes support employees and are of great value in creating a performance culture.	In 2014, we invested around EUR 57 million in learning and development for our employees. ☐ People.
14 Remuneration of ING employees	Remuneration needs to be well-balanced to retain and recruit highly qualified staff. Not only employees, but virtually all stakeholders find that important.	We have continued our efforts to retain and recruit qualified and expert leaders, senior staff and other highly qualified employees. ☐ Remuneration report.

Environmental footprint

15 ING's direct footprint	By reducing our direct footprint (energy efficiency measures, limiting business travel) the environment benefits and we reduce costs.	The total extrapolated amount of carbon emissions for ING Bank decreased from 127 to 102 kilotonnes. ☐ Key figures and Sustainability Annex 2014.
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How we are balancing our responsibilities

We see it as our responsibility to consider our stakeholders' interests carefully. We involve them in the design of our business strategies. But stakeholders' expectations are not always consistent; sometimes they are even contradictory. This chapter contains a few of the real-life challenges and dilemmas we face as we aim to reconcile competing interests.

Is our capacity to lend to people and businesses compromised by our objective to strengthen our capital and liquidity position?

In the past two years, our funding capacity has not been a factor hampering our efforts to serve our clients. Notwithstanding, we have been confronted with a reduced demand for credit from SMEs and individuals as well as insufficient creditworthiness of SMEs in some countries and certain markets. For many SMEs, solvency levels have worsened significantly since the beginning of the crisis. ING is striving to address this by supporting initiatives aimed at strengthening SME buffer capital and increasing their financial transparency in order to improve their access to credit.

Our own capital and liquidity buffers have been bolstered to meet the stricter Basel III criteria. We broadly welcome the regulatory focus on improving banking resilience since 2008, but some of the new rules have had unintended consequences. They have sometimes limited banks' capacity to lend to the real economy, particularly where the local regulators and the European economy are misaligned. For ING, local regulation limits the transferability of capital and liquidity between our entities in different European countries. This makes bank lending in liquidity-poor countries unnecessarily expensive and interest rates in liquidity-rich European countries unnecessarily low.

Another example in this regard relates to the additional total loss absorbing capacity (TLAC) requirements for global systemically important banks (G-SIBs), proposed by the Financial Stability Board in November 2014 to ensure that, in case of a default, financial institutions can be resolved in an orderly manner without tax-payer support. Whereas ING understands and supports the concept of bail-in debt to increase banks' going concern loss absorption, ING is concerned that the draft TLAC regulation in its current form would force banks to raise large amounts of professional funding, which would negatively impact the availability of financing in the broader economy.

How do we ensure shareholder dividends are sustained in our plans for the future?

Profitable businesses seek to generate a proper return for risk capital providers – for shareholders that includes dividends. We suspended dividend payments in 2008. In the years since, we have focused on rebuilding the Bank and repaying the capital support received from the Dutch State through an extensive restructuring programme and by strengthening our capital base. We have now repaid the Dutch State in full and, with our divestment programme almost completed, we are nearing the end of restructuring.

We are now in a position to resume dividend payments to our shareholders in line with our policy of linking dividends to long-term underlying development of cash earnings.

☞ Risk and capital management chapter for more information.

How can we accelerate the transition to a more sustainable economy if we do business with companies that don't comply with the highest social and environmental standards?

The growing global population and increasing the standards of living in emerging economies pose daunting social and environmental challenges. We enable ambitious companies that already meet the highest social and environmental standards wherever we can. However, we also need to be prepared to support clients which still have challenges ahead of them, to help them make their existing business models more sustainable.

Social, ethical and environmental criteria are strongly embedded in our financing and investment policies and practices. We have set clear targets to meet the growing demand for products and services that not only generate good financial returns, but also facilitate the transition towards a more sustainable economy. Our research teams actively explore business cases for sustainability.

There is ever-higher demand for both renewable and non-renewable resources. The causes and the solutions to the resulting scarcity are complex, but we already know that resource scarcity will change traditional business models. If households and businesses are able to bridge investment gaps as they innovate and move towards cleaner technologies, that transition might also provide business opportunities. As a financial institution, we can play a facilitating role in enabling this transition by financing change, sharing knowledge and using our influence.

This business model is founded on our strong conviction that we will only be successful in the long term if our business contributes to economic development, a healthy environment and a stable society.

Can we guarantee personal information will be protected while using advanced client data analytics to design innovative products and services?

Protecting our clients' interests including their financial information is a company priority, which also makes commercial sense, and is a legal requirement. While new technology makes it possible to extract much more value from our data, it also allows us to fulfil our duty of care more effectively by providing customised services.

Increased insight into consumer payment patterns, for instance, means we can warn customers sooner that they risk defaulting on monthly mortgage obligations. Data analysis also plays an important role in protecting our customers from bank-card fraud. Moreover, advanced analytics help us target offers more precisely so customers only receive offers for products that are relevant to them.

In pursuing all these objectives we strive to ensure compliance with data protection laws and regulations and aim to provide optimal security of data as well as for all transactions, whilst respecting customers' privacy.

Notwithstanding the above, as the internet places so much power in the hands of any technically proficient individual, there continue to be risks online. We therefore aim to actively raise our customers' awareness of actions they can take themselves to safeguard their information, such as using strong passwords, installing updates and not sharing personal information with others.

The development of financial regulation is widely considered to be a matter of public interest. Should we provide full transparency on our interactions with policymakers and supervisors?

In principle, our stakeholders and regulatory requirements guide our approach to supervisory and policy issues. However, these diverse groups have interests that do not always coincide and sometimes actually conflict. To strike the right balance, we will carefully weigh the interests of all parties concerned.

The consideration we give to all interested parties may sometimes prevent us from publishing all details about our contacts with supervisors or other stakeholders. Information we share with these parties may also need to be kept confidential on competitive or supervisory grounds. For these reasons, we do not normally publish information about our interactions with policymakers and supervisors.

Transparency is an important objective, which we pursue in other ways. We respect the law including national statutory requirements and international transparency obligations, and also the rules we set for ourselves.

📖 Sustainability Annex 2014 for more information about our approach to stakeholder engagement and disclosure of organisations in which we are involved (partnerships, memberships & endorsements).

🗨️ ING in Society section at ING.com for our relevant standpoints on public consultations.

How do we ensure that our company pays its fair share of tax?

We pay tax at regular rates in the countries where we operate as a financial services provider. We publish our global effective underlying tax rate, which is currently 26 percent.

What do we consider to be an adequate level of pay for our employees in the light of our ambition to remain a top employer as well as the increased public criticism of remuneration standards in the financial services industry?

We have operations in over 40 countries and more than 53,000 employees, of whom around 38,000 are based outside the Netherlands.

In determining the compensation schemes, we take a variety of factors into consideration, such as functional complexity, the scope of responsibilities, aligning risk and reward, our ability to attract and retain the best talent possible and meeting the long-term objectives of the company and its stakeholders.

These factors differ for each role, line of business and country. We also respect different national conventions and changing international standards on responsible remuneration.

As much as possible for a global financial institution of our size, we aim to take account of all these differences and also of the standards applied within similar financial institutions in the various countries in which we operate.

We have been continually reviewing and amending our remuneration policies since 2008 in response to the ongoing review of the financial system, public debate and applicable regulatory developments.

Key figures

Performance highlights

Our financial goals				
	Ambition 2017	2014	2013	2012
Common Equity Tier 1 ratio fully loaded ING Bank	>10%	11.4%	10.0%	n/a
Leverage ratio ING Bank ⁽¹⁾	~4%	4.1%	3.9%	n/a
Underlying cost/income ratio ING Bank	50-53%	58.7%	56.8%	60.3%
Underlying return on equity ING Bank	10-13%	9.9%	9.0%	7.0%
Dividend payout ING Group	≥ 40%	38%	n/a	n/a

Consolidated result				
in EUR million	2014	2013	2012	
Income	15,296	15,305	14,313	
Operating expenses	8,979	8,694	8,638	
Addition to loan loss provision	1,594	2,288	2,121	
Underlying result before taxation	4,724	4,323	3,554	
Underlying net result Banking	3,424	3,155	2,450	
Divestments/special items	-819	-124	684	
Net result Banking	2,606	3,031	3,134	
Legacy insurance businesses	-1,355	515	1,228	
Net result attributable to ING Group's shareholders	1,251	3,545	4,362	

Balance sheet				
in EUR billion, year-end	2014	2013	2012	
Total assets ING Groep N.V.	993	1,081	1,165	
Shareholders' equity ING Groep N.V.	50	46	51	
Core Tier 1 securities ING Groep N.V.	0	1.5	2.3	
Customer lending ING Bank N.V.	508	493	520	
Customer deposits ING Bank N.V.	489	475	460	

Other indicators				
	2014	2013	2012	
Effective underlying tax rate Banking	25.8%	24.9%	28.5%	
Risk-weighted assets ING Bank (EUR billion, year-end)	296	283	279	
Underlying risk costs in bps of average RWA	55	83	74	

Non Financials Key Figures

	2014	2013	2012
Net Promoter Score Retail Banking (number of countries with number one ranking)	9⁽²⁾	6	7
Total number of Retail Banking primary relationships (in million)	8.2	7.7	n/a
Sustainable transitions financed (in EUR billion)	19.5	n/a	n/a
Sustainable assets under management (in EUR million)	1,538	886	673
Employee engagement score	75%	74%	73%
Total extrapolated CO ₂ emissions (in kilotonne) ⁽³⁾	102	127	n/a

(1) The leverage ratio is calculated using the published IFRS-EU balance sheet, in which notional cash pooling activities are netted, plus off balance-sheet commitments. In January 2015, the EC formally adopted the Delegated Act for the leverage ratio. The pro forma leverage ratio of ING Bank, taking into account the combined impact of grossing up the notional cash pool activities and the alignment with the Delegated Act, is 3.6%.

(2) Our Net Promoter Scores (NPS) in 2014 are based on the latest research results available over 3Q and 4Q.

(3) We report on total extrapolated CO₂ emissions (in kilotonne) excluding NN Group results. In 2012 no CO₂ data were gathered in CO₂ equivalent.

Financial review

Underlying net result Banking



The increase reflects higher interest results, strict expense control and lower risk costs, despite negative CVA/DVA impacts and redundancy provisions in 2014.

ING Bank's underlying Return on Equity



The RoE improved from 9.0 percent, reflecting higher underlying net result combined with a modest decline in the average equity base of ING Bank, which was caused by dividend payments to ING Group in both years and the write-down in the net pension assets in 2014.

Shareholders' equity



The increase versus 2013 was caused by the annual net profit and increased revaluation reserves due to lower interest rates, partly offset by the impact on equity of NN Group's IPO in July 2014.

Fully loaded CET 1 ratio ING Bank



The CET1 ratio was up from a pro forma 10.0 percent in 2013, reflecting retained earnings and increased debt and equity revaluation reserves due to a decline in interest rates, and a higher market value of ING's stake in Bank of Beijing.

Net result ING Group



The decrease was mainly due to special items to make the Dutch pension fund financially independent and the payment related to the nationalisation of SNS. Net result was also impacted by the deconsolidation of Voya in 2014 and the Held for Sale classification of NN Group.

Addition to the loan loss provision



Risk costs approached normalised levels as the overall economic environment gradually improved. Nevertheless, the economy is volatile and a certain degree of political uncertainty remains.

Leverage ratio ING Bank



The leverage ratio was up from 3.9 percent due to higher capital, which more than offset an increase in exposure.

Underlying cost/income ratio ING Bank



This includes CVA/DVA impacts and the redundancy/restructuring provisions of 2013 and 2014. Excluding these, the cost/income ratio improved to 55.1 percent in 2014, from 56.2 percent in 2013.

Non-financial review

Net Promoter Score Retail Banking



Ranking #1
9 out of 11 countries

Our customer-centric focus helped us achieve a first place ranking in nine countries, compared with two or more selected local peers. NPS surveys were held in 11 countries with retail banking activities.

Sustainable transitions financed and Sustainable assets under management



19.5 bln
Sustainable transitions financed

1,538 mln

Sustainable assets under management

Our focus on sustainability driven business resulted in EUR 19.5 billion Sustainable Transitions Financed at year-end 2014; and Sustainable Assets under Management increased to EUR 1,538 million, which underlies our client's appetite for products and services that apply sustainability criteria.

Total CO₂ emissions



102
kilotonnes

Through efficiency initiatives we improved our environmental performance. The total extrapolated amount of carbon emissions decreased from 127 to 102 kilotonnes. By 2020, ING Bank aims to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions by 20 percent from 2014.

Employee engagement score



75%

A yearly employee engagement survey looks at how engaged, enabled and energised our employees feel. Our score was 75 percent, showing a slight improvement over last year (74 percent).

Retail Banking

In this chapter we start by explaining the scope and scale of the Retail Banking division, summarise business unit activities and highlight key developments. Secondly, we show how our activities are furthering ING's strategy by empowering our customers. Thirdly, we discuss how we are creating a differentiating customer experience. Finally, we highlight our 2014 performance.

About Retail Banking

The customer – individuals, SMEs and mid-corporates – is at the heart of our retail business. Customers want easy and transparent products, tools and advice to empower them to take smarter financial decisions during their lifetime, such as when buying a house, saving for retirement or for their children's education. We are prominent in innovative distribution via mobile, the internet, call centres and face to face.

We have a mix of mature and growth businesses in our various countries (in Europe, Asia and Australia). We have market-leader positions in the Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg; solid positions in Australia, Austria, France, Germany, Italy and Spain; competitive positions in Poland and Romania, and a promising position in Turkey, and through our stakes in Bank of Beijing (China), TMB (Thailand) and ING Vysya Bank (India). In late November 2014, ING Vysya Bank and Kotak Mahindra Bank announced their intention to merge their respective businesses.

These reflect ING's three categories of markets: Market leaders, Challengers, and Growth markets. We are differentiating the implementation of our strategy by country.

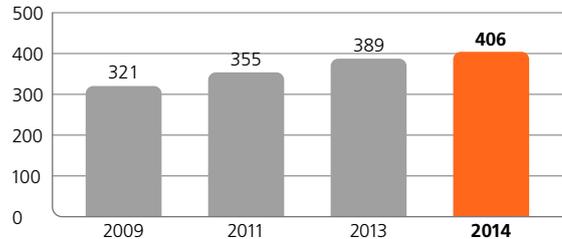
📖 Our strategy and progress chapter for more information.

The total number of customers at Retail Banking went up in 2014 to reach 32.6 million at year-end.

Retail Banking posted strong 2014 results. We have a good track record and strive to further leverage our strong market position.

Our deposit base positions us well to provide lending to our customers. We plan to further diversify the asset base and build sustainable market share.

Strong retail deposits gathering ability (in EUR bln, full-year 2014) ⁽¹⁾



(1) 2009 and 2011 have been adjusted for the divestments of ING Direct USA, Canada and UK.

Brief business insights

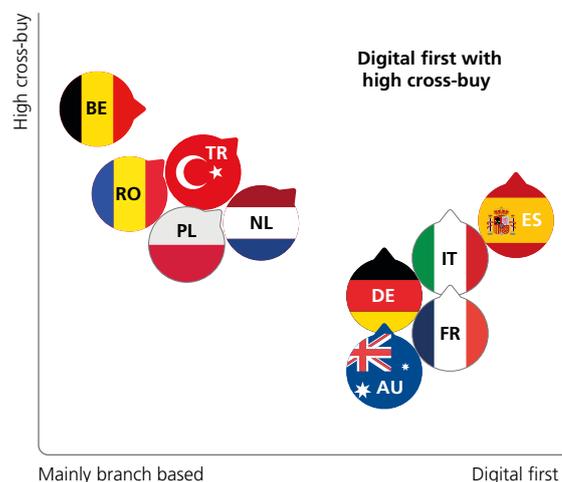
The condition of the economy directly affects our customers, and therefore us. The bulk of our retail businesses are in the eurozone. Despite weak, unstable and uneven recovery in the eurozone, we have delivered a good financial performance.

In the past few years, Retail Banking has been working towards converging its traditional banking model to a digital-first model. Our customers are increasingly self-directed. A digital-first offering allows us to offer transparent products, consistent fair pricing and process excellence at low costs.

Agility towards change is key in today's banking environment. We are working on becoming a more agile, innovative business, which can respond to the latest consumer demands quickly and flexibly. An agile way of working is therefore a key part of our IT programme and will be addressed in 2015.

In 2014, we have taken steps to deliver on the new ING Bank Think Forward strategy and to align Retail Banking with its strategic priorities. Our focus is on becoming the primary bank for customers, being innovation-driven and fulfilling relevant customer needs.

Converging towards a digital-first business model



Cross-buy = average number of products per active customer
 Luxembourg is reported under Belgium; Austria is reported under Germany

Digital first

Technology offers customers a range of channels for their banking needs. They expect consistent, reliable and straightforward banking services that are just a click away. Keeping pace with the speed of technological developments while maintaining operational excellence and security is a challenge.

Customers increasingly use digital channels to interact with us. In the Netherlands, the number of mobile logins amounted to 619.6 million and logins via the internet to 414.2 million. Belgium's Smart Banking app has been downloaded 800,000 times since its launch in 2011. This application for tablets won international recognition in 2014 from the independent MAPA research institute, which specialises in digital banking. MAPA crowned the "My Budget" application as one of the top applications worldwide.

A new application was also created for the Belgian private-banking customers, which offers complete functionality. On top of portfolio reporting, we have also launched a secured web repository with all useful market information which is only accessible in a closed environment for our private-banking customers.

ING Poland's mobile app has been downloaded 700,000 times since its launch in 2012. In France, ING is the leading online bank.

The Digital Wallet – Turkey

Part of our Customer Promise is to be available "anytime, anywhere". The development of digital wallets is one of the newer ways that we are putting this into practice.

A digital wallet stores all the information in your physical wallet, including debit and credit cards, loyalty cards from your favourite merchants, your driving licence and ID. It can also store money. We introduced digital wallets in Poland, Spain, Italy (pilot) and Turkey in 2014.

ING Turkey's digital wallet, ParaMara, bundles different payment methods with discounts from merchant loyalty programmes. After downloading the app to set up the wallet on their smartphone, customers can use ParaMara to send money to friends and family, either by using their Facebook account username or by typing in a mobile phone number. They can also transfer money between their debit and credit cards.

ParaMara users can create prepaid cards instantly and can top up their prepaid cards through ParaMara directly or by using ING ATMs.

At year-end, around 25,000 customers – half of whom were new – were using a digital wallet in Turkey. In Spain, 16,093 digital wallets were in use; in Poland 6,800 (so called V.me wallets) and in Italy 100 pilot customers are using this service.

Towards omnichannel

Being where the customer is, is a pre-requisite for success. Developing a balanced network of distribution channels to serve diverse customer needs is a key challenge for banks today.

We are taking measures to expand digital banking further, while at the same time strengthening our local advisory capabilities in the branch network.

In November, we announced a major change programme in the Netherlands to introduce a seamless, real-time customer experience across all banking channels. This should enable customers to do their daily banking when, where and how they want, and switch between channels with no interruption to their data or service.

We believe this omnichannel approach (swipe, click, call, face) to banking services will also lead to increased frequency of customer contact and will help us earn the primary relationship.

To support the transition to omnichannel service delivery, the IT infrastructure and processes in the Netherlands are being further simplified and automated. This innovative and demanding undertaking in the Netherlands will help develop best practices for future development across the Bank.

□ Innovation and information technology chapter for more information about IT.

Improving reliability

In 2014, we struggled with several system outages, mainly in the Netherlands. We put a lot of effort in solving these issues in 2014 and are continuing to improve our systems as we're aware of the inconvenience of these outages. We are already seeing the initial results of our efforts. For example, the availability of our online payments system has improved, resulting in an increase in the availability of iDeal.

We have established a focused IT team that is working on defining and detailing a plan and approach to improve, in the short term, the system reliability for our customers in the Netherlands, and in Belgium. This plan will be delivered in the first quarter of 2015.

In the longer term, infrastructure issues will be addressed to help improve day-to-day processes such as payments.

Privacy and cyber security

ING aims to provide an adequate level of data protection globally (both at head office and at all our business units) by means of the Global Data Protection Policies (GDPPs), which were adopted in 2013. These policies qualify as Binding Corporate Rules, approved by all relevant Data Protection Authorities in the European Economic Area. The policies are currently being implemented in all ING countries and implementation is expected to be finalised by mid-2015. In 2014, we focused on implementing the governance around GDPP. All our business units, including the retail countries, have appointed a data protection executive (DPE), a first-line officer responsible for data protection in the business. DPEs, in turn, are supported by data protection officers (DPOs), who, in their capacity as second line of defence, advise the DPEs and help them to achieve and monitor compliance with the GDPPs.

Overall, a Bank DPE and Bank DPO have also been appointed.

Security and anti-cybercrime initiatives were an important priority again in all of our business units in 2014. Cybercrime increasingly takes place on an international scale and cybercriminals keep getting “smarter”. This keeps challenging our business and responses to it.

ING has comprehensive prevention, detection and responsive measures in place to defend against cyber attacks and reduce the level of any losses. Bank-wide, we have set up Cybercrime Expertise & Response Teams.

📖 How we are balancing our responsibilities chapter for more information.

Putting our strategy into practice

Think Forward in practice

In March 2014, ING launched its new banking strategy “Think Forward”, which outlines the actions we are taking to secure our future as a leading European bank. The Bank’s customer promise – to deliver a differentiating customer experience with clear and easy, anytime/anywhere services that empower customers and keep getting better – is at the core of the changes in Retail Banking.

ING wants to be more than a facilitating bank. It wants to make a positive contribution to a healthy financial situation and add genuine value for its customers, throughout their lives.

To help customers navigate their way through life, we want to provide them with the right information at the right time: for example, on their current spending patterns and daily expenditure, but also about the future. What, for example, are the effects of taking out a mortgage? What happens if your income suddenly changes?

Empowering initiatives in 2014

In 2014, we introduced a number of initiatives across the businesses to empower people to stay a step ahead in life and in business.

ING Spain is helping its customers track their finances on any device (mobile, desktop or tablet), thanks to its responsive web design. Customers can benefit from an automatic categorisation of their transactions and are able to create and track budgets or expenses by category. They can also check their expenses in graphs, customising the view they prefer – daily, weekly, monthly and annually.

📖 Innovation and information technology chapter for more information.

In the Netherlands, the Financially Fit customer philosophy aims to create consumer awareness to delve into their personal financial situation. We inspire consumers with web support, online seminars, financial information evenings at branches and an omnichannel application that gives insights into financial dilemmas. The Financially Fit articles and tools were accessed more than three million times.

The Netherlands also introduced a “contactless” payment method, following a successful pilot in 2013; at year-end 2014, more than six million customers were able to use their debit cards with this functionality.

Customers in Luxembourg can manage their money and finances better with the My Money financial blog, which offers tips and advice. In Belgium, both self-employed individuals and companies can now easily and securely sign and conclude their professional credits online. This service is available for several types of loans and financing. It saves the customer time and allows them to access credit at the most convenient time.

Another example is the Business Calculator – the result of best-practice sharing – between Belgium and the Netherlands. This online free-of-charge tool offers a quick and straightforward answer to the big question every start-up company has: Is my idea financially viable? This helps to avoid what are sometimes difficult discussions with start-ups, as the calculator produces an objective prediction. And in Italy, VoceArancio is a social media hit, delivering topical and practical financial information every day.

Consumer and SME lending

One of our key objectives is to maintain sustainable positions in both consumer lending – particularly the self-employed segments – and SME lending in all our countries. We can achieve this by broadening and diversifying our lending capabilities, particularly in our challenger markets with innovative customer propositions. This will also help us to grow to a sustainable share in markets where we currently trail our peers.

Joining forces to serve the customer – the Netherlands

In 2014, Mid Corporate Clients and Private Banking/Private Wealth & Asset Management joined forces to provide a new service to a particular group of customer: the family businesses with their founders, managing directors and their families. The goal is to provide them with an integrated approach, a “one-stop” shop for both business and private matters.

We advise this group of customers on specific private and business topics, such as how do I sustain my family business for the next generation, how do I deal with change of ownership, how do I improve the governance of the company, and what are the most important changes within the family and company that we need to address?

What did we do? We organised, among other things, a Family Business Day; established Family Business Advisory Teams, which paid joint visits to targeted customers to inform them about what we can do for them, and invited customers to our local Inspiration Sessions and online seminars on family affairs. Sustaining the long-term continuity of their business in perfect harmony is key. We aim for customers to perceive us as their primary bank and strategic business partner.

Given the success in 2014, this initiative will be continued in 2015.

The SME lending market in Europe and within ING has always had challenges and the financial crisis has only exacerbated this situation. Banks have been challenged to serve this segment given the relatively small loan amounts, its heterogeneous nature, labour-intensive processing, and higher risk profile. The most pressing problems SMEs face while requesting a loan is the lack of access to finance and poor customer experience, i.e. banks are not easy to deal with. Alternative lending providers have begun to meet such demand in the market and – leveraging on digital technologies – are contesting the strongholds of traditional banks.

Despite reduced demand for credit from SMEs and individuals as well as insufficient creditworthiness of SMEs – which challenges our ambition to grow lending to SMEs – we intend to selectively grow the Consumer and SME Lending portfolio in the Benelux.

📖 How we are balancing our responsibilities chapter for more information.

We have appointed a global head of Consumer and SME Lending, who will – in close co-operation with the countries – develop specific consumer retail lending and SME propositions following a digital-first model. Initially, the main focus will be on challenger markets, innovative customer propositions and mobile distribution. ING Spain will keep developing the SME segment, following its initiative to widen the target range to micro-companies. It increased its maximum turnover to EUR 2 million (from EUR 0.3 million). Senior management was closely involved in the challenge to obtain a deep understanding of the needs of 21st century SMEs.

Specific initiatives to support businesses include ING Turkey's new "Generation to Generation Family Business" project. This nine-month programme seeks to increase the competitiveness and sustainability of the country's family businesses. The aim is not only to bridge the gap between generations, but also to help them adopt strong financial policies and establish a robust corporate management structure.

Family businesses are important to ING. At ING Belgium, for example, we aim to provide shareholders of such companies with solutions that not only consider both private capital and business assets, but also the specific characteristics of "family shareholdership". In 2014, we enhanced our services, including appointing 25 private bankers as "Adviser Family Businesses" and by co-operating with external partners; organising well-attended events and paying joint visits to companies.

Turkey, Poland, and Romania have improved their SME lending processes by reducing the response time to customers. Their processing times for lending approvals have fallen to only 48 hours.

Exports are crucial to the Dutch economy. That is why we are empowering promising Dutch companies in their international expansion. The *Oranje Handelsmissiefonds* (Orange Trade Mission Fund) is a joint initiative of ING Bank, the Dutch SME Association, KLM and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This Fund aims to help and inspire exporting businesses to increase their chance

of international success. This includes support before and during official trade missions, sharing expertise and helping entrepreneurs to do business internationally.

Other initiatives in the Netherlands, such as the *Ondernemend Oranje Kapitaal* (Dutch Orange Capital Enterprise Fund) and the *Week van de Ondernemer* (Week of the Entrepreneur) were continued.

Online video identification – Germany

ING-DiBa is known for making banking as simple as possible. But until not so long ago, becoming a new customer of ING-DiBa was far from straightforward. Potential customers had to queue up at a German post office. Not any longer.

A new online video identification system – introduced in 2014 – radically simplifies the process of joining the bank. Instead of having to queue potential customers just answer a couple of questions to qualify.

Video identification is a big leap forward in customer care, an example of the greater flexibility afforded online.

ING-DiBa is the first major German bank to offer customers this service. We expect a large proportion of our new customers to opt for the simplified procedure.

Creating a differentiating customer experience

We believe we can create a truly differentiating customer experience by rigorously pursuing our new strategy.

To fulfil our purpose of empowering customers we need to deliver on all four components of the Customer Promise.

As we implement our strategy our customers should expect us to be making banking clear and easy, to be there for them anytime, anywhere, to empower them to make smart decisions and to keep getting better at what we do for them.

Earning primary relationships

Embedding this combination of qualities into the way we interact with our customers will help us progress our strategic priority of earning primary relationships.

We are already making headway. Of our total individual customers (32.6 million), we have 8.2 million customers with whom we maintain a primary relationship. At ING, primary customers are active payment customers, who – additionally – have recurrent income on the payment account and who are active in at least one extra product category. ING Poland also reached an important milestone during the year of one million primary customers.

Understanding our customers

Meeting customer needs is at the heart of the retail business. It begins by really understanding their requirements. Only when we have a clear understanding of what our customers need will we be able to develop relevant, distinctive solutions that meet those needs and add real value. This is vital if we are to create a truly differentiating customer experience.

It is also important to provide products and services that are clear and easy for customers to understand and use. We strive to align our systems, structure and processes to deliver great customer experience cost effectively.

Specific groups have specific needs. ING Belgium addresses the needs of legal practitioners by offering them "Privalis", a specific and extensive service, tailor made for professional customers. Privalis customers also enjoy the services of a dedicated ING liaison officer who helps them to optimise the structure and management of their business. Even though ING Belgium is market leader in servicing this customer segment, Privalis grew further in 2014.

The specific needs of expatriates – an important segment of the workforce in Belgium – are also addressed. Even before arriving on Belgian soil, expats coming to Belgium can have their accounts set up and enjoy fully operational banking services upon arrival. Beyond traditional banking, the Bank also provides newly arrived expats with additional information and checklists about settling in Belgium. By the same token, the Bank assists expats returning to their home country with the relevant banking and non-banking procedures.

Le Web Café – a real community – France

ING France was the first to launch Le Web Café in December 2013. It is not just a place where customers can ask ING for advice, customers can also help each other with financial issues. Web Café is a groundbreaking example of co-creation, a genuine partnership between customers and their bank in the French financial sector.

The Web Café features a forum, a lab and a blog. Customers ask their questions in the Web Café. Bank staff monitor the online forum and intervene to respond to difficult questions. In the lab, customers propose ideas and improvements for ING products and services. The blog presents tips to help customers organise their finances properly and independently.

The Web Café is catching on. Since its launch, it has welcomed over 370,000 visitors. Each month, 50 percent of visitors are new.

ING monitors the Web Café to prioritise its service provision and develop new services. It has been such a hit that ING is likely to launch it in the Netherlands in the first half of 2015.

The Retail operations in Belgium include Record Bank, which continues to focus on one of its core values: "keeping things simple for the customer". Customer appreciation is reflected in the funds entrusted volume, which went up by 4.9 percent compared to 2013. Outstanding credits grew by 7.8 percent. In the production of consumer credits, Record Bank now ranks second in Belgium according to the latest ranking. In 2014, Record Bank launched its Record Fund, a unique product on the Belgian market. This Fund is a mixed index fund, mirroring the evolution of the market.

Since 2009, we have been continuously screening our products and services according to five golden customer rules. They are an integral part of our Product Approval and Review Process. The rules test whether products and services meet our requirements for doing business and help to ensure that we provide customers with the right products and services at the right price, at the right time and in the right way.

We continually engage with our customers through a range of online channels, such as Google Hangouts, on social media such as Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn, and via ING's own social media channels. We contact "fans" directly, review the ING Customer Board, conduct customer surveys, and coordinate roundtable sessions with SME and mid-corporate customers.

More transparency

We empower customers to make clearer choices with greater transparency. ING Netherlands, for example, has increased transparency right across its product range. This has encompassed many aspects of its communications, from producing crystal-clear infographics for comparing rates on its website to alerting business customers about the best time to make a deposit to ensure the interest bonus.

Aligning our processes more directly with customer priorities is also improving transparency. In the Netherlands, we are taking operational customer processes, such as applying for a credit card or opening an account, through a so-called washing lane to redesign it as the ideal process from the customer's perspective. As a result, by end-year 2014, 95 percent of all retail processes in the Netherlands had been reviewed and optimised.

Accelerating innovation

Our businesses stepped up innovation during 2014 with a series of product and services initiatives.

Customer Promise

<p>🔍 Clear and easy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Empower through transparency › Smart, simple products and services › Flawless execution. 	<p>📍 Anytime, anywhere</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Mobile first › Omnichannel experience › Advice when needed. 	<p>✅ Empower</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Anticipate customer needs › Provide customers with insight › Connecting a community of customers. 	<p>↗️ Keep getting better</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Redefining the 'wow' experience › Driving sustainable progress › Constantly improving.
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We are developing services that capitalise on the increasing importance of mobile channels. In November, ING Belgium launched fingerprint recognition for its smart banking app, as first Belgian bank and pioneer for mobile banking in the country. With the launch of "Inge" on our mobile application in the Netherlands, we became the first bank in Europe to apply voice recognition to mobile banking services. The Inge concept has now been adopted by our customer care centre in Romania where customers are identified by their voice "print", simplifying their access to the customer care professionals.

"Hello, my name is Inge" – the Netherlands

With the pilot launch of "Inge", Dutch customers can now bank with ING by talking to their mobile or tablet. Inge, our new voice recognition feature, listens, understands, talks back and responds to simple instructions.

Inge is a new way of making mobile banking easy for our customers. It features distinctive voices and is safe to use for transactions.

ING Belgium launched Business Banking given the special requests of business customers in the field of online banking. Business Banking also simplifies financial management for our professional customers. Any transactions can be carried out virtually via this single online banking service.

ING Romania has adopted the pre-approved loan system developed by ING Spain. This is leading to far fewer lengthy applications. Many customers now get a consumer loan instantly simply by accepting their personalised pre-approved offer. However, the loan is granted only after they have signed a contract with the Bank and their application has been carefully considered. Pre-approved loan production already accounted for 40 percent of total production by year-end 2014.

Beyond banking

Thinking beyond traditional banking is another strategic priority. We want to stay relevant for our customers, now and in the future, by offering products they cannot get elsewhere.

Extending accessibility of services

Our promise to deliver services anytime, anywhere also implies a commitment to make them accessible to all sections of society. Last year, 75.7 percent of our retail banking business units offered products and services to customers with special physical needs. In the 2013 report, we committed to increasing accessibility for customers with special needs. We have delivered on that promise in various ways during 2014.

At your service – Austria

In May, ING-DiBa opened its first Servicepoint in Vienna. Customers are able to consult staff face to face in a relaxed, lounge atmosphere. The establishment of a Servicepoint in one of Vienna's busiest, most accessible areas, is a result of customer demand, because certain needs and situations can be resolved more easily through face-to-face contact.

The direct bank conducts most of its business online or via telephone. It has introduced Servicepoint, open Mondays to Fridays from 9:00 am to 7:00 pm and on Saturday mornings, as an additional, face-to-face service channel.

In the Netherlands, braille transcripts for savings accounts with a variable interest rate are in place for both private and business customers. Visually impaired customers can also use "Inge", a voice-activated system to check balances or make payments.

Our Branch in a Briefcase project in Belgium (see box) also assists by reducing the need for physical visits.

Branch in a Briefcase – Belgium

If you're a Personal Banking customer in Belgium, for example, there is no need for you to visit a branch. One of ING Belgium's commercial agents will come to you. The agents, who have varied skills, bring most branch facilities along in their briefcase, wherever you are. It's convenient and it saves you time.

ING Netherlands also offers its services through 261 full-service branches and 371 ING Servicepoints.

Financial inclusion

Our view is that financial services should be accessible to consumers from all walks of life. Therefore, in addition to serving "regular" customers, we also develop products and services for minorities or marginalised segments in society through our financial inclusion initiatives. For example, ING Australia participated in an industry initiative of the Australian Bankers' Association to offer fee-free withdrawals and balance enquiries to their customers at selected ATMs in very remote, indigenous communities.

ING Australia has also partnered with fundraising website StartSomeGood to launch a crowdsourcing website that helps philanthropic entrepreneurs promote social change in the country.

Called Dreamstarter, the online platform connects social entrepreneurs and non-profits with people who want help. In 2014, the Bank drew attention to the plight of youth in the country. A young entrepreneur, Jami Green, spent 24 hours in an upright display case in Melbourne to raise awareness and funds. Within 72 hours, he had raised over AUD 27,000 (over EUR 18,000 at the exchange rates at that time), and got his business off to a flying start.

Supporting customers in financial distress

The Bank has flexible responses for people that suffer temporary financial distress. ING Netherlands offers interest breaks to mortgage customers faced with a temporary cut in income. It also provides Personal Mortgage Coaches, who proactively support mortgage holders with income overviews and insights into their expenditure, allowing them to regain control of their finances. ING-DiBa in Germany has been sending the so-called *Dispovarnbrief* (overdraft warning letter) to the 23,000+ affected current-account customers to offer more favourable consumer loans as an alternative to current-account credit facilities.

Driving sustainable progress in society

We aim to empower people in life. Implicit in this is the idea that we help them gain the skills and insights they need to secure a sustainable financial future. Various channels and tools help to create awareness and develop knowledge and insight.

Extending financial literacy

We believe good financial habits are developed early in life. We therefore support programmes and projects that create financial capabilities and develop entrepreneurial skills in young people.

We contribute research and donate funds. We make our networks available and share core knowledge, expertise and skills.

We also support schemes that promote financial literacy in children and help them to become moneywise. ING offers a wide range of global programmes in this area.

Teaching youngsters about banking – Poland

ING Poland involves its employees on a voluntary basis in the nationwide Junior Achievement Day, organised through its partnership with the Junior Achievement Foundation.

We participated in this initiative for the 11th time in 2014. ING Poland employees invited secondary school students to come to the Bank, so they could follow the activities of a selected department at the Bank for a single day. We familiarised them with banking work and increased their awareness of the larger world of finance.

In 2014, we arranged for 71 places on a one-day traineeship.

ING Turkey's acclaimed financial literacy Orange Drops education campaign won a Stevies silver in the Corporate Social Responsibility category at the 11th International Business Awards. Aimed at primary school children, the programme involved over 300 teachers and 15,000 students in 150 schools.

ING Italy's BitBumBam, a contest aimed at supporting projects and ideas that help new generations learn and develop through the innovative use of technology, raised EUR 40,000 and 18 months of mentorship from iStarter to help launch three innovative educational projects for families, children and school.

ING's eZonomics team, which aims to present economic and financial information in easy-to-understand and engaging ways, published a number of ING International Surveys in 2014 on topics such as Pocket Money, Homes and Mortgages, Mobile Banking and Savings. We believe it is important to share our knowledge in this field and publish studies about these topics on a regular basis to support consumers in becoming more financial savvy. The eZonomics team is funded by ING and part of ING's global research department.

In 2014, ING employees volunteered more than 1,850 hours of their time. EUR 785,000 was donated to support financial empowerment-related activities and organisations.

ING Groenbank's sustainable products and services

ING's sustainable products and services offering is a key pillar for our business. ING Groenbank offers lending services at favourable rates for a diverse range of sustainable projects, from wind turbines to organic farming to solar panels, both in and outside the Netherlands. As such, it encourages businesses to put their activities on a more sustainable footing.

Funding comes from savings with fiscal incentive, which makes ING's savings account an attractive alternative to regular savings accounts.

ING Groenbank is accelerating the transition to a sustainable society by helping private and business customers seize the opportunities sustainable practices have to offer.

Following a period of volume decline in sustainable savings, which started in 2008 due to a governmental re-evaluation of the fiscal incentives programme, 2014 marked a turning point. The Dutch Government has announced that it would be evaluating both the tax benefits and the effectiveness of the *Regeling Groenprojecten* linked to these benefits in 2015.

Over the next few years, a considerable number of sustainable projects may materialise in the Netherlands as a result of the *SER Energieakkoord* (Energy Agreement by the SER, the Social and Economic Council). ING Groenbank can play a role in making society more sustainable by providing an extra stimulus via its green loans.

In addition, up to 10 percent of ING Groenbank's balance sheet is used for financial inclusion activities, including microfinance. These activities are supported by community

investments, such as educational projects and research and advisory services. One example of such a project is a touring bus in India that educates women in rural areas. Our research and advisory service is another important part of our financial inclusion activity. Its "A Billion to Gain?" report has been published biannually since 2006.

ING Groenbank's microfinance lending portfolio amounts to EUR 75 million and is distributed locally via ING Vysya Bank (EUR 40 million) in India and ING Turkey (EUR 30 million). For the African continent, we have partnered with Oikocredit by investing EUR 5 million in its fund. ING Groenbank has already supported over 500,000 micro and small enterprises since 2004.

Socially responsible investments

Promoting responsible finance opportunities means creating value for our customers by embedding the principles of sustainability in our products and services. More than a decade ago, we initiated the inclusion of environmental and social topics in our investment strategies for retail and private banking customers in the Netherlands. Nowadays, we can offer a fully mature and socially responsible investment (SRI) strategy that meets a growing demand. We do this by offering dedicated SRI funds as well as portfolios of sustainable company assets. Offering SRI funds runs parallel with our goal of giving our customers a broad choice and enables them to make an informed decision when applying sustainability criteria to their investment decisions.

Screening for SRIs

In identifying sustainable opportunities, we use the combination of a best-in-class assessment with a negative screening of certain industries and products (for example, controversial weapons), and controversial behaviour such as violations of human rights. This SRI methodology covers all asset classes, including government bonds, corporate bonds and relatively new products, such as index trackers. We use the same methodology to assess investment funds offered by third-party suppliers.

Our dedicated team of SRI analysts is embedded in the Dutch ING Investment Office. This ensures that the products offered meet ING's stringent criteria in terms of both financial and sustainable performance. In 2014, we formalised the decision-making for SRI in the Netherlands by setting up a Responsible Investment Committee. Our products are aligned with ING's overall view on sustainable development.

Extending our SRI offering

There is a need to be innovative and agile in creating financial products and services that are able to support commercial activities with environmental and social benefits.

We are also integrating sustainability indicators into our more conventional investment strategies, for example by excluding producers of controversial weapons. Companies that are responsive to stakeholder expectations and show resilience to environmental and social challenges will be better positioned in the future and will increase business continuity.

Sustainable assets under management

In 2014, our sustainable assets rose by EUR 652 million to EUR 1,538 million, which underlines our customers' appetite for products and services that meet specific sustainability criteria.

Sustainable assets under management (€ mln)			
	2014	2013	2012
Sustainable portfolios ⁽¹⁾	1,517	903	696
ING Liric SRI Top 50	15	19	20
CS ING SRI Index fund	92	38	13
Subtotal	1,624	960	729
Correction to eliminate double counting ⁽²⁾	86	74	56
Total sustainable assets under management	1,538	886	673

(1) 2014 figure including ING Belgium and ING Luxembourg. 2012 and 2013 figures are based on ING Netherlands only. The increase in 2014 results from growing client demand, particularly in the Netherlands, for sustainable assets. It also reflects higher asset values.

(2) There is an overlap between allocated assets in the sustainable ING funds and the managed sustainable portfolios in which some of these funds are part of the managed allocation; the total allocated amount has been adjusted. An estimate indicates that most of the adjustment relating to 2012 and 2013 is attributable to the NN funds.

Our performance

Measuring customer satisfaction

The Net Promoter Scores (NPS) methodology measures how likely customers are to recommend a company to their family and friends. Under our NPS programme, which has been in place since 2009, customers give us their opinion on their customer experience. We also get feedback from customer surveys, online polls and focus groups.

We apply the NPS methodology to measure customer engagement and use NPS results and customer feedback to improve customer service and internal processes.

According to the latest research results available over 3Q and 4Q, our NPS in 2014 made us number one in all countries where NPS surveys were held, except for Austria (third) and Turkey (third), against two or more selected local peers. These scores demonstrate that we are regarded as one of the best banks at meeting customer needs.

ING Netherlands is the first Dutch bank to let customers post comments on its website about products and services they bought. Customers like to hear the opinion and experiences of their peers. It helps us gain valuable consumer data and customer comparisons help customers make well-considered choices. Eventually, we plan to extend this service to business customers.

ING Belgium has different ways of measuring customer satisfaction: It has set up a special web page for customers to provide feedback and suggestions.

On the same page, it lists a number of clear improvements that have come from this feedback, such as making mobile payments available to all accounts and including a comparative table of its credit cards.

The “One senior manager for 100 customers” initiative equips retail customers in Belgium with a dedicated ING contact whom they can contact for feedback on the products and services, suggestions and complaints. We have also introduced the “Easybox”, an initiative to collect ideas for improvement. It has already been rolled out in 300 branches and more than 1,000 employees use it. Over 200 Easybox improvement ideas have been received and directly addressed, and we intend to extend the use of the Easybox throughout the Belgian organisation.

ING Turkey accesses an external website platform (Sikayetvar.com) to monitor and respond to customer complaints. This website hosts a popular forum in Turkey for airing consumer issues. Currently, ING Turkey’s response time is 2.1 hours, while the sector average is 9.5 hours – this result delivered a number 2 ranking in “Best complaint management in banking sector”.

Financial results

Total Retail Banking

Retail Banking posted strong 2014 results. The underlying profit before tax rose by 23.5 percent to EUR 3,158 million on the back of healthy business growth and substantially lower risk costs in most markets.

Underlying income rose 5.1 percent, from 2013 to EUR 10,685 million. The increase was driven by higher interest results in most countries due to higher volumes and improved margins on lending and savings. The margin on current accounts declined due to the low interest rate environment.

Net funds entrusted (adjusted for currency impacts and the deconsolidation of ING Vysya Bank) grew by EUR 19.2 billion in 2014. Net lending (also adjusted for the transfers of WestlandUtrecht Bank (WUB) mortgages to NN Bank and the sale of a mortgage portfolio in Australia) increased by EUR 8.4 billion, entirely outside the Netherlands. Net lending in the Netherlands declined due to higher pre-payments on mortgages and muted demand for business lending.

Operating expenses increased by 4.0 percent to EUR 6,433 million in 2014, due to higher redundancy provisions mainly related to the further digitalisation of our banking services in the Netherlands. Excluding these provisions in both years, expenses were almost flat. Higher pension costs in the Netherlands and investments in our franchises to further strengthen our IT domain and expand our capabilities and services were offset by the cost savings from the restructuring programmes. The underlying cost/income ratio, excluding redundancy provisions, improved to 56.9 percent from 59.7 percent in 2013.

Risk costs declined by 23.0 percent to EUR 1,094 million in 2014, with declines in all regions, including lower risk costs for Dutch mortgages.

Market Leaders Retail Netherlands

The underlying result before tax of Retail Netherlands rose by 6.5 percent to EUR 888 million, from EUR 834 million in 2013, supported by higher interest results and lower risk costs, and despite EUR 349 million of redundancy provisions recorded in 2014, mainly related to the further digitalisation of our banking services in the Netherlands. The interest result rose by 6.8 percent to EUR 3,818 million, reflecting higher margins on lending and savings, which more than offset a decline in volumes due to the sale and transfer of WUB assets to NN Group as of mid-2013. Excluding these sale and transfers, net lending declined by EUR 3.7 billion versus year-end 2013, of which EUR 2.2 billion in mortgages due to higher prepayments and the continuing run-off in the WUB portfolio. Other lending, mainly business lending, declined by EUR 1.5 billion following low demand. Funds entrusted recorded a net inflow of EUR 1.7 billion in 2014.

Operating expenses, excluding redundancy provisions in both years, increased by 1.2 percent, mainly due to higher pension costs and increased IT investments, which were partly offset by the impact of the cost-containment initiatives. The cost-efficiency programmes, including the next steps in digital banking, are on track to realise EUR 675 million of annual cost savings by the end of 2017. Of this amount, EUR 354 million has already been realised.

Risk costs declined by 18.6 percent to EUR 714 million, both in residential mortgages and business lending, reflecting a gradual economic recovery in the Netherlands.

Retail Belgium

ING Belgium includes ING Luxembourg and Record Bank.

Retail Belgium delivered another strong underlying result. The result before tax rose to EUR 844 million, from EUR 663 million in 2013, mainly reflecting higher interest results and lower risk costs.

Total underlying income rose by 7.3 percent to EUR 2,490 million. The interest result increased by 8.6 percent, driven by higher volumes in almost all products and increased margins on mortgages and savings.

The net lending portfolio grew by EUR 5.1 billion in 2014, of which EUR 1.9 billion in mortgages and EUR 3.2 billion in other lending. Funds entrusted increased by EUR 3.9 billion, mainly in current accounts.

Operating expenses were up 1.8 percent, mainly due to higher Belgium bank taxes and increased IT costs, partly offset by a lower headcount in the Retail branch network. The strategic projects announced by ING Belgium in early 2013 are on track to realise EUR 160 million of annual cost savings by the end of 2017; of this amount EUR 105 million has already been realised.

Risk costs were down 22.4 percent to EUR 142 million. The decline was mainly in business lending, while risk costs for mortgages increased.

Challengers and Growth markets

Retail Germany

Retail Germany includes ING-DiBa Germany, ING-DiBa Austria and Interhyp.

Retail Germany recorded strong growth, which drove the result before tax up 29.6 percent to EUR 775 million in 2014, from EUR 598 million in 2013.

Underlying income rose by 16.8 percent to EUR 1,621 million, driven by higher interest results and increased fee income. The interest result increased by 15.6 percent following continued business growth in all products and higher margins on savings. Funds entrusted grew by EUR 7.5 billion in 2014, while the lending portfolio rose by EUR 1.6 billion, of which EUR 1.0 billion was in mortgages and EUR 0.6 billion in consumer lending.

Operating expenses increased by 9.2 percent on 2013. The increase primarily reflects an increase in headcount at both ING-DiBa and Interhyp, as well as investments to support business growth and attract primary banking customers.

The net addition to loan loss provisions fell to EUR 72 million, or 29 basis points of average risk-weighted assets, from EUR 83 million, or 37 basis points, in 2013, reflecting better performance in the German mortgage book.

Retail Rest of World

The underlying result before tax of Retail Rest of World rose to EUR 651 million, from EUR 464 million in 2013, mainly reflecting better commercial results in Poland, Italy and Romania and lower losses in the UK Legacy run-off portfolio. This was in part offset by lower results from Turkey and a lower dividend from Bank of Beijing.

Underlying income declined by 2.1 percent, but grew by 6.2 percent, adjusted for the deconsolidation of ING Vysya Bank at the end of March 2014. This increase was mainly due to higher interest results supported by increased volumes. Net funds entrusted (excluding currency effects and the deconsolidation of ING Vysya Bank) grew by EUR 6.1 billion, with growth in most countries, notably Spain and Poland. Net lending (also adjusted for the sale of a mortgage portfolio in Australia) rose by EUR 5.4 billion, mainly in Turkey, Poland, Australia and Spain.

Operating expenses, excluding the deconsolidation of ING Vysya Bank, were up 0.3 percent, as higher expenses due to strategic investments to support business growth were largely offset by favourable currency impacts.

Risk costs declined to EUR 165 million (or 39 basis points of average risk-weighted assets) from EUR 280 million (or 64 basis points) in 2013. The decline is predominantly caused by the deconsolidation of ING Vysya Bank and a small net release in the UK Legacy run-off portfolio, whereas in 2013 it included an addition of EUR 60 million.

Conclusion

Retail Banking performed well in 2014, returning strong results in a challenging economic environment. We grew our lending portfolio, attracted more customers and achieved higher levels of customer satisfaction.

We have numerous initiatives that are bringing our strategy to life. We are earning more primary relationships and enhancing our payment solutions.

Innovations in products and with distribution channels, especially digital, are making banking with ING easier and more accessible. These innovations aim to empower customers to take smarter financial decisions.

We are accelerating the transition to a more sustainable economy. ING Groenbank attracts savings to fund sustainable projects.

While many new initiatives were launched in 2014, many challenges remain on the operational front. We continually strive to do better, but in some areas – including accessibility and driving progress – there is room for improvement. We are working to prioritise the issues that we feel are the most important for our customers. We believe that while new initiatives are important, we carefully consider local market conditions, demand and customer suitability.

Looking ahead, we are now focusing on future-proofing our activities. We intend to become agile – fast, and innovative enough to keep pace with our customers' ever-changing expectations.



Trophy Cabinet

The Bank has received recognition in a number of business lines for its efforts on several continents during 2014.

For instance, ING Australia was again chosen as Australia's most beloved bank by customers at the Mozo People's Choice Awards. ING Netherlands was recognised as Best Social Media Company and as Most Popular Financial Website of the Year for the 4th time in a row by Dutch consumers with close to 81,000 votes. ING Spain received an award from DEC, an association for customer experience development, based on customer surveys. ING-DiBa Germany was recognised as the "Most Preferred Bank" for the 8th time in a row by business magazine *€uro*. ING Belgium was recognised as "Best Bank in Belgium" by *The Banker* for the 2nd time in a row. In addition to its Best Bank Award by *Euromoney*, ING Poland won two silver Effie awards for its marketing/communications campaigns. It was also ranked in first place in the Mobile Bank category in the *Newsweek* weekly ranking "Newsweek Friendly Bank" in the "Mobile Bank" category for its user-friendly navigation and interface. And ING Romania's Customer Care and Services team won an award for its ability to meet all criteria that define a Customer Care team's daily tasks.

Commercial Banking

In this chapter we first explain the scope and scale of the Commercial Banking division, summarise business unit activities and highlight key developments. Second, we show how our activities are furthering ING strategy. Third, we discuss how we are contributing to a more sustainable economy. Finally, we highlight our 2014 performance.

We empower our clients to run better businesses

Commercial Banking plays a key role in the new ING Bank strategy, focused on empowering clients to stay a step ahead. As a European-centric network bank with global franchises in Industry Lending, Financial Markets, Cash Pooling and Trade Finance, our goal is to deliver a differentiating client experience.

To achieve this and to be relevant to clients in a very competitive market, we must understand their businesses intimately and offer real expertise. This guides our commercial strategy and the priorities we set ourselves. For the bank more broadly, Commercial Banking contributes to the diversification of assets, which balances our strengths in savings and deposit gathering. In 2014, we achieved good growth in lending assets within Commercial Banking, specifically supporting the development of stronger local franchises in designated 'challenger' markets.

As a foundation to our plans, we initiated a four-year transformation programme in 2012, to simplify and standardise our operating model, supporting the delivery of our Customer Promise – 'clear and easy, anytime, anywhere, empower and keep getting better'. This programme is on track, achieving client service improvements and cost efficiencies in line with targets and enables us to offer products and services in an integrated manner, across regions and business lines. This integrated client approach helps us to deliver solutions to our clients. We can only be successful if we add value for them.

In 2014, we were involved in many transactions that support our clients' efforts to transition to more sustainable business models. We are focusing on sustainable lending as we believe that sustainable business is good business. We are committed to working with our clients on addressing their sustainability challenges.

During 2014, the market environment, particularly the eurozone economy, was at times very challenging. Very high levels of bank market liquidity have led to a continuous pricing compression in most market segments, but we have maintained focus on our clients and our key strategic priorities. We believe we have achieved much and are well placed for the years ahead to sustain and reinforce our position as one of the leading European commercial banks.

Highlights

- › Our key business units performed well: we delivered strong results supported by loan growth in our global Industry Lending franchise, in particular within Structured Finance.
- › We also saw positive developments in General Lending & Transaction Services, and especially in our focus areas Working Capital Solutions and Trade Finance Services.
- › We prioritised sustainability in our lending business to support our clients' transitions towards sustainability.
- › Our business transformation programme aims to deliver harmonisation of our client services, standardised products and channels and to improve mobile and online capabilities, substantially enhancing the client experience.

At a glance – who are we?

We act as a relationship bank for clients around the world. We serve a range of organisations, including multinational corporations, financial institutions, governments and supranational bodies, through an extensive network of offices in more than 40 countries.

We provide a range of products and services to support our clients' needs. Our lending capabilities anchor most of our client relationships and our offering is enhanced through Transaction Services, such as International Payments & Cash Management, Trade Finance Services and Working Capital Solutions. Financial Markets, as the Bank's gateway to the professional markets of the world, serves our clients from treasury through to capital markets, risk management and structured financial products.

We have developed an operating model that places our clients at the heart of all we do. We deliver tailored services through integrated solutions and advice designed to meet their short- and long-term financing, liquidity, transaction and risk-management needs.



Global Finance recognised us as:
Best Bank in Western Europe
Best Bank in the Netherlands
Best Bank in Belgium

Greenwich Associates recognised us as:
Greenwich Quality Leader 2015 in the Netherlands

Global economic growth will place increasing demands on natural resources and brings the risks of global warming. Our clients are responding by adopting more sustainable business practices, and we are adapting our lending to support them.

📖 Driving sustainable progress in society section, pages 39–41 for more information.

Industry Lending

Industry Lending supports clients in selected industries, leading with sector specialised lending, creating relationships for clients to be introduced to all our services, and creating high-quality loan assets which redeploy customer deposits. Our activities are grouped as Structured Finance and Real Estate Finance.

Structured Finance

Structured Finance is a traditional lending business based on specialised industry knowledge. It is a mature business built over more than 20 years and has achieved a top-10 position globally.

The loan portfolio is well diversified across sectors and geography. Structured Finance is split into three subsectors: the Energy, Transport and Infrastructure Group (ETIG), International Trade and Export Finance (ITEF) and Specialised Financing Group (SFG).



Trade & Forfeiting Review recognised us as:
Best Trade Bank in Metals & Mining (Gold)
Best Trade Bank in Oil & Energy (Silver)
Best Structured Commodity Finance Bank (Silver)

EMEA Finance recognised Structured Finance as:
Best Structured Finance House in EMEA

ETIG specialises in capital-intensive industry sectors such as offshore services, shipping, aviation, utilities and power, infrastructure, mining, and oil and gas. ETIG performed well in 2014, achieving a steady growth of its lending activities in most of its industry sectors, most notably in transportation, infrastructure, and oil and gas.

There is increasing demand for alternative sources of energy. We support clients seeking alternative energy sources with innovative financing solutions.



We supported Freeport LNG (Liquefied Natural Gas) in their USD 8.4 billion senior secured debt financing for the development and construction of the first two (of three) LNG liquefaction trains and expansion of the common facilities on Quintana Island near Freeport, Texas. Our project finance and sector expertise and the strength of ING's global network were critical. The structured export finance team in Tokyo worked with natural resources sector specialists and financial market experts in New York to help complete this award-winning transaction.



Freeport LNG won the award for Americas Deal of the Year by *Project Finance International* and the award for North American Oil & Gas Deal of the Year by *IJGlobal Awards Americas*



We supported Gate Terminal to build new facilities for distribution of LNG via vessels and barges through a 15-year, EUR 76 million financing agreement. We acted as mandated lead arranger, together with three other banks and the European Investment Bank. Break bulk (or small-scale) services aim to split up large-scale LNG shipments into smaller quantities. This enables the distribution of LNG as a fuel for maritime vessels, ferries, trucks and industrial applications. By using LNG as a fuel, barges, coasters, ferries, as well as heavy trucks, can reduce their carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions by up to 20 percent and their nitrogen oxide (NO_x) emissions by up to 85 percent, while reducing sulphur and particle emissions to almost zero, thereby contributing to a low(er) carbon economy. ING clients N.V. Nederlandse Gasunie and Koninklijke Vopak N.V. are the initiators and partners in Gate Terminal B.V.

ITEF supports international trade in basic commodities such as oil, oil products, metals, grain, sugar and cotton. We also finance the export of capital goods and offer services to clients with long-term financing supported by export credit agencies. We provide over 1,000 clients worldwide with highly competitive products, through a strong global team and are recognised as one of the top three banks in commodity finance globally. ITEF surpassed its performance of 2013, despite challenging market conditions influenced by, amongst others, geopolitical tensions, the continued slow pace of economic activity and the considerable decline in oil prices towards the end of 2014.



Our Trade and Commodity Finance team arranged a credit facility for Biosev, the world's second largest sugar cane processor, located in Brazil and controlled by Louis Dreyfus Commodities Holdings. The transaction received a lot of attention from the Brazilian and international banking community, resulting in an increase in size from the original target of USD 200 million to a final amount of USD 440 million. ING was able to attract new banks for Biosev in this transaction, increasing their access to the international banking market.



We acted as joint mandated lead arranger and joint facility agent for a USD 5.6 billion term loan facility for STAR Rafineri AS. This refinery project is Turkey's largest-ever project financing.

The STAR Rafineri project entails the construction and operation of a refinery on Turkey's west coast by Azerbaijan's national oil and gas company, SOCAR, and the State Oil Fund of Azerbaijan. SOCAR is using the facility to expand its reach beyond Azerbaijan and to assist in the development of Petkim, a petrochemical subsidiary located next to the site.



Project Finance International awarded STAR Rafineri AS with "Middle East & Africa Refinery Deal of the Year"

SFG coordinates global teams that are primarily arranging, underwriting and lending against business cash flows in sectors such as telecommunications, media and technology (TMT), healthcare and specialised support for the insurance industry. The business has a good presence in providing bank lending in the United States' 'mid-market'. In 2014 the business results were at record levels with both growth in income and reduced risk costs. Working in conjunction with colleagues in Financial Markets, we are investing in our capital market capabilities so as to further diversify and strengthen the Bank's financing offering for our clients.

Real Estate Finance

Real Estate Finance's (REF) primary activity is lending to investors in income-producing real estate backed by first mortgages. In 2014, the profitability of REF has further improved, primarily driven by a strong decrease in risk costs, reflecting improvement in the quality of the portfolio. Markets have shown increased activity since the last quarter of 2013, although growth in the Netherlands, the largest country for REF within ING, is still modest.



A EUR 750 million term loan for a major international investor to buy a portfolio of nine premium real estate assets in an exclusive Paris shopping district was a landmark transaction in the European real estate sector in 2014. ING acted as sole global coordinator, underwriter and documentation agent, as well as sole financial adviser. We also played an instrumental role as a strategic client adviser during the bidding process.

General Lending and Transaction Services

General Lending

Many of our relationships with corporate clients are anchored through our General Lending capabilities. The challenge in this area is maintaining margins and volumes within our established risk appetite while competition intensifies. This is particularly true in markets where large domestic competitor banks are actively protecting their core franchises.

Margins came under pressure in 2014 as a result of excess liquidity in loan markets, especially for the prized business of corporate clients with investment grade risk profiles. Even so, ING maintained its position as market leader in the Benelux and number one bookrunner in the syndicated loan market in Central Eastern Europe. Within the overall European syndicated loan market, our strong focus on client relationships and our broad European network footprint helped us maintain a top-10 bookrunner position.

We constantly strive to improve the client experience across products and countries, by standardisation and streamlining processes and documentation and by aligning products with client needs, market developments and regulation. Process improvements are further unlocking the potential of our international network for our clients with cross-border activities.

Transaction Services

We have been investing to grow our capabilities in selected areas in Transaction Services (TS), across International Payments & Cash Management, Trade Finance Services (TFS), Working Capital Solutions (WCS) and also Bank Mendes Gans (BMG). We seek to support our clients' core processes and daily financial operations through tailor-made, integrated solutions and advice. These activities require a strong focus on operational processing. We are developing our business platforms by deploying new technologies and through increased standardisation across borders, products and services.

We aim to take an integrated and holistic approach to developing client solutions by proactively putting them at the centre of all that we do, doing our utmost to understand how their business works and to deliver deep insights about ways in which we can add value. Our objective is to identify the clients' business drivers and needs, analyse their financial supply chains and balance sheets in order to create relevant solutions to the challenges they face and to realise new opportunities for increased efficiencies.

TFS finances, settles and mitigates risks of international trade for clients in all markets globally, but primarily in Asia, Central and Eastern Europe, Latin America, Africa and the Middle East. WCS combines ING's Supply Chain Finance and Trade Receivables activities – it is a growth area for the Commercial Bank, offering substantial opportunities for our clients to achieve efficiency benefits. From the bank's perspective, the underlying short-term and capital-efficient nature of this asset class makes it an attractive area for us to expand our activities.

BMG is a market-leading provider of specialist liquidity management solutions, including global cash-pooling and netting to multinational corporations.



Treasury Management International recognised us as:

Best Bank for Financial Supply Chain Management – Western Europe
Best Bank for Payments & Collections – Central & Eastern Europe

And *Global Finance* recognised us as:

Best Trade Finance Bank in the Netherlands
Best Treasury and Cash Management Provider in the Netherlands
Best Treasury and Cash Management Provider in Belgium
Best Supply Chain Provider in Central and Eastern Europe

TS performed well in 2014. Our achievements include a growth of WCS (with transactions undertaken for the first time for clients in Italy, Spain, Germany, Russia and Asia) and an increase in trade financing volumes with Financial Institutions. ING became a European SEPA bank in 2014 and successfully supported clients with their SEPA migration in the eurozone during the year.



Trade Receivables Purchase Programmes (TRPP) provide funding solutions by purchasing large portfolios of trade receivables. These are then structured as implied double-A-rated loans using securitisation techniques. For CMA-CGM, the third largest container-ship operator in the world, we acted as co-lender and co-arranger in a USD 880 million TRPP with a USD 175 million participation by ING. The transaction supports our client's financing structure while providing him with an attractive alternative source of funding.

Financial Markets

Financial Markets (FM) is a well-diversified business exposed to developed markets and fast-growing economies and focused on rates and currencies more than credit. FM is a client-driven business franchise. It aims to service ING's institutional, corporate and retail clients with relevant financial markets products.

Through FM we provide our clients with a gateway to global institutional markets. We offer the full range of services, from treasury through to capital markets, risk management and structured financial products across four main business lines of Emerging Markets, Developed Markets, Global Equity Products, and Global Capital Markets. We aim to be a leading market player in our home markets, maintain a presence in all major international markets and offer specialist expertise in selected emerging markets and products.

A new sales organisation introduced at the end of 2013 has created a globally consistent structure and refined our strategy with stronger emphasis on our core clients. Our focus is on being the best service provider to our defined client base within our selected markets.

We continue to develop our core franchise in large home or multi-local markets by offering a standardised but comprehensive product set based on local expertise.

During 2014, we have reduced our balance sheet usage, capital consumption and cost base but at the same time increased productivity whilst maintaining a healthy cost-income ratio.

Regulatory changes and new capital rules continue to increase the capital required to support trading businesses and dilute return on capital. As a consequence, FM constantly analyses and assesses its business profile to ensure that we achieve target levels of return.



One of the landmark deals of 2014 was NN Group as it was establishing an independent capital structure in order to prepare itself for a stand-alone future. We acted as global coordinator and bookrunner for both the Initial Public Offering (IPO) and a successful placement of a EUR 1.0 billion pre-IPO hybrid debut bond. This deal was followed by a series of successful hybrid transactions for other insurance companies such as AXA, AEGON and Atradius as well as the post-IPO NN perpetual hybrid bond, for which ING also acted as bookrunner. This transaction has positioned ING as one of the leading advisers in the insurance hybrid bond market.

Real Estate and Other

Real Estate & Other (RE&O) manages the run-off and closure of non-core activities, consisting of the residual assets of the legacy businesses sold or discontinued within the former Real Estate Development and Real Estate Investment Management operations. It also includes General Lease operations outside ING's home markets which have been placed in run-off.

RE&O continued to reduce its exposure substantially despite the ongoing challenging market. RE&O also succeeded in accelerating the wind down of several lease operations by the sale of lease portfolios. This winding-down process is now nearing completion.

Key risks and challenges

In 2014, the environment in which we operated, was challenging. There were several headwinds which influenced our business. These included the fragile economic recovery and low demand for lending in Europe which impacted our general lending as described above. Also, concerns for the future of the eurozone intensified toward the end of the year as early elections were called in Greece. The ECB's decisions to introduce negative deposit rates, renewed long-term refinance operations and, in early 2015, to embark on quantitative easing, highlight the difficulties faced by the eurozone economy. Other headwinds were the drop in oil prices and the downward pressure on the Russian economy and the declining rouble.

With regard to the latter, ING exposure in Russia is in large part to major Russian natural resource exporters. We have sought to continue support for long-term clients while reducing overall exposure.

In relation to oil price falls, most of our oil- and gas-related lending is affected to a very limited extent. The largest part by volume is short-term transactional finance for oil and gas provided to clients who do not take outright price risk. Most of the remainder is to projects with medium- or long-term offtake contracts or to investment grade companies. We have reviewed our reserve-based lending, which has exposure to oil prices, and based on the current oil price environment we see limited risk of increased loan losses.

In the payments market we see developments that impact our business and lead to an increasing disintermediation in the medium to long term. The most important are changing customer behaviour and expectations. The benchmark for service delivery is becoming more and more influenced by what non-bank players can offer due to regulatory changes and new developments in technology.

ING is responding by adapting to the new benchmarks. We will start offering merchant acquiring in more countries, enhanced with value-added services, such as forecasting and fraud reduction. We are also teaming up with external vendors to further improve the pace of innovation. In addition, we are improving our service delivery through our multi-year, multi-product transformation programme.

Putting our strategy into practice

Creating a differentiating client experience

Commercial Banking plays a key role in the new Bank strategy. The goal of creating a differentiating client experience is at the core of our transformation programme (see CB TOM). We further set out our strategic priorities on earning the primary relationship and developing analytics skills to understand our clients better.

CB TOM

Our strategic multi-year business transformation programme, the Commercial Banking Target Operating Model (TOM) started in late 2012. It aims to build a less complex bank and support our strategic priority of delivering a differentiating customer experience and best-in-class operational excellence.

Standardisation of technology plays a major part in the transformation, enabling true globalisation and integration of products. All new applications support global, multi-entity, multi-currency, location-independent business execution and processing. The programme is standardising our products and channels, harmonising our client services and improving our mobile and online capabilities, leading to cost efficiencies and a 'One Bank' way of working. Doing international business with ING is becoming less complex.

Client Service Model

As part of the transformation programme we have introduced a new Client Service Model, to harmonise the way we serve our clients. This was substantially implemented during 2014. The model ensures consistent, high-quality ING service, better tailored to client needs wherever they are in the world. It is more streamlined and more responsive.

We believe that standardised documentation will reduce administrative overheads for all parties and help to ensure reliable, timely and efficient processing.

And we are simplifying and standardising client processes; for example, by reducing the time it takes to bring new clients on board or open international accounts.

Earn the primary relationship

Our clients are at the heart of everything we do. We aim to create and sustain more primary relationships to support them in achieving their strategic goals.

Lending is the foundation for most of our relationships. We seek to step up to more lead-financing positions for many of our core clients. We can support them in realising their ambitions through our industry-lending expertise, our advisory, structuring and capital markets capabilities, and our strong network. We aim to get closer to these clients than any other bank.

We have also been investing in our flow businesses in TS and FM to place ourselves at the heart of our clients' core processes and daily financial operations.

InsideBusiness Portal

InsideBusiness Portal, ING Commercial Banking's new gateway, gives our clients a 'One Bank' online and mobile experience with easy access to a wide range of commercial banking products and services on their preferred devices including tablets and mobile phones.

The new portal has multi-country and multi-product capabilities. It includes real-time overviews, customised reporting and self-service features and is expected to be commercially launched in 2015.



Norbert Dentressangle SA (ND) is a major European transport and logistics company operating in 26 countries. Its acquisition of US logistics and transport specialist Jacobson in 2014 expanded its geographical footprint in this fast-growing market and gave significant room for further development.

ING set up a working group under our integrated client approach combining various product teams to assist ND in structuring its balance sheet, hedging and funding within the framework of this transformational acquisition.

The client appreciated the content, quality and relevance of this analysis. ING was awarded the mandate for a EUR 250 million term-loan facility. We acted as joint bookrunner and mandated lead arranger and were the sole non-French bank to be involved in the financing of the acquisition.

Develop analytics skills to understand our clients better

We are increasingly able to provide our clients with creative, targeted solutions that address the challenges they face today and those they may encounter in the future, supported by our analytics capabilities. We have launched initiatives such as the Transaction Services Solutions Group, which focuses on the analysis of clients' payments, trade and working capital requirements and established a new Commercial Banking Advanced Data Analytics team mandated to develop data analytics products (algorithms and interfaces) which enhance ING's client-driven activities.

Our investment in analytics supporting Working Capital Solutions is helping us to devise capital-efficient programmes that help our clients better understand and optimise their terms of trade. This approach is extending our understanding of our clients' financial supply chains and further helping us secure primary relationships.

We develop our analytics skills and data analytics products in close collaboration with our clients, for our clients. With respect to data confidentiality and limitation on specific data use, we take great care to ensure that activities comply with legal and ethical standards.

Driving sustainable progress in society

We accelerate sustainable transitions through ING's lending capabilities

Commercial Banking contributes to a sustainable economy because we strongly believe that sustainable business is better business. Developing a forward-thinking agenda based on sustainability is a priority for ING and is increasingly gaining importance for companies worldwide. That is why ING created a Sustainable Lending team in 2012 to promote sustainable business opportunities.

Sustainable Lending drives and promotes sustainable business opportunities within the mainstream global lending portfolio of ING by adopting an inclusive approach that applies to all industries supported by Commercial Banking. By focusing on clients who adopt best-in-class sustainable practices to prepare for the scarcity and rising costs of resources and energy, we ensure a healthy and strong portfolio and support tomorrow's economy.

Sustainable transitions financed, year-end 2014

Sustainable transitions financed represents the volume of business that ING conducts with clients and projects that satisfy the following criteria: they provide sustainable solutions and they outperform their sector on environmental and/or social performance. As of year-end 2014, total sustainable transitions financed were EUR 19.5 billion, covering business areas such as energy, real estate and transport amongst others.

Sustainable transitions financed

in EUR million	2014	2013	2012
ING Groenbank ⁽¹⁾	836	769	804
Loans to renewable energy ⁽²⁾	1,730	1,275	1,065
Loans to other projects ⁽³⁾	768	224	3
Loans to environmental outperformers ⁽⁴⁾	16,142	n/a	n/a
Total	19,476	2,268	1,872

(1) In line with Dutch Tax authority guidelines the amount of green loans on the Groenbank balance sheet is over 70 percent. For more details on ING Groenbank, please see the Retail Banking section of this report.

(2) Renewable energy 2013 and 2012 amounts are slightly changed due to a deal reclassification.

(3) Loans to other projects 2013 amount now includes carbon-efficiency projects and is based on exposure instead of outstanding amounts.

(4) Going forward, ING will report this amount to clients who have been identified as environmental outperformers based on an independent reputable data provider or internal client assessments.

Sustainable transitions financed covers several business areas of Commercial Banking that support:

- › Renewable Energy in the areas of wind, solar, geothermal, hydro and biomass
- › Low carbon transport such as public transport or significant improvement in fuel efficiency
- › Real estate which is certified for its environmental outperformance
- › Reduction of waste and greenhouse gas emissions
- › Climate change and mitigation
- › Social welfare
- › Companies which outperform their peers on environmental aspects.

In absolute terms, the renewables portfolio grew by EUR 455 million in 2014. Please see the renewables section for more details on the renewable energy portfolio.

Going forward, ING intends also to report the total amount of loans to 'environmental outperformers' in their sector to indicate our commitment to sustainability-driven clients. Implementation of this assessment process started in 2012 and as of end 2014, ING had sufficient data to report on this number, which as of year-end 2014 was EUR 16 billion. This represents 12 percent of our lending portfolio. Clients in our lending portfolio are assessed for their environmental performance in their sector either via the data provided by an independent reputable data provider (for listed clients) or ING's internal client assessment. The environmental performance differs per sector.



Real Estate Finance was the co-lead arranger in the GBP 325 million refinancing of MediaCityUK, a dedicated hub in Manchester for the BBC, ITV and 200 creative and digital industry corporate tenants. The development received the world's first Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Methodology (BREEAM) Sustainable Communities award for its sustainability standards and detailed environmental planning.



We co-financed SEK 1.28 billion for Swedish rail link owner and operator A-Train AB's recent upgrade to electric trains running entirely on green energy from renewable sources such as hydropower, wind power and biofuels.



As a major relationship bank for Jacksonville-based shipping and logistics company Crowley Maritime Corporation, ING was lead arranger of a USD 225 million term-loan facility for two state-of-the-art LNG-powered cargo vessels. The vessels will be significantly more fuel efficient and therefore reduce CO₂ emissions by 38 percent and lower sulphur and particulates by over 90 percent.

Evaluating sustainability impacts

ING has embedded sustainability assessments into its core business processes and assesses the environmental and social impact of every lending opportunity. These assessments are a mandatory part of our Know Your Client (KYC) procedures as well as deal approval processes.

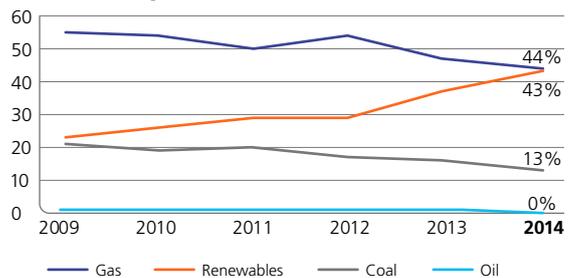
In recognition of this effort, the United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative's (UNEP FI) Banking Commission has invited ING to hold a position on their board. In this position, ING will co-lead the Positive Impact workstream which aims to inspire and stimulate banks to actively grow the transactions that contribute to a sustainable economy and have positive impact. By sharing ING's approach we strive to define industry-wide best practices.

ING also figures prominently, through its Energy & Carbon Efficiency Finance team, in the Energy Efficiency Financial Institutions Group (EEFIG). The European Commission and UNEP FI convened this working group in late 2013. EEFIG is tackling the challenge of sourcing finance for energy efficiency measures at the volumes required to achieve the EU's climate and energy policy goals.

A growing portfolio in renewables

We are supporting our key clients in the utilities sector in their strategic transition towards a lower carbon footprint. In 2014, we financed wind, solar, hydro and geothermal energy projects worldwide.

Structured finance utilities, power and renewables portfolio evolution ⁽¹⁾



(1) Due to a deal reclassification, numbers reported previously have been slightly changed.

In 2014, the share of renewables (wind, solar, geothermal, hydro and biomass) among the electricity-generating projects in the Structured Finance Power portfolio grew from 37 percent in 2013 to 43 percent. This continues a trend of a gradual increase of the proportion of renewable electricity-generating projects which saw it rise from 23 percent in 2009 to the current level. Continuing the downward trend of recent years, the share of coal-fired assets has almost halved over the past five years, from 21 percent in 2009 to 13 percent in 2014.



The 144MW Westermeerwind windfarm is a landmark transaction in the Netherlands, enjoying strong support from the Dutch government. The wind farm will be built in the IJsselmeer and it is estimated that it will provide sustainable energy to 160,000 Dutch households. ING acted as the structuring bank, mandated lead arranger, bridge loan provider, junior debt provider, agent, underwriter and hedging bank for the EUR 320 million term loan.



We also financed the largest wind farm in the Philippines. When operational in 2015 the 150MW Burgos wind farm project will reduce some 200,000 tonnes of carbon annually – the equivalent of removing all cars from London for 10 days – and generate enough electricity to power over a million households. ING acted as the joint mandated lead arranger of a credit facility for EDC.



Project Finance International awarded Burgos with “Asia Pacific Renewable Deal of the Year”. It was also recognised by *Global Trade Review* with “Best Deal of 2014”.



We entered the fast-developing wind-power market in Brazil with financing for Volatalia Energia do Brazil for three 30MW wind farms in one of the world’s best wind resource locations. ING acted as a joint guarantor for the issue of a guarantee for the company.



We also participated in the financing for the world’s largest single contract geothermal project. Sarulla Operations Limited will deliver 320MW of clean, sustainable, reliable electricity to the Indonesian market. The plant is also expected to make a significant contribution towards Indonesia’s goal of increasing its share of renewable energy to around 23 percent of its total portfolio by 2025, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 26 percent by 2020. ING acted as a co-mandated lead arranger for a USD 1.17 billion term loan.



Project Finance International awarded Sarulla with “Asia Pacific Power Deal of the Year”

Recent developments

ING has signed up for the Green Bond Principles which were launched this year. Green Bonds are corporate bonds where proceeds can only be used for financing sustainable projects.

Increasingly, clients are approaching ING to develop financial solutions that meet sustainability challenges. They want to implement energy efficiency measures or develop circular business models that integrate reducing, reusing and recycling measures.

Measuring client satisfaction

We conduct regular surveys to assess client satisfaction. The Net Promoter Score (NPS) methodology uses direct client feedback to measure client loyalty. The NPS methodology highlights the drivers underpinning client recommendations, any areas of dissatisfaction and, where applicable, what we need to do to turn ‘passives’ and ‘detractors’ into ING supporters and promoters.

Through NPS we are able to learn what is important to our clients. This provides useful input to our transformation programme. It allows us to identify issues and forms a basis for strategic and client-specific improvements in products and services.

For instance, feedback highlighting the many ING entry points and the variation in service levels across products and locations has led to the creation of the CB Client Service Model. We also assess clients’ satisfaction with our overall relationship, the advice they receive and their direct contacts at ING. NPS is live in four countries and we are expanding roll-out of the approach in Europe and the US. Through this we measure the feedback of clients on a continuous basis during the year. A similar methodology is used to gather internal feedback and suggestions to continuously improve our processes and procedures.

We are striving to challenge the status quo and constantly seek new ways to deliver on our promise.

Financial results

Commercial Banking posted a good set of results on the back of very strong Industry Lending performance, good volume growth, and despite negative CVA/DVA impacts and additional redundancy provisions. The underlying result before tax was EUR 1,997 million, 7.5 percent lower than in 2013, but up 12.9 percent excluding these two items in both years.

Net lending assets, adjusted for currency impacts, increased by EUR 6.3 billion in 2014, mainly due to strong growth in Structured Finance and Transaction Services, while the volumes in Real Estate Finance and the Lease run-off portfolio declined. Net funds entrusted decreased by EUR 2.3 billion in 2014.

Industry Lending posted an underlying result before tax of EUR 1,252 million, up 36.5 percent compared with 2013. This increase was mainly caused by lower risk costs in Real Estate Finance, and higher income in Structured Finance due to strong volume growth. This was partly offset by lower income from Real Estate Finance due to a downsizing of the portfolio. General Lending & Transaction Services’ underlying result before tax declined by 6.3 percent to EUR 474 million, due to higher risk costs, while income and expenses remained flat.

Financial Markets recorded an underlying result before tax of EUR 106 million, down from EUR 584 million in 2013, mainly reflecting a negative swing in CVA/DVA impacts (EUR -216 million in 2014 versus EUR 173 million in 2013). Excluding these impacts, the result was EUR 322 million versus EUR 411 million in 2013. The underlying result of Bank Treasury, Real Estate & Other was EUR 165 million, including EUR 50 million of redundancy provisions taken in the fourth quarter of 2014. Compared with 2013, the result before tax rose by 7.8 percent, mainly due to lower losses in the run-off businesses.

Underlying income excluding CVA/DVA impacts declined by 1.8 percent compared with 2013, mainly in the run-off businesses and Financial Markets, but was higher in Industry Lending supported by the strong performance in Structured Finance. Operating expenses increased 1.8 percent to EUR 2,430 million in 2014, mainly due to EUR 50 million of additional redundancy provisions taken in the fourth quarter (of which EUR 11 million was for the further digitalisation of our banking services in the Netherlands and EUR 39 million for the ongoing transformation programmes in Commercial Banking). The restructuring programmes are on track to realise EUR 340 million of annual cost savings by 2017; of this amount EUR 203 million has been realised so far.

Risk costs declined to EUR 500 million (or 37 basis points of average risk-weighted assets) from EUR 867 million in 2013. The decrease was mainly visible in Real Estate Finance and – to a lesser extent – the lease run-off business, while risk costs were up in General Lending.

Conclusion

2014 was a good year for Commercial Banking. We performed well and are executing on the strategic priorities of the Bank.

We made steady progress in adapting our business to meet changing regulatory, market and client demands and adding value for all stakeholders. As a result, we now have a robust, efficient, effective business model, winning awards which underline our strengths and supporting the bank strategy.

Products, services and procedures have been harmonised and simplified to further improve the client experience. Together with an integrated solution offering, we have made good progress in differentiating ourselves as the European network bank of choice.

Sustainability is part of how we do business. In 2014, environmental and social risk assessments were further embedded in core processes. ING is committed to dedicating more resources that give Commercial Banking teams the capacity to explore market developments in sustainability and support their clients to fulfil their sustainability agendas.

We are moving forward by combining the financial strength that sets us apart from our peers with a superior banking experience that makes a real difference for our clients.

People

Our employees make the difference for our customers. That's why a strong performance culture is a key enabler for our strategic goals. We empower our employees, provide them with the tools they need and encourage them to act on their own initiative and put customers first. With Performance Culture being one of our key strategic enablers, our people-related activities will remain a key priority.

Our areas of focus include:

- › Developing a performance culture
- › Developing Orange leaders that make the difference
- › Effective performance management
- › Attracting, retaining and motivating our employees
- › Talent management and job rotation
- › Work/life balance
- › Employee engagement
- › Fair remuneration
- › Diversity.

📖 Sustainability Annex 2014 – People chapter for more information.

Developing a performance culture

ING stimulates a performance culture, giving employees scope to make their own decisions in an environment where we encourage sharing of successes, working together and getting ahead. We combine this with clear roles and accountability. We believe this combination generates increased levels of business, more satisfied customers and enhanced economic performance.

We foster a collaborative and innovative culture. We make it easy for employees to engage with senior management, and we reward innovative thinking.

Shared global behaviours backed by strong values are critical to the performance culture we aim to build. But that culture should not be monolithic. Embracing difference is equally important both to reflect human diversity and to ensure we connect with our customers at the local level. We also encourage employees to grow and give back to society. A corporate culture that embraces difference is part of this process.

Global behaviours and values

With a new strategy and a changing external environment, we started a programme in 2014 to determine the values and behaviours we need to achieve our business goals and bring about a consistent way of working ING-wide.

To create a set of behaviours that fully resonate with employees we asked their opinions. We reached out to our employees worldwide and invited them to play a role. Around 13,000 employees from across the globe participated and this data was combined with the outcomes of workshops involving more than 1,000 senior managers.

The values and behaviours were launched to all employees in early 2015.

Developing Orange leaders that make a difference

A strong culture needs engaging and convincing leaders. True Orange leaders are clear about what they expect from their people. They energise their teams and empower them to deliver on our promises to customers and other stakeholders. We equip them to promote agility, innovation and the ING way.

In 2014, we delivered 14 senior banking programmes for the 330 top leaders. These programmes gave our leaders the holistic perspective of the bank and more insight into:

- › Our strategy and how value is created within a bank.
- › The key value drivers of Retail Banking and Commercial Banking.
- › How collaboration across functions and business units drives performance.
- › How to empathise, engage, inspire and align others through leadership behaviour.

These programmes were well received by the participants. As a result, we are going to update the programme and plan to roll it out in the countries to the next level of leaders, reporting to the 330 senior bankers.

We have also developed our functional leaders with the help of the IT Business Leadership Academy and Finance Leadership Academy programmes.

For 2015, we are working on a new Leadership Roadmap – an integrated global solution providing vision, principles and a framework to empower leaders to enact the Think Forward strategy. One of the key challenges is to align all the HR processes, including Recruitment, Talent Management, Performance Management and Leadership Development. We will also develop a Flagship Leadership Development programme to accelerate the development of ING's top leaders and renew the ING International Talent Programme.

Effective performance management

Effective performance management supports and enables our employees and helps them align their own performance with that of the company. All employees are enrolled in performance management processes which encompass a formal planning, mid-year review and year-end assessment. We offer coaching which can help employees further develop professionally and personally.

In 2014, we refreshed and simplified our performance management systems to help focus the energies of employees on our key strategies and also meet the needs of our regulatory environment.

In 2015, we plan to extend coverage to more employees and incorporate our new global behaviours into our performance criteria. In that way we will be able to monitor the attributes that drive value-adding performance throughout the company.

Steer your Career

Operating in an ever-changing environment with higher retirement age and less job security, there is a growing need to address future skills requirements, as well as help individuals take responsibility for their own career development.

Steer your Career aims to inspire and empower our employees to discover, develop and deploy their talents – good for our employees, customers and ING.

This Dutch programme is facilitated by an online intranet platform where employees can quickly and easily access the tools and advice available. Supported by an award-winning communication strategy, the programme offers a number of development tools including assessments, tests and competency training, a career call centre, coaching, career plan, specialist programmes and management schemes.

Around a third of employees based in the Netherlands had benefited from the programme up until 2014.

Attracting, retaining and motivating our employees

We take a long-term view when it comes to developing and improving the skills and competencies of our employees. We use among others learning and talent management to develop our people.

We are stepping up our various training and development activities but are also increasing the expectations we have on our staff to take responsibility and to actively work on their own competencies and skills. We invest in our employees and expect them to play an active role. The Steer your Career programme introduced in the Netherlands is one good example of this approach.

In 2014, we invested around EUR 57 million in learning and development for our employees. New approaches to learning are becoming more commonplace at ING. More than 70 percent of all learning is now done outside traditional channels, for example, e-learning.

We have launched a programme for standardising quality measurement of learning initiatives. In 2014, 25 percent of the learning volume was measured in a consistent way. We want this to increase to better understand where investing in learning and training really contributes to the performance of employees within ING.

The banking industry and society are changing rapidly. As a result of the further digitisation of ING's banking services, we regretfully had to announce that ING's workforce in the Netherlands is to be reduced by around 1,700 FTEs over the years 2015 to 2017. In such situations all employees are entitled to training and development to adjust to the restructuring, and where necessary to help them find their next position.

In all cases, we are committed to equipping our employees so they are able to make a valuable contribution inside or outside ING. The "Todos para Uno" programme in Spain is a good example of this.

Todos para Uno

Unemployment is one of the greatest challenges Spain faces. At ING we are committed to contributing to society.

We have a huge amount of knowledge and expertise within our organisation, an asset well worth sharing. Todos para Uno (All for One) is an initiative promoted by the training area of ING Spain's Human Resources Department. It aims to train the unemployed, by helping them refresh their knowledge and professional skills, so that they can look for a job with renewed confidence and enthusiasm.

Our courses, led by ING employees, are oriented towards building skills, technical knowledge and personal development. By year-end 2014 nearly 1,200 individuals had benefited from these courses.

In its first year (September 2013), the initiative focused on the relatives and friends of our professionals, who were seeking employment. A second edition (March/April 2014) was then organised for our unemployed customers, and their unemployed relatives and friends. In the third edition (November 2014), we added new cities and the initiative now covers Barcelona and Valencia, in addition to Madrid.

Talent management and job rotation

Our global talent sharing initiative, the ING International Talent Programme (IITP) ensures we have the right types of talent in the right numbers to meet ING's future leadership needs. In 2014, we recruited 104 trainees to this programme (40 females and 64 males) from 10 different countries.

This challenging programme was the subject of a major content change in 2014. It demands outstanding performance and clear personal commitment from participants. Nearly 80 percent of these recruits remain with ING for at least five years after graduating.

Job rotation and short-term assignments increase employees' understanding of ING, optimise learning on the job and grow networks and knowledge sharing. International and national short-term assignments up to 18 months increased by 29 percent compared to 2013. We also facilitate job swaps within the organisation.

Work/life balance

We recognise that the changes within and outside ING place more pressure on our workforce. We encourage a proper work/life balance, which we believe benefits job satisfaction and performance. We have introduced a range of initiatives including allowing part-time working/sabbaticals, the Energy@ING programme, making it possible to work from home and support with managing stress.

Local country HR units organise their own priorities based on local context and needs. However, in countries where labour laws are weaker, our Human Rights policy, developed according to the International Labour Organisation convention, applies.

Employee engagement

A yearly employee engagement survey looks at how engaged, enabled and energised our employees feel. The 2014 Sustainable Engagement score was 75 percent (2013: 74 percent).

The 2014 results show a positive development in the level of engagement with increased trust and better understanding among our employees of how their efforts contribute to the strategy. Employees are more confident about ING's long-term future and the impact we have in the market.

The results also demonstrated that the customer continues to be top of mind. However, efficient work processes remain a challenge; teamwork and efficiency, both key drivers for enablement, scored less well. It is therefore good that we have stepped up our efforts in 2014 to simplify and streamline the organisation and its processes and to enhance operational excellence.

📖 Our strategy and progress chapter for more information.

Fair remuneration

The primary objective of our remuneration policy is to retain and recruit highly qualified employees and new talent. We do not discriminate based on age, gender or cultural background. We also respect all regulatory rules that affect the level of compensation.

Financial compensation is not the only factor making ING an attractive employer. As mentioned previously, our organisational culture, development possibilities, opportunities for international mobility and other benefits are frequently cited as important factors for employees.

Diversity

At ING, more than 53,000 minds from all backgrounds, ethnicities and genders unite behind one purpose and one way of working.

Our approach to inclusiveness drives diversity, creative collaboration and empowerment – the very essence of our ING strategy. We believe the composition of our workforce should reflect society and our customers. We become a stronger, more resilient organisation by accommodating diverse talents, beliefs and perceptions in the workplace.

However, as with many financial sector organisations, diversity is a challenge. It is something we take very seriously. We work hard to improve diversity through training, networking and mentoring programmes, and by strengthening our leadership pipeline.

We are reviewing our current leadership programmes and tailoring these to be much more integrated with our values, behaviours and diversity principles as well as ensuring a direct link to our customer promise. Other initiatives in 2014 included:

- › The European Works Council established a diversity taskforce, which supported the Global Diversity Council in developing a proposal for improving work/life balance.
- › Improving the pipeline of women in the ING Graduate Programme.

We also have different networks within ING where diversity is stimulated in which we encourage our employees to participate. Examples of these networks are:

- › Crossing; an ING employee network focused on cultural diversity and aiming to bring about more cultural diversity within ING.
- › Lioness; a community for ING women who want to realise their personal ambitions. The aim is to strengthen female talent and to make that talent visible to the rest of the organisation.

Innovation and information technology

Increasing the pace of innovation is a strategic priority for ING. We are building a rapid innovation culture supported by modular, customer-centric technologies and agile development methodologies.

Building a culture of innovation

ING has transformed the banking industry before with its disruptive ING Direct model. It seeks to do so again. There is renewed focus on building a culture of innovation throughout the bank.

Agile, innovative organisations encourage experimentation, reward successes and learn from failures. ING's Innovation Fund (see box) supports employee-generated ideas. We also recognise that innovation requires continuous management attention.

Into the Lions' Den: the ING Innovation Fund

In support of our ambition to accelerate innovation, we launched a EUR 25 million Innovation Fund in late 2013. The fund favours projects which enhance customer experience and have multi-country relevance.

At ING's first Innovation Day in May 2014, ING employees submitted over 700 ideas. Seven finalists competed for seed funding and prizes in a Lions' Den event held in November 2014. The judges deemed all seven worthy of funding, and the multi-disciplinary pitch teams are now busy developing their ideas into working prototypes.

Implementation funding is allocated to concepts developed in ING's various business units. In 2014, nine projects received funding. They included the international rollout of online customer communities based on ING France's Web Café, and innovative payment solutions that combine transactional capabilities with value-added services for shoppers in the pre- and post-purchase phases of the experience.

Inspiring the leadership team

In April 2014 the Management Board Banking (MBB) visited Silicon Valley, USA, to learn about technology trends and innovative organisations. They spent time at the Singularity University (SU), whose mission is to apply exponentially accelerating technologies such as biotech, robotics and artificial intelligence to solve humanity's grand challenges. Later in the year, ING's Leadership Council attended the SU's first European Summit in Amsterdam.

Our senior leadership gained insights into the opportunities offered by exponential technologies, and will be applying this knowledge to help deliver on our purpose of empowering people to stay a step ahead in life and in business.

The ING Way

In July 2014, we appointed a chief innovation officer (CInO), who is introducing a new framework for innovation across the Bank. 'The ING Way' is based on a disciplined and replicable methodology for converting ideas to implementation. Local innovation in business units is shared and replicated. Knowledge-sharing frameworks and tools encourage co-creation between countries. A centralised customer experience centre facilitates low-cost experimentation and manages key innovation projects.

Empowering people with information technology

Our IT infrastructure underpins ING's efforts to create a differentiating customer experience. IT is a critical component for the Think Forward strategy. It develops operational excellence and simplifies and streamlines the bank. It facilitates an increased pace of innovation, and helps ING live up to its Customer Promise by delivering reliable and secure solutions that are available anytime, anywhere and in a clear and easy way.

Becoming the next generation digital bank

A chief operations officer (COO) was appointed to the MBB in May to steer our IT and operational excellence initiatives. Several of such initiatives are in progress, focused on transforming ING into the next generation digital bank.

These initiatives aim to deliver reliable and modern banking systems that utilise easy and uniform processes and are supported by bank-wide information management.

The Power of IT

The move towards digital-first service delivery (with mobile as the key distribution channel) needs to deliver more agile ways of working, increased replication and collaboration, flexible and modular architectures and a high-performing workforce.

The Power of IT strategy, launched in 2013, supports the bank's Think Forward strategy. We help to create a differentiated customer experience by delivering systems and applications that are customer-centric, reliable and secure. Efficiency, agility and collaborative communities are the enablers, facilitating delivery. We made considerable progress in executing our strategy during 2014.

The private cloud

In 2014, we began the development of a private cloud infrastructure for ING. First implemented in ING Australia, our zero-touch private cloud will deliver digitised, automated processes for deploying IT infrastructure and standardised services worldwide. In November, 750 developers from all ING countries used a preliminary version of our private cloud services for the first time at ING's global 'hackathon' event.

The new private cloud is being prepared for implementation in the Netherlands during 2015, after which a global roll out will be planned. Cloud computing should radically simplify and streamline the bank. It is intended to increase the availability and reliability of crucial IT services, and to make an important contribution to the agility, efficiency and customer-centricity pillars of our IT strategy.

Collaboration and standardisation

ING's Common application programming interface (API) was also in use at the hackathon. This is a set of standardised APIs that allow the different ING businesses to easily re-use internally developed applications. The Common API supports a more flexible, modular IT architecture and facilitates increased collaboration and standardisation. We believe it will greatly increase our efficiency and reduce implementation times. We also promote collaboration through the OrangeSharing platform, where internal communities work together in virtual teams, sharing programming code, expertise and best practice.

Increased agility

We continued the roll out of the Agile development methodology to all business units. The Agile approach greatly reduces IT delivery times by focusing on the rapid development of working prototypes, and allows ING to respond quickly to new customer expectations or changing market conditions. Agile also supports continuous delivery of IT services. Customer feedback can be rapidly incorporated into new software releases. We are able to co-create functionalities and services with customers, increasing satisfaction and loyalty.

Security, cybercrime and advanced analytics

Limiting the complex and constant threat of cybercrime requires a holistic approach which combines prevention with detection and rapid response. In 2014, we executed the CyberCrime Resilience Programme, to increase our resilience against so called distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) attacks, Advanced Persistent Threats and e-fraud. The advanced analytics capabilities that we are building to better understand and service our customers also play a key role in combatting criminal activity. Pattern recognition and advanced algorithms help in predicting, and therefore preventing, fraudulent activity, as well as supporting faster detection. Customer data security is of paramount importance to us, and we continue to invest in state-of-the-art security capabilities.

The Concept of One

Our vision is of one global IT community, where engineers across ING share a common workspace, supported by easy-to-use tools and processes that facilitate international collaboration and promote replication of best practices: the Concept of One.

We have therefore introduced three drivers to stimulate strategy execution:

1. Simplified and standardised technology
2. Agile and automated processes
3. High-performing workforce of skilled engineers

In the coming years the Concept of One will provide extra guidance in realising ING's IT strategy.

Improving reliability

We made significant progress in 2014, but certain IT challenges still need to be addressed. For example, online banking service outages in the Netherlands need to be eliminated, and the real-time processes necessary for delivering an omnichannel customer experience will likely lead to stability challenges. To improve the reliability of online banking services for customers in the Netherlands and Belgium, a team of cross-domain IT managers has been mandated to focus exclusively on realising a significant improvement in the stability of our systems. A detailed plan of approach will be delivered in early 2015, whereafter the necessary improvements will be implemented.

Genoma: upgrading the DNA of ING Direct Spain

Genoma is a multi-year transformative project that supports ING Spain's strategy of delivering a differentiating customer experience by moving from 'reporting' (past transactions) to 'helping' (empowering customers to make smart financial decisions).

The information technology architecture of the bank has been rebuilt from the ground up. ING Spain uses APIs to be able to easily plug in new tools and services developed in-house or by third-party partners. An intuitive, graphical interface – optimised for the user's device – delivers a personal financial management service that helps customers better manage their money.

All digital banking processes adopt a mobile-first philosophy, resulting in clear and easy products and services that are available anytime, anywhere. Genoma was launched for ING Direct Spain customers in July.

Through ING's focused approach to knowledge sharing, Genoma is being applied to other retail banking business units. Poland, Italy and Australia are developing and implementing Genoma-like next-generation digital customer interfaces, while other business units are closely monitoring the project and applying lessons learnt.

Risk and capital management

Like all banks, ING is an organisation with both financial and non-financial exposures. Meeting our strategic and financial objectives relies on an integrated approach to risk and capital management. Our risk management and capital management frameworks and procedures are designed to maintain financial stability for our customers, shareholders and other stakeholders in line with ING's Think Forward strategy.

As a financial intermediary, ING is in the transformation business. We empower our customers by structuring products and financial services to meet their requirements. To achieve that, we transform: in our retail business, for example, we accept savings, which are generally short-term and provide long-dated mortgage loans; through our payments and cash management services we enable customers to have access to their money when and where they need it.

Monitoring and managing risk is at the heart of the business. Strong and integrated risk management is essential for sustainable value creation both in day-to-day business activities and for strategic planning.

A strong capital base is fundamental. ING prioritises capital adequacy at all levels of the organisation as a key driver of sustainable value creation. ING Group's restructuring, now in its final phase, adds further financial flexibility and financial safety for all

stakeholders. ING Group has emerged from it with a strong capital base to protect customers and contribute to a sustainable financial environment.

A comprehensive framework for risk management

Risk management is a vital business attribute. The key objective of risk management at ING is to make sure that all risks are managed in the best possible way for all stakeholders. Risk management is deeply embedded into our culture, our people and our behaviour.

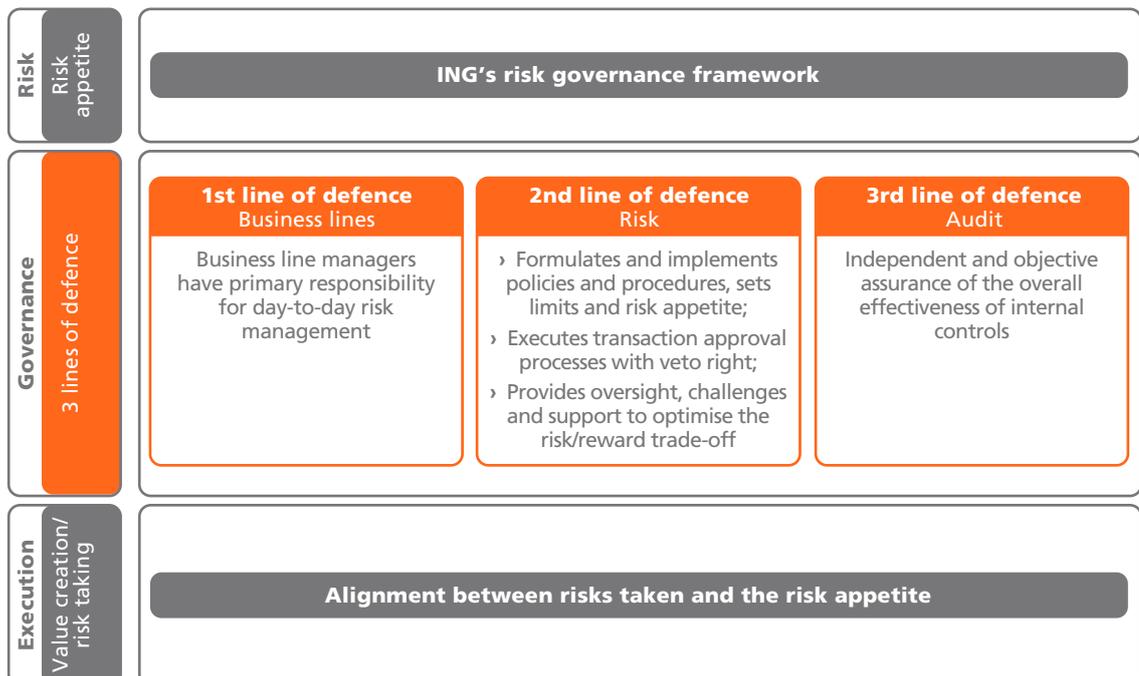
Deep understanding of the relevant risks, our exposure to them and the effectiveness of our controls for mitigating those risks are essential for our success. We have built a strong risk culture. We have a clearly defined risk appetite supported by an effective risk governance framework, which endorses and enforces appropriate behaviours and enables the Bank to operate in a safe and sound manner, with integrity and in compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

Three lines of defence

ING's governance framework establishes three lines of defence to manage risk effectively.

Commercial departments have primary responsibility for day-to-day risk management. For example, they originate loans, deposits and wealth management products to help our customers manage their financial future. They know our customers well and are best placed to act in their interests and those of ING.

The second line of defence ensures that risks are actively and appropriately managed. The Chief Risk Officer (CRO) coordinates risk management centrally to evaluate and manage exposure on a bank-wide basis.



The CRO is also part of the bank's Board, which ensures risk is a continuing topic for the leadership team. The CRO steers a functional, independent risk organisation, which supports commercial departments and acts where necessary to keep the risk profile within the defined risk appetite.

Corporate audit is the bank's third line of defence. This provides an independent and objective assessment of the functional effectiveness of the first two lines.

Managing risks

Effective risk management continuously works on creating the right balance between mitigating the potential impact of unexpected events and creating value. Within ING Bank we continually challenge our understanding, measurement, and management of risk. We combine advanced technology and common sense to further strengthen our strategy while retaining the trust of our stakeholders. This is even more important in today's competitive environment.

ING's robust risk appetite framework monitors a range of risk metrics to restrict the impact of adverse markets and events on ING's capital and liquidity position. ING also conducts bank-wide and portfolio-specific stress tests to assess resilience in specific market conditions. Given the continuously changing environment, underlying assumptions and relevant metrics are regularly reviewed.



2014 developments

Despite some signs of recovery, the uncertainty in the macroeconomic environment persisted through 2014. Against this background, ING's balance sheet showed its resilience.

Active risk management and balance sheet optimisation have enhanced ING's resilience. The IPO of NN Group and further reductions in our shareholding in Voya Financial, Inc as well as SulAmérica have reduced our insurance industry exposure.

The conflict in the Ukraine, sanctions against Russia and declining energy prices are leading to deteriorating

economic situations in both countries. ING actively monitors and manages the exposures in both countries, while we have sought to continue support for long-term clients. At the end of 2014, ING Bank's exposure to Russia was EUR 7.0 billion. In the last six months, the exposure was reduced by EUR 2.1 billion at constant FX rates.

The Bank continued to transform the debt securities portfolio into a liquidity book as part of the strategy to optimise the balance sheet.

Despite a gradual improvement in the Dutch economy, economic uncertainty continued. ING Bank's non-performing loans increased to 3.0% which represents EUR 16.9 billion lending outstanding. The addition to the provision for loan losses decreased by 30% year-on-year to EUR 1,594 million. This combined with higher write-offs resulted in a decline of ING Bank's stock of provisions to EUR 6.0 billion at the end of 2014. ING Bank's overall provision coverage ratio defined as the stock of provisions divided by the non-performing loans, decreased to 35.5%, from 38.6% at year-end 2013.

The Bank improved its funding profile with growth in funds entrusted of EUR 16.8 billion. It also maintained its liquidity position well above regulatory and internal targets. Full-year 2014 long-term debt issuance totalled EUR 13.9 billion. This is compared with EUR 25.7 billion in 2013 and is lower due to a slowdown in asset growth.

ING Bank's loan-to-deposit ratio, excluding securities that are recorded at amortised costs, remained stable in 2014 at 1.04.

Managing non-financial risks

Non-financial risk issues can seriously impact the functioning of our different businesses and expose the bank to significant reputational and financial damage. These issues differ for each business activity and require tailored approaches to counter them. ING, for example, monitors possible new fraud methods and money laundering practices that can emerge following the introduction of new retail payment methods and products, and continues to expand anti-fraud and sanction risk assessment programmes in our lending acceptance processes. The proper management of our exposure to corruption risk is also receiving increased attention. We constantly strengthen our compliance-related methodologies and procedures as a result of lessons learned from external events, such as the manipulation of financial benchmarks.

We believe that technology and innovation will play a crucial role in the future of banking in general, and in ING's strategy in particular. The growth of electronic distribution and communication channels has increased the speed and convenience for our customers in conducting their banking business with us. Customer demand for banking services anytime and anywhere changes the way customers interact with the bank. We are committed to delivering convenience without compromising security. ING continues to implement and improve comprehensive prevention, detection and responsive measures to defend customers, information and systems against cyber attacks.

Adapting to regulatory changes

ING closely monitors developments in financial regulation and accounting standards. It acts to ensure the Group is able to incorporate changes with minimal disruption.

CRR/CRD IV

On 1 January 2014, Basel III and, within the EU, CRR/CRD IV came into force. With the adoption of the Capital Requirements Directive IV (CRR/CRD IV), new capital, liquidity and leverage rules apply to EU-based banks. The European Banking Authority (EBA) has published technical standards for the implementation of most of the rules. A phased implementation is planned, with full implementation by 1 January 2019.

As a Global Systemically Important Financial Institution (G-SIFI), ING Bank is subject to additional regulatory constraints. The precise impact of these rules and any additional requirements for SIFIs or G-SIFIs will depend on how the CRD IV Directive is transposed into national laws, in particular the extent to which national regulators and supervisors can set more stringent limits and additional capital requirements or surcharges.

Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive

On 6 May 2014, the Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive (BRRD) was formally adopted, with implementation effective from 1 January 2015.

The BRRD provides rules on insolvency proceedings in the case of failing banks with the aim of safeguarding financial stability and preventing public funding of losses. To comply with the new rules, banks across the EU will have to develop harmonised recovery plans, cooperate with resolution authorities and make necessary changes to capital holdings, business activities, legal and operating structures.

ING Bank already has a detailed Recovery Plan in place. This is continuously updated under the supervision of the regulators to ensure it remains aligned. We diligently share information with the Dutch Resolution Authority to provide the basis for the development of our Resolution Plan. The EBA has published various technical standards to harmonise plans across Europe. ING Bank is now working to further align the structure and content of its Recovery and Resolution Plans with European regulation.

Single Supervisory Mechanism

On 4 November 2014, under the Single Supervisory Mechanism (SSM), the European Central Bank (ECB) assumed full responsibility for banking supervision in eurozone countries. Prior to that, the ECB and the EBA carried out a comprehensive assessment including an asset quality review (AQR) and stress tests.

The strong capital position and resilient balance sheet of the Bank allowed us to pass AQR and stress tests with comparative ease. These clear results are a confirmation of ING's prudent management approach. Subsequently, ING finalised the repayment of a final tranche of core Tier 1 securities to the Dutch State ahead of schedule, as described below.

In the AQR exercise, the ECB – based on its own, non-IFRS methodology – concluded that ING Bank has no capital deficit. Our adjusted CET1 ratio was revised down by 29 basis points to 10.1% as of 31 December 2013. This is well above the threshold CET1 ratio of 8%. ING Bank's 10.4% starting CET1 ratio for this exercise was lower than its 31 December 2013 reported CET1 ratio of 11.7%. This was largely due to the agreement to separate the Dutch pension fund from ING and the implementation of CRR/CRD IV.

In the stress test that followed the AQR exercise, participating banks were tested against a baseline and an adverse scenario based on the EBA common methodology and assumptions. Using the starting point of the AQR adjusted CET1 ratio of 10.1%, ING Bank's CET1 ratio would increase to 10.4% in the baseline scenario and decrease to 8.7% in the adverse scenario. Both are comfortably above the threshold CET1 ratios of 8% and 5.5% respectively for the scenarios in this exercise.

Environmental and social risk management

ING makes a positive contribution to global economic growth and development by promoting responsible lending and investment practices. ING monitors these developments very closely to anticipate all appropriate actions. Furthermore the assessment and management of environmental and social risks (ESR) falls under the scope of the OECD and other regulatory bodies and is applicable to all multinational enterprises. We also observe that in some countries ESR management is already part of central bank regulation.

ING has a robust ESR framework that is integrated into its overall risk management methodology. In an evolving regulatory context that is increasingly including environmental and social risks, having an established and integrated ESR framework is a source of competitive advantage.

ING's ESR framework applies globally. Nonetheless, the ESR assessment process specifically focuses on corporate clients (approx. 30% of ING Bank's assets), and as such clients often have more significant environmental and social impacts. Through the ongoing dialogue with our corporate clients, we aim to support them in managing their environmental and social impacts in accordance with internationally recognised environmental and social standards and good practice.

The ESR framework also supports ING's objective of maintaining a more sustainable portfolio. In 2014, the dedicated ESR team issued more than 200 advices itemising specific areas of attention and improvements in transactions ING financed. The execution of these improvements by our clients actively stimulates the transition towards a more sustainable economy.

 Sustainability Annex – Environmental and social risk management.

ESR matrix: Transaction risk versus client risk mitigation

		Client risk mitigation			
		Above industry standards	Industry standards	Below industry standards	Deficient
Transaction risk profile	Low	ESR low risk	ESR low risk	ESR medium risk	Unacceptable risk ⁽¹⁾
	High	ESR medium risk	ESR high risk	ESR high risk	Unacceptable risk ⁽¹⁾
	Unacceptable	Unacceptable risk ⁽¹⁾	Unacceptable risk ⁽¹⁾	Unacceptable risk ⁽¹⁾	Unacceptable risk ⁽¹⁾

(1) "Unacceptable risk" applies to a limited number of clients and/or transactions.

ESR assessment is integrated into the risk management framework

ESR assessment is an integral part of ING's risk management framework and hence follows the 'three lines of defence' governance model for risk management. ING strengthened integration in 2014 by incorporating systematic and automated ESR assessments into mainstream data systems for client information and lending data.

A systematic and automated ESR assessment process improves the consistency and accessibility of information throughout the organisation. For our clients, automation provides a more transparent and streamlined assessment process within existing Know Your Customer procedures.

In the medium term, this data will allow ING to assess each corporate client's environmental and sustainability performance and ESR exposure in specific sectors. This will improve our ability to manage ESR risks for individual clients and transactions – irrespective of the product or service ING offers – and improve strategic decision making in sectors that, for example, are more exposed to fossil fuels or have poor labour and safety standards through their supply chain.

The table above illustrates the ESR matrix for clients and transactions with relevant ESR ratings. The aggregation of these ratings is the basis of ING's ESR portfolio management.

In 2014, ING's Board approved a new ESR policy on coal-fired power and coal mining. This new policy sets greenhouse gas emissions thresholds for project and asset specific financings in the coal sector that are realistic and achievable in today's marketplace. The policy covers both specific purpose and corporate lending facilities, and helps support our energy clients' transition to a lower carbon footprint. New restrictions on financing the controversial mountain-top removal mining practice in the US Appalachia have also been introduced.

Developing best practice

Beyond stimulating higher environmental and social performance of our portfolio, ING actively collaborates with other institutions and regulators to address environmental challenges that are specific to the sector and not just a client. ING is an Equator Principles (EP) financial institution and applies this common risk management framework for environmental and social risks in project financing. As an EP Steering Committee member and Chair until May 2014, we also have an active role in promoting EP, and several financial institutions adopted this risk framework during ING's chairmanship.

ING also participates in the Thun Group of Banks which pursues the application of how UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprise (which include specific chapters on Environmental Management and Human Rights) can be applied in the banking sector.

☞ A comprehensive chapter on ING's risk management practices is part of the consolidated annual accounts of this Annual Report.

A consistent approach to capital management

ING Group's overall approach to capital management is to make sure all capital levels are adequate, but also to challenge them constantly to ensure optimal use of capital. ING Group optimises and manages capital at the Group level as well as at the Bank level. ING Bank manages its capital within its different entities to ensure all meet local capital requirements.

Capital Management serves strategic objectives

The continued strength of ING's capital position, the adequacy of our financial position and risk management effectiveness allow us to empower people and businesses to realise their goals. It also allows ING to resume dividend payments on common shares to shareholders.

ING's Capital Management strategy is driven by the strategic aims of the Group and the risk appetite set by the Board. Our policy is to retain sufficient financial flexibility to meet ING's strategy in all market conditions. ING's risk appetite statements are at the foundation of the capital plan. These set targets above the minimum regulatory requirements.

The risk appetite statements and targets are communicated to the different businesses in line with our risk management strategy and capital allocation. Regular stress tests provide important inputs for the capital planning and management process. These focus on topical issues and assess the sensitivity of the Group's capital position to specific risks.

These analyses also help to determine the Group's strategic direction. Policies for recovery planning and resolution are a natural extension of ING's capital management policies and follow ING's risk management framework seamlessly.

The Group's success in the recent ECB Asset Quality Review and stress test demonstrates the efficiency of this approach.

☞ ING Bank Risk management chapter in the consolidated annual accounts of this Annual Report, p260.

Dividend

As stated in our Ambition 2017 programme, ING is committed to returning capital to shareholders through a sustainable dividend policy. Effective from 2015, ING intends to pay a minimum of 40% of ING Group's annual net profits by way of dividend, consisting of both an interim and a final dividend. Furthermore, the Board will recommend whether to return additional capital to shareholders at the end of each financial year. Such decisions will reflect considerations including expected future capital requirements, growth opportunities available to the Group, the net earnings of the Group, and regulatory approvals as appropriate. The Board proposes to pay a final 2014 dividend of EUR 470 million, or EUR 0.12 per (depository receipt for an) ordinary share, subject to the approval of shareholders at the Annual General Meeting in May 2015.

Capital developments at ING Group

This has been a very important year for ING Group, marking the end of its reliance on financial support from the Dutch State. All of its capital commitments have now been repaid in full.

In March 2014, ING Group made the penultimate payment of EUR 1.2 billion in core Tier 1 securities to the Dutch State. ING Bank paid a dividend to ING Group to facilitate the payment. ING Group's strong financial position allowed us to accelerate the final payment of EUR 1.0 billion. This was completed six months ahead of schedule in November 2014.

ING has now completely repaid the EUR 10 billion in Dutch State aid we received in 2008 as well as EUR 3.5 billion in premiums and coupons. The total repayment of EUR 13.5 billion equates to a 12.7% internal rate of return for the Dutch State.

In January 2014, ING completed the sale of 37.7 million units in SulAmérica to Swiss Re Group. This was already announced in 2013. This transaction further reduced ING's stake in the Brazilian insurance holding to approximately 10%.

In February 2014, ING together with the Dutch State completed the unwinding of the Illiquid Assets Back-up Facility (IABF). The Dutch State has sold the remaining USD 11.5 billion of securities in the portfolio through three auctions at an average price of 77.3%. The proceeds were used to pay off the remaining loans from ING. Together with the settlement of fees, the unwinding resulted in a cash profit for the Dutch State of EUR 1.4 billion. The total estimated profit for the Dutch State, including the interest and premiums on the core Tier 1 securities is approximately EUR 5 billion.

The remaining bonds issued under the Credit Guarantee Scheme of the State of the Netherlands were fully repaid in March 2014. ING Group paid a fee of 84 basis points over the issued bonds to the Dutch State to participate in the Credit Guarantee Scheme in 2009.

In February 2014, ING also finalised the agreement in which it is released from all future financial obligations arising out of the closed Defined Benefit (DB) Pension Plan in the Netherlands. The Dutch DB Plan has ceased to be accounted for as a defined benefit plan and the

Pension Asset related to this plan has accordingly been removed from ING's balance sheet as of the first quarter 2014. The after-tax P&L impact of the agreement was approximately EUR -1.1 billion. Of this P&L impact, EUR -0.7 billion has been attributed to ING Bank and EUR -0.4 billion to NN Group. For ING Group, the removal of these financial obligations and the subsequent removal of a cross guarantee between ING Bank and NN Group was an important step towards the IPO of NN Group.

In addition, under revised IAS 19 accounting rules, "unrecognized actuarial gains and losses" on defined benefit pension plans are recognised immediately in equity, which increases volatility driven by movements in financial markets. The transfer of the obligations connected to the current Dutch DB Plan removes this source of volatility for both Bank and Insurance. It also removes the potential direct negative impact on capital in the event of a net pension liability. Consequently, the agreement has made the capital position more stable.

Monetising capital by reducing non-core shareholdings

ING Group executed several transactions to bring down its stake in Voya Financial, Inc (Voya). ING Group sold shares of Voya in March 2014, September 2014 and November 2014 for a total consideration of EUR 2.9 billion. ING retained a stake in Voya of approximately 19% at year-end 2014. In March 2015, we completed the divestment of Voya shares.

ING Group's successful IPO of NN Group in July 2014 generated approximately EUR 2.2 billion proceeds and reduced its shareholding to 68.1% at year-end 2014. In February 2015, ING's stake was reduced to 54.6%. We are well placed to bring our shareholding below 50% by end-2015 as per EC requirements.

In June 2014, ING Group sold the last tranche of its stake in SulAmérica, generating approximately EUR 170 million in cash proceeds.

ING Group is well on track to sell all insurance activities by the end of 2016. The successful IPO of NN Group and sell-down of Voya shares has unlocked significant flexibility. ING Group is now in the final stage of restructuring. We will retain full flexibility over the best method for disposal of outstanding shares and divest our remaining stakes while maintaining an orderly market.

During 2014, all net capital flows enabled ING Group to reduce Group debt from EUR 4.9 billion at the end of 2013 to EUR 1.5 billion at the end of 2014.

Capital optimisation transactions

Our decision to redeem the EUR 1.5 billion 8% ING Group hybrid on the call date of 18 April 2014 has reduced the level of Tier 1 securities in the capital base. It was replaced in ING Bank's capital structure by the EUR 1.5 billion 3.625% CRD IV eligible Tier 2 security that was successfully issued in February 2014 by ING Bank.

Finally, NN Group redeemed EUR 1.2 billion of ING Group hybrids in the third quarter of 2014, further disentangling NN Group from ING Group. These hybrids were on-lent to ING Bank as CRR/CRD IV eligible securities thus improving the Tier 1 capital base.

ING Group capital

CRR/CRD IV also prescribes regular reporting on ING Group solvency ratios. The starting point for the risk-based ratio is ING Group shareholders' equity, from which similar regulatory adjustments are deducted as in the CET1 capital calculation of ING Bank. In addition, this capital base is further adjusted for the carrying value of NN Group and Voya.

ING Group's fully-loaded CET1 ratio is 10.5% at the end of the year. The proposed dividend, to be paid in May 2015, has already been deducted from ING Group's capital base, in line with regulatory requirements.

The Group's phased-in CET1 ratio at the end of the year improved by 0.3%-point from the previous quarter to 13.5%, largely due to the quarterly net profit after excluding the proposed dividend. This ratio is well in excess of 10.5%, which we understand will be the regulatory guidance level for the Group.

Capital development at ING Bank

On 1 January 2014, CRR/CRD IV came into effect. As a result, all published ratios as of 2014 follow the more stringent CRR/CRD IV calculations.

ING Bank's capital position is primarily managed according to its published common equity Tier 1 ratio and leverage ratio. These are ING Bank's main constraining factors and the most widely used variable for assessing banks' capitalisation.

ING Bank has a capital target based on our risk appetite, which compares well with the peer group. ING Bank's 2017 Ambition is to have a fully loaded CET 1 ratio of at least 10% with a comfortable buffer on top to absorb regulatory changes and potential volatility. The target for the leverage ratio will be approximately 4% (we are awaiting final regulations for this).

When setting targets, ING Bank also takes other constraints into account, including:

- › Additional regulatory capital requirements including the amount of Tier 1 capital, Total capital and the Basel I floor.
- › Economic capital. Although it is currently not a constraining factor, economic capital is used to manage the Bank's risk profile and to set limits.
- › Rating agency considerations. Each rating agency provides a different analysis and specific topics may need to be addressed.

A strong capital base

Despite the transfer of the Dutch Pension Fund, the implementation of CRR/CRD IV and the repayment to the Dutch State, ING Bank continues to maintain a strong and high-quality capital level with a fully-loaded common equity Tier 1 ratio of 11.4% and a phased-in CRR/CRD IV common equity Tier 1 ratio of 11.2%, thereby complying with CRR/CRD IV solvency requirements. The Tier 1 ratio decreased due to regulatory adjustments on equity, and the redemption of EUR 1.05 billion 8% Hybrid on 18 April 2014. ING Bank improved Tier 2 capital by issuing EUR 1.5 billion of CRR/CRD IV eligible Tier 2 securities.

Following the final payment to the Dutch State in November 2014, the so called call ban was lifted. This ban was part of the behavioural sanctions imposed by the European Commission as a result of the Restructuring Agreement. Subsequently, ING Bank called EUR 1.6 billion of non-CRD IV eligible Tier 2 securities with a nominal amount of EUR 0.2 billion.

Capitalising subsidiaries

The introduction of the SSM has put additional emphasis on the equal and adequate distribution of equity throughout ING Bank subsidiaries. Legal entities must always comply with local regulatory minimum capital requirements. ING's subsidiaries are well capitalised. As a matter of policy, consolidated targets are cascaded down to individual businesses. This process aims for an equal distribution of capital and to avoid trapped capital. The subsequent transferability of capital provides room for loan growth and supports our strategy of developing local asset generating capabilities at the local level.

Generating capital for future growth

During 2014, capital generation was again strong, allowing ING Bank to pay EUR 1.2 billion in dividends to the Group so that it could repay EUR 1.2 billion of core Tier 1 securities to the Dutch State in March.

ING has demonstrated the ability to generate capital continuously. This leaves us well positioned to develop further lending capabilities that serve customer needs. All remaining core Tier 1 securities have been repaid to the Dutch State and regulatory requirements have been met. The strength of the balance sheet provides a firm foundation for growing the business and paying dividends.

In the coming years the guiding principles for ING's capital management will be capital generation, optimising the capital structure and further improving financial flexibility.

We have entered the CRR/CRD IV era with a strong capital position, capable of withstanding financial market challenges and new regulations. This provides a strong platform for broadening lending opportunities, supporting our clients and helping to grow the economy.

☞ A comprehensive chapter on ING's capital management practices is part of the consolidated annual accounts of this Annual Report.

ING Shares

Core Tier 1 securities

ING strengthened its capital position in the Autumn of 2008 by issuing EUR 10 billion of non-voting core Tier 1 securities to the Dutch State. These securities have now been repaid and are no longer outstanding.

ING made its first repayment to the Dutch State in December 2009 and completed the final payment in November 2014. All payments were approved by De Nederlandsche Bank (DNB), the Dutch central bank. The total amount repaid to the Dutch State on the core Tier 1 securities was EUR 13.5 billion, including EUR 10 billion in principal and EUR 3.5 billion in interest and premiums, giving the State an annualised return of 12.7%. In 2014, ING made a payment of EUR 1.225 billion in March and a final EUR 1.025 billion payment on 7 November. Repayments were completed half a year ahead of the repayment schedule agreed with the European Commission in 2012.

Listings

Depository receipts for ING Group ordinary shares are listed on the stock exchanges of Amsterdam, Brussels and New York (NYSE). Options on ING Group ordinary shares (or the depository receipts thereof) are traded on the NYSE Euronext Amsterdam Derivative Markets and the Chicago Board Options Exchange.

Shareholders and depository-receipt holders with stakes of 3 percent or more

More than 99.9 percent of the ordinary shares issued by ING Groep N.V. are held by Stichting ING Aandelen (ING Trust Office). In exchange for these shares, ING Trust Office has issued depository receipts in bearer form for these shares. The depository receipts are listed on the stock exchanges of Amsterdam, Brussels and New York (NYSE).

📖 Report of ING Trust Office for more information.

📖 Corporate governance chapter pages 69–71 for more information about the share capital of ING Group.

Pursuant to the Dutch Financial Supervision Act, shareholders and holders of depository receipts of ING Groep N.V. are required to provide updated information on their holdings once they cross threshold levels of 3%, 5%, 10%, 15%, 20%, 25%, 30%, 40%, 50%, 60%, 75% and 95%. As of the publication date of this report, ING Group is not aware of shareholders, potential shareholders or investors with an interest of three percent or more in ING Group other than the ING Trust Office, the ING Continuity Foundation and Blackrock Inc as per year-end 2014.

Authorised and issued capital

in EUR million	Year-end 2014	Year-end 2013
Ordinary shares		
– authorised	3,480	3,480
– issued	925	921
Cumulative preference shares		
– authorised	1,080	1,080
– issued	–	–

Number of shares in issue and shares outstanding in the market

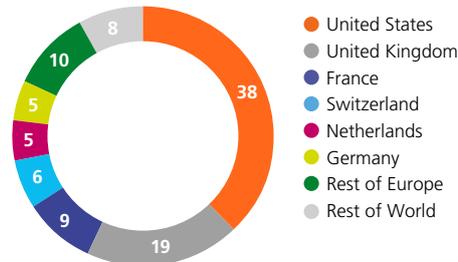
in millions	Year-end 2014	Year-end 2013
(Depository receipts for) ordinary shares of EUR 0.24 nominal value	3,858.9	3,840.9
(Depository receipts for) own ordinary shares held by ING Group and its subsidiaries	4.3	4.0
(Depository receipts for) ordinary shares outstanding in the market	3,854.6	3,836.9

Prices of depository receipts for ordinary shares

Euronext Amsterdam by NYSE Euronext in EUR	2014	2013	2012
Price – high	11.95	10.10	7.49
Price – low	9.50	5.54	4.53
Price – year-end	10.83	10.10	7.06
Price/earnings ratio ⁽¹⁾	33.8	10.9	6.1
Price/book value ratio	0.83	0.85	0.52

(1) Based on the share price at year-end and net profit per ordinary share for the financial year.

Geographical distribution of ING depositary receipts for shares in % ⁽¹⁾



(1) Year-end 2014 figures, estimated based on institutional share ownership figures provided by Nasdaq Corporate Solutions.

One-year price development of ING depositary receipts for shares



ING's short- and long-term credit ratings are shown in the table below. Each of these ratings reflects only the view of the applicable rating agency at the time the rating was issued, and any explanation of the significance of a rating may be obtained only from the rating agency. A security rating is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold securities and each rating should be evaluated independently of any other rating. There is no assurance that any credit rating will remain in effect for any given period of time or that a rating will not be lowered, suspended or withdrawn entirely by the rating agency if, in the rating agency's judgement, circumstances so warrant. ING accepts no responsibility for the accuracy or reliability of the ratings.

Main credit ratings of ING at 31 December 2014

	Standard & Poor's		Moody's		Fitch	
	Rating	Outlook	Rating	Outlook	Rating	Outlook
ING Groep N.V.	A-	Negative	A3	Negative	A	Negative
ING Bank N.V.	A	Negative	A2	Negative	A+	Negative
– Short term	A-1		P-1		F1+	

Sustainability ratings

ING Group's approach to sustainability is shaped by our specific skills and expertise as a financial company, our vision of the future and the expectations of our stakeholders. Reviews of our performance by sustainability research and rating agencies help us to improve our strategy and policies. ING's 2014 scores and assessments for some of the key sustainability benchmarks and service providers are as follows:

External reviews of our sustainability performance ⁽¹⁾					
		2014	2013	2012	2011
Dow Jones Sustainability Indices (RobecoSAM)	▲	Score: 82 (out of 100) Position: Industry Leader Included in World Index and Europe Index	Score: 76 (out of 100) Included in World Index and Europe Index	Score: 69 (out of 100) Not included in World Index or Europe Index	Score: 72 (out of 100) Included in World Index. Not included in Europe Index
Sustainalytics	▲	Score: 77 (out of 100) Position: 3 (out of 130 financial peers)	Score: 75 (out of 100) Position: 6 (out of 196 financial peers)	Score: 77 (out of 100) Position: 3 (out of 148 financial peers)	Score: 82 (out of 100) Position: 1 (out of 135 financial peers)
CDP (Carbon Disclosure Project)	▲	Score: 97 for disclosure (out of 100) and A for performance Position: Included	Score: 96 for disclosure (out of 100) and B for performance Position: Included	Score: 93 for disclosure (out of 100) and B for performance Position: Included	Score: 64 for disclosure (out of 100) and D for performance Position: Not Included
FTSE4Good Index Series	– ⁽²⁾	Score: not used any more Position: Included	Score: 3.8 (out of 5) Position: Included	Score: 3.8 (out of 5) Position: Included	Score: 3.7 (out of 5) Position: Included
Transparantie Benchmark (NL)	– ⁽²⁾	Score: 172 ⁽²⁾ Position: 18 (out of 409)	Score: 188 Position: 13 (out of 483)	Score: 185 Position: 13 (out of 472)	Score: 179 Position: 16 (out of 500)
Euronext Vigeo Europe 120 Index (Vigeo)	▲	Score: 54 (out of 100) Position: Not included	Score: 53 (out of 100) Position: Included	Score: not disclosed Position: Included	N/A

(1) Some benchmarks we reported on in previous years are not included as they are not relevant any more with our new status as a standalone bank.

(2) As the researching method changed, we cannot compare the score between 2014 and 2013. Therefore we cannot report on an increase or decrease of our score.

Investor Relations



To receive press releases and other ING news, you can subscribe to the email service at www.ing.com. You can also download the ING Investors and Media app at www.ing.com, which provides access to the latest financial information and press releases both online and offline.

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P.O. Box 1800
1000 BV Amsterdam
The Netherlands
Telephone: +31 20 576 6396
E-mail: investor.relations@ing.com

Important dates in 2015 ⁽¹⁾

Publication results 1Q 2015

Thursday, 7 May 2015, 7:00 am

Annual General Meeting

Monday, 11 May 2015

Publication results 2Q 2015

Wednesday, 5 August 2015, 7:00 am

Publication results 3Q 2015

Wednesday, 4 November 2015, 7:00 am

(1) All dates shown are provisional.

Composition of the Executive Board and Management Board Banking

R.A.J.G. (Ralph) Hamers (48), CEO and chairman Executive Board ING Group and chairman Management Board Banking ▲ ■

Ralph Hamers was appointed a member of the Executive Board of ING Group on 13 May 2013. On 1 October 2013, he was appointed CEO and chairman of this Board and of the Management Board Banking. He is also head of Challengers and Growth markets ad interim. Ralph Hamers joined ING in 1991. Before his appointment to the Executive Board, he was CEO of ING Belgium and Luxembourg.

P.G. (Patrick) Flynn (54), member and CFO Executive Board ING Group and member and CFO Management Board Banking ▲ ■

Patrick Flynn was appointed a member of the Executive Board of ING Group on 27 April 2009. He is responsible for all of ING's finance departments. Before joining ING he was Chief Financial Officer Insurance, HSBC Insurance Holdings Ltd.

W.F. (Wilfred) Nagel (58), member and CRO Executive Board ING Group and member and CRO Management Board Banking ▲ ■

Wilfred Nagel was appointed a member of the Executive Board of ING Group on 14 May 2012. He is responsible for all of ING's risk management departments. Wilfred Nagel became a member and CRO of the Management Board Banking on 5 October 2011.

Key

▲ Executive Board ■ Management Board Banking

J.V. (Koos) Timmermans (54), member and vice-chairman Management Board Banking ■

Koos Timmermans was appointed vice-chairman of the Management Board Banking as of 1 October 2011. From 1 October 2014, Koos Timmermans has, in addition to his current tasks which include aligning ING Bank's activities and balance sheet with new and upcoming regulation, also assumed responsibilities for the Bank's operations in the Benelux and ING's sustainability department.

W.L.A. (Bill) Connelly (56), member Management Board Banking and head of Commercial Banking ■

Bill Connelly was appointed to the Management Board Banking as from 1 January 2011. He is also head of Commercial Banking. Prior to this appointment, Bill Connelly combined the roles of global head of Commercial Banking Services and CEO of ING Real Estate Investment Management.

R.M.M. (Roel) Louwhoff (49), member Management Board Banking and chief operations officer ■

Roel Louwhoff was appointed a member of the Management Board Banking on 1 May 2014. He is also chief operations officer (COO) and has global responsibility for Operations & IT, change management and procurement at ING Bank. Prior to this appointment, Roel Louwhoff was CEO of BT Operate. Most relevant ancillary position: Non-Executive Director Transcom Worldwide S.A.



Clockwise from left: Roel Louwhoff, Koos Timmermans, Ralph Hamers, Bill Connelly, Patrick Flynn, Wilfred Nagel

About this report

This is ING's first integrated annual report. Our stakeholders want to assess our ability to create and sustain value in the short, medium and long term. To do that, they need both financial and non-financial information. We believe that integrated reporting is a better way to meet the requirements and interests of all our stakeholders.

Our approach to integrated reporting

In our view a balanced integrated report contains information both on our economic performance, as well as on the impact of our organisation on society and the environment. By disclosing and explaining our financial and non-financial results, strategy, governance, external developments and the risks and opportunities we face, we aim to enable our stakeholders to assess how we create value and how we earn our income.

How we defined content for this report and materiality

In drawing up content for this report we have taken into account the topics that can have a material impact on our business as well as risks and opportunities, applicable regulation and trends. We are continually listening to key constituencies and as material issues change, we adapt our reporting to fit developing stakeholder expectations. We have undertaken a materiality analysis to guide our reporting with the aim of providing a more balanced and complete picture of our performance over the reporting year.

📖 What matters most for more information on our materiality analysis.

Audiences

This report is intended to serve the information needs of key stakeholder groups that affect, and are affected by our business: customers, employees, shareholders, bondholders, supervisors, regulators, civil society organisations, citizens and society at large. Sustainability rating agencies and analysts can find the content they need for an in-depth analysis of our performance on sustainability in this report and the accompanying sustainability annex.

Guidelines

ING's integrated report, including the Sustainability Annex, is prepared in accordance with the G4 Sustainability Reporting Guidelines and the Financial Services sector supplement (comprehensive level) and Dutch Accounting Standard 400. The content and quality criteria provided by the guidelines (for example sustainability context, stakeholder inclusiveness, materiality, completeness, balance, comparability, accuracy and reliability) are integral to our reporting process.

Data compilation and boundaries

Financial and non-financial data

All financial data in this integrated report are extracted or derived from, and in line with, our annual accounts. Non-financial performance data are published in this report on five topics: customers, sustainable business, HR, environment and community investment. We extract or derive data on sustainability-related business activities and HR from our regular business systems, in line with the data in our annual accounts. Data on environment, community investment and customers are gathered through our proprietary online data management system. The centralised data processing team at ING Group is assisted by an independent external agency (Royal HaskoningDHV) that helps to validate and process the large amount of non-financial data gathered from our operations worldwide.

Scope and boundaries

Through our materiality analysis we ensure that all material economic, social and environmental topics are in scope. The data and content in the integrated report and Sustainability Annex aim to provide a concise, accurate and balanced account of ING's economic, social and environmental performance.

🔍 The detailed scope of the different sustainability performance indicators is highlighted in ING's sustainability reporting protocol at www.ing.com/sustainability.

Assurance

Assurance for this integrated report, including the accompanying Sustainability Annex, is provided by Ernst & Young Accountants LLP (EY). EY has reviewed and provided a limited level of assurance on the sustainability information in the chapters 'ING at a glance', 'CEO statement', 'How we create value', 'Our strategy and progress', 'Market and regulatory context', 'What matters most to our stakeholders', 'How we are balancing our responsibilities', 'Key figures', 'Retail Banking', 'Commercial Banking', 'People', 'Innovation and information technology', 'ING Shares', 'Composition of the Executive Board and Management Board Banking' and the Sustainability Annex to the integrated annual report. We refer to page 60 for the assurance report of the independent auditor. The chapters 'Risk and capital management' and 'Remuneration report' are an integral part of the audited consolidated annual accounts. EY concluded that these accounts give a true and fair view of the financial position of ING Group as at 31 December 2014, and of its result and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the European Union and with Part 9 of Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code. We refer to page 335 for the independent auditor's report.

Furthermore, EY audited ING Group's internal control over financial reporting as of 31 December 2014, based on criteria established in Internal Control – Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (2013 framework) (the COSO criteria). EY concluded that ING Group maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of 31 December 2014, based on these COSO criteria. We refer to page 86 for the report of the independent registered public accounting firm.

Future-oriented statements

In this integrated annual report we also look forward and share our vision, ambitions, strategy, opinion and plans for the future. These forward-looking statements can be recognised by terms such as "expect", "anticipate", "intend", "plan", "believe", "seek", "see", "will", "would", "target", "forecast", "of the opinion" or similar terms. These forward-looking statements are based on management's current beliefs and assumptions about future activities and are subject to uncertainties. Therefore our assurance provider cannot assure these statements.

Feedback

This integrated report aims to give all our stakeholders a balanced and complete overview of our activities and ability to create and sustain value. We welcome stakeholder reactions and views. Please send us your feedback via communication@ing.com.

Report of the Executive Board

The Corporate Governance section starting on page 68 and the paragraphs of the Remuneration report "Remuneration policy for senior management" on page 94 and "2014 remuneration structure senior management" also on page 94 are incorporated by reference in this Report of the Executive Board.

Amsterdam, 16 March 2015
The Executive Board

Assurance report of the independent auditor

To: the Stakeholders, the Supervisory Board and the Executive Board of ING Groep N.V.

We have reviewed the sustainability information in the chapters 'ING at a glance', 'CEO statement', 'How we create value', 'Our strategy and progress', 'Market and regulatory context', 'What matters most to our stakeholders', 'How we are balancing our responsibilities', 'Key figures', 'Retail Banking', 'Commercial Banking', 'People', 'Innovation and information technology', 'ING Shares', 'Composition of the Executive Board and Management Board Banking' and the Sustainability Annex in the Annual Report for the year 2014 (hereafter: the Report) of ING Groep N.V., Amsterdam (hereafter: ING). The Report comprises a description of the policy, the activities, events and performance of ING relating to sustainability during the reporting year 2014.

Limitations in our scope

The Report contains prospective information, such as ambitions, strategy, targets, expectations and projections. Inherent to this information is that actual future results may be different from the prospective information and therefore may be uncertain. We do not provide any assurance on the assumptions and feasibility of this prospective information.

☞ The GRI index 2014 as published on www.ing.com is an integral part of the Report and is within our engagement scope. Other references in the Report (to www.ing.com, external websites and other documents) are outside the scope of our assurance engagement.

Responsibilities of the Executive Board for the Report

The Executive Board of ING is responsible for the preparation of the Report in accordance with the "Sustainability Reporting Guidelines" G4 (option Comprehensive) of the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) and the reporting criteria developed by ING as disclosed in the chapter 'About this report' of the Report, including the identification of the stakeholders and the determination of material issues. The disclosures made by management with respect to the scope of the Report are included in the chapter 'About this report' of the Report.

Furthermore the Executive Board is responsible for such internal control as it determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the Report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Our responsibility for the review of the Report

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the Report based on our review. We conducted our review in accordance with Dutch law, including the Dutch Standard 3810N 'Assurance engagements relating to sustainability reports'. This Standard is based on the International Standard on Assurance Engagements (ISAE) 3000 'Assurance Engagements Other Than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information'. This requires that we comply with ethical requirements and that we plan and perform the review to obtain limited assurance about whether the Report is free from material misstatement.

A review is focused on obtaining limited assurance. The procedures performed in obtaining limited assurance are aimed at the plausibility of information which does not require exhaustive gathering of evidence as in engagements focused on reasonable assurance. The performed procedures consisted primarily of making inquiries of management and others within the entity, as appropriate, applying analytical procedures and evaluating the evidence obtained. Consequently a review engagement provides less assurance than an audit.

Procedures performed

Our main procedures included the following:

- › Performing an external environment analysis and obtaining an understanding of the sector, relevant social issues, relevant laws and regulations and the characteristics of the organisation;
- › Evaluating the acceptability of the reporting policies and their consistent application, such as assessment of the outcomes of the stakeholder dialogue and the reasonableness of assumptions made by management;
- › Evaluating the in accordance option with the Sustainability Reporting Guidelines G4 (option Comprehensive) of GRI;
- › Evaluating the design and implementation of the systems and processes for data gathering and processing of information as presented in the Report;
- › Interviewing management (or relevant staff) at corporate and business division level responsible for the sustainability strategy and policies;
- › Interviewing relevant staff responsible for providing the information in the Report, carrying out internal control procedures on the data and the consolidation of the data in the Report;
- › Evaluating internal and external documentation, in addition to interviews, to determine whether the information in the Report is reliable;
- › Analytical review of the data and trend explanations submitted for consolidation at group level.

We believe that the evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our conclusion.

Conclusion

Based on our procedures performed, and with due consideration of the limitations described in the paragraph 'Limitations in our scope', nothing has come to our attention that causes us to conclude that the sustainability information in the Report, in all material respects, does not provide a reliable and appropriate presentation of the policy of ING for sustainable development, or of the activities, events and performance of the organisation relating to sustainability during 2014, in accordance with the "Sustainability Reporting Guidelines" G4 (option Comprehensive) of the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) and the reporting criteria developed by ING as disclosed in the chapter 'About this report' of the Report.

Amsterdam, 16 March 2015

Ernst & Young Accountants LLP

**Signed by
M.A. van Loo**

H. Hollander

Chairman's statement

"A year with important achievements"

2014 was a notable year for ING. A year with important achievements: the launch of the new Bank strategy, the repayment to the Dutch State, and with the IPO of NN Group and deconsolidation of Voya, ING moved closer to completing its restructuring plan.

We, as members of the Supervisory Board, believe that ING is well set for the future and is in a good position to grasp new opportunities that arise from the new banking environment.



The external environment

The European economic recovery did not fully materialise in 2014. Related to this is the impact of geopolitical unrest in nearby regions, such as Eastern Europe. Some compensation has come from the low oil price, which has helped consumers' purchasing power.

On the regulatory front, the start of the Single Supervisory Mechanism in November 2014 was important for ING and for European banks in general. The fact that the European Central Bank took over responsibility for the supervision of the major European banks can be regarded as a positive development for a global bank such as ING with a strong presence in many European countries.

Focus areas and milestones

During 2014, the main points of attention at Supervisory Board meetings included the new Think Forward strategy; the IPO of NN Group; the repayment to the Dutch State; the further divestment of Voya; financial and risk reporting; and ING's financial results.

NN Group's successful listing in July 2014 marked the beginning of a new, independent future for the company. This was the culmination of a very intense period for many at ING, with excellent cooperation between the bank and insurance businesses.

The success of the IPO was made possible by the hard work and continued support of many people: customers, employees, shareholders, regulators, the Dutch State and other stakeholders. Together with the reduction of ING's

stake in Voya Financial to 19 percent as at year-end 2014 and full divestment in March 2015, it heralds the end-phase of the restructuring.

The final repayment on Dutch State aid in November was a key milestone completed half a year ahead of the schedule agreed with the European Commission in 2012. It brought total repayments on this aid package to EUR 13.5 billion, a significant return for the Dutch State.

This was an important moment for ING. The repayment felt like the final reward after years of hard work by many employees. It symbolises ING's evolution since the crisis towards a new era in which we can really look forward.

The Supervisory Board approved the Bank's new strategy in March and monitored its implementation during 2014. We are delighted that the new strategy strikes a good balance between all the different stakeholders. It seems in tune with the way society is developing and how people want to do their banking. We support the way ING is developing itself as a bank with a broad customer base. We are encouraged by the positive and improving feedback that ING receives from customers about its products and services; it is a sign of growing appreciation by the public.

ING can be proud of where the Company is today. The hard work of recent years is paying off. The Bank has posted a satisfactory set of results. ING's financial strength enables the resumption of dividend payments to shareholders, another important milestone in the restructuring process.

Key societal topics

The Supervisory Board focused on the topic of lending to SMEs in Europe on several occasions. This is an issue that clearly has high societal relevance. We were encouraged to see that ING has been working to optimise this important lending role despite a challenging financial and regulatory environment.

We acknowledge the importance of sustainability and the fact that it needs to be an intrinsic part of ING's strategy. We are therefore pleased that ING is presenting its first integrated report this year and eager to find out what the reactions will be.

New technological developments are accelerating change in the business environment for the banking sector, and at ING. The Supervisory Board has discussed the massive shift to mobile. In our view, this creates opportunities for those companies that excel at adapting quickly to customers' and other stakeholders' changing needs.

Changing and developing

Given the rapidly changing external environment, we strongly supported the intensified focus of the management board of the Bank on innovation and operational excellence. The appointment of a chief operations officer can be seen in this context. Its aim is to enhance the Bank's preparedness for the business environment of tomorrow.

The composition of the executive top team also changed as a result of the then ongoing divestments of Voya and NN Group. These developments also had consequences for the composition of the Supervisory Board. You can read more about these changes in the Report of the Supervisory Board in this Annual Report.

During the year, the Supervisory Board participated in various educational sessions to gain fresh insights and improve our understanding on a broad range of societal issues, as well as learn more about how people prefer to see banks. Topics such as remuneration, customer behaviour trends, innovation, cybercrime and data analytics were on the agenda.

Personal note

In all my contacts with the Bank's employees, I am impressed to see how keen people are to show that ING has strong values and behaviours grounded in society.

On behalf of the Supervisory Board, I would like to express my gratitude to all ING employees for their hard work and many contributions to serve its customers and all other stakeholders. Their efforts have brought ING to where it is today. ING can look back with pride on 2014 and start 2015 with confidence.



Jeroen van der Veer

Chairman of the Supervisory Board of ING Group
March 2015

Report of the Supervisory Board

The Supervisory Board held 10 meetings in 2014. The new Bank strategy and the preparation for the NN Group IPO were important topics on the agenda in 2014.

The Committees of the Supervisory Board discussed a range of subjects, the main ones being the quarterly results, risk management, corporate governance and human resources.

Supervisory Board meetings

The Supervisory Board met 10 times in 2014 of which nine meetings were regular meetings. On average, 96% of the Supervisory Board members were present at the meetings. This attendance rate illustrates that the members of the Supervisory Board are engaged in ING and have sufficient time available to devote the required attention to ING's affairs. The Executive Board was present at each Supervisory Board meeting, but each Supervisory Board meeting was preceded by a session with only the Supervisory Board members present. Members of the Supervisory Board and senior management also had contacts and meetings outside the regularly scheduled Supervisory Board meetings.

Apart from closely monitoring the financial results in 2014, the Supervisory Board's main focus during 2014 was the launch of the new Think Forward strategy of ING Bank and the preparation of the initial public offering (IPO) for NN Group. The repayment of the outstanding core Tier 1 securities to the Dutch State also remained an important topic throughout the year. In this context the capital strategy of ING was also regularly discussed.

Permanent education

At the annual Supervisory Board Knowledge Day in January 2014, the Supervisory Board was briefed on economic, regulatory, technology and customer behaviour trends. Presentations on innovation, deepening customer relationships and an introduction to predictive analytics were on the agenda. The Supervisory Board was informed on a number of HR topics relating to ING's talent review process and performance management within ING Bank.

In September, the Supervisory Board visited ING Bank Slaski in Poland for two days, allowing the Supervisory Board to get a better understanding of the local business activities and how these relate and contribute to ING's strategy. Presentations were given on the impact of Basel III regulation and on how ING implemented the Single European Payments Area (SEPA). The Supervisory Board was briefed on the transition to a Single Supervisory Mechanism and the transfer of supervision to the European Central Bank in November. Several other educational sessions on specific topics were organised for the Supervisory Board during the year.

Corporate strategy

In January, the Supervisory Board held its meeting on ING's strategy as well as the Medium-Term Plan (MTP) 2014–2016 and related risks. The MTP addresses the plans and the financial and non-financial targets for the banking and the insurance businesses and for the Group as a whole. The Supervisory Board specifically discussed the strategic ambitions for ING Bank, while taking into account the regulatory changes, the economic developments, the further execution of the EC Restructuring Plan, the capital position of ING and the intended repayments of the outstanding core Tier 1 securities to the Dutch State. The Supervisory Board approved the MTP. After approving the Think Forward strategy in March, the Supervisory Board was updated on the implementation of the Bank strategy in September. In November, the Supervisory Board reviewed and approved the proposal for further IT investments to increase the reliability, efficiency and agility of ING's IT systems and operations in the Netherlands and to move to an omnichannel approach.

During the year the Supervisory Board approved two repayments to the Dutch state on the state aid received in October 2008, including the final repayment in November. In 2014, three tranches of Voya shares were approved for sale of which the last one in 2014 was successfully executed in November, reducing ING's stake in Voya to approximately 19 percent at year-end. A draft post-IPO capital plan was reviewed by the Supervisory Board. Corporate social responsibility issues that are relevant to ING were discussed during the year and the proposal to draft an integrated Annual Report for the first time, incorporating ING's Sustainability Report, was approved.

Financial and risk reporting

The fourth quarter and annual financial results for 2013 were discussed in February, including the related press release and reports from the external auditors. The Executive Board's assessment of the adequacy and effectiveness of ING's risk management and control systems was also discussed. The Supervisory Board supported the proposal not to pay a dividend over 2013 given the uncertain financial environment, increasing regulatory requirements and ING's priority to repay the remaining State aid. The annual accounts and the SOX 404 sign-off were approved. The draft agenda of the Annual General Meeting was discussed and approved, including the publication on the application of the Dutch Banking Code and the Dutch Insurers' Code. The quarterly results were reviewed and discussed in May, August and November.

The Supervisory Board approved the annual risk appetite statements for banking and insurance and assured itself that the risk appetite framework is suitable for its purpose. The Supervisory Board was regularly updated on the status of the Resolution Plan for ING Bank and how the Asset Quality Review (AQR) and ECB's stress test were proceeding. Throughout the year, the Supervisory Board was informed in detail on the risks for ING relating to the Russian and Ukrainian political and economic situation. In November, a decision was made on the to-be-appointed external auditor in order to comply with the mandatory rotation of the external auditor.

IPO NN Group

The Supervisory Board extensively discussed NN Group's pre-IPO capital structure and approved the proposed measures to further strengthen the capital structure of NN Group. A mandate was given to NN Group to issue subordinated public debt and the NN Group debt prospectus was approved. The Supervisory Board discussed the analyst presentation regarding the NN Group IPO and met twice to take a number of decisions regarding the IPO of NN Group, including approval of the NN Group equity prospectus. The first indication of the price and possible size of the NN Group IPO offering was presented to the Supervisory Board in June. The Supervisory Board decided to appoint a Pricing Committee consisting of Supervisory and Executive Board members, and gave a mandate to the Pricing Committee to extensively review and decide on the proposed offering price range and size of the NN Group IPO. Jeroen van der Veer was appointed chairman of the Pricing Committee, and Joost Kuiper and Hermann Lamberti became members on behalf of the Supervisory Board. Ralph Hamers, Patrick Flynn and Wilfred Nagel were members of the Committee on behalf of the Executive Board. The Pricing Committee met twice in June with no absentees. The Supervisory Board members of the Pricing Committee ratified the decision of the Executive Board members regarding the price and size of the IPO and on 2 July the NN Group IPO was successfully launched. In the second half of 2014, the Supervisory Board discussed proposals on how to further divest NN Group in order to comply with the EC restructuring requirements.

Internal Supervisory Board meetings

During the internal meetings of the Supervisory Board (which were joined by the CEO, except when the annual evaluation of the Supervisory Board was tabled or matters concerning the CEO were discussed), the Executive Board 2013 performance assessments and the Executive Board performance objectives for 2014 were approved. All decisions regarding the variable remuneration proposals over 2013 were discussed and decided on and the Supervisory Board agreed to table the adjusted Board pension schemes for the 2014 AGM. The remuneration proposals for Voya were ratified by the Supervisory Board.

Following the new Think Forward strategy the Supervisory Board regularly discussed senior executive succession planning for ING Bank. In the second half of 2014, possible adjustments to the remuneration policy were discussed following CRD IV and in preparation for the future Wbfo (*Wet beloningsbeleid financiële ondernemingen*) legislation. The Supervisory Board approved the proposed adjustments to the remuneration policy for Identified Staff to comply with CRD IV and the future Wbfo legislation.

In preparation for the NN Group IPO the composition of the NN Group Executive Board was decided upon as well as the remuneration policy for the future NN Group Supervisory Board and the NN Group Management Board.

The future composition and nomination of potential candidates of the Supervisory Board was a topic of discussion throughout the year.

The action points resulting from the 2013 self-assessment were acted upon during the year. The 2014 self-assessment questionnaire for the Supervisory Board, its Committees and its members, was conducted in December. An external consultant drafted the questionnaires as well as the report based on the outcome of the questionnaires. Furthermore, bilateral meetings were held between the chairman and each Supervisory Board member (for the chairman, a bilateral meeting was held between the vice-chairman and the chairman). The results and conclusions of the self-assessment questionnaire were discussed in the internal Supervisory Board meeting (without the CEO present). This discussion resulted in an action point to increase in depth discussion on strategy. In addition, the Supervisory Board would like to discuss more nomination related matters in the Internal Supervisory Board meetings next to the discussion in the Nomination Committee meetings. The Supervisory Board is pleased to confirm that the Supervisory Board and its committees continue to operate proficiently.

Audit Committee meetings

In 2014, the Audit Committee met five times to discuss the quarterly results and the interim and annual accounts and key audit matters, as included in the independent auditor's report. On average, 97.2% of the Audit Committee members were present at the scheduled meetings. In addition to the Audit Committee meeting, the chairman of the Audit Committee regularly held separate sessions with the independent external auditor, the head of the Corporate Audit Services Department and the CFO. All relevant issues discussed in the Audit Committee were reported to the Supervisory Board. Directly following the Audit Committee meetings, the members of the Audit Committee met with the internal and external auditors to seek confirmation that all relevant topics were discussed in the Audit Committee meeting.

The Audit Committee regularly discussed, amongst others, financial reporting, auditor's independence, internal controls over financial reporting, the reports from the external auditor, capital management and regulatory matters.

The Audit Committee reviewed quarterly press releases, the Annual Report and the Form 20-F report. In the first half of the year the capital plan for NN Group was a topic of frequent debate as well as various disclosures relating to NN Group. An Audit Committee subcommittee devoted particular attention to the Financial Risk Reporting Framework for NN Group. The Audit Committee reviewed and advised positively on the NN Group debt prospectus.

ING Bank's interest margin, NPL ratio, risk costs and cost trends in general, as well as loan loss provisioning were discussed regularly. The Audit Committee discussed and confirmed the topics mentioned in the management letter by Ernst & Young. The Audit Committee was briefed on SEPA payment flows, the AQR review and the ECB stress test as well as on the financial control framework for a number of specific entities. In addition, the Audit Committee was informed on derivative

valuation models and the new extended auditor's report. Given the new legislation which required ING Group to change its external auditor as of January 2016, the Audit Committee appointed a subcommittee to advise the Supervisory Board on the external auditor tender process and the preferred external auditor candidate firms.

Risk Committee meetings

The Risk Committee met five times in 2014. On average, 94.4% of the Risk Committee members were present at the scheduled meetings. All relevant issues discussed in the Risk Committee were reported to the Supervisory Board.

In the first half of 2014, the financial risk and the non-financial risk reports for banking and insurance were discussed in detail in each Risk Committee meeting. Following the NN Group IPO, the detailed insurance risk report was only discussed in the Risk Committee of NN Group. At almost every meeting the Risk Committee was updated on the developments regarding the implementation of the Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive. This was also the case for the Asset Quality Review and the stress test, that were executed for DNB and ECB. Various stress test scenarios for ING Bank were discussed, while for Insurance, the status of Solvency II regulation was a frequent topic. The annual risk appetite statements for Insurance and Banking were reviewed and supported. The Recovery Plan for both ING Bank and NN Group were discussed and supported by the Risk Committee. The Risk Committee closely monitored the developments in Russia and Ukraine and the possible risks for ING. Each meeting ended with a general discussion on possible future risks.

☞ Risk and capital management chapter and the Risk section in the Annual Accounts for more information.

Nomination Committee meetings

The Nomination Committee met 10 times in 2014 with no absentees. Following the new Banking strategy the Nomination Committee devoted considerable time to senior executive succession planning for ING Bank. The Nomination Committee supported the nomination of a COO for ING Bank. The Nomination Committee also discussed the future composition and potential candidates for the Management Board Banking, taking into account that two Management Board Banking members, Eli Leenaars and Hans van der Noordaa, had left ING to pursue their careers elsewhere. The future composition of the Supervisory Board for ING Group/Bank was also discussed as two Supervisory Board members would step down to join the future Supervisory Board of NN Group. The Nomination Committee requested an executive recruitment firm to search for Supervisory Board candidates with financial expertise, taking into account ING's ambition of having at least 30% female Supervisory Board members. Several candidates were interviewed by members of the Nomination Committee in the second half of 2014. The Nomination Committee advised to nominate a candidate for the Supervisory Board at the 2015 AGM. In preparation for the NN Group IPO, the Nomination

Committee also advised on the fulfilment of the NN Group Executive Board positions as well as on the nomination of external candidates for the then future NN Group Supervisory Board.

Remuneration Committee meetings

In 2014, the Remuneration Committee met seven times with no absentees.

The annual review of the remuneration framework for ING Bank and the insurance operations took place as well as the annual risk analysis of the remuneration policy. The Identified Staff selection criteria and the list of Identified Staff for ING Bank and insurance operations were reviewed and approved. Later in 2014, an additional assessment of the Identified Staff selection took place under CRD IV regulation. Throughout the year the Remuneration Committee approved Identified Staff related remuneration matters, based upon the governance framework.

The Remuneration Committee reviewed the thresholds above which the pool for variable remuneration becomes available. It discussed the variable remuneration pool and reviewed the performance assessment for the Executive Board and Bank and Insurance Management Boards, as well as the variable remuneration proposals for Bank and Insurance Management Boards. The remuneration proposals for Identified Staff were also reviewed, including potential cases for holdback of deferred compensation by way of malus. The proposed 2014 performance objectives for the CEO and the Banking and Insurance Board members and the proposed hurdles for the 2014 capital test were supported. The Remuneration Committee agreed to table an adjusted Executive Board and Management Board Banking pension scheme for the 2014 AGM.

In preparation for the NN Group IPO the remuneration policy for the future NN Group Supervisory Board was discussed in February. In May, the Remuneration Committee supported the remuneration policy for NN Group after the IPO. Much time was devoted to adjusting the ING Bank remuneration policy following the CRD IV legislation and in preparation of the future Wbfo legislation.

☞ Remuneration report chapter for more information.

Corporate Governance Committee meetings

The Corporate Governance Committee met twice with no absentees. The Committee discussed the agenda for the 2014 Annual General Meeting, including the publication on the application of the Dutch Banking Code and the Dutch Insurers' Code. Apart from the annual review of the charters of the Supervisory Board and the Executive Board, the Committee also reviewed the draft charters of the Management Board and Supervisory Board of NN Group N.V. and ING Insurance Eurasia N.V. as well as the final governance structure of NN Group. In November the Committee advised on various recommendations regarding the 2015 Annual General Meeting and discussed possible corporate governance implications of CRD IV regulation as well as the proposal to integrate the Annual Report and the Sustainability Report for 2014.



Clockwise from left: Eric Boyer de la Giroday, Joost Kuiper, Jeroen van der Veer, Hermann-Josef Lamberti, Henk Breukink, Carin Gorter, Robert Reibestein, Isabel Martín Castellá

ING Insurance Committee meetings

The ING Insurance Committee, set up in November 2013, met five times in the first half of 2014 for NN Group. One member was absent once. After the IPO, the ING Insurance Committee was dissolved.

Composition of the Executive and the Management Boards

At the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders in May, no changes to the Executive Board were proposed.

Composition of the Supervisory Board

At the Annual General Shareholders' Meeting on 12 May 2014, Tineke Bahlmann (State nominee) decided to resign from the Supervisory Board since the corporate governance arrangements between ING and the Dutch State had expired as a result of the unwinding of the Illiquid Assets Back-up Facility and the repayment of more than 75% of the remaining core Tier 1 securities. Peter Elverding decided to resign from the Supervisory Board because of his desire to reduce his board commitments. Luc Vandewalle retired from the Supervisory Board having reached the statutory age of 70. Eric Boyer de la Giroday was appointed to the Supervisory Board on 12 May 2014 at the Annual General Meeting.

Following the 2014 Annual General Meeting, Eric Boyer de la Giroday joined the Risk Committee and the Audit Committee. Hermann Lamberti succeeded Joost Kuiper as chairman of the Audit Committee. Joost Kuiper succeeded Peter Elverding as vice-chairman and became chairman of the Remuneration Committee and member of the Nomination Committee. In January 2015, Joost Kuiper decided for health reasons to step down as chairman of the Remuneration Committee to be able to reduce his commitments. He was succeeded by Henk Breukink. Isabel Martín Castella became a member of the Nomination Committee and stepped down from the Risk Committee.

Corporate governance chapter for more information about the composition of the Supervisory Board committees at year-end 2014.

The Nomination Committee and the Supervisory Board will continue to strive for an adequate and balanced composition of the Supervisory Board when selecting and nominating new members for appointment.

Currently, only one Supervisory Board member, Eric Boyer de la Giroday qualifies as 'non-independent' as defined in best practice provision III.2.2 of the Dutch Corporate Governance Code. Mr. Boyer de la Giroday is considered not independent because of his position as Chairman of the Board of Directors of ING Belgium S.A./N.V. and his former positions as a member of the Executive Board of ING Group and vice-chairman of Management Board Banking of ING Bank N.V.

Annual accounts and dividend

The Executive Board has prepared the annual accounts and discussed these with the Supervisory Board. The annual accounts will be submitted for adoption at the 2015 Annual General Meeting as part of the Annual Report. The Board proposes to pay a final 2014 dividend of EUR 470 million, or EUR 0.12 per (depository receipt for an) ordinary share, subject to the approval of shareholders at the Annual General Meeting in May 2015.

Appreciation for the Executive Board and ING employees

The Supervisory Board would like to thank the members of the Executive Board and the Management Boards for their hard work in 2014. At the end of March the Think Forward strategy was launched and the IPO of NN Group was successfully conducted in July, marking the end of a long and intense process the outcome of which ING can be proud of. For NN Group the listing marked the beginning of a new independent future. The Supervisory Board would also like to thank all employees of ING who continue to serve the interests of customers, shareholders and other stakeholders of ING and have shown continued commitment in the past year.

Additional information

Corporate governance chapter, pages 68-79 and the Remuneration report chapter, pages 87-97 for more information, which are deemed to be incorporated by reference here.

Amsterdam, 16 March 2015

The Supervisory Board

Corporate Governance

This section discusses the application by ING Groep N.V. ("ING Group") of the Dutch Corporate Governance Code effective as from 1 January 2009 ("Corporate Governance Code") and provides information on the share capital and control, the Executive Board, the Supervisory Board and the external auditor.

This section, including the parts of this Annual Report incorporated by reference, together with the separate publication "ING's implementation of the Dutch Corporate Governance Code" dated April 2010, on the website of ING Group ([www.ing.com](#)), also serves as the "corporate governance statement" referred to in section 2a of the Decree with respect to the contents of the annual report (*Besluit tot vaststelling van nadere voorschriften omtrent de inhoud van het jaarverslag*).⁽¹⁾

Recent developments

Legislative and regulatory developments

In 2014, the Capital Requirements Directive IV ("CRD IV") has been implemented in Dutch law. CRD IV sets requirements a.o. for the corporate governance of banks. CRD IV and its Dutch implementation act apply to ING Bank N.V. and its subsidiaries within the European Union with a banking license but not to ING Group.

One of the features of CRD IV is the rules concerning the limitation of ancillary positions of board members, with implications which are different from those of the Dutch Civil Code. Another feature is that, the CRD IV corporate governance provisions are based on a one-tier board structure while the two-tier board structure is mandatory for Dutch banks. ING Bank will consult with the Dutch central bank (DNB) how to apply these requirements in the two-tier board structure of the bank.

On 16 October 2014, the Dutch Banking Association published a revised version of the Dutch Banking Code. Just like its predecessor, the revised version ("Banking Code 2014"), does not apply to ING Group, but to ING Bank N.V. The Banking Code 2014 will apply to the financial year 2015 and subsequent years, and as of the financial year 2015, ING Bank N.V. will explain how it applied the Banking Code 2014.

Transactions with the Dutch State

The terms and conditions of the support agreements concluded in reaction to the financial crisis between ING Group and the Dutch State in 2008 and 2009 provided for special governance arrangements. Pursuant to these arrangements the Dutch State could recommend two candidates for appointment to the ING Group Supervisory Board, who, being appointed, would have special approval rights.

As a result of the repayment/unwinding of these support agreements, these special governance arrangements ceased to apply on 11 December 2013. The only

remaining Supervisory Board member appointed upon a recommendation from the Dutch State no longer had special approval rights from 11 December 2013 and stepped down on 12 May 2014.

Shareholder participation and position of ING Trust Office (Stichting ING Aandelen)

During the years 2010–2014, participation of shareholders, excluding the ING Trust Office, and holders of depositary receipts in the decision-making in the annual shareholders' meeting of ING Group ("General Meeting") consistently increased from 41.3 percent to 54 percent.

ING Group's depositary-receipts structure was evaluated by the Executive Board and the Supervisory Board in 2010 and discussed in the 2010 Annual General Meeting. On the basis of this evaluation, the Executive Board and the Supervisory Board concluded that it would be premature to change or abolish ING Group's depositary-receipts structure in 2010 and that it would be appropriate to reconsider this as part of a re-evaluation of ING Group's entire governance structure following the current restructuring of ING Group and the completion of the divestments approved by the 2009 extraordinary General Meeting.

Although the completion of these divestments may well extend until the end of 2016, the Executive Board and Supervisory Board have decided that a review of ING Group's entire corporate governance will be conducted in 2015, including the depositary-receipts structure, and to put this item on the agenda of the 2016 Annual General Meeting.

Corporate Governance Codes

Compliance with the Corporate Governance Code

For its corporate governance structure and practices, ING Group uses the Corporate Governance Code as reference. The Corporate Governance Code can be downloaded from the website of the Dutch Corporate Governance Code Monitoring Committee ([www.dccg.nl](#)).

The application of the Corporate Governance Code by ING is described in the publication "ING's implementation of the Dutch Corporate Governance Code" of 2010, which is available on the website of ING Group ([www.ing.com](#)), which is to be read in conjunction with this section and is deemed to be incorporated into this section.

Dutch Banking Code 2010

The Dutch Banking Code 2010 ("Banking Code") is applicable to ING Bank N.V. and not to ING Group. The Banking Code can be downloaded from the website of the Dutch Banking Association ([www.dba.nl](#)). The principles of the Banking Code as a whole are considered to be incorporated by reference in the Annual Report of ING Bank N.V. ING Bank's application is described in the publication "Application of the Dutch Banking Code by ING Bank N.V.", available on the website of ING Group ([www.ing.com](#)). ING Group voluntarily applies the

(1) Dutch Bulletin of Acts (Staatsblad) 2009, 154.

principles of the Banking Code regarding remuneration with respect to the members of its Executive Board and considers these principles as a reference for its own corporate governance. ING Group's remuneration policy for the Executive Board and senior management is compliant with these principles.

Dutch Insurers' Code

The application of the Insurers' Code principles is described in the publication "Application of the Insurers' Code by ING Insurance Eurasia" available on the website of NN Group ().

Differences between Dutch and US corporate governance practices

In accordance with the requirements of the US Securities and Exchange Commission, ING Group, as a foreign private issuer whose securities are listed on the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE"), must disclose in its Annual Report on Form 20-F any significant differences between its corporate governance practices and those applicable to US domestic companies under the NYSE listing standards.

ING Group believes the following to be the significant differences between its corporate governance practices and NYSE corporate governance rules applicable to US companies:

- › ING Group has a two-tier board structure, in contrast to the one-tier board structure used by most US companies. In the Netherlands, a public limited liability company (*naamloze vennootschap*) with a two-tier board structure has an executive board as its management body and a supervisory board which advises and supervises the executive board. In general, members of the executive board are employees of the company while members of the supervisory board are not. The latter are often former state or business leaders and sometimes former members of the executive board. Members of the executive board and other officers or employees of the company cannot simultaneously be a member of the supervisory board. The supervisory board must approve specified decisions of the executive board. Under the Corporate Governance Code, all members of the supervisory board with the exception of not more than one person, should be independent. The definition of independence under the Corporate Governance Code, however, differs in its details from the definitions of independence under the NYSE listing standards. In some cases, the Dutch requirements are stricter and in other cases the NYSE listing standards are the stricter of the two. The Audit Committee, Risk Committee, Remuneration Committee, Nomination Committee and Corporate Governance Committee of ING Group are comprised of members of the Supervisory Board. Furthermore, a temporary committee, the Insurance Europe Committee, which was established on 1 October 2013, does not exist any more because of the sale of (part of) NN Group.

- › In contrast to the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, the Corporate Governance Code contains a "comply-or-explain" principle, offering the possibility of deviating from the Corporate Governance Code as long as any such deviations are explained. To the extent that such deviations are approved by the General Meeting, the company is deemed to be in full compliance with the Corporate Governance Code.
- › Consistent with Dutch law, the board committees generally act only in an advisory capacity to the supervisory board and, for instance, ING's compensation committee may not directly set the compensation of the CEO.
- › Dutch law requires that ING Group's external auditors be appointed at the General Meeting and not by the Audit Committee.
- › The articles of association of ING Group ('Articles of Association') provide that there are no quorum requirements to hold a General Meeting, although certain shareholder actions and certain resolutions may require a quorum.
- › The shareholder approval requirements for equity compensation plans under Dutch law and the Corporate Governance Code differ from those applicable to US companies which are subject to NYSE's listing rules that require a shareholder vote on all equity compensation plans applicable to any employee, director or other service provider of a company. The results of such votes are advisory in nature rather than binding. Under Dutch company law and the Corporate Governance Code, binding shareholder approval is only required for equity compensation plans (or changes thereto) for members of the executive board and supervisory board, and not for equity compensation plans for other groups of employees.

Capital and shares

Capital structure, shares

The authorised capital of ING Group consists of ordinary shares and cumulative preference shares. Currently, only ordinary shares are issued, while a call option to acquire cumulative preference shares has been granted to ING Continuity Foundation (Stichting Continuïteit ING). The acquisition of cumulative preference shares pursuant to the call option is subject to the restriction that, immediately after the issuance of cumulative preference shares, the total amount of cumulative preference shares outstanding may not exceed one-third of the total issued share capital of ING Group (see page 54). The purpose of this call option is to protect the independence, the continuity and the identity of ING Group against influences which are contrary to the interests of ING Group, its enterprise and the enterprises of its subsidiaries and all stakeholders (including, but not limited to, hostile takeovers). The ordinary shares are not used for protective purposes. The ordinary shares, which are all registered shares, are not listed on a stock exchange.

The Board of ING Continuity Foundation currently comprises four members who are independent of ING Group. No Executive Board member or former Executive Board member, Supervisory Board member or former Supervisory Board member, ING Group employee or former ING Group employee or permanent adviser or former permanent adviser to ING Group is on the Board of ING Continuity Foundation. The Board of ING Continuity Foundation appoints its own members, after consultation with the Supervisory Board of ING Group, but without any requirement for approval by ING Group.

📖 ING Continuity Foundation chapter for more information.

Depository receipts

More than 99.9% of the issued ordinary shares are held by ING Trust Office (Stichting ING Aandelen). In exchange for these shares, ING Trust Office has issued depository receipts in bearer form for these shares. The depository receipts are listed on various stock exchanges (see page 54 for an overview of the listings). Depository receipts can be exchanged upon request of the holders of depository receipts for non-listed ordinary shares, without any restriction, other than payment of an administrative fee of one eurocent (EUR 0.01) per depository receipt with a minimum of 25 euros (EUR 25.00) per exchange transaction.

The holder of a depository receipt is entitled to receive from ING Trust Office payment of dividends and other distributions corresponding to the dividends and other distributions received by ING Trust Office on an ordinary share.

📖 The rights of a depository receipt holder to participate in the discussions and decision-making of the General Meeting are described on page 81.

The Board of ING Trust Office currently comprises five members who are independent from ING Group. No Executive Board member or former Executive Board member, Supervisory Board member or former Supervisory Board member, ING Group employee or former ING Group employee or permanent adviser or former permanent adviser to ING Group is on the Board of ING Trust Office. The Board of ING Trust Office appoints its own members, without any requirement for approval by ING Group.

📖 The Board of ING Trust Office reports on its activities through an annual report, which has been included on pages 80–82.

Issuance of shares

ING Group's authorised capital is the maximum amount of capital allowed to be issued under the terms of the Articles of Association. New shares in excess of this amount can only be issued if the Articles of Association are amended. For reasons of flexibility, ING Group seeks to set the authorised capital in the Articles of Association at the highest level permitted by law.

Share issuances are to be decided by the General Meeting, which may also delegate its authority. Each year, the General Meeting is asked to delegate authority to the Executive Board to issue new ordinary shares or to grant rights to subscribe for new ordinary shares, both with and without pre-emptive rights to existing shareholders. The powers delegated to the Executive Board are limited:

- › In time: powers are delegated for a period of 18 months.
- › By number: insofar as a sufficient number of unissued ordinary shares is available in the authorised capital, ordinary shares may be issued up to a maximum of 10% of the issued share capital, or, in the event of a merger or takeover or to safeguard or conserve the capital position of ING Group, up to a maximum of 20% of the issued capital.
- › In terms of control: resolutions by the Executive Board to issue shares require the approval of the Supervisory Board.

Approval by the General Meeting would be required for any share issuances exceeding these limits.

The purpose of this delegation of authority is to allow ING Group to respond promptly to developments in the financial markets.

- › Without such delegation, if ING Group wished to issue new shares, there would be an increased risk that conditions in the financial markets may have changed during the time needed for convening a general meeting, especially due to the 42-day statutory convocation period. In view of the importance of flexibility with respect to the issuance of shares, the Executive Board and the Supervisory Board will periodically evaluate the delegation of authority to issue shares and, if necessary, make adjusted proposals to the General Meeting.
- › In the General Meeting of 2014 the shareholders resolved to conditionally amend the Articles of Association in order to facilitate a possible spin-off of (a part of) NN Group by means of a repayment in kind without the need to call an extraordinary general meeting. As a consequence of this resolution the Executive Board may, subject to approval of the Supervisory Board, decide to spin-off (a part of) NN Group by increasing the issued share capital to facilitate a repayment in kind by subsequently reducing the issued share capital.

Transfer of shares and depository receipts and transfer restrictions

Shares are transferred by means of a deed of transfer between the transferor and the transferee. To become effective, ING Group has to acknowledge the transfer, unless ING Group itself is a party to the transfer. The Articles of Association do not restrict the transfer of ordinary shares, whereas the transfer of cumulative preference shares is subject to prior approval of the Executive Board. The Articles of Association and the trust conditions for registered shares in the share capital

of ING Group ("Trust Conditions") do not restrict the transfer of depositary receipts for shares. ING Group is not aware of the existence of any agreement pursuant to which the transfer of ordinary shares or depositary receipts for such shares is restricted.

Repurchase of shares

ING Group may repurchase outstanding shares and depositary receipts for such shares. Although the power to repurchase shares and depositary receipts for shares is vested in the Executive Board subject to the approval of the Supervisory Board, prior authorisation from the General Meeting is required for these repurchases. Under Dutch law, this authorisation lapses after 18 months. Each year, the General Meeting is asked to approve the Executive Board's authority to repurchase shares.

When repurchasing shares, the Executive Board must observe the price ranges prescribed in the authorisation. For the ordinary shares and depositary receipts for such shares, the authorisation currently in force stipulates a minimum price of one eurocent and a maximum price equal to the highest stock price on Euronext Amsterdam by NYSE Euronext on the date on which the purchase agreement is concluded or on the preceding day of stock market trading.

Special rights of control

No special rights of control referred to in Article 10 of the directive of the European Parliament and the Council on takeover bids (2004/25/EC) are attached to any share.

Shareholders' structure

Pursuant to the Dutch Financial Supervision Act (*Wet op het financieel toezicht*), any person who, directly or indirectly acquires or disposes of an interest in the voting rights and/or the capital of ING Group as a result of which acquisition or disposal the percentage of his voting rights or capital interest, whether through ownership of shares, depositary receipts, American depositary shares or any other financial instrument whether stock-settled or cash-settled, such as call or put options, warrants, swaps or any other similar contract, reaches, exceeds or falls below certain thresholds, is required to notify in writing the Dutch Authority for the Financial Markets (*Autoriteit Financiële Markten*) immediately after the acquisition or disposal of the triggering interest in ING Group's share capital. These thresholds are 3%, 5%, 10%, 15%, 20%, 25%, 30%, 40%, 50%, 60%, 75% or 95% of the issued share capital of ING Group. The notification will be recorded in a public register which is held by the AFM.

Details of investors, if any, who have reported their interest in ING Group pursuant to the Dutch Financial Supervision Act (or the predecessor of this legislation), are shown on page 54.

ING Group is not aware of any investors (or potential shareholders) with an interest of 3% or more in ING Group other than the ING Trust Office, the ING Continuity Foundation and Blackrock Inc. as per year-end 2014.

Pursuant to the Regulation (EU) no. 236/2012 of the European Parliament and the Council on short selling

and certain aspects of credit default swaps, any person who acquires or disposes of a net short position relating to the issued share capital of ING Group, whether by a transaction in shares, depositary receipts or American depositary receipts, or by a transaction creating or relating to any financial instrument where the effect or one of the effects of the transaction is to confer a financial advantage on the person entering into that transaction in the event of a change in the price of such shares, depositary receipts or American depositary receipts is required to notify, in accordance with the provisions of the above-mentioned Regulation:

- a. The Dutch Authority for the Financial Markets (*Autoriteit Financiële Markten*) if, as a result of which acquisition or disposal his net short position reaches, exceeds or falls below 0.2% of the issued share capital of ING Group and each 0.1% above that.
- b. ING Group if, as a result of which acquisition or disposal his net short position reaches, exceeds or falls below 0.5% of the issued share capital of ING Group and each 0.1% above that.

Investor relations and bilateral contacts with investors

ING Group encourages and recognises the importance of bilateral communication with the investment community. Communications with current and potential shareholders, holders of depositary receipts, bondholders, and industry analysts is actively managed by the Investor Relations department.

ING Group strives to provide clear, accurate and timely financial information that is in strict compliance with the applicable rules and regulations, in particular those concerning selective disclosure, price sensitive information and equal treatment. In addition to the Annual General Meeting, ING Group communicates with its shareholders and the investment community through earnings announcements, presentations, and meetings with analysts or investors.

ING Group publishes a comprehensive quarterly disclosure package which includes extensive and detailed financial figures with relevant explanatory remarks. This information is discussed thoroughly during press and analyst and investor conference calls on the day of the earnings release, which are broadly accessible to interested parties. The publication dates of quarterly earnings releases are announced in advance on ING Group's corporate website ().

ING Group participates in several industry conferences and generally hosts one Investor Relations Day each year. These events are announced in advance on ING Group's website, and presentation materials are made available in real time on the website. This is in accordance with the applicable regulatory requirements intended to ensure that all shareholders and other market participants may have equal and simultaneous access to information that could potentially influence the price of the company's securities. ING Group's Investor Relations Days can be accessed by means of live webcasts or telephone conferencing.

No Investor Relations Day or conference in which ING Group participates is held shortly before the publication of quarterly financial information.

ING Group strives to maintain an open and constructive dialogue with current and potential investors, and with industry analysts. The scope of such bilateral communication may range from single investor queries via email, to more elaborate discussions with analysts or institutional investors that take place via telephone or face to face. These meetings are not announced in advance, nor can they be followed by webcast or any other means. ING Group's Investor Relations department is the main point of contact for these communications. However, Executive Board members or Management Board members or divisional management members may also participate in investor meetings. Information provided during such occasions is always limited to that which is already in the public domain, and no bilateral contacts take place shortly before the publication of regular quarterly results releases. If bilateral communication between ING Group and investors is organised and/or facilitated through a broker, an analyst or specialist salesperson representing the broker may be present in the meeting. ING Group does not provide brokers with any form of compensation pertaining to such meeting organisation and/or facilitation services.

In the event that non-public price sensitive information is inadvertently disclosed during any bilateral contacts, ING Group will publicly announce such information as soon as possible.

ING Group may decide not to accommodate or accept any requests or invitations to enter into a dialogue with potential investors, or to accommodate or accept such request or invitation under certain conditions.

Approximately 25 analysts actively cover and frequently issue reports on ING Group. A list of these analysts can be found under "Analyst Coverage" of the Investor Relations section of ING Group's website. During 2014, ING Group did not provide any form of compensation to parties that are directly or indirectly involved in the production or publication of analysts' reports, with the exception of credit-rating agencies.

ING Group presented at five industry conferences throughout the course of the year. In total, there were approximately 450 meetings (including conference calls) with institutional investors and/or analysts. Combined, conference presentations and face-to-face meetings with investors and/or analysts took place in more than 30 different cities across the globe.

ING Group hosted one Investor Day on 31 March 2014. The event took place in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, and focused on the "Think Forward" strategy update.

The geographical distribution of ING Group's investor base is diverse – an estimated 38% of our shares are held in the US, 19% in the UK, 9% in France, 6% in Switzerland, 5% in the Netherlands, 5% in Germany, 10% in the Rest of Europe and 8% in the Rest of the World.

These figures are based on year-end 2014 estimates of institutional share ownership provided by NASDAQ Corporate Solutions.

☞ ING Shares chapter for more information.

General Meeting

Frequency, notice and agenda of General Meetings

General Meetings are normally held each year in April or May, to discuss the course of business in the preceding financial year on the basis of the reports prepared by the Executive Board and the Supervisory Board, and to decide on the distribution of dividends or other distributions, the appointment and/or reappointment of members of the Executive Board and the Supervisory Board, if any, other items requiring shareholder approval under Dutch law, and any other matters proposed by the Supervisory Board, the Executive Board or shareholders or holders of depositary receipts in accordance with the Articles of Association.

General Meetings are convened by public notice via the website of ING Group () no later than on the 42nd day before the day of the General Meeting. As of the date of convening a General Meeting, all information relevant for shareholders and holders of depositary receipts is made available to them on this website and at the ING Group head office.

Such information includes the notice for the General Meeting, the agenda, the place and time of the meeting, the address of the website of ING Group, the verbatim text of the proposals with an explanation and instructions on how to participate in the meeting (either in person or by proxy), as well as the reports of the Executive Board and the Supervisory Board. More complex proposals, such as proposals to amend the Articles of Association, are normally not included in the notice but are made available separately on the website of ING Group and at the ING Group head office.

Proposals by shareholders and holders of depositary receipts

Proposals to include items on the agenda for a General Meeting that have been adequately substantiated under applicable Dutch law can be made by shareholders and holders of depositary receipts representing a joint total of at least 0.1 percent of the issued share capital or representing together a share value of at least EUR 50 million, calculated, on the basis of the closing prices on the date of signature of the proposal, as published by Euronext Amsterdam N.V. Given the periods of notice required for proxy voting, proposals have to be submitted in writing at least 60 days before the date of the meeting.

Dialogue with shareholders and holders of depositary receipts

Shareholders and holders of depositary receipts were given the opportunity to contact ING about the Annual General Meeting 2014, via the Annual General Meeting dedicated web page on the website of ING Group ().

Record date

Pursuant to Dutch law, the record date for attending a general meeting and voting on the proposals at that general meeting is the 28th day before the day of the general meeting. Shareholders and holders of depositary receipts who hold shares and/or depositary receipts for shares at the record date are entitled to attend the general meeting and to exercise other rights related to the general meeting in question on the basis of their holding at the record date, notwithstanding a subsequent sale or purchase of shares or depositary receipts for shares. The record date is published in the notice for the general meeting. In accordance with US requirements, the depositary sets a record date for the American Depositary Shares ("ADSs"), which date determines which ADSs are entitled to give voting instructions. This record date can differ from the record date set by ING Group for shareholders and holders of depositary receipts.

Attending General Meetings

For logistical reasons, attendance at a General Meeting by shareholders and holders of depositary receipts, either in person or by proxy, is subject to the requirement that ING Group is notified in advance. Instructions to that effect are included in the notice for the General Meeting.

General Meetings are webcasted via ING Group's website (), so that shareholders and holders of depositary receipts who do not attend the General Meeting in person, may nevertheless follow the course of affairs in the meeting by internet webcast.

Voting rights on shares

Each share entitles the holder to cast one vote at the General Meeting. The Articles of Association do not restrict the voting rights on any class of shares. ING Group is not aware of any agreement pursuant to which voting rights on any class of its shares are restricted.

Voting on the ordinary shares by holders of depositary receipts as proxy of ING Trust Office

Although the depositary receipts for shares do not formally carry any voting rights, holders of depositary receipts, in practice, rank equally with shareholders with regard to voting. ING Trust Office will, subject to certain restrictions, grant a proxy to a holder of depositary receipts allowing such holder, in the name of ING Trust Office, to exercise the voting rights attached to the number of ordinary shares that corresponds to the number of depositary receipts held by such holder of depositary receipts. On the basis of such a proxy, the holder of depositary receipts may vote such shares according to his or her own discretion.

The following restrictions apply in respect of grants of voting proxies to holders of depositary receipts by ING Trust Office:

- › The relevant holder of depositary receipts must have announced his or her intention to attend the General Meeting observing the provisions laid down in the Articles of Association.

- › The relevant holder of depositary receipts may delegate the powers conferred upon him or her by means of the voting proxy, provided that the relevant holder of depositary receipts has announced his or her intention to do so to ING Trust Office observing a term before the commencement of the General Meeting, which term will be determined by ING Trust Office.

Voting instructions of holders of depositary receipts to ING Trust Office

Holders of depositary receipts not attending a General Meeting are entitled to give binding instructions to ING Trust Office, concerning ING Trust Office's exercise of the voting rights attached to the ordinary shares. ING Trust Office will follow such instructions for such number of ordinary shares equal to the number of depositary receipts for shares held by the relevant holder of depositary receipts.

Voting on the ordinary shares by ING Trust Office

ING Trust Office has discretion to vote in respect of shares for which it has not issued voting proxies to holders of depositary receipts and has not received any voting instructions.

According to its articles of association and the Trust Conditions, ING Trust Office is guided primarily by the interests of the holders of depositary receipts, taking into account the interests of ING Group and its affiliated enterprises.

ING Trust Office promotes the solicitation of specific proxies or voting instructions of holders of depositary receipts. ING Trust Office encourages the greatest possible participation of holders of depositary receipts and promotes the execution of voting rights in a transparent way. At the same time it prevents a minority of shareholders and holders of depositary receipts from using a chance majority of votes to the disadvantage of the shareholders and holders of depositary receipts neither present nor represented at a General Meeting of ING Group.

Proxy voting facilities

The Shareholder Communication Channel (Stichting Communicatiekanaal aandeelhouders) ceased to exist in 2013. ING Group continues to provide proxy voting facilities to its investors via its website and solicits proxies from its ADS holders in line with common practice in the US.

Proxy voting forms for shareholders and voting instruction forms for holders of depositary receipts are made available on the website of ING Group (). The submission of these forms is subject to additional conditions specified on such forms.

In order to encourage the participation in the Annual General Meeting, ING has introduced the EVO Platform for the first time in the Annual General Meeting of 2014. The EVO Platform enables holders of depositary receipts to register online for the meeting, appoint a proxy or issue voting instructions to the ING Trust Office.

Main powers of the General Meeting

The main powers of the General Meeting are to decide on:

- › The appointment, suspension and dismissal of members of the Executive Board and members of the Supervisory Board, subject to a binding nomination or a proposal of the Supervisory Board as set forth in the Articles of Association.
- › The adoption of the annual accounts.
- › The declaration of dividends, subject to the power of the Executive Board to allocate part of or all of the profits to the reserves – with approval of the Supervisory Board – and the declaration of other distributions, subject to a proposal by the Executive Board which was approved by the Supervisory Board.
- › The appointment of the external auditor.
- › An amendment of the Articles of Association, a legal merger or division of ING Group, and winding-up of ING Group, all subject to a proposal made by the Executive Board upon approval by the Supervisory Board.
- › The issuance of shares or rights to subscribe for shares, the restriction or exclusion of pre-emptive rights of shareholders, and delegation of these powers to the Executive Board, subject to a proposal by the Executive Board which was approved by the Supervisory Board.
- › The authorisation of a repurchase of outstanding shares and/or a cancellation of shares.

Moreover, the approval of the General Meeting is required for Executive Board decisions that would be considered to greatly change the identity or nature of ING Group or its enterprise. This includes resolutions to transfer or otherwise assign all, or substantially all, of the enterprise of ING Group or its subsidiaries as a consequence of which such resolutions ING Group or the group of companies over which ING Group exercises control, would cease to engage in either insurance or banking activities.

Reporting

Resolutions adopted at a General Meeting are generally published on the website of ING Group () within one week after the meeting. The draft minutes of the General Meeting are, in accordance with the Corporate Governance Code, made available to shareholders and holders of depositary receipts on the website of ING Group () no later than three months after the meeting. Shareholders and holders of depositary receipts may react to the draft minutes in the following three months, after which the final minutes will be adopted by the chairman of the meeting in question and by a shareholder or holder of depositary receipts appointed by that meeting. The final minutes are made available on the website of ING Group (). In a deviation from the provisions of the Corporate Governance Code, shareholders and holders of depositary receipts will not have the opportunity to react to the minutes of a General Meeting if a notarial report

of the meeting is made, as this would be in conflict with the laws applicable to such notarial report.

Executive Board

Appointment and dismissal

Members of the Executive Board are appointed by the General Meeting from a binding list to be drawn up by the Supervisory Board. The list will be rendered non-binding if a resolution of the General Meeting to that effect is adopted by an absolute majority of the votes cast which majority represents more than one-third of the issued share capital. Candidates for appointment to the Executive Board must comply with the suitability and reliability requirements set out in the Dutch Financial Supervision Act and must continue to meet these while in office.

Members of the Executive Board may be suspended or dismissed at any time by a majority resolution of the General Meeting.

A resolution to suspend or dismiss members of the Executive Board that has not been proposed by the Supervisory Board may only be adopted by the General Meeting by an absolute majority of the votes cast, which majority represents more than one-third of the issued share capital.

Function of the Executive Board

The Executive Board is charged with the management of ING Group, which means, among other things, that it is responsible for the setting and achieving of ING Group's objectives, strategy and policies, as well as the ensuing delivery of results. It also includes the day-to-day management of ING Group. The Executive Board is accountable for the performance of these duties to the Supervisory Board and the General Meeting. The responsibility for the management of ING Group is vested in the Executive Board collectively. The organisation, powers and modus operandi of the Executive Board are detailed in the Executive Board Charter, which was approved by the Supervisory Board. The Executive Board Charter is available on the website of ING Group (). ING Group indemnifies the members of the Executive Board against direct financial losses in connection with claims from third parties, as far as permitted by law, on the conditions laid down in their employment or commission contract. ING Group has also taken out liability insurance for the members of the Executive Board.

Profile of members of the Executive Board

The Supervisory Board has drawn up a profile to be used as a basis for selecting members of the Executive Board. It is available on the website of ING Group () and at the ING Group head office.

ING Group aims to have an adequate and balanced composition of its Executive Board. Thereto, annually, the Supervisory Board assesses the composition of the Executive Board. In the context of such assessment, ING Group aims to have a gender balance by having at least 30% men and at least 30% women amongst its Executive Board members.

However, because of the fact that ING Group needs to balance several relevant selection criteria when composing its Executive Board, the composition of the Executive Board did not meet the above-mentioned gender balance in 2014 (no women). ING Group will continue to strive for an adequate and balanced composition of its Executive Board in future appointments, by taking into account all relevant selection criteria including, but not limited to, gender balance, executive experience, experience in corporate governance of large stock-listed companies and experience in the political and social environment.

Remuneration and share ownership

Members of the Executive Board are permitted to hold shares and depositary receipts for shares in the share capital of ING Group for long-term investment purposes. Transactions by members of the Executive Board in these shares and these depositary receipts for shares are subject to the ING regulations for insiders. These regulations are available on the website of ING Group ([www.ing.com](#)).

Details of the remuneration of members of the Executive Board, including shares granted to them, together with additional information thereto, are provided in the Remuneration report, starting on page 87.

Ancillary positions/conflicting interests

No member of the Executive Board has corporate directorships at listed companies outside ING. This is in accordance with ING Group's policy to avoid conflicts of interest.

Transactions involving actual or potential conflicts of interest

In accordance with the Corporate Governance Code, transactions with members of the Executive Board in which there are significant conflicting interests will be disclosed in the Annual Report. In deviation from the Corporate Governance Code however, this does not apply if (i) such disclosure would be against the law; (ii) the confidential, share-price sensitive or competition-sensitive character of the transaction prevents disclosure; and/or (iii) the information is so competition-sensitive that the disclosure could damage the competitive position of ING Group.

Significant conflicting interests are considered to be absent and are not reported if a member of the Executive Board obtains financial products and services, other than loans, which are provided by ING Group subsidiaries in the ordinary course of their business on terms that apply to all employees. In connection with the foregoing, 'loans' does not include financial products in which the granting of credit is of a subordinated nature, e.g. credit cards and overdrafts in current account, because of a lack of materiality.

For an overview of loans granted to members of the Executive Board, see page 92.

Information on members of the Executive Board

R.A.J.G. (Ralph) Hamers, chief executive officer

(Born 1966, Dutch nationality, male; appointed in 2013, term expires in 2017)

Ralph Hamers has been a member of the Executive Board of ING Group since 13 May 2013, and was appointed chairman of the Executive Board on 1 October 2013. He joined ING in 1991 and has held various positions including Global Head Commercial Banking Network from 2007 to 2010, Head of Network Management for Retail Banking Direct & International from 2010 to 2011, and CEO of ING Belgium and Luxembourg from 2011 to 2013. He holds a Master of Science degree in Business Econometrics/Operations Research from Tilburg University, the Netherlands.

P.G. (Patrick) Flynn, chief financial officer

(Born 1960, Irish nationality, male; appointed in 2009, term expires in 2017)

Patrick Flynn is a Chartered Accountant and a member of the Association of Corporate Treasurers in the UK. He also holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Studies from Trinity College Dublin. He was appointed a member of the Executive Board of ING Group on 27 April 2009. He is responsible for ING's finance departments and Investor Relations.

W.F. (Wilfred) Nagel, chief risk officer

(Born 1956, Dutch nationality, male; appointed in 2012, term expires in 2016)

Wilfred Nagel was chief executive officer of ING Bank Turkey until his appointment as, amongst other roles, a member of the Management Board Banking as of 5 October 2011. He joined ING in 1991 and held various positions including Global Head Credit Risk Management from 2002 to 2005 and CEO Wholesale Banking in Asia from 2005 to 2010. He was appointed a member of the Executive Board of ING Group on 14 May 2012. He is responsible for ING's risk management departments including compliance. He holds a Master's degree in Economics from VU University Amsterdam.

Supervisory Board appointment and dismissal

Members of the Supervisory Board are appointed by the General Meeting from a binding list to be drawn up by the Supervisory Board. The list will be rendered non-binding if a resolution of the General Meeting to that effect is adopted by an absolute majority of the votes cast, which majority represents more than one-third of the issued share capital. Candidates for appointment to the Supervisory Board must comply with the suitability and reliability requirements set out in the Dutch Financial Supervision Act and must continue to meet these while in office.

Members of the Supervisory Board may be suspended or dismissed at any time by a majority resolution of the General Meeting.

A resolution to suspend or dismiss members of the Supervisory Board that has not been proposed by the Supervisory Board may only be adopted by the General Meeting by an absolute majority of the votes cast, which majority represents more than one-third of the issued share capital.

Function of the Supervisory Board

The function of the Supervisory Board is to supervise the policy of the Executive Board and the general course of events of ING Group and its business, as well as to provide advice to the Executive Board. In line with Dutch company law, the Corporate Governance Code and the Articles of Association, as well as the Supervisory Board Charter requires all members of the Supervisory Board to act in accordance with the interests of ING Group and the business connected with it, taking into account the relevant interests of all stakeholders of ING Group, to perform their duties without mandate and independent of any interest in the business of ING Group, and to refrain from supporting one interest without regard to the other interests involved. According to the Banker's Oath that was taken by the members of the Supervisory Board, they will have to carefully consider the interests of all stakeholders of ING. In that consideration they will have to give paramount importance to the client's interests.

Certain resolutions of the Executive Board, specified in the Articles of Association, the Executive Board Charter and in the Supervisory Board Charter, are subject to approval of the Supervisory Board.

ING Group indemnifies the members of the Supervisory Board against direct financial losses in connection with claims from third parties as far as permitted by law on the conditions laid down in an indemnity statement. ING Group has also taken out liability insurance for the members of the Supervisory Board.

Profile of members of the Supervisory Board

The Supervisory Board has drawn up a profile to be used as a basis for its composition. It is available on the website of ING Group () and at the ING Group head office.

In view of their experience and the valuable contribution that former members of the Executive Board can make to the Supervisory Board, it has been decided, taking into account the size of the Supervisory Board and ING's wide range of activities, that such individuals may become members of the Supervisory Board of ING Group. There is, however, a restriction in that only one in every five other members of the Supervisory Board may be a former member of the Executive Board. In addition, this member must wait at least one year after resigning from the Executive Board before becoming eligible for appointment to the Supervisory Board.

Former members of the Executive Board are not eligible for appointment to the position of chairman or vice-chairman of the Supervisory Board.

After being appointed to the Supervisory Board, a former member of the Executive Board may also be appointed to one of the Supervisory Board's committees. However,

appointment to the position of chairman of a committee is only possible if the individual in question resigned from the Executive Board at least four years prior to such appointment.

ING Group needs to balance several relevant selection criteria when composing its Supervisory Board but strives for an adequate and balanced composition thereof, by taking into account all relevant selection criteria including, but not limited to experience in retail and wholesale banking, insurance, gender balance, executive experience, experience in corporate governance and experience in the political and social environment. Annually, the Nomination Committee assesses the composition of the Supervisory Board. In the context of such assessment, ING Group aims to have a gender balance by having at least 30% men and at least 30% women amongst its Supervisory Board members. In 2014, Tineke Bahlmann and Yvonne van Rooy stepped down as Supervisory Board members. This means that the composition of the Supervisory Board does not meet the above-mentioned gender balance (25% women).

Term of appointment of members of the Supervisory Board

A member of the Supervisory Board retires no later than at the end of the first General Meeting held four years after his or her last appointment or reappointment. In accordance with the Corporate Governance Code, members of the Supervisory Board may, as a general rule, be reappointed for two additional four-year terms.

Under special circumstances however, the Supervisory Board may deviate from this general rule, among others, in order to maintain a balanced composition of the Supervisory Board and/or to preserve valuable expertise and experience. As a general rule, members of the Supervisory Board shall also resign at the end of an Annual General Meeting in the year in which they attain the age of 70 and shall not be reappointed. However, the Supervisory Board may, at its discretion, decide to deviate from this age limit. The schedule for resignation by rotation is available on the website of ING Group ().

Ancillary positions/conflicting interests

Members of the Supervisory Board may hold various other directorships, paid positions and ancillary positions and are asked to provide details on these. Such positions may not conflict with the interests of ING Group. It is the responsibility of the individual member of the Supervisory Board and the Corporate Governance Committee to ensure that the directorship duties are performed properly and are not affected by any other positions that the individual may hold outside ING Group.

Members of the Supervisory Board are to disclose material conflicts of interest and potential conflicts of interest and to provide all information relevant thereto. Thereupon the Supervisory Board – without the member concerned taking part – decides whether a conflict of interest exists.

In case of a conflict of interest, the relevant member of the Supervisory Board abstains from discussions

and decision-making on the topic or the transaction in relation to which he or she has a conflict of interest with ING Group.

Transactions involving actual or potential conflicts of interest

In accordance with the Corporate Governance Code, transactions with members of the Supervisory Board in which there are significant conflicting interests will be disclosed in the Annual Report. In deviation from the Corporate Governance Code however, this does not apply if (i) such disclosure would be against the law; (ii) the confidential, share-price sensitive or competition-sensitive character of the transaction prevents such disclosure; and/or (iii) the information is so competition-sensitive that disclosure could damage the competitive position of ING Group.

Any relation that a member of the Supervisory Board may have with ING Group subsidiaries as an ordinary, private individual, is not considered as a significant conflict of interest. Such relationships are not reported, with the exemption of any loans that may have been granted.

For an overview of loans granted to members of the Supervisory Board, see page 96.

Independence

Annually, the members of the Supervisory Board are requested to assess whether the criteria of dependence set out in the Corporate Governance Code do not apply to them and to confirm this in writing. On the basis of these criteria, all members of the Supervisory Board, with the exception of Eric Boyer de la Giroday, are to be regarded as independent on 31 December 2014. Eric Boyer de la Giroday is not to be considered independent because of his position as Chairman of the Board of Directors of ING Belgium S.A./N.V. and his former positions as member of the Executive Board of ING Group and vice-chairman of the Management Board Banking of ING Bank N.V. On the basis of the NYSE listing standards, all members of the Supervisory Board are to be regarded as independent.

Company secretary

ING Group's company secretary is Jan-Willem Vink, general counsel of ING Group.

Committees of the Supervisory Board

On 31 December 2014, the Supervisory Board had five standing committees: the Audit Committee, the Risk Committee, the Remuneration Committee, the Nomination Committee and the Corporate Governance

Committee. Below you will find a charter of the five committees of the Supervisory Board.

The organisation, powers and conduct of the Supervisory Board are detailed in the Supervisory Board Charter. Separate charters have been drawn up for the Audit Committee, the Risk Committee, the Remuneration Committee, the Nomination Committee and the Corporate Governance Committee. These charters are available on the website of ING Group ([www.ing.com](#)). A short description of the duties for the five Committees follows below.

The Audit Committee assists the Supervisory Board in monitoring the integrity of the financial statements of ING Group, NN Group N.V. and ING Bank N.V., in monitoring the compliance with legal and regulatory requirements and in monitoring the independence and performance of ING Group's internal and external auditors. On 31 December 2014, the members of the Audit Committee were: Hermann-Josef Lamberti (chairman), Eric Boyer de la Giroday, Isabel Martín Castellá, Carin Gorter and Robert Reibestein. The Supervisory Board has determined that Carin Gorter, in succession to Joost Kuiper, is a financial expert as referred to in the Corporate Governance Code, due to her relevant knowledge and experience. Carin Gorter was appointed as a member of the Supervisory Board on 13 May 2013.

The Risk Committee assists and advises the Supervisory Board in monitoring the risk profile of ING as a whole as well as the structure and operation of the internal risk management and control systems. On 31 December 2014, the members of the Risk Committee were: Robert Reibestein (chairman), Eric Boyer de la Giroday, Carin Gorter, Hermann-Josef Lamberti and Jeroen van der Veer.

The Remuneration Committee advises the Supervisory Board, among other things, on the terms and conditions of employment (including remuneration) of the members of the Executive Board and on the policies and general principles on which the terms and conditions of employment of the members of the Executive Board and of senior managers of ING Group and its subsidiaries are based. On 31 December 2014, the members of the Remuneration Committee were: Joost Kuiper (chairman), Henk Breukink and Jeroen van der Veer.

The Nomination Committee advises the Supervisory Board, among other things, on the composition of the Supervisory Board and Executive Board. On 31 December 2014, the members of the Nomination Committee were: Jeroen van der Veer (chairman), Henk Breukink, Isabel Martín Castellá and Joost Kuiper.



The Corporate Governance Committee assists the Supervisory Board in monitoring and evaluating the corporate governance of ING as a whole and the reporting thereon in the Annual Report and to the General Meeting and advises the Supervisory Board on improvements.

On 31 December 2014, the members of the Corporate Governance Committee were: Henk Breukink (chairman), Carin Gorter and Jeroen van der Veer.

Composition of the Supervisory Board Committees can be found at ING Group's website (), which is updated on a regular basis.

Remuneration and share ownership

The remuneration of the members of the Supervisory Board is determined by the General Meeting and is not dependent on the results of ING Group. Details of the remuneration are provided in the Remuneration report on pages 94-95. Members of the Supervisory Board are permitted to hold shares and depositary receipts for shares in the share capital of ING Group for long-term investment purposes. Details are given on page 96. Transactions by members of the Supervisory Board in these shares and depositary receipts for shares are subject to the ING regulations regarding insiders.

ING regulations regarding insiders are available on the website of ING Group ().

Information on members of the Supervisory Board

J. (Jeroen) Van der Veer (chairman)

(Born 1947, Dutch nationality, male; appointed in 2009, term expires in 2017)

Former chief executive officer of Royal Dutch Shell plc.

Most relevant ancillary positions: chairman of the Supervisory Board of Koninklijke Philips N.V. (listed company). Member of the Supervisory Board of Het Concertgebouw N.V. Chairman of the Supervisory Council of the Technical University of Delft.

J.C.L. (Joost) Kuiper (vice-chairman)

(Born 1947, Dutch nationality, male; appointed in 2011, term expires in 2015)

Former member of the Executive Board of ABN AMRO Bank N.V.

Most relevant ancillary positions: chairman of the Supervisory Board of IMC B.V. Chairman of the Board of Stichting Administratiekantoor Koninklijke Brill.

E.F.C.B. (Eric) Boyer de la Giroday

(Born 1952, Belgian nationality, male; appointed in 2014, term expires in 2018)

Former vice-chairman Management Board Banking ING Group N.V. and ING Bank N.V.

Most relevant ancillary positions: chairman of the Board of Directors ING Belgium S.A./N.V.

H.W. (Henk) Breukink

(Born 1950, Dutch nationality, male; appointed in 2007, term expires in 2015)

Former managing director of F&C and country head for F&C Netherlands (asset management firm).

Most relevant ancillary positions: chairman of the Supervisory Board of NSI N.V. (real estate fund) (listed company). Non-executive director of Brink Groep B.V. Chairman of the Supervisory Board of Inholland University.

I. (Isabel) Martín Castellá

(Born 1947, Spanish nationality, female; appointed in 2013, term expires in 2017)

Former Vice-President and member of the Management Committee of the European Investment Bank.

Most relevant ancillary positions: Honary Vice-President of the European Investment Bank.

C.W. (Carin) Gorter

(Born 1963, Dutch nationality, female; appointed in 2013, term expires in 2017)

Former Senior Executive Vice-President Compliance, Legal and Security ABN AMRO Bank N.V. and member of the Monitoring Committee Dutch Banking Code.

Most relevant ancillary positions: member of the Supervisory Board Cooperation of VGZ UA and Cooperation TVM U.A. Member of the Supervisory Council CBR (driving license agency).

H.J.M. (Hermann-Josef) Lamberti

(Born 1956, German nationality, male; appointed in 2013, term expires in 2017)

Former chief operating officer of Deutsche Bank AG.

Most relevant ancillary positions: member of the Board of Airbus Group N.V. (formerly European Aeronautic Defense and Space Company N.V.). Member of the Supervisory Board Open-Xchange AG.

R.W.P. (Robert) Reibestein

(Born 1956, Dutch nationality, male; appointed in 2012 as an observer, full member as of 2013, term expires in 2017)

Former senior partner of McKinsey & Company.

Most relevant ancillary positions: member of the Supervisory Board of IMC B.V. Member of the Supervisory Board of Stichting World Wildlife Fund.

Vice-chairman of VVD (Dutch political party).

Changes in the composition

In May 2014, the General Meeting appointed Eric Boyer de la Giroday to the Supervisory Board, while Tineke Bahlmann, Peter Elverding and Luc Vandewalle stepped down from the Supervisory Board. In connection with the stock listing of a first tranche of shares of NN Group N.V., also Jan Holsboer and Yvonne van Rooy stepped down from the Supervisory Board.

Financial reporting

A description of the main features of ING Group's internal control and risk management systems in relation to the financial reporting process is included in the statement with respect to Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act on pages 85–86, which is deemed to be incorporated by reference herein.

Change of control provisions

Legal provisions

Pursuant to the terms of the Dutch Financial Supervision Act, a declaration of no objection from DNB until 4 November 2014 and after this date from the European Central Bank (ECB), must be obtained by anyone wishing to acquire or hold a participating interest of at least 10% in ING Group and to exercise control attached to such a participating interest. Similarly, on the basis of indirect change of control statutes in the various jurisdictions where subsidiaries of ING Group are operating, permission from, or notification to, local regulatory authorities may be required for the acquisition of a substantial interest in ING Group.

Change of control clauses in material agreements

ING Group is not a party to any material agreement that becomes effective or is required to be amended or terminated, in case of a change of control of ING Group following a public bid as defined in section 5:70 of the Dutch Financial Supervision Act. ING Group subsidiaries may have customary change of control arrangements included in agreements related to various business activities, such as joint venture agreements, letters of credit and other credit facilities, ISDA-agreements, hybrid capital and debt instruments, reinsurance agreements and futures and option trading agreements. Following a change of control of ING Group (as the result of a public bid or otherwise), such agreements may be amended or terminated, leading, for example, to an obligatory transfer of the interest in the joint venture, early repayment of amounts due, loss of credit facilities or reinsurance cover, and liquidation of outstanding futures and option trading positions.

Severance payments to members of the Executive Board

The contracts entered into with the members of the Executive Board provide for severance payments, which become due upon termination of the applicable Executive Board member's contract in connection with a public bid as defined in section 5:70 of the Dutch Financial Supervision Act. For purposes of calculating the amounts due, it is not relevant whether or not termination of the employment or commission contract is related to a public bid. Severance payments to the members of the Executive Board are limited to a maximum of one year's fixed salary, in line with the Corporate Governance Code.

Amendment of the Articles of Association

The General Meeting may resolve to amend the Articles of Association, provided that the resolution is adopted on a proposal of the Executive Board, which has been approved by the Supervisory Board. Such a resolution of the General Meeting requires a majority of at least two-thirds of the votes cast at a General Meeting, whereby at least two-thirds of the issued share capital is represented. An amendment of the Articles of Association has to be passed by notarial deed.

External auditor

At the Annual General Meeting held on 13 May 2013, Ernst & Young Accountants LLP (EY) was appointed to audit the financial statements of ING Group for the financial years 2014 and 2015, to report on the outcome of these audits to the Executive Board and the Supervisory Board and to provide an audit opinion on the financial statements of ING Group.

Furthermore, EY also audited and reported on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting on 31 December 2014.

ING Group has started a project with the objective of changing its external audit firm as of the financial year 2016 and will propose to the 2015 Annual General Meeting the appointment of KPMG Accountants as its auditor.

The external auditor may be questioned at the Annual General Meeting in relation to its audit opinion on the annual accounts. The external auditor will therefore attend and be entitled to address this meeting. The external auditor attended the meetings of the Audit Committee and of the Risk Committee and attended and addressed the 2014 Annual General Meeting, wherein the external auditor was questioned on the audit opinion.

The external auditor may only provide services to ING Group and its subsidiaries with the permission of the Audit Committee.

ING Group provides the Audit Committee with a full overview of all services provided by the external auditor, including related fees, supported by sufficiently detailed information. This overview is periodically evaluated by the Audit Committee throughout the year.

ING Group's policy on external auditor independence is available on the website of ING Group ().

Report of ING Trust Office

The following report is issued in compliance with the provisions of article 14 of the trust conditions for registered shares in the share capital of ING Groep N.V. and best-practice provision IV.2.6 of the Dutch Corporate Governance Code.

Object

The Stichting ING Aandelen ("ING Trust Office"), a foundation organised under the laws of the Netherlands, has been incorporated on 22 January 1991. The articles of association were most recently amended on 7 October 2010 (the "Articles of Association"). The most recent amendments of the trust conditions for registered shares in the share capital of ING Groep N.V. ("Trust Conditions") date from 2 September 2011.

The object of ING Trust Office, as described in the Articles of Association, is as follows:

- a. to acquire and administer for the purpose of management registered shares in the capital of ING Groep N.V., a public limited company with its registered office in Amsterdam ("ING Group") and any bonus shares which may be distributed thereon or shares acquired as stock dividend or by the exercise of subscription rights and to issue exchangeable depositary receipts for these shares, to exercise voting rights and all other rights attaching to the shares, to exercise subscription rights and to receive dividends and other distributions, including proceeds of liquidation, subject to the obligation to distribute the income to the holders of depositary receipts, save that depositary receipts shall be issued for bonus shares, shares acquired as stock dividend and shares acquired on behalf of holders of depositary receipts by virtue of the exercise of subscription rights;
- b. to promote the exchange of information between ING Group on the one hand and the holders of depositary receipts and shareholders in ING Group on the other;
- c. to promote the solicitation of proxies of shareholders other than the foundation itself and of specific proxies and/or voting instructions of holders of depositary receipts, and further to engage in any activity which may be related to the foregoing in the widest sense, whereby all activities which entail commercial risk shall be excluded from the foundation's object.

Activities

Board meetings

During the 2014 reporting year, the board of ING Trust Office (the "Board") held six meetings.

In these meetings, among other things, the following topics were discussed:

- › the new "Think Forward" strategy of ING Bank N.V. ("ING Bank");
- › the Annual General Meeting of ING Group ("AGM") of 12 May 2014, the use of the e-voting system, the items on the agenda of the AGM, the proxy voting results and the voting by ING Trust Office during the AGM 2014;
- › the annual report and the annual accounts of ING Trust Office and the results of the audit concerning the bookyear 2013;
- › developments of corporate governance and of relevant new legislation;
- › press releases of ING Group;
- › the proposal of ING Group to appoint KPMG as auditor;
- › the progress of the restructuring, more specific the IPO of NN Group N.V.;
- › the functioning of ING Trust Office and the composition of the Board;
- › the meeting and the preparation of the meeting of holders of depositary receipts of 19 November 2014;
- › developments at ING Group on the basis of the quarterly reports, the annual report of ING Group and the presentations of ING Group to analysts;
- › preparation of the meetings with the chairmen of the Executive Board and the Supervisory Board of ING Group on the basis of public information and press releases.

Meetings with ING Group

During the 2014 reporting year, the Board had four meetings with the chairmen of the Executive Board and the Supervisory Board of ING Group.

In these meetings, among other things, the following topics were discussed:

- › the results of ING Group based on the published figures of 2013 and the quarterly and half-year figures of 2014;
- › several items on the agenda of the AGM 2014;
- › the progress in the restructuring of ING Group, more specifically the transfer of the share tranches in Voya and the (planned and executed) IPO on 2 July 2014 of NN Group N.V.;
- › the results of the stress test and the Asset Quality Review (AQR) and the required core Tier 1 Capital;
- › the repayment to the Dutch State;
- › an update on the "Think Forward" strategy of ING Bank.

Annual General Meeting ING Group 2014, votes cast and voting behaviour

ING Trust Office attended the AGM 2014 and during this meeting ING Trust Office asked the Executive Board and the Supervisory Board of ING Group various questions. These questions are included in the adopted minutes of the AGM 2014, available on the website of ING Group ().

During the AGM 2014, holders of 54% of the outstanding depositary receipts used their voting rights by means of binding voting instructions to the ING Trust Office (36% of the outstanding depositary receipts) or by attending the meeting in person or by being represented by a third party (18% of the outstanding depositary receipts).

⌚ A more detailed overview of these voting results can be found on the website of ING Group ().

In accordance with the Articles of Association and the Trust Conditions, ING Trust Office voted at its own discretion on the shares for which it did not issue voting proxies and did not receive voting instructions, representing 46% of the total votes that might be cast at the AGM 2014. In voting these shares, ING Trust Office was guided primarily by the interests of all holders of depositary receipts, taking into account the interests of ING Group and its affiliated enterprise in accordance with article 4 of the Trust Conditions and the best-practice provision IV.2.6 of the Dutch Corporate Governance Code. ING Trust Office voted on these shares in favour of all voting items on the agenda of the AGM.

ING Trust Office promotes the solicitation of proxies of shareholders of ING Group other than ING Trust Office itself and of specific proxies or voting instructions of holders of depositary receipts. ING Trust Office encourages the greatest possible participation in the decision-making process in Annual General Meetings of shareholders and holders of depositary receipts and promotes the execution of voting rights in a transparent way. At the same time it aims to prevent a situation occurring where a minority of shareholders and holders of depositary receipts could use a chance majority of votes to the disadvantage of the shareholders and holders of depositary receipts nor present nor represented at a general meeting of ING Group.

Meeting of holders of depositary receipts on 19 November 2014

According to the Trust Conditions, ING Trust Office may consult holders of depositary receipts in a separate meeting if and when it considers this necessary or desirable. In addition, one or more holders of depositary receipts who jointly hold at least 10% of the total number of depositary receipts issued by ING Trust Office, may request the Board in writing, setting out the matters to be considered in detail, to convene a meeting of holders of depositary receipts.

The Board convened a meeting of holders of depositary receipts, which was held on 19 November 2014. During this meeting holders of 0.00006% of the total number of depositary receipts issued were present or were represented during this meeting. During the meeting a report was made on the activities of ING Trust Office. In addition, the Board answered various questions from holders of depositary receipts attending the meeting.

⌚ The minutes of the aforementioned meeting are published on the website of ING Trust Office ().

Depositary-receipts structure

During the years 2010–2014, participation of shareholders other than ING Trust Office, and holders of depositary receipts in the decision-making process in Annual General Meetings of ING Group, continually increased from 41.3% to 54%.

ING Group's depositary-receipts structure was evaluated by the Executive Board and the Supervisory Board in 2010 and discussed in the 2010 Annual General Meeting. On the basis of this evaluation, the Executive Board and the Supervisory Board concluded that it would be premature to change or abolish ING Group's depositary-receipts structure in 2010 and that it would be appropriate to reconsider this as a part of a re-evaluation of ING Group's entire governance structure following the current restructuring of ING Group and the completion of the divestments approved by the 2009 extraordinary General Meeting.

ING Trust Office was informed that, although the completion of these divestments may well extend until the end of 2016, the Executive Board and the Supervisory Board have decided that a review of ING Group's entire corporate governance will be conducted in 2015, including the depositary-receipts structure, and that this item will be put on the agenda of the 2016 Annual General Meeting.

Outstanding depositary receipts

On 31 December 2014, the nominal value of administered ordinary shares amounted to EUR 926,001,315.12 for which 3,858,338,813 depositary receipts were issued, each with a nominal value of EUR 0.24. During the reporting year, the net number of depositary receipts increased by 17,994,589.

The increase came about as follows:

add:	
conversion of shares into depositary receipts	17,994,914
less:	
conversion of depositary receipts into shares	325

Composition and remuneration Board of ING Trust Office

The members of the Board are appointed by the Board itself for a maximum term of four years and may be reappointed two times. Holders of depositary receipts may make recommendations to the Board on persons to be appointed as members of the Board. The Board informs them about such purpose and in good time about, for what reason and according to which profile a vacancy must be filled, and also in which manner a recommendation should take place.

The Board currently consists of Herman Hazewinkel, chairman, Mick den Boogert, Paul Frentrop, Harrie Noy and Jolanda Poots-Bijl.

The Board reappointed Paul Frentrop for a final term of four years, as of 1 May 2014 and ending on 1 May 2018. Jan Veraart stepped down as chairman of the Board as of 1 June 2014 and was succeeded by Herman Hazewinkel, who was reappointed as of 1 January 2015 for a final term of four years. Mick den Boogert was also reappointed as of 1 January 2015 for a second term.

A profile and an overview of relevant positions held by the members of the Board can be found on the website of ING Trust Office ().

All members of the Board stated that they meet the conditions regarding independence as referred to in the Articles of Association and in the Dutch Corporate Governance Code.

The annual remuneration for the chairman of the Board amounts EUR 25,000 and for the other members of the Board EUR 20,000.

Costs

In 2014, the costs of the activities of ING Trust Office amounted EUR 523,311 (2013 EUR 456,320).

An amount of EUR 275,465 (2013 EUR 231,322) is related to the costs of administration of the depositary receipts.

Other

The activities involved in the administration of shares are performed by Administratiekantoor van het Algemeen Administratie- en Trustkantoor B.V., Amsterdam.

No external expert advice has been called in by ING Trust Office in 2014.

Contact details

The contact details of ING Trust Office are:

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Website:

Amsterdam, 16 March 2015

Board of Stichting ING Aandelen

Report of ING Continuity Foundation

Stichting Continuïteit ING ("ING Continuity Foundation"), a foundation organised under the laws of the Netherlands, established in Amsterdam, was founded on 22 January 1991.

A call-option agreement concluded between ING Continuity Foundation and ING Groep N.V. ("ING Group") vests ING Continuity Foundation with the right to acquire cumulative preference shares in the share capital of ING Group up to a maximum of 4.5 billion cumulative preference shares. The acquisition of cumulative preference shares by ING Continuity Foundation is subject to the restriction that, immediately after the issue of cumulative preference shares, the total amount of cumulative preference shares may not exceed one-third of the total issued share capital of ING Group. If new shares other than cumulative preference shares are subsequently issued, ING Continuity Foundation may again exercise its right, subject to the provisions of the preceding sentence. On acquisition of cumulative preference shares, at least 25% of the nominal value must be paid on said shares.

In 2014 the board of ING Continuity Foundation (the "Board") held two meetings, on 4 April and 26 November.

The composition of the Board is currently as follows: Sebastian Kortmann, chairman of the Board, Rob van den Bergh, Allard Metzelaar who was reappointed as of 13 May 2014, and Wim van Vonno.

All members of the Board stated that they meet the conditions regarding independence as referred to in the Articles of Association of ING Continuity Foundation.

Amsterdam, 16 March 2015

Board of Stichting Continuïteit ING

Conformity statement

The Executive Board is required to prepare the Annual Accounts and the Annual Report of ING Groep N.V. for each financial year in accordance with applicable Dutch law and those International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) that were endorsed by the European Union.

Conformity statement pursuant to section 5:25c paragraph 2(c) of the Dutch Financial Supervision Act (*Wet op het financieel toezicht*).

The Executive Board is responsible for maintaining proper accounting records, for safeguarding assets and for taking reasonable steps to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities. It is responsible for selecting suitable accounting policies and applying them on a consistent basis, making judgements and estimates that are prudent and reasonable.

It is also responsible for establishing and maintaining internal procedures which ensure that all major financial information is known to the Executive Board, so that the timeliness, completeness and correctness of the external financial reporting are assured.

As required by section 5:25c paragraph 2(c) of the Dutch Financial Supervision Act, each of the signatories hereby confirms that to the best of his or her knowledge:

- › the ING Groep N.V. 2014 Annual Accounts give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss of ING Groep N.V. and the enterprises included in the consolidation taken as a whole; and
- › the ING Groep N.V. 2014 Annual Report gives a true and fair view of the position at the balance sheet date, the development and performance of the business during the financial year 2014 of ING Groep N.V. and the enterprises included in the consolidation taken as a whole, together with a description of the principal risks ING Groep N.V. is being confronted with.

Amsterdam, 16 March 2015

R.A.J.G. (Ralph) Hamers

CEO, chairman of the Executive Board

P.G. (Patrick) Flynn

CFO, member of the Executive Board

W.F. (Wilfred) Nagel

CRO, member of the Executive Board

Section 404 Sarbanes-Oxley Act

Internal control over financial reporting

Due to the listing of ING shares on the New York Stock Exchange, ING Group is required to comply with the SEC regulations adopted pursuant to Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, or SOX 404.

These regulations require that the CEO (the chairman of the Executive Board) and the CFO of ING Group report and certify on an annual basis on the effectiveness of ING Group's internal controls over financial reporting. Furthermore, the external auditors are required to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of ING Group's internal controls over financial reporting. ING Group has long-established Business Principles and a strong internal control culture, which all staff must adhere to. SOX 404 activities are organised along the lines of the governance structure, and involve the participation of senior management across ING. Following the SOX 404 process, ING is in the position to publish an unqualified statement which denotes that the Company's internal control over financial reporting is effective as of 31 December 2014. The SOX 404 statement by the Executive Board is included on this page, followed by the report of the external auditor as issued on Form 20-F.

Report of the Executive Board on internal control over financial reporting

The Executive Board is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting. ING's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed under the supervision of our principal executive and principal financial officers to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Our internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that:

- › pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of ING;
- › provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that our receipts and expenditures are being made only in accordance with authorisations of our management and directors; and
- › provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorised acquisition, use or disposition of our assets that could have a material effect on our financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

The Executive Board assessed the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of 31 December 2014. In making this assessment, the Executive Board performed tests based on the criteria of the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission ("COSO") in Internal Control – Integrated Framework (2013 framework). Based on the Executive Board's assessment and those criteria, the Executive Board concluded that the Company's internal control over financial reporting is effective as of 31 December 2014.

Our independent registered public accounting firm has audited and issued their report on ING's internal control over financial reporting, which appears on the following page.

Amsterdam, 16 March 2015

R.A.J.G. (Ralph) Hamers
CEO, chairman of the Executive Board

P.G. (Patrick) Flynn
CFO, member of the Executive Board

Report of independent registered public accounting firm

To the Shareholders, the Supervisory Board and Executive Board of ING Groep N.V.

We have audited ING Groep N.V.'s internal control over financial reporting as of 31 December 2014, based on criteria established in Internal Control – Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (2013 framework) (the COSO criteria). ING Groep N.V.'s management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting, and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting included in the accompanying Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on ING Groep N.V.'s internal control over financial reporting based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audit included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk, and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

A company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use or disposition of the company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements. Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

In our opinion, ING Groep N.V. maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of 31 December 2014, based on the COSO criteria.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated balance sheets of ING Groep N.V. as of 31 December 2014 and 2013, and the related consolidated profit and loss accounts, consolidated statements of comprehensive income, consolidated statements of cash flows and consolidated statements of changes in equity for each of the three years in the period ended 31 December 2014 and our report dated 16 March 2015 expressed an unqualified opinion thereon.

Amsterdam, The Netherlands, 16 March 2015

Ernst & Young Accountants LLP

Remuneration report

This chapter sets out the remuneration policy for the Executive Board, senior management and the Supervisory Board. After repayment of the Dutch State and the introduction of the Dutch Law on Remuneration Policies of Financial Undertakings (*Wbfo*), the Remuneration Committee of the Supervisory Board reviewed the current remuneration policy for the Executive Board. The Remuneration Committee proposed to amend the remuneration policy, as set out on page 93, which was adopted by the full Supervisory Board and which will be submitted for shareholder approval at the annual General Meeting on 11 May 2015. Following adoption of this amendment, the amended remuneration policy will become effective as of performance year 2015. In addition, the Remuneration Report provides information on the remuneration levels for 2014.

Remuneration policy

The primary objective of the remuneration policy is to enable ING to retain and recruit qualified and expert leaders, senior staff and other highly qualified employees. The remuneration policy forms an integral part of ING's corporate strategy and risk profile and maintains a sustainable balance between short-term and long-term value creation, building on ING's long-term responsibility towards clients, employees, society, providers of capital and other stakeholders.

In determining compensation of ING's leadership a variety of factors are taken into consideration, such as the complexity of functions, the scope of responsibilities, the alignment of risks and rewards, national and international legislation and the long-term objectives of the Company and its stakeholders, which is all the more important given the changing international standards regarding responsible and sound remuneration. These factors differ for each role, line of business and country. As much as possible for a global financial institution of this size, ING is taking account of all these differences and of the standards applied within similar financial institutions in the various countries in which it operates.

Legal and regulatory developments in 2014

With effect from 1 January 2014, the Capital Requirements Directive III (CRD III) is replaced by the Capital Requirements Directive IV (CRD IV). In the Netherlands, CRD IV has been implemented in the Dutch regulation on Sound Remuneration Policies pursuant to the Financial Supervision Act 2014 (*the Regeling Beheerst Beloningsbeleid Wft 2014 – Rbb 2014*), with effect from 1 August 2014. The Rbb 2014 replaces the Dutch regulation on Sound Remuneration Policies pursuant to the Financial Supervision Act 2011 (*the Regeling Beheerst Beloningsbeleid Wft 2011 – Rbb 2011*).

Many of the specific requirements under CRD IV apply to identified staff (i.e. employees that could potentially have a significant impact on the Company's risk profile), including the Executive Board.

ING has implemented the remuneration principles under CRD IV and the Dutch regulation on Sound Remuneration Policies pursuant to the Financial Supervision Act 2014 in its remuneration policies with effect from 1 January 2014, and has taken measures to comply with these requirements.

With effect from 2012, the law on prohibition of payment of variable remuneration to board members of financial institutions that receive state aid, the Dutch Bonus Prohibition Act (*Wet bonusverbod staatsgesteunde ondernemingen*), applied to ING in light of the State support that ING received in 2008/2009.

On 7 November 2014, ING made final repayment to the Dutch State. As a result, the Dutch Bonus Prohibition Act no longer applies to ING with effect from 7 November 2014.

In addition, new Dutch legislation, the Dutch Law on Remuneration Policies of Financial Undertakings (*de Wet beloningsbeleid financiële ondernemingen; Wbfo*), has been enacted with effect from 7 February 2015. This new legislation introduces, amongst others, caps on variable remuneration applicable to all global staff. ING has taken all necessary measures to implement the legislative requirements in its remuneration policies.

Remuneration policy for the Executive Board

The current remuneration policy for the Executive Board was adopted by the Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 27 April 2010; adjustments to the remuneration policy were adopted by the AGM on 9 May 2011 for adjustment with regulatory requirements and on 12 May 2014 with respect to pensions for the Executive Board.

According to the Executive Board remuneration policy, remuneration of Executive Board members consists of a combination of fixed compensation (base salary) and variable remuneration (together 'total direct compensation'), pension arrangements and benefits as described below.

Total direct compensation: reduced emphasis on variable remuneration

Total direct compensation levels are based on market data that include peers both inside and outside the financial sector in the international context in which ING operates. Total direct compensation is benchmarked against a peer group of companies that, in the opinion of the Supervisory Board, are comparable with ING in terms of size and scope. In line with the foregoing, the Supervisory Board has determined that the peer group consists of the companies in the Dow Jones Euro Stoxx 50 index. These are 50 companies, including ING, in a range of financial and non-financial industries, which are based in countries within the eurozone.

In compliance with the Dutch Banking Code, the Executive Board remuneration policy stipulates that total direct compensation is slightly below the median of the peer group and provides for a balanced mix between fixed and variable remuneration. Total compensation will be determined in line with the relevant market environment and will be reviewed from time to time by the Supervisory Board.

Increased focus on risk and non-financial performance

Variable remuneration is linked to performance and will take into consideration both individual and company performance criteria. Performance measurement will account for risk requirements and cost of capital. In addition to financial indicators, performance will also be assessed based on non-financial drivers, by means of a number of targets regarding economic, environmental, customer satisfaction and social criteria.

The performance objectives used for the allocation of variable remuneration are annually predetermined by the Supervisory Board.

Variable remuneration will not exceed 100% of base salary at the time of allocation. The policy provides for an at-target variable remuneration of 80% of base salary if performance criteria are met (split 50/50 in cash and shares⁽¹⁾). If performance criteria are exceeded, the variable component can be increased from target to maximum, not exceeding 100% of base salary at the time of allocation. If performance is below target, the variable component will be decreased or not awarded.

Increased emphasis on long-term value creation

The Executive Board remuneration policy combines the short and long-term variable components into one structure. This structure intends to support both long-term value creation and short-term company objectives. The emphasis on long-term performance indicators within the variable component of the compensation package is increased by means of deferral, holdback and clawback mechanisms.

(1) By shares, reference is made to depositary receipts issued by the ING Trust Office in bearer form for ING Groep N.V. shares. For the sake of simplicity in this chapter, reference is made to (ING) shares, instead of depositary receipts.

In line with applicable regulations, at maximum 40% of total variable remuneration is awarded "upfront" in the year following the performance year. The remaining part of the total variable remuneration (at minimum 60%) is deferred. It is subject to tiered vesting on the first, second and third anniversary of the grant date (one-third per annum). The entire long-term component is subject to an ex-post performance assessment by the Supervisory Board. The ex-post performance assessment cannot lead to an upward adjustment of the deferred variable remuneration.

Both the upfront part of the variable remuneration and every deferred part are equally divided between cash and shares.

To all share awards granted to Executive Board members in their capacity as Board member, a retention period of five years from the grant date is applicable. However, they are allowed to sell part of their shares at the date of vesting to pay tax over the vested share award.

Pensions Executive Board members

In the AGM of 12 May 2014, it was decided that members of the Executive Board appointed after 1 January 2015 will be given the choice to join the Collective Defined Contribution pension scheme based on a fixed premium methodology or to receive a pension allowance. Members of the Executive Board appointed before 1 January 2015 were given the same choice as from 1 July 2014. In addition, individual Executive Board members participating in the pension plan that existed before the introduction of the 2010 plans (approved by the 2006 AGM) were given the choice to keep their existing pension arrangement.

Members of the Executive Board will be required to pay a contribution to their pension premium in line with the contributions under ING's Collective Labour Agreement (CLA) in the Netherlands.

Members of the Executive Board working on a non-Dutch contract will be offered pensions in line with home country practices.

Benefits

Executive Board members will continue to be eligible for additional benefits (e.g. the use of company cars, contributions to company savings plans and, if applicable, expatriate allowances) which apply to other senior employees. Executive Board members may obtain banking and insurance services from ING Group subsidiaries in the ordinary course of their business and on comparable terms that apply to most other employees of ING in the Netherlands. In addition, tax and financial planning services will be provided to ensure compliance with the relevant legislative requirements.

Tenure

Members of the Executive Board who were appointed prior to 2013, have an employment agreement with ING Groep N.V. Members who are appointed as of 2013 have a commission contract. The employment agreement and the commission contract for Executive Board members provide for an appointment for a period

of four years and allow reappointment by the General Meeting of Shareholders. In the case of an involuntary exit, Executive Board members are eligible to an exit-arrangement limited to one year of base salary.

Supervisory Board discretion to review the policy and the remuneration paid

Within the Executive Board remuneration policy as adopted by the AGM of ING and as described herein, the Supervisory Board annually determines the remuneration for the Executive Board members based on the advice given by the Supervisory Board Remuneration Committee.

It is the responsibility of ING's Supervisory Board to take into account the interests of all stakeholders, including shareholders and employees, as well as business continuity and sustainable growth, when determining the Company's remuneration policy.

Considering that the legal and regulatory environment is still undergoing changes, ING might experience further impact from that. In order to ensure that ING can adapt to these uncertain factors the Supervisory Board may re-evaluate the Executive Board remuneration policy from time to time.

Other items for Supervisory Board discretion

Holdback, clawback and adjustments

The Supervisory Board has the authority to impose holdback and/or clawback to variable remuneration allocated to a member of the Executive Board based on inaccurate data and/or behaviour that led to significant harm to the Company. The Supervisory Board also has the authority to adjust variable remuneration if application of the predetermined performance criteria results in undesired outcomes. Accordingly, the Supervisory Board has decision authority in situations not addressed in the policy.

Special employment conditions

Special employment conditions, such as commitments made to secure the recruitment of new executives, may be used in exceptional circumstances subject to strict control by the Supervisory Board.

2014 Remuneration Executive Board

The Executive Board remuneration for 2014 is in accordance with the prohibition of variable remuneration for the year up to 8 November 2014 and the Executive Board remuneration policy, with exception of the alignment to the benchmark. According to policy remuneration levels should be slightly below the median of the benchmark, whereas actual Executive Board remuneration was significantly below the median.

2014 Executive Board base salary

The base salary of all Executive Board members was set at the time of the introduction of the Executive Board remuneration policy in 2010. The base salary of the Executive Board has not been raised since 2010 as the Executive Board decided voluntarily not to accept a base salary increase until ING has repaid outstanding core Tier 1 securities from the Dutch State along with the restrictions put in force by the Dutch Bonus Prohibition Act, as introduced in 2012. As a consequence the base salary level remained also in 2014 at the 2010 level. After final repayment to the Dutch State, with effect from 8 November 2014, the base salary of the CFO and CRO was increased from EUR 750,000 to EUR 900,000 per year in order to bring the remuneration levels closer to the benchmark as set in the Executive Board remuneration policy and in accordance with the Dutch Banking Code.

2014 Executive Board variable remuneration

Although, as from 7 November 2014 the prohibition to grant variable remuneration (in cash or otherwise) to Executive Board members expired, both the Supervisory Board and Executive Board felt it appropriate to forgo variable remuneration for performance year 2014.

As indicated in the remuneration policy the performance of the Executive Board will be assessed based on financial and non-financial performance indicators.

For 2014, amongst others, the following performance indicators applied.

Financial performance indicators include:

1. Underlying net results for ING Group
2. Reduce double leverage in ING Group
3. Repayment of the Dutch State
4. IPO NN Group

Non-financial performance indicators include:

1. Develop and launch an adjusted Bank strategy for organisation, governance and people management
2. Develop an ING IR strategy in line with the adjusted ING strategy
3. Further strengthen the operational and legal structure
4. Develop an updated sustainability strategy and agenda for the bank
5. Develop and implement a forward-looking risk appetite strategy
6. Enhance the Non-Financial Risk management

The table below shows the remuneration awarded to the individual members of the Executive Board with respect to the performance years 2014, 2013 and 2012.

Total direct compensation of the individual members of the Executive Board						
amounts in thousands of euros	2014		2013		2012	
	amount	number of shares	amount	number of shares	amount	number of shares
Ralph Hamers⁽¹⁾						
Base salary	1,270		794			
Variable remuneration in cash	–		–			
Variable remuneration in shares	–	–	–	–		
Patrick Flynn⁽³⁾						
Base salary	772		750		750	
Variable remuneration in cash	–		–		–	
Variable remuneration in shares	–	–	–	–	–	–
Wilfred Nagel^(2,3)						
Base salary	772		750		469	
Variable remuneration in cash	–		–		–	
Variable remuneration in shares	–	–	–	–	–	–

(1) Ralph Hamers was appointed to the Executive Board on 13 May 2013. The figures for him reflect compensation earned in the capacity as an Executive Board member. Thus the figure for 2013 reflects a partial year as an Executive Board member and CEO.

(2) Wilfred Nagel was appointed to the Executive Board on 14 May 2012. The figures for him reflect compensation earned in the capacity as an Executive Board member. Thus the figure for 2012 reflects a partial year as an Executive Board member.

(3) After full repayment of the Dutch state aid on 7 November 2014, the base salary of the CFO and CRO was increased to EUR 900,000.

In 2014 there was no clawback applied to paid or vested variable remuneration from any of the Executive Board members. The total direct compensation of former members of the Executive Board amounted to nil for 2014, EUR 1,015 thousand for 2013 and EUR 1,353 thousand for 2012.

Pension costs

In 2014, members of the Executive Board participated in the defined contribution pension plans introduced in 2010 as part of the Executive Board Remuneration Policy.

The table below shows the pension costs of the individual members of the Executive Board in 2014, 2013 and 2012.

Pension costs of the individual members of the Executive Board			
amounts in thousands of euros	2014	2013	2012
Ralph Hamers ⁽¹⁾	230	161	
Patrick Flynn	159	178	179
Wilfred Nagel ⁽²⁾	187	210	132

(1) Ralph Hamers was appointed to the Executive Board on 13 May 2013. The 2013 pension costs for him reflect the partial year as an Executive Board member.

(2) Wilfred Nagel was appointed to the Executive Board on 14 May 2012. The 2012 pension costs for him reflect the partial year as an Executive Board member.

There were no pension costs for former members of the Executive Board in the past three years.

Long-term incentives awarded in previous years

In 2014 no long-term incentives were awarded to the Executive Board members.

Until 2010 the long-term incentive plan (LTIP) was in place at ING and includes share options and performance shares. The ING share options have a total term of 10 years and a vesting period of three years after which they can be exercised during the remaining seven years.

Information on the options outstanding and the movements during the financial year of options held by the members of the Executive Board as at 31 December 2014

Options held by the members of the Executive Board

number of options	Outstanding as at 31 December 2013	Exercised in 2014	Waived or expired in 2014	Outstanding as at 31 December 2014	Exercise price	Vesting date	Expiry date
Ralph Hamers	6,837	0	6,837	0	€ 14.37	15 Mar 2007	15 Mar 2014
	11,460	0	0	11,460	€ 17.88	30 Mar 2008	30 Mar 2015
	8,504	0	0	8,504	€ 25.16	23 Mar 2009	23 Mar 2016
	14,889	0	0	14,889	€ 24.72	22 Mar 2010	22 Mar 2017
	16,957	0	0	16,957	€ 16.66	13 Mar 2011	13 Mar 2018
	19,985	0	0	19,985	€ 2.90	19 Mar 2012	19 Mar 2019
	22,124	0	0	22,124	€ 7.35	17 Mar 2013	17 Mar 2020
Patrick Flynn		0	0	0			
Wilfred Nagel	5,860	0	5,860	0	€ 14.37	15 Mar 2007	15 Mar 2014
	8,595	0	0	8,595	€ 17.88	30 Mar 2008	30 Mar 2015
	11,721	0	0	11,721	€ 25.16	23 Mar 2009	23 Mar 2016
	9,530	0	0	9,530	€ 24.72	22 Mar 2010	22 Mar 2017
	12,436	0	0	12,436	€ 16.66	13 Mar 2011	13 Mar 2018
	12,490	0	0	12,490	€ 2.90	19 Mar 2012	19 Mar 2019
	16,815	0	0	16,815	€ 7.35	17 Mar 2013	17 Mar 2020

Performance shares are shares conditionally granted, with the final shares awarded in three years (tiered) based on ING's performance at the end of each performance cycle. The ultimate value of the performance share is based on ING Group's share price at the vesting date and performance measurement.

Deferred shares are shares conditionally granted, with the final shares awarded in three years (tiered) of which the ultimate value of each deferred share will be based on ING Group's share price at the vesting date.

A retention period of five years as from the grant date applies to all share and option awards granted to Executive Board members. During this five-year period, the Executive Board members are only allowed to sell part of their shares at the date of vesting to pay tax over the vested amount of the award.

For the Executive Board members the following shares have vested during 2014:

Shares vested for the Executive Board during 2014

	Shares	Granting date	Vesting date	Number of shares granted	Number of shares vested ⁽¹⁾	Vesting price
Ralph Hamers ⁽²⁾	LSPF Upfront share units ⁽³⁾	27 Mar 2013	27 Mar 2014	15,487	15,487	€ 9.99
	LSPF Deferred share units	28 Mar 2012	28 Mar 2014	3,511	3,511	€ 10.08
	LSPF Performance shares	30 Mar 2011	30 Mar 2014	7,016	7,893	€ 10.10
	LSPF Deferred shares	30 Mar 2011	30 Mar 2014	4,116	4,116	€ 10.10
Patrick Flynn	–					
Wilfred Nagel ⁽⁴⁾	LSPF Deferred shares	28 Mar 2012	28 Mar 2014	3,398	3,398	€ 10.08
	LSPF Performance shares	30 Mar 2011	30 Mar 2014	5,612	6,314	€ 10.10
	LSPF Deferred shares	30 Mar 2011	30 Mar 2014	3,368	3,368	€ 10.10
	Deferred shares	15 May 2013	15 May 2014	2,489	2,489	€ 10.08
	Deferred shares	16 May 2012	16 May 2014	1,759	1,759	€ 9.75

- (1) Performance shares are shares conditionally granted with the final shares awarded based on ING's performance at the end of each performance cycle.
- (2) Shares granted to Ralph Hamers in March 2013 were awarded for his performance in position previous to his appointment to the Executive Board.
- (3) Upfront or deferred share units are cash settled instruments of which the ultimate value will be based on ING Group's share price at the vesting date.
- (4) Shares granted to Wilfred Nagel in 2012 and 2013 were awarded for his performance in positions previous to his appointment to the Executive Board.

Benefits

The individual members of the Executive Board receive other emoluments apart from the compensation and pension benefit. These other emoluments include employer contributions in saving schemes or are related to long home/work distances and housing, and amounted in 2014, 2013 and 2012 to the following gross amounts:

Other emoluments			
amounts in thousands of euros	2014	2013	2012
Ralph Hamers ⁽¹⁾	45	29	–
Patrick Flynn	178	181	238
Wilfred Nagel ⁽²⁾	34	25	12

(1) Ralph Hamers was appointed to the Executive Board on 13 May 2013. The 2013 emoluments for him reflect the partial year as an Executive Board member.

(2) Wilfred Nagel was appointed to the Executive Board on 14 May 2012. The 2012 emoluments for him reflect the partial year as an Executive Board member.

Loans and advances to Executive Board members

The table below presents the loans and advances provided to Executive Board members and outstanding on 31 December 2014, 2013 and 2012.

Loans and advances to the individual members of the Executive Board									
amounts in thousands of euros	2014			2013			2012		
	Amount outstanding 31 December	Average interest rate	Repayments	Amount outstanding 31 December	Average interest rate	Repayments	Amount outstanding 31 December	Average interest rate	Repayments
Ralph Hamers ⁽¹⁾	2,499	2.5%	98	2,597	2.4%	500	0	0	0
Patrick Flynn	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wilfred Nagel ⁽²⁾	500	2.2%	250	750	3.0%	0	750	3.3%	0

(1) Ralph Hamers was appointed to the Executive Board on 13 May 2013. The figures reflect the loans and advances received well before his appointment to the Executive Board.

(2) Wilfred Nagel was appointed to the Executive Board on 14 May 2012. The figures reflect the loans and advances received before his appointment to the Executive Board and repayment of EUR 250,000 in December 2014 in accordance with the terms of the mortgage.

ING shares held by Executive Board members

Executive Board members are permitted to hold ING shares as a long-term investment. The table below shows an overview of the shares held by members of the Executive Board at 31 December 2014, 2013 and 2012.

ING shares held by members of the Executive Board			
number of shares	2014	2013	2012
Ralph Hamers	44,182	38,497	–
Patrick Flynn	85,084	85,084	85,084
Wilfred Nagel	81,285	70,027	15,246

Proposed amendments to the Executive Board Remuneration policy

Since 2009 the base salary level of the Executive Board has not been increased and no variable remuneration was paid to the Executive Board.

In 2010 the AGM approved the existing Executive Board remuneration policy. During the period in which ING was subject to the Prohibition Act on Variable Remuneration, ING could not remunerate the Executive Board members in accordance with the remuneration policy.

Now that ING has made the final repayment of the State support and also the regulatory landscape has further materialized with the introduction of the Wbfo, the Supervisory Board reviewed the contractually agreed remuneration of the members of the Executive Board and compared that against the Executive Board remuneration policy as approved in 2010. This resulted in the following proposed amendments to the remuneration policy:

1. Change of the at target variable remuneration percentage to 80% of the maximum allowed variable remuneration percentage according to the Wbfo which is currently 20%, as described below.
2. The cash component of variable remuneration will be abandoned resulting in variable remuneration for members of the Executive Board fully awarded in shares.

These amendments to the current remuneration policy for the Executive Board will be put forward for adoption at the 2015 AGM. If adopted, it will become effective as of performance year 2015.

New legislation

The impact of the Wbfo on the total direct compensation of the members of the Executive Board will even further increase the gap with ING's peers. In accordance with the current policy, variable remuneration levels of the Executive Board are set at 80% (of base salary) in case of at target performance and 100% (of base salary) as a maximum in case of outperformance. The Wbfo introduces a variable remuneration cap of maximum 20% of base salary. Applying these lower variable remuneration caps will reduce the ING Executive Board remuneration levels to the lowest quartile in the benchmark which is not sustainable, considering ING's international footprint. ING is serving 32 million clients across 40 countries. At least 70% of employees work outside the Netherlands and 65% of total income is earned abroad.

Benchmarks

The current remuneration level of the CEO and other members of the Executive Board is benchmarked against the Euro Stoxx 50. In addition to the benchmark peer group as agreed in the Executive Board remuneration policy, other peer groups were also reviewed as part of the overall analysis. The remuneration developments in the financial sector deviate more in the last years from the non-financial sector. In order to take these developments into account, separate peer groups for the financial sector and for the non-financial sector were reviewed. Also those benchmarks confirm that the current actual direct compensation level of the members of the ING Executive Board are significantly below median level of the Euro Stoxx 50 peer group and such other peer groups.

To be able to attract and retain highly qualified leaders, ING cannot afford prolonged significant downward deviation from the median remuneration levels of its peers.

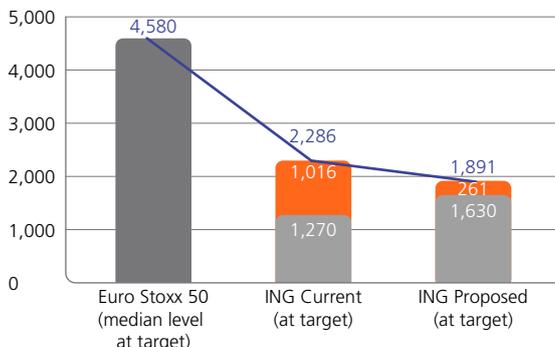
2015 Remuneration Executive Board

As a result of the Wbfo, the members of the Executive Board will be eligible for at target variable remuneration of 16% of base salary if performance criteria (as predetermined by the Supervisory Board) are met. If performance criteria are exceeded, the variable component can be increased from target to maximum, in total not exceeding 20% of base salary at the time of allocation. Any variable remuneration will be fully awarded in shares and will be subject to the agreed deferral arrangements (40% is awarded "upfront" in the year following the performance year and the remaining 60% is deferred with a 3 year tiered vesting) as laid down in the 2010 Executive Board remuneration policy. The impact of this reduction of variable remuneration is a decrease of total compensation at target (according to policy) of 35%; from EUR 2,286,000 to EUR 1,473,000 for the CEO and from EUR 1,620,000 to EUR 1,044,000 for the CFO/CRO. Taking the benchmark position of ING into account, this made the Supervisory Board decide to adjust the remuneration level of the members of the Executive Board, by increasing the fixed remuneration.

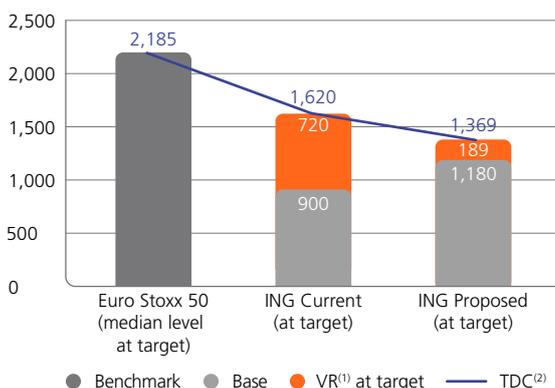
With effect from 1 January 2015, the base salary of the CEO has been increased to EUR 1,630,000 and the base salaries of the CFO and CRO to EUR 1,180,000. As a result, total compensation at target compared to policy by year end 2014 will be reduced with 17% from EUR 2,286,000 to EUR 1,890,800 for the CEO and with 16% from EUR 1,620,000 to EUR 1,368,800 for the CFO/CRO.

On the following page the different scenarios are visualised.

CEO remuneration compared to benchmark amounts in thousands of euros



CFO/CRO remuneration compared to benchmark amounts in thousands of euros



- (1) Variable Remuneration
- (2) Total Direct Compensation

The new remuneration levels are still significantly below median level of the Euro Stoxx 50 benchmark. This remains a major concern, however, the Supervisory Board deems fully bridging the gap with peers currently not appropriate in the context of the public debate.

The Supervisory Board will continue to monitor the development of the applicable benchmark and continues to support the Executive Board remuneration policy of compensating in line with the Dutch Banking Code. As such annual reviews will be held.

2015 Executive Board Pensions

As of 1 January 2015, all members of the Executive Board are participating in the Collective Defined Contribution (CDC) pension scheme. Following the introduction of legislation with effect from 1 January 2015 pursuant to which pension premiums on salaries in excess of EUR 100,000 are no longer exempt or deductible from wage tax, the Executive Board members are compensated for the resulting loss of pension accrual by means of a cash allowance to be annually determined in accordance with the CLA.

Remuneration policy for senior management

As much as possible for a global financial institution of its size, ING aims to take account of all the differences and standards applied within similar financial institutions in the various countries in which it operates. The

remuneration policies applicable to members of the Management Boards and senior management are in line with international and local legislation and practices, which may therefore deviate from the remuneration policy for members of the Executive Board.

Total direct compensation

Total direct compensation levels will be based on benchmark data in the international context in which ING operates. ING aims for compensation levels to be set at market median levels. Total compensation levels will be determined on the basis of a variety of factors including relevant market practices and regulatory environment.

Focus on long-term value creation, risk and non-financial performance

Variable remuneration is linked to long-term value creation and risk. It is based on individual, business line and company performance criteria. Performance measurement will increasingly account for estimated risks and cost of capital. There is a clear emphasis on long-term value creation by means of long-term incentives, deferral and clawback mechanisms.

Furthermore, and in addition to financial indicators, performance is also assessed on non-financial drivers. Non-financial indicators aim at further improving sustainable business practices. Non-financial indicators include customer satisfaction, workforce diversity, stakeholder engagement and sustainable business practices.

2014 Remuneration structure senior management

The Executive Board remuneration policy, which permits a combination of fixed compensation (base salary) and variable remuneration (together 'total direct compensation'), pension arrangements and benefits have been applied in full to members of the Management Board Banking. For senior management in banking, ING has shifted gradually to a more balanced mix of fixed and variable remuneration in line with the Executive Board remuneration policy and to put more emphasis on value creation. Exceptions may exist for high-value specialists and senior management working in certain divisions and/or geographical areas. The remuneration policy for senior management is in line with the requirements of the Capital Requirements Directive IV.

With effect from 1 January 2014, the Capital Requirements Directive IV led to a significant increase in the number of ING's identified staff. All these identified staff are subject to the requirements set by Capital Requirements Directive IV. ING has continued to review and amend the remuneration for its identified staff in order to comply with the Capital Requirements Directive IV. The requirements relate to the allocation of variable remuneration and the ratio between fixed and variable remuneration and are intended to mitigate risk relating to remuneration. Measures include an ex-ante and ex-post assessment of variable remuneration prior to award and vesting respectively, significant deferral of variable remuneration, an equal divide between variable remuneration in cash and in shares, as well as retention periods on all equity remuneration as soon as it becomes unconditional.

Moreover, in light of the Capital Requirements Directive IV, compensation packages related to control functions (such as risk management functions) are structured such that they provide for a reduced emphasis on variable remuneration. To ensure the autonomy of the individual, financial performance metrics are dependent on objectives determined at the divisional level (i.e. not at the level of the relevant business). In addition, performance assessments are not only determined by business management, but also by the functional line.

The regulatory environment is still in development. The structure as set out above is based on information currently available. If more legislation would enter into force and amendments are necessary, ING will amend the structure as deemed appropriate.

In addition, as mentioned earlier, the Wbfo has been enacted with effect from 7 February 2015, introducing amongst others caps on variable remuneration applicable to all global staff. ING has taken the necessary measures to implement the legislative requirements in its remuneration policies.

Variable remuneration cap for certain employees

The Wbfo has introduced restrictions on the ratio between fixed and variable remuneration for all global staff of Dutch credit institutions and their subsidiaries in the Netherlands and abroad.

With ING's international footprint, a significant part of ING's key staff is employed outside the Netherlands. Especially outside the European Economic Area ("EEA"), ING operates in markets that do not have local limitations on variable remuneration and where ING's international peers and competitors, being subject to less home country restrictions concerning variable remuneration, have a more favorable competitive position.

Under the Wbfo, credit institutions are permitted to set a cap higher than 100% of fixed remuneration for staff outside the EEA, provided that the higher cap is approved by their shareholders in accordance with the requirements laid down in CRD IV.

In order to maintain ING's competitive position in these markets and to minimize any disadvantages in its ability to recruit and retain key employees and taking into account that this does not limit the ability of the Company to strengthen its capital base, the Executive Board and the Supervisory Board deem it in the best interest of the Company to increase the cap up to 200% for a select group of staff working in the Commercial Banking (including Lending Services, Financial Markets and other departments within Commercial Banking) and Bank Treasury businesses.

Taking the above into account approval is sought in the Annual General Meeting for any and all resolutions regarding the increase of the maximum ratio between the fixed and variable components of remuneration from 100% to 200%, by the subsidiaries of the Company for no more than 1% of ING's global staff for each of the performance years 2014, 2015 and 2016.

For performance year 2014 this increased ratio may be applied to identified staff globally and for performance years 2015 and 2016 the application of this increased ratio is restricted to all staff employed outside the EEA.

ING will make restrictive use of the permission to apply the increased cap. Where applied, the increased cap is based on performance delivered. The increased cap will be applied for 65 identified staff (both in- and outside the EEA) with respect to performance year 2014. For performance year 2015 ING expects to apply the increased cap to a maximum number of 120 employees outside the EEA. The increased number is due to the fact that the Wbfo applies to all staff (not only identified staff).

Remuneration Supervisory Board

The annual remuneration of the Supervisory Board members as adopted by the General Meetings in 2006 and 2008 amounts to: chairman EUR 75,000, vice-chairman EUR 65,000, other members EUR 45,000. In addition to the remuneration each member receives an expense allowance. For the chairman and vice-chairman the annual amount is EUR 6,810. For the other members the amount is EUR 2,270.

The remuneration for the membership of committees is as follows: chairman of the Audit Committee EUR 8,000, members of the Audit Committee EUR 6,000, chairmen of other Supervisory Board committees EUR 7,500 and members of other Supervisory Board committees EUR 5,000. In addition to the fixed remuneration, committee members receive a fee for each meeting they attend. For the Audit Committee chairman this fee is EUR 2,000 per meeting and for its members EUR 1,500. For the chairmen and members of other committees the attendance fee amounts to EUR 450 per meeting.

Supervisory Board members receive an additional fee of EUR 2,000 per attended Supervisory Board or Committee meeting in the event the meeting is held outside the country of residence of the Supervisory Board member, or an additional amount of EUR 7,500 per attended Supervisory Board or Committee meeting if intercontinental travel is required for attending the meeting.

The remuneration levels for Supervisory Board members will be reviewed in 2015 as a consequence of increased level of responsibility and the increased frequency and intensity of Supervisory Board meetings.

2014 Remuneration Supervisory Board

The table below shows the remuneration, expense allowances and attendance fees per Supervisory Board member.

2014 Remuneration Supervisory Board					
amounts in thousands of euros	2014 ⁽¹⁾		2013 ⁽¹⁾		2012 ⁽²⁾
	Remuneration	VAT	Remuneration	VAT	
Jeroen van der Veer ⁽²⁾	118	25	114	24	86
Peter Elverding ^(2,4)	40	8	91	19	77
Tineke Bahlman ⁽⁴⁾	28	6	68	14	70
Henk Breukink	76	16	72	15	71
Joost Kuiper	93	19	75	16	74
Luc Vandewalle ⁽⁴⁾	42		88		86
Jan Holsboer ⁽⁴⁾	41	9	68	14	41
Robert Reibestein	78	16	66	14	
Yvonne van Rooy ⁽⁴⁾	38	8	67	14	37
Carin Gorter	73	16	42	9	
Herman-Josef Lamberti	81		46		
Isabel Martin Castella	87		48		
Eric Boyer de la Giroday ⁽³⁾	53				

- (1) As per 1 January 2013 new VAT legislation was implemented based on which the Dutch SB members qualify as VAT taxable persons and are obliged to charge 21% VAT to ING on their remuneration.
- (2) The remuneration amounts of 2012 are excluding VAT. In 2012, remuneration was voluntarily capped at EUR 100,000 and EUR 90,000 for the chairman and vice-chairman respectively. The same cap applied for 2011. Amounts in excess of the 2011 cap amounting to EUR 13,000 for Peter Elverding and EUR 14,000 for Jeroen van der Veer are deducted from their remuneration relating to 2012.
- (3) Eric Boyer de la Giroday is a member of the Supervisory Board as of May 2014. The remuneration figures for 2014 reflect a partial year as a member of the Supervisory Board.
- (4) Peter Elverding, Tineke Bahlman and Luc Vandewalle retired in May 2014. Jan Holsboer and Yvonne van Rooy retired in June 2014. The remuneration figures for 2014 reflect a partial year as a member of the Supervisory Board.

Compensation of former members of the Supervisory Board who are not included in the above table amounted to nil in 2014, EUR 90 thousand in 2013 and EUR 264 thousand in 2012.

Loans and advances to Supervisory Board members

Supervisory Board members may obtain banking and insurance services from ING Group subsidiaries in the ordinary course of their business and on terms that are customary in the sector. The Supervisory Board members do not receive privileged financial services. The table below presents the loans and advances to Supervisory Board members outstanding on 31 December 2014, 2013 and 2012.

Loans and advances to members of the Supervisory Board												
amounts in thousands of euros	Amount outstanding	Average interest rate	Repay-ments	2014	Amount outstanding	Average interest rate	Repay-ments	2013	Amount outstanding	Average interest rate	Repay-ments	2012
	31 December					31 December					31 December	
Jeroen van der Veer ⁽¹⁾	0				0				0			282

- (1) The amount reflects a housing mortgage loan granted in 1992, well before Jeroen van der Veer's appointment to the Supervisory Board.

ING shares and options held by Supervisory Board members

Supervisory Board members are permitted to hold ING shares as a long-term investment. The table below shows the holdings by members of the Supervisory Board at 31 December 2014, 2013 and 2012.

ING shares held by members of the Supervisory Board ⁽¹⁾			
number of shares	2014	2013	2012
Jeroen van der Veer	119,469	119,469	119,469
Hermann-Josef Lamberti ⁽²⁾	5,700	5,700	
Eric Boyer de la Giroday ⁽³⁾	43,094		

- (1) The numbers reflect the shares held by the members of the Supervisory Board and their partners.
- (2) Hermann-Josef Lamberti is a member of the Supervisory Board as of May 2013.
- (3) Eric Boyer de la Giroday is a member of the Supervisory Board as of May 2014.

The following table contains information on the options outstanding by, and awards vested for, the members of the Supervisory Board.

Stock options on ING Groep N.V. shares held by members of the Supervisory Board at 31 December 2014

	Outstanding as at 31 Dec 2014	Expired in 2014	Outstanding as at 31 Dec 2013	Expired in 2013	Outstanding as at 31 Dec 2012	Expired in 2012
Eric Boyer de la Giroday ⁽¹⁾	389,390	23,181				

Shares vested for members of the Supervisory Board in 2014

	Shares	Granting date	Vesting date	Number of shares granted	Number of shares vested	Vesting price
Eric Boyer de la Giroday ⁽²⁾	Deferred shares	16 May 2012	16 May 2014	8,831	8,831	€ 9.75

(1) Eric Boyer de la Giroday is a member of the Supervisory Board as of May 2014.

(2) Shares granted to Eric Boyer de la Giroday in May 2012 were awarded for his performance in position previous to his appointment to the Supervisory Board.

Works councils

Central works council 2014

M.L.R. (Michel) Vonk, *chairman*
L.G. (Bert) Woltheus, *deputy-chairman*
J.R.H.M. (Job) van Luyken, *secretary*
H.P. (Hennie) Post, *deputy secretary*
J.H. (Hans) de Boer, R. (Reinoud) Rijpkema,
J. (Yoap) Bruggmann, A. (Aad) Kant

European works council 2014

N. (Norbert) Lucas, *chairman*, Germany
R. (Rene) De Meij, *secretary*, Belgium
J.P. (Jean Pierre) Lambert, *chairman Bank*, Belgium
H. (Herman) Van Eesbeek, Belgium
C.M. (Mihai) Ailincăi, *secretary Bank*, Romania
A. (Aad) Kant, *chairman Insurance*, the Netherlands
R. (Reinoud) Rijpkema, *secretary Insurance*, the Netherlands

O. (Otmar) Haneder, Austria
F. (Franck) Goethals, Belgium
N. (Nikolay) Mladenski, B. (Biliana) Petrova, Bulgaria
M. (Martina) Jezkova, P. (Petr) Ullmann, Czech Republic
M. (Mourad) Benzaaza, France
U. (Ulrich) Probst, Germany
N. (Nikolaos) Ploumis, Greece
G. (Géza) Bodor, C. (Csilla) Dobos, Hungary
G. (Gianluigi) Spina, N. (Nicola) Cerruti, Italy
C. (Christophe) Guissart, A. (Alain) Back, Luxembourg
J.R. (Jeffrey) Dinsbach, G.J. (Gerard) Veldman,
L.F.F. (Leo) Teunissen, L.S.A. (Lea) De Weerd,
J. (Jennifer) Wirjosemito, H. (Hennie) Post, the Netherlands
A. (Agnieszka) Brodzik, M. (Mieczyslaw) Bielawski,
K. (Krzysztof) Burnat, M. (Mariusz) Cieslik, Poland
D. (Daniela) Plopsoreanu, Romania
M. (Miroslav) Filega, Slovakia
D. (Deiane) Vicente Coira, M.A. (Miguel) Hernandez Fernandez,
N. (Nadia) Belajard Moya, Spain
J. (John) Tabares, M.R. (Mark Robert) Brown, United Kingdom.

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Consolidated balance sheet

as at 31 December

amounts in millions of euros	2014	2013	2012
ASSETS			
Cash and balances with central banks 2	12,233	13,316	17,657
Amounts due from banks 3	37,119	42,996	39,053
Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss 4			
– trading assets	136,959	114,247	116,245
– investments for risk of policyholders		39,589	98,765
– non-trading derivatives	4,384	8,546	13,951
– designated as at fair value through profit and loss	2,756	2,790	4,760
Investments 5			
– available-for-sale	95,402	137,897	193,584
– held-to-maturity	2,239	3,098	6,545
Loans and advances to customers 6	517,478	531,655	563,385
Reinsurance contracts 18		252	5,290
Investments in associates and joint ventures 7	953	2,022	2,461
Real estate investments 8	80	1,046	1,190
Property and equipment 9	2,100	2,446	2,674
Intangible assets 10	1,655	1,841	2,639
Deferred acquisition costs 11		1,353	4,549
Assets held for sale 12	165,532	156,884	65,596
Other assets 13	13,966	21,339	26,210
Total assets	992,856	1,081,317	1,164,554
EQUITY 14			
Shareholders' equity (parent)	50,424	45,776	51,303
Non-voting equity securities		1,500	2,250
	50,424	47,276	53,553
Minority interests	8,072	5,913	1,643
Total equity	58,496	53,189	55,196
LIABILITIES			
Subordinated loans 15	6,861	6,889	8,786
Debt securities in issue 16	126,352	127,727	143,436
Other borrowed funds 17	11,297	13,706	16,723
Insurance and investment contracts 18		111,769	229,950
Amounts due to banks 19	29,999	27,200	38,704
Customer deposits and other funds on deposit 20	483,871	474,312	454,930
Financial liabilities at fair value through profit and loss 21			
– trading liabilities	97,091	73,491	83,652
– non-trading derivatives	6,040	11,155	18,752
– designated as at fair value through profit and loss	13,551	13,855	13,399
Liabilities held for sale 12	142,132	146,401	67,497
Other liabilities 22	17,166	21,623	33,529
Total liabilities	934,360	1,028,128	1,109,358
Total equity and liabilities	992,856	1,081,317	1,164,554

Amounts for 2013 and 2012 have been restated to reflect the changes in accounting policies as disclosed in the section 'Changes in accounting policies in 2014' on page 108.

The comparison of the balance sheets is impacted by the classification of businesses as held for sale and discontinued operations. For further information, reference is made to the section 'Other significant changes in 2014' on page 111.

References relate to the notes starting on page 129. These form an integral part of the consolidated annual accounts.

Consolidated profit and loss account

for the years ended 31 December

amounts in millions of euros	2014	2014	2013	2013	2012	2012
Continuing operations						
Interest income banking operations	48,163		51,394		60,003	
Interest expense banking operations	-35,859		-39,693		-48,119	
Interest result banking operations 23		12,304		11,701		11,884
Investment income 24		236		351		607
Result on disposals of group companies 25		195		27		1,604
Gross commission income	3,297		3,303		3,024	
Commission expense	-1,004		-1,099		-977	
Commission income 26		2,293		2,204		2,047
Valuation results on non-trading derivatives 27		-295		204		-980
Net trading income 28		592		483		1,122
Share of result from associates and joint ventures 7		138		150		102
Other income 29		97		170		-376
Total income		15,560		15,290		16,010
Addition to loan loss provisions 6		1,594		2,289		2,125
Intangible amortisation and other impairments 30		88		136		203
Staff expenses 31		5,788		4,920		4,703
Other operating expenses 32		4,383		3,778		4,738
Total expenses		11,853		11,123		11,769
Result before tax from continuing operations		3,707		4,167		4,241
Taxation 42		971		1,037		1,077
Net result from continuing operations		2,736		3,130		3,164
Discontinued operations 33						
Net result from discontinued operations		746		705		1,001
Net result from classification as discontinued operations		-470		-42		-394
Net result from disposal of discontinued operations		-1,572		17		752
Total net result from discontinued operations		-1,296		680		1,359
Net result from continuing and discontinued operations (before minority interests)		1,440		3,810		4,523

Amounts for 2013 and 2012 have been restated to reflect the changes in accounting policies as disclosed in the section 'Changes in accounting policies in 2014' on page 108 and the classification of NN Group as held for sale and discontinued operations. Reference is made to Note 33 'Discontinued operations' and Note 57 'Other events'.

References relate to the notes starting on page 129. These form an integral part of the consolidated annual accounts.

Consolidated annual accounts

Consolidated profit and loss account of ING Group continued

amounts in millions of euros	2014	2013	2012
Net result from continuing and discontinued operations attributable to:			
Equityholders of the parent	1,251	3,545	4,362
Minority interests	189	265	161
	1,440	3,810	4,523
Net result from continuing operations attributable to:			
Equityholders of the parent	2,657	3,050	3,082
Minority interests	79	80	82
	2,736	3,130	3,164
Net result from discontinued operations attributable to:			
Equityholders of the parent	-1,406	495	1,280
Minority interests	110	185	79
	-1,296	680	1,359

amounts in euros	2014	2013	2012
Earnings per ordinary share 34			
Basic earnings per ordinary share	0.13	0.79	0.98
Diluted earnings per ordinary share	0.13	0.79	0.98
Earnings per ordinary share from continuing operations 34			
Basic earnings per ordinary share from continuing operations	0.50	0.66	0.64
Diluted earnings per ordinary share from continuing operations	0.49	0.66	0.64
Earnings per ordinary share from discontinued operations 34			
Basic earnings per ordinary share from discontinued operations	-0.37	0.13	0.34
Diluted earnings per ordinary share from discontinued operations	-0.36	0.13	0.34
Dividend per ordinary share 35	0.12	0.00	0.00

Amounts for 2013 and 2012 have been restated to reflect the changes in accounting policies as disclosed in the section 'Changes in accounting policies in 2014' on page 108 and the classification of NN Group as held for sale and discontinued operations. Reference is made to Note 33 'Discontinued operations' and Note 57 'Other events'.

References relate to the notes starting on page 129. These form an integral part of the consolidated annual accounts.

Consolidated statement of comprehensive income

for the years ended 31 December

amounts in millions of euros	2014	2013	2012
Net result from continuing and discontinued operations	1,440	3,810	4,523
Other comprehensive income			
Items that will not be reclassified to the profit and loss account:			
Remeasurement of the net defined benefit asset/liability 41	-289	-942	-3,221
Unrealised revaluations property in own use	-30	-7	-22
Items that may be reclassified subsequently to the profit and loss account:			
Unrealised revaluations available-for-sale investments and other	6,981	-6,159	7,070
Realised gains/losses transferred to the profit and loss account	-139	-79	-840
Changes in cash flow hedge reserve	2,394	-827	737
Transfer to insurance liabilities/DAC	-2,146	1,944	-2,181
Share of other comprehensive income of associates and joint ventures	43	6	29
Exchange rate differences and other	2,374	-1,468	-822
Total comprehensive income	10,628	-3,722	5,273
Comprehensive income attributable to:			
Equityholders of the parent	9,337	-3,750	5,036
Minority interests	1,291	28	237
	10,628	-3,722	5,273

Amounts for 2013 and 2012 have been restated to reflect the changes in accounting policies as disclosed in the section 'Changes in accounting policies in 2014' on page 108.

Reference is made to Note 42 'Taxation' for the disclosure on the income tax effects on each component of the other comprehensive income.

References relate to the notes starting on page 129. These form an integral part of the consolidated annual accounts.

Consolidated statement of cash flows

for the years ended 31 December

amounts in millions of euros		2014	2013	2012
Result before tax ⁽¹⁾		2,682	4,899	5,682
Adjusted for:	– depreciation	692	765	777
	– deferred acquisition costs and value of business acquired	–53	1,282	–484
	– change in provisions for insurance and investment contracts	–3,527	–8,503	–3,174
	– addition to loan loss provisions	1,594	2,289	2,125
	– other	2,267	2,929	4,575
Taxation paid		–1,073	–1,656	–745
Changes in:	– amounts due from banks, not available on demand	3,360	–9,400	5,272
	– trading assets	–23,676	651	7,367
	– non-trading derivatives	–3,022	–2,151	–1,779
	– other financial assets at fair value through profit and loss	–553	1,899	–2,417
	– loans and advances to customers	–13,901	6,090	531
	– other assets	246	2,542	–596
	– amounts due to banks, not payable on demand	3,353	–10,266	–26,459
	– customer deposits and other funds on deposit	19,015	25,585	27,718
	– trading liabilities	23,855	–10,172	–24,031
	– other financial liabilities at fair value through profit and loss	–1,018	–3,429	–1,376
	– other liabilities	1,778	–11,772	–2,246
Net cash flow from/(used in) operating activities		12,019	–8,418	–9,260
Investments and advances:	– associates and joint ventures	–528	–68	–26
	– available-for-sale investments	–85,799	–132,318	–143,681
	– held-to-maturity investments	–315		
	– real estate investments	–483	–200	–60
	– property and equipment	–375	–388	–423
	– assets subject to operating leases	–34	–82	
	– investments for risk of policyholders	–20,598	–56,008	–67,986
	– other investments	–6,348	–343	–369
Disposals and redemptions:	– group companies (including cash in company disposed)	–1,216	–4,638	–6,536
	– associates and joint ventures	2,505	462	92
	– available-for-sale investments	69,444	129,243	137,418
	– held-to-maturity investments	1,172	3,439	2,308
	– real estate investments	192	265	290
	– property and equipment	55	61	71
	– assets subject to operating leases	3		
	– investments for risk of policyholders	28,003	65,528	72,201
	– loans	1,167	4,309	7,268
	– other investments	5,736	7	9
Net cash flow from/(used in) investing activities 36		–7,419	9,269	576
Repayments of subordinated loans		–375	–1,470	–10
Proceeds from borrowed funds and debt securities		146,714	156,663	332,492
Repayments of borrowed funds and debt securities		–151,471	–164,738	–333,165
Repayment of non-voting equity securities		–1,500	–750	–750
Repurchase premium ⁽²⁾		–750	–375	–375
Payments to acquire treasury shares		–31		–17
Sales of treasury shares		17	119	160
Proceeds of IPO NN Group 14		1,747		
Proceeds of IPO Voya 14			1,848	
Proceeds from issuance of Undated Subordinated Notes		986		
Net cash flow from/(used in) financing activities		–4,663	–8,703	–1,665
Net cash flow 37		–63	–7,852	–10,349
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		17,180	24,150	34,280
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents		–4	882	219
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year 38		17,113	17,180	24,150

(1) Result before tax includes results from continuing operations of EUR 3,707 million (2013: EUR 4,167 million; 2012: EUR 4,241 million) as well as results from discontinued operations of EUR –1,025 million (after tax EUR –1,296 million), for 2013 EUR 732 million (after tax EUR 680 million) and for 2012 EUR 1,441 million (after tax EUR 1,359 million).

(2) 2014 includes the repurchase premium paid on the repayment of EUR 1,500 million (2013: EUR 750 million; 2012: EUR 750 million) non-voting equity securities.

As at 31 December 2014 Cash and cash equivalents includes cash and balances with central banks of EUR 12,233 million (2013: EUR 13,316 million; 2012: EUR 17,657 million). Reference is made to Note 38 'Cash and cash equivalents'.

Amounts for 2013 and 2012 have been restated to reflect the changes in accounting policies as disclosed in the section 'Changes in accounting policies in 2014' on page 108.

References relate to the notes starting on page 129. These form an integral part of the consolidated annual accounts.

Consolidated statement of changes in equity

amounts in millions of euros	Share capital	Share premium	Reserves	Total shareholders' equity parent	Non-voting equity securities	Minority interests	Total equity
Balance as at 1 January 2012 (before change in accounting policy)	919	16,034	30,085	47,038	3,000	777	50,815
Effect of change in accounting policy			-671	-671			-671
Balance as at 1 January 2012 (after change in accounting policy)	919	16,034	29,414	46,367	3,000	777	50,144
Remeasurement of the net defined benefit asset/liability 41			-3,221	-3,221			-3,221
Unrealised revaluations property in own use			-22	-22			-22
Unrealised revaluations available-for-sale investments and other			7,061	7,061		9	7,070
Realised gains/losses transferred to the profit and loss account			-840	-840			-840
Changes in cash flow hedge reserve			718	718		19	737
Transfer to insurance liabilities/DAC			-2,181	-2,181			-2,181
Share of other comprehensive income of associates and joint ventures			29	29			29
Exchange rate differences and other			-870	-870		48	-822
Total amount recognised directly in equity (other comprehensive income)			674	674		76	750
Net result from continuing and discontinued operations			4,362	4,362		161	4,523
Total comprehensive income			5,036	5,036		237	5,273
Employee stock option and share plans			7	7		1	8
Repayment of non-voting equity securities					-750		-750
Repurchase premium			-375	-375			-375
Changes in the composition of the group and other			13	13		634	647
Dividends						-6	-6
Purchase/sale of treasury shares			255	255			255
Balance as at 31 December 2012	919	16,034	34,350	51,303	2,250	1,643	55,196
Remeasurement of the net defined benefit asset/liability 41			-905	-905		-37	-942
Unrealised revaluations property in own use			-7	-7			-7
Unrealised revaluations available-for-sale investments and other			-6,421	-6,421		262	-6,159
Realised gains/losses transferred to the profit and loss account			-114	-114		35	-79
Changes in cash flow hedge reserve			-812	-812		-15	-827
Transfer to insurance liabilities/DAC			2,200	2,200		-256	1,944
Share of other comprehensive income of associates and joint ventures			6	6			6
Exchange rate differences and other			-1,242	-1,242		-226	-1,468
Total amount recognised directly in equity (other comprehensive income)			-7,295	-7,295		-237	-7,532
Net result from continuing and discontinued operations			3,545	3,545		265	3,810
Total comprehensive income			-3,750	-3,750		28	-3,722
Repayment of non-voting equity securities					-750		-750
Repurchase premium			-375	-375			-375
Dividends						-13	-13
Impact of IPO Voya 14			-2,526	-2,526		4,348	1,822
Purchase/sale of treasury shares			378	378			378
Employee stock option and share plans	2	4	-84	-78		19	-59
Changes in the composition of the group and other changes			824	824		-112	712
Balance as at 31 December 2013	921	16,038	28,817	45,776	1,500	5,913	53,189

amounts in millions of euros	Share capital	Share premium	Reserves	Total shareholders' equity parent	Non-voting equity securities	Minority interests	Total equity
Balance as at 1 January 2014	921	16,038	28,817	45,776	1,500	5,913	53,189
Remeasurement of the net defined benefit asset/liability 41			-254	-254		-35	-289
Unrealised revaluations property in own use			-30	-30			-30
Unrealised revaluations available-for-sale investments and other			5,503	5,503		1,478	6,981
Realised gains/losses transferred to the profit and loss account			-133	-133		-6	-139
Changes in cash flow hedge reserve			2,001	2,001		393	2,394
Transfer to insurance liabilities/DAC			-1,428	-1,428		-718	-2,146
Share of other comprehensive income of associates and joint ventures			43	43			43
Exchange rate differences and other			2,384	2,384		-10	2,374
Total amount recognised directly in equity (other comprehensive income)			8,086	8,086		1,102	9,188
Net result from continuing and discontinued operations			1,251	1,251		189	1,440
Total comprehensive income			9,337	9,337		1,291	10,628
Impact of issuance Undated Subordinated Notes						986	986
Repayment of non-voting equity securities					-1,500		-1,500
Repurchase premium			-750	-750			-750
Dividends						-44	-44
Impact of deconsolidation of Voya			87	87		-5,100	-5,013
Impact of IPO NN Group 14			-4,263	-4,263		5,397	1,134
Purchase/sale of treasury shares			-14	-14			-14
Employee stock option and share plans	4	8	87	99		13	112
Changes in the composition of the group and other changes			152	152		-384	-232
Balance as at 31 December 2014	925	16,046	33,453	50,424	0	8,072	58,496

Amounts for 2013 and 2012 have been restated to reflect the changes in accounting policies as disclosed in the section 'Changes in accounting policies in 2014' on page 108.

Changes in individual components are presented in Note 14 'Equity'.

Notes to the consolidated annual accounts

amounts in millions of euros, unless stated otherwise

Notes to the accounting policies

Authorisation of annual accounts

The consolidated annual accounts of ING Groep N.V. for the year ended 31 December 2014 were authorised for issue in accordance with a resolution of the Executive Board on 16 March 2015. The Executive Board may decide to amend the annual accounts as long as these are not adopted by the General Meeting of Shareholders. The General Meeting of Shareholders may decide not to adopt the annual accounts, but may not amend these. ING Groep N.V. is incorporated and domiciled in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. The principal activities of ING Group are described in the section 'ING at a glance' in section 1.

1 Accounting policies

ING Group applies International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the European Union 'IFRS-EU'. IFRS requires the consistent application of accounting policies. In the annual accounts the term 'IFRS-EU' is used to refer to International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the EU, including the decisions ING Group made with regard to the options available under IFRS-EU.

IFRS-EU provides several options in accounting policies. The key areas in which IFRS-EU allows accounting policy choices, and the related ING accounting policy, are summarised as follows:

- › As explained in the section 'Principles of valuation and determination of results' and in Note 44 'Derivatives and hedge accounting' ING Group applies fair value hedge accounting to portfolio hedges of interest rate risk (macro hedging) under the EU 'carve out' of IFRS-EU;
- › Under IFRS 4, an insurer may continue its existing pre-IFRS accounting policies for insurance contracts, provided that certain minimum requirements are met. Upon adoption of IFRS in 2005, ING Group decided to continue the then existing accounting principles for insurance contracts under IFRS. Through its insurance holding company NN Group, ING operates in various countries and the accounting principles for insurance contracts follow local practice in these countries. NN Group's businesses in the Netherlands apply accounting standards generally accepted in the Netherlands (Dutch GAAP) for its provisions for liabilities under insurance contracts;
- › ING's accounting policy for Real estate investments is fair value, with changes in fair value reflected immediately in the profit and loss account; and
- › ING's accounting policy for Property for own use is fair value, with changes in fair value reflected in the revaluation reserve in equity ('Other comprehensive income'). A net negative revaluation on individual properties is reflected immediately in the profit and loss account.

ING Group's accounting policies under IFRS-EU and its decision on the options available are included in the section 'Principles of valuation and determination of results' below. Except for the options included above, the principles in section 'Principles of valuation and determination of results' are IFRS-EU and do not include other significant accounting policy choices made by ING. The accounting policies that are most significant to ING are included in section 'Critical accounting policies'.

Changes in accounting policies in 2014

Change in accounting for GMDB in Japan Closed Block VA

NN Group has moved towards fair value accounting for the reserves for Guaranteed Minimum Death Benefits (GMDB) reserves of the Japan Closed Block VA segment as of 1 January 2014. This improves the alignment of the book value of the GMDB reserves with their market value, better reflects the economic value of these guarantees and improves the alignment of the accounting for the guarantees with the accounting for the related hedges. Furthermore, such a move makes the accounting for the GMDB consistent with the accounting on the reserves for Guaranteed Minimum Accumulation and Withdrawal benefits.

As at 31 December 2013, the difference between the book value and the estimated fair value of the GMDB reserves was EUR 219 million (before tax). Implementation of fair value accounting for GMDB represents a change in accounting policy under IFRS with a transitional impact of EUR -165 million after tax being reflected only in Shareholders' equity as of 1 January 2014. This impact is included in the table on the next page.

Changes in IFRS-EU

The following new standards were implemented by ING Group on 1 January 2014 for IFRS-EU:

- › IFRS 10 'Consolidated Financial Statements';
- › IFRS 11 'Joint Arrangements' and amendments to IAS 28 'Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures';
- › IFRS 12 'Disclosure of Interests in Other Entities';
- › Investment Entities (Amendments to IFRS 10, IFRS 12 and IAS 27);
- › Amendments to IAS 32 'Presentation - Offsetting Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities';
- › Amendments to IAS 39 'Novation of Derivatives and Continuation of Hedge Accounting';
- › Amendments to IAS 36 'Recoverable amount disclosures for non-financial assets'; and
- › IFRIC 21 'Levies'.

IFRS 10 'Consolidated Financial Statements'

IFRS 10 'Consolidated Financial Statements' introduced amendments to the criteria for consolidation. Similar to the requirements that were applicable until the end of 2013, all entities controlled by ING Group are included in the consolidated annual accounts. However, IFRS 10 redefines control as being exposed to variable returns and having the ability to affect those returns through power over the investee. The requirements in IFRS 10 are generally similar to the policies and interpretations that ING Group applied and, therefore, the impact of implementing IFRS 10 was not significant. The implementation of IFRS 10 has no impact on Shareholders' equity, Net result and/or Other comprehensive income. The impact of IFRS 10 is included in the tables below.

IFRS 11 'Joint Arrangements' and amendments to IAS 28 'Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures'

IFRS 11 'Joint Arrangements' and the related amendments to IAS 28 'Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures' eliminate the proportionate consolidation method for joint ventures that was applied by ING. Under the new requirements, all joint ventures are reported using the equity method of accounting (similar to the accounting that is already applied for Investments in associates). The implementation of IFRS 11 has no impact on Shareholders' equity, Net result and/or Other comprehensive income. The impact of IFRS 11 is included in the table below.

Summary of impact of changes in accounting policies

The above mentioned impact of changes in accounting policies that were implemented as of 1 January 2014 is summarised as follows:

Changes in accounting policies in 2014: Impact on the balance sheet		
	2013	2012
Total Shareholders' equity (before change in accounting policy)	45,941	51,777
Japan Closed Block VA		
Change in Insurance and investment contracts	-219	-630
Impact before tax	-219	-630
Tax effect	54	156
<i>Impact on Shareholders' equity</i>	-165	-474
IFRS 10		
Assets held for sale	1,213	
Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss		1,350
Liabilities held for sale	702	
Other liabilities		788
Minority interest	511	562
<i>IFRS 10 Impact on Shareholders' equity</i>	0	0
IFRS 11		
Amounts due from banks	-16	
Loans and advances to customers	-8	-19
Investments in associates and joint ventures	273	258
Real estate investments	-96	-98
Assets held for sale	-443	-2,876
Other assets	-230	-252
Impact on Total assets	-520	-2,987
Amounts due to banks	-57	
Customer deposits and other funds on deposit	-8	-73
Other liabilities	-12	-38
Liabilities held for sale	-443	-2,876
Impact on Total liabilities	-520	-2,987
<i>IFRS 11 Impact on Shareholders' equity</i>	0	0
Total Shareholders' equity (after change in accounting policy)	45,776	51,303

Consolidated annual accounts

Notes to the consolidated annual accounts of ING Group continued

Changes in accounting policies in 2014: Impact on the Net result

	2013	2012
Net result from continuing and discontinued operations (before change in accounting policy)	3,439	4,270
Impact on Net result from discontinued operations:		
– Japan Closed Block VA (fair value accounting of GMDB reserves)	313	201
– Voya (IFRS 10)	58	52
Net result from continuing and discontinued operations (after change in accounting policy)	3,810	4,523

Changes in accounting policies in 2014: Impact on the basic earnings per ordinary share – Japan Closed Block VA

	Amount (in millions of euros)		Weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding during the period (in millions)		Per ordinary share (in euros)	
	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012
Basic earnings (before change in accounting policy)	2,706	3,519	3,825.0	3,796.1	0.71	0.93
Impact of Japan Closed Block VA change in accounting policy	313	201			0.08	0.05
Basic earnings (after change in accounting policy)	3,019	3,720	3,825.0	3,796.1	0.79	0.98

Changes in accounting policies in 2014: Impact on the diluted earnings per ordinary share – Japan Closed Block VA

	Amount (in millions of euros)		Weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding during the period (in millions)		Per ordinary share (in euros)	
	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012
Diluted earnings (before change in accounting policy)	2,706	3,519	3,833.5	3,802.4	0.71	0.93
Impact of Japan Closed Block VA change in accounting policy	313	201			0.08	0.05
Diluted earnings (after change in accounting policy)	3,019	3,720	3,833.5	3,802.4	0.79	0.98

Under the accounting policies for Japan Closed Block VA applied until 2013, the result before tax for 2014 would have been EUR 97 million lower.

For the above changes in accounting policies the comparative amounts for 2013 and 2012 were restated accordingly. As a result of the retrospective change in accounting policies set out above, the consolidated balance sheet of ING Group includes an additional balance sheet as at 31 December 2012.

Investment Entities (Amendments to IFRS 10, IFRS 12 and IAS 27)

These amendments provide an exception to the consolidation requirement for entities that meet the definition of an investment entity under IFRS 10 Consolidated Financial Statements. The exception to consolidate requires investment entities to account for subsidiaries at fair value through profit or loss. These amendments have no impact on ING, since ING Group does not qualify as an investment entity under IFRS 10.

Amendments to IAS 32 'Presentation – Offsetting Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities'

These amendments clarify the meaning of 'currently has a legally enforceable right to set-off' and the criteria for non-simultaneous settlement mechanisms of clearing houses to qualify for offsetting and is applied retrospectively. There is no impact on Total equity, Net result and/or Other comprehensive income as ING already applied these principles.

Amendments to IAS 39 'Novation of Derivatives and Continuation of Hedge Accounting'

These amendments provide relief from discontinuing hedge accounting when novation of a derivative designated as a hedging instrument meets certain criteria and retrospective application is required. There is no impact on Total equity, Net result and/or Other comprehensive income as ING already applied these principles.

Amendments to IAS 36 'Recoverable amount disclosures for non-financial assets'

This amendment removed certain disclosures of the recoverable amount of cash generating units which had been included in IAS 36 by the issue of IFRS 13. There is no impact on Total equity, Net result and/or Other comprehensive income.

IFRIC 21 'Levies'

IFRIC 21 clarifies that an entity recognises a liability for a levy when the activity that triggers payment, as identified by the relevant legislation, occurs. For a levy that is triggered upon reaching a minimum threshold, the interpretation clarifies that no liability should be provided for before the specified minimum threshold is reached. Retrospective application is required for IFRIC 21. This interpretation has no impact on ING as ING applied the recognition principles under IAS 37 'Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets' which is consistent with the requirements of IFRIC 21.

Other significant changes in 2014

NN Group

In July 2014, ING Group sold 31.9% of its interest in NN Group (a wholly owned subsidiary of ING Group) through an initial public offering ('IPO') and transactions with anchor investors and underwriters reducing its remaining interest in NN Group to 68.1%. These partial divestment transactions did not impact the profit and loss account of ING Group of 2014, as NN Group continued to be consolidated. The transactions had a negative impact on shareholders' equity of ING Group of EUR 4,263 million in 2014.

In 2014, NN Group is presented as Assets and liabilities held for sale and discontinued operations because it is assessed highly probable that ING will lose control within a year. As a result of the classification to held for sale and discontinued operations, goodwill and certain other non-current non-financial assets amounting to EUR 470 million were written-off as the fair value less cost to sell was lower than the carrying value of the disposal group. The write-off is presented in the profit and loss account in the line 'Net result from classification as discontinued operations'.

Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale', Note 14 'Equity', Note 33 'Discontinued operations', Note 57 'Other events' and Note 58 'Subsequent events'.

NN Group's business in Japan

After carefully exploring and evaluating the options available for the divestment of ING Life Japan, it was concluded that a standalone divestment of ING Life Japan, including its Corporate Owned Life Insurance (COLI) and Closed Block VA businesses, was not feasible in a manner that would appropriately meet the demands of regulators and other stakeholders in ING Group and ING Life Japan. At the end of 2013, ING Life Japan and the Japanese Closed Block VA guarantees reinsured to ING Re ('NN Group's business in Japan') were no longer classified as held for sale and discontinued operations but transferred to continuing operations. ING Life Japan was combined with ING's European insurance and investment management businesses in the IPO of NN Group on 2 July 2014 and is also presented as held for sale and discontinued operations as part of NN Group.

Voya

In May 2013, ING Group sold 28.8% of its interest in Voya ('Voya', formerly Insurance ING U.S., and a wholly owned subsidiary of ING Group) through an initial public offering ('IPO'). In October 2013, ING Group further reduced its interest in Voya to 56.5%. The 2013 divestment transactions did not impact the profit and loss account of ING Group, as Voya continued to be fully consolidated. From the third quarter of 2013 Voya was presented as Assets and liabilities held for sale and discontinued operations because it was assessed highly probable that ING would lose control within a year.

In March 2014, ING Group sold a further 13.3% to reduce ING Group's interest in Voya to approximately 43.2% resulting in ING Group losing control over Voya. The share sale and the deconsolidation of Voya resulted in an after tax loss of EUR 2,005 million in the first quarter of 2014 which is recognised in the profit and loss account in the line Net result from disposal of discontinued operations. The remaining interest in Voya was recognised as an Investment in associate held for sale. The profit and loss account of the first quarter of 2014 includes the result of Voya until the deconsolidation at the end of March 2014.

In September 2014, ING Group sold a further 10.8% to reduce ING Group's interest in Voya to 32.5%. ING Group sold 22.3 million Voya shares in the public offering. In addition ING Group sold to Voya 7.7 million shares for an aggregate amount of USD 300 million. The gross proceeds to ING Group from the public offering and the concurrent repurchase by Voya amounted to EUR 888 million (USD 1.2 billion). These transactions resulted in an after tax profit of EUR 40 million and are recognised in the profit and loss account in the line Net result from disposal of discontinued operations.

In November 2014, ING Group sold a further 34.5 million shares of Voya. ING Group sold 30.0 million Voya shares in the public offering. In addition, ING Group sold to Voya 4.5 million shares for an aggregate amount of EUR 138 million (USD 175 million). These transactions settled on 18 November 2014. The sale of the total of 34.5 million shares from the combined transactions reduces ING Group's stake in Voya from 32.5% to 18.9%. As a result of these transactions, ING Group loses significant influence over Voya and accounts for its stake in Voya as an available-for-sale investment held for sale at 31 December 2014. These transactions resulted in a net profit after tax of EUR 418 million and is recognised in the profit and loss account in the line Net Result from disposal of discontinued operations in 2014.

Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale', Note 14 'Equity', Note 33 'Discontinued operations and Note 57 'Other events' and Note 58 'Subsequent events'.

Other

The comparison of balance sheet items between 31 December 2014 and 31 December 2013 is impacted by the Initial Public Offering ('IPO') of NN Group, the classification of NN Group as held for sale and discontinued operations, the further sale of ING Group's interest in Voya, the deconsolidation of Vysya and other divestments. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale', Note 33 'Discontinued operations', Note 52 'Companies and businesses acquired and divested' and Note 57 'Other events'.

The presentation of, and certain terms used in, the consolidated balance sheet, the consolidated profit and loss account, consolidated statement of cash flows, consolidated statement of changes in equity and certain notes has been changed to provide additional and more relevant information or (for changes in comparative information) to better align with the current period presentation. The impact of these changes is explained in the respective notes when significant.

Significant upcoming other changes in IFRS-EU after 2014

IFRS 15 'Revenue from Contracts with Customers'

In May 2014, the IASB issued IFRS 15 'Revenue from Contracts with Customers'. The standard is effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2017 with early adoption permitted. IFRS 15 is not yet endorsed by the EU. IFRS 15 provides a principles-based approach for revenue recognition, and introduces the concept of recognising revenue as and when the agreed performance obligations are satisfied. The standard should in principle be applied retrospectively, with certain exceptions. ING is currently assessing the impact of this standard.

IFRS 9 'Financial Instruments'

IFRS 9 'Financial Instruments' was issued by the IASB in July 2014. The new requirements become effective as of 2018. IFRS 9 is not yet endorsed by the EU. IFRS 9 is replacing IAS 39 'Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement', and includes requirements for classification and measurement of financial assets and liabilities, impairment of financial assets and hedge accounting.

Classification and measurement

The classification and measurement of financial assets will depend on the entity's business model for their management and their contractual cash flow characteristics and result in financial assets being recognised at amortised cost, fair value through Other Comprehensive Income ('FVOCI') or fair value through profit and loss. In many instances, the classification and measurement outcomes will be similar to IAS 39, although certain differences will arise. The classification of financial liabilities is essentially the same. Except for certain liabilities measured at fair value, gains or losses relating to changes in the entity's own credit risk are to be included in OCI.

Impairment

The recognition and measurement of impairment is intended to be more forward-looking than under IAS 39 and the resulting impairment charge will tend to be more volatile. The impairment requirements apply to financial assets measured at amortised cost, FVOCI, lease receivables, and certain loan commitments and financial guarantee contracts. Initially, a provision is required for expected credit losses ('ECL') resulting from default events that are possible within the next 12 months ('12 month ECL'). In the event of a significant increase in credit risk, a provision is required for ECL resulting from all possible default events over the expected life of the financial instrument ('lifetime ECL').

Hedge accounting

The hedge accounting requirements of IFRS 9 aims to simplify general hedge accounting requirements. Furthermore, IFRS 9 aims to create a stronger link between financial accounting and the risk management strategy and permits a greater variety of hedging instruments and risks. The standard does not address macro hedge account strategies, which are being considered in a separate project for which a discussion paper was issued in April 2014.

Application

The classification and measurement and impairment requirements are applied retrospectively by adjusting the opening balance sheet at 1 January 2018, with no requirement to restate comparative periods. Hedge accounting is applied prospectively from that date.

Expected impact

ING is currently assessing the impact of this standard. The implementation of IFRS 9, if and when endorsed by the EU, may have a significant impact on Shareholders' equity, Net result and/or Other comprehensive income and disclosures.

Critical accounting policies

ING Group has identified the accounting policies that are most critical to its business operations and to the understanding of its results. These critical accounting policies are those which involve the most complex or subjective decisions or assessments, and relate to insurance provisions, deferred acquisition costs, loan loss provisions, the determination of the fair values of real estate and financial assets and liabilities and employee benefits. In each case, the determination of these items is fundamental to the financial condition and results of operations, and requires management to make complex judgements based on information and financial data that may change in future periods. As a result, determinations regarding these items necessarily involve the use of assumptions and subjective judgements as to future events and are subject to change, as the use of different assumptions or data could produce significantly different results. For a further discussion of the application of these accounting policies, reference is made to the applicable notes to the consolidated financial statements and the information below under 'Principles of valuation and determination of results'.

Insurance provisions and deferred acquisition costs (DAC)

The establishment of insurance provisions and DAC is an inherently uncertain process, involving assumptions about factors such as court decisions, changes in laws, social, economic and demographic trends, inflation, investment returns, policyholder behaviour and other factors, and, in the life insurance business, assumptions concerning mortality and morbidity trends. Specifically, assumptions related to these items that could have a significant impact on financial results include interest rates, mortality, morbidity, property and casualty claims, investment yields on equity and real estate, foreign currency exchange rates and reserve adequacy assumptions.

The use of different assumptions about these factors could have a significant effect on insurance provisions and underwriting expenditure. Changes in assumptions may lead to changes in the insurance provisions over time. Furthermore, some of these assumptions can be volatile.

In addition, the adequacy of insurance provisions and net of DAC, is evaluated regularly. The test involves comparing the established insurance provision with current best estimate assumptions about factors such as court decisions, changes in laws, social, economic and demographic trends, inflation, investment returns, policyholder behaviour, mortality and morbidity trends and other factors. The use of different assumptions in this test could lead to a different outcome.

Insurance provisions also include the impact of minimum guarantees which are contained within certain variable annuity products. This impact is dependent upon the difference between the potential minimum benefits payable and the total account balance, expected mortality and surrender rates. The determination of the potential minimum benefits payable also involves the use of assumptions about factors such as inflation, investment returns, policyholder behaviour, and mortality morbidity trends and other factors. The use of different assumptions about these factors could have a significant effect on insurance provisions and underwriting expenditure.

The process of defining methodologies and assumptions for insurance provisions and DAC is governed by NN Group risk management.

Loan loss provisions

Loan loss provisions are recognised based on an incurred loss model. Considerable judgement is exercised in determining the extent of the loan loss provision (impairment) and is based on the management's evaluation of the risk in the portfolio, current economic conditions, loss experience in recent years and credit, industry, geographical and concentration trends. Changes in such judgements and analyses may lead to changes in the loan loss provisions over time.

The identification of impairment and the determination of the recoverable amount are an inherently uncertain processes involving various assumptions and factors including the financial condition of the counterparty, expected future cash flows, observable market prices and expected net selling prices.

Future cash flows in a portfolio of financial assets that are collectively evaluated for impairment are estimated on the basis of the contractual cash flows of the assets in the portfolio and historical loss experience for assets with credit risk characteristics similar to those in the portfolio. Historical loss experience is adjusted on the basis of current observable data to reflect the effects of current conditions that did not affect the period on which the historical loss experience is based and to remove the effects of conditions in the historical period that do not exist currently. Current observable data may include changes in unemployment rates, property prices and commodity prices. The methodology and assumptions used for estimating future cash flows are reviewed regularly to reduce any differences between loss estimates and actual loss experience.

Fair values of real estate

Real estate investments are reported at fair value. The fair value of real estate investments is based on regular appraisals by independent qualified valuers. The fair values are established using valuation methods such as: comparable market transactions, capitalisation of income methods or discounted cash flow calculations. The underlying assumption used in the valuation is that the properties are let or sold to third parties based on the actual letting status. The discounted cash flow analyses and capitalisation of income method are based on calculations of the future rental income in accordance with the terms in existing leases and estimations of the rental values for new leases when leases expire and incentives like rental free periods. The cash flows are discounted using market based interest rates that reflect appropriately the risk characteristics of real estate.

Market conditions in recent years have led to a reduced level of real estate transactions. Transaction values were significantly impacted by low volumes of actual transactions. As a result comparable market transactions have been used less in valuing ING's real estate investments by independent qualified valuers. More emphasis has been placed on discounted cash flow analysis and capitalisation of income method.

Reference is made to Note 43 'Fair value of assets and liabilities' for more disclosure on fair values of real estate investments.

The valuation of real estate involves various assumptions and techniques. The use of different assumptions and techniques could produce significantly different valuations. Consequently, the fair values presented may not be indicative of the net realisable value. In addition, the calculation of the estimated fair value is based on market conditions at a specific point in time and may not be indicative of future fair values. To illustrate the uncertainty of our real estate investments valuation, a sensitivity analysis on the changes in fair value of real estate is provided in the 'Risk management' section.

Fair values of financial assets and liabilities

Fair values of financial assets and liabilities are based on unadjusted quoted market prices where available. Such quoted market prices are primarily obtained from exchange prices for listed instruments. Where an exchange price is not available, market prices may be obtained from independent market vendors, brokers or market makers. In general, positions are valued taking the bid price for a long position and the offer price for a short position or are valued at the price within the bid-offer spread that is most representative of fair value in the circumstances. In some cases where positions are marked at mid-market prices, a fair value adjustment is calculated.

When markets are less liquid there may be a range of prices for the same security from different price sources, selecting the most appropriate price requires judgement and could result in different estimates of fair value.

For certain financial assets and liabilities quoted market prices are not available. For these financial assets and liabilities, fair value is determined using valuation techniques. These valuation techniques range from discounting of cash flows to valuation models, where relevant pricing factors including the market price of underlying reference instruments, market parameters (volatilities, correlations and credit ratings) and customer behaviour are taken into account. All valuation techniques used are subject to internal review and approval. Most data used in these valuation techniques are validated on a daily basis.

To include credit risk in the fair valuation, ING applies both credit and debit valuation adjustments (CVA, DVA). Own issued debt and structured notes that are valued at fair value are adjusted for credit risk by means of a DVA. Additionally, derivatives valued at fair value are adjusted for credit risk by a CVA. The CVA is of a bilateral nature as both the credit risk on the counterparty as well as the credit risk on ING are included in the adjustment. All market data that is used in the determination of the CVA is based on market implied data. Additionally, wrong-way risk (when exposure to a counterparty is increasing and the credit quality of that counterparty decreases) and right-way risk (when exposure to a counterparty is decreasing and the credit quality of that counterparty increases) are included in the adjustment. ING also applies CVA for pricing credit risk into new external trades with counterparties. To address the risk associated with the illiquid nature of the derivative portfolio, ING applies an additional 'liquidity valuation adjustment'. The adjustment is based on the market price of funding liquidity and is applied to the uncollateralised derivatives. This additional discounting is taken into account in both the credit and debit valuation adjustments.

Valuation techniques are subjective in nature and significant judgement is involved in establishing fair values for certain financial assets and liabilities. Valuation techniques involve various assumptions regarding pricing factors. The use of different valuation techniques and assumptions could produce significantly different estimates of fair value.

Price testing is performed to assess whether the process of valuation has led to an appropriate fair value of the position and to an appropriate reflection of these valuations in the profit and loss account. Price testing is performed to minimise the potential risks for economic losses due to incorrect or misused models.

Reference is made to Note 43 'Fair value of assets and liabilities' and the 'Risk management' section for the basis of the determination of the fair value of financial instruments and related sensitivities.

Impairments

Impairment evaluation is a complex process that inherently involves significant judgements and uncertainties that may have a significant impact on ING Group's consolidated financial statements. Impairments are especially relevant in two areas: Available-for-sale debt and equity securities and Goodwill/Intangible assets.

All debt and equity securities (other than those carried at fair value through profit and loss) are subject to impairment testing every reporting period. The carrying value is reviewed in order to determine whether an impairment loss has been incurred. Evaluation for impairment includes both quantitative and qualitative considerations. For debt securities, such considerations include actual and estimated incurred credit losses indicated by payment default, market data on (estimated) incurred losses and other current evidence that the issuer may be unlikely to pay amounts when due. Equity securities are impaired when management believes that, based on a significant or prolonged decline of the fair value below the acquisition price, there is sufficient reason to believe that the acquisition cost may not be recovered. 'Significant' and 'prolonged' are interpreted on a case-by-case basis for specific equity securities. Generally 25% and 6 months are used as triggers. Upon impairment, the full difference between the (acquisition) cost and fair value is removed from equity and recognised in net result. Impairments on debt securities may be reversed if there is a decrease in the amount of the impairment which can be objectively related to an observable event. Impairments on equity securities cannot be reversed.

Impairments on other debt instruments (Loans and held-to-maturity investments) are part of the loan loss provision as described above.

Impairment reviews with respect to goodwill and intangible assets are performed at least annually and more frequently if events indicate that impairments may have occurred. Goodwill is tested for impairment by comparing the carrying value (including goodwill) of the reporting unit to the best estimate of the recoverable amount of that reporting unit. The carrying value is determined as the IFRS-EU net asset value including goodwill. The recoverable amount is estimated as the higher of fair value less cost to sell and value in use. Several methodologies are applied to arrive at the best estimate of the recoverable amount. A reporting unit is the lowest level at which goodwill is monitored. Intangible assets are tested for impairment by comparing the carrying value with the best estimate of the recoverable amount.

The identification of impairment is an inherently uncertain process involving various assumptions and factors, including financial condition of the counterparty, expected future cash flows, statistical loss data, discount rates, observable market prices, etc. Estimates and assumptions are based on management's judgement and other information available prior to the issuance of the financial statements. Significantly different results can occur as circumstances change and additional information becomes known.

Principles of valuation and determination of results

Consolidation

ING Group ('the Group') comprises ING Groep N.V. ('the Company'), NN Group N.V., ING Bank N.V. and all other subsidiaries. The consolidated financial statements of ING Group comprise the accounts of ING Groep N.V. and all entities in which it either owns, directly or indirectly, more than half of the voting power or over which it has control of their operating and financial policies through situations including, but not limited to:

- › Ability to appoint or remove the majority of the board of directors;
- › Power to govern such policies under statute or agreement; and
- › Power over more than half of the voting rights through an agreement with other investors.

Control exists if ING Group is exposed to variable returns and having the ability to affect those returns through power over the investee.

A list of principal subsidiaries is included in Note 53 'Principal subsidiaries'.

The existence and effect of potential voting rights that are currently exercisable or convertible are considered in assessing whether the Group controls another entity.

For interests in investment vehicles, the existence of control is determined taking into account both ING Group's financial interests for own risk and its role as investment manager. Financial interests for risk of policyholders are not taken into account when the policyholders decide on the investment allocations of their insurance policies and assume all risks and benefits on these investments.

The results of the operations and the net assets of subsidiaries are included in the profit and loss account and the balance sheet from the date control is obtained until the date control is lost. On disposal, the difference between the sales proceeds, net of directly attributable transaction costs, and the net assets is included in net result.

A subsidiary which ING Group has agreed to sell but is still legally owned by ING Group may still be controlled by ING Group at the balance sheet date and, therefore, still be included in the consolidation. Such a subsidiary may be presented as a held for sale disposal group if certain conditions are met.

All intercompany transactions, balances and unrealised surpluses and deficits on transactions between group companies are eliminated. Where necessary, the accounting policies used by subsidiaries are changed to ensure consistency with group policies. In general, the reporting dates of subsidiaries are the same as the reporting date of ING Groep N.V.

ING Groep N.V. and its Dutch group companies are subject to legal restrictions regarding the amount of dividends they can pay to their shareholders. The Dutch Civil Code contains the restriction that dividends can only be paid up to an amount equal to the excess of the company's own funds over the sum of the paid-up capital and reserves required by law. Additionally, certain Group companies are subject to restrictions on the amount of funds they may transfer in the form of dividends, or otherwise, to the parent company.

Furthermore, in addition to the restrictions in respect of minimum capital requirements that are imposed by industry regulators in the countries in which the subsidiaries operate, other limitations exist in certain countries.

Disposal groups held for sale and discontinued operations

Disposal groups (and groups of non-current assets) are classified as held for sale if their carrying amount will be recovered principally through a sale transaction rather than through continuing use. This is only the case when the sale is highly probable and the disposal group (or group of assets) is available for immediate sale in its present condition; management must be committed to the sale, which is expected to occur within one year from the date of classification as held for sale.

Upon classification as held for sale, the carrying amount of the disposal group (or group of assets) is compared to its fair value less cost to sell. If the fair value less cost to sell is lower than the carrying value, this expected loss is recognised through a reduction of the carrying value of any goodwill related to the disposal group and the carrying value of certain other non-current non-financial assets. Any excess of the expected loss over the reduction of the carrying amount of these relevant assets is not recognised upon classification as held for sale, but is recognised as part of the result on disposal if and when a divestment transaction occurs.

When a group of assets that is classified as held for sale represents a major line of business or geographical area the disposal group classifies as discontinued operations. Upon classification of a business as held for sale and discontinued operations the individual income and expenses are classified to Total net result from discontinued operations instead of being presented in the usual Consolidated profit and loss account line items. All comparative years in the Consolidated profit and loss account are restated and presented as discontinued operations for all periods presented. Furthermore, the individual assets and liabilities are presented in the Consolidated balance sheet as 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and are no longer included in the usual balance sheet line items. Changes in assets and liabilities as a result of classification as held for sale are included in the notes in the line 'Changes in composition of the group and other changes'.

Investments in associates held for sale

Associates held for sale are measured at the lower of the carrying value and fair value less costs to sell. Any subsequent decrease in fair value below this carrying amount will be recognised in the profit and loss account. Subsequent increases in fair value will only be recognised to the extent that these are a reversal of previously recognised decreases in fair value. Changes in fair value include both changes in market value of the listed shares and the related foreign currency impact. Any dividend received is recognised as income in the profit and loss account if and when declared.

Use of estimates and assumptions

The preparation of the consolidated financial statements necessitates the use of estimates and assumptions. These estimates and assumptions affect the reported amounts of the assets and liabilities and the amounts of the contingent liabilities at the balance sheet date, as well as reported income and expenses for the year. The actual outcome may differ from these estimates.

The process of setting assumptions is subject to internal control procedures and approvals, and takes into account internal and external studies, industry statistics, environmental factors and trends, and regulatory requirements.

Segment reporting

A segment is a distinguishable component of the Group, engaged in providing products or services, subject to risks and returns that are different from those of other segments. A geographical area is a distinguishable component of the Group engaged in providing products or services within a particular economic environment that is subject to risks and returns that are different from those of segments operating in other economic environments. The geographical analyses are based on the location of the office from which the transactions are originated.

Analysis of insurance business

Where amounts in respect of insurance business are analysed into 'life' and 'non-life', health and disability insurance business which is similar in nature to life insurance business is included in 'life'.

Foreign currency translation

Functional and presentation currency

Items included in the financial statements of each of the Group's entities are measured using the currency of the primary economic environment in which the entity operates ('the functional currency'). The consolidated financial statements are presented in euros, which is ING Group's functional and presentation currency.

Transactions and balances

Foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency using the exchange rate prevailing at the date of the transactions. Exchange rate differences 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 the profit and loss account, except when deferred in equity as part of qualifying cash flow hedges or qualifying net investment hedges.

Exchange rate differences on non-monetary items, measured at fair value through profit and loss, are reported as part of the fair value gain or loss. Non-monetary items are retranslated at the date fair value is determined. Exchange rate differences on non-monetary items measured at fair value through the revaluation reserve are included in the revaluation reserve in equity.

Exchange rate differences in the profit and loss account are generally included in Net trading income. Reference is made to Note 28 'Net trading income', which discloses the amounts included in the profit and loss account. Exchange rate differences relating to the disposal of available-for-sale debt and equity securities are considered to be an inherent part of the capital gains and losses recognised in Investment income. As mentioned below in Group companies relating to the disposals of group companies, any exchange rate difference deferred in equity is recognised in the profit and loss account in Result on disposals of group companies. Reference is also made to Note 14 'Equity', which discloses the amounts included in the profit and loss account.

Group companies

The results and financial positions of all group companies that have a functional currency different from the presentation currency are translated into the presentation currency as follows:

- › Assets and liabilities included in each balance sheet are translated at the closing rate at the date of that balance sheet;
- › Income and expenses included in each profit and loss account are translated at average exchange rates (unless this average is not a reasonable approximation of the cumulative effect of the rates prevailing on the transaction dates, in which case income and expenses are translated at the dates of the transactions); and
- › All resulting exchange rate differences are recognised in a separate component of equity.

On consolidation, exchange rate differences arising from the translation of a monetary item that forms part of the net investment in a foreign operation, and of borrowings and other instruments designated as hedges of such investments, are taken to shareholders' equity. When a foreign operation is sold, the corresponding exchange rate differences are recognised in the profit and loss account as part of the gain or loss on sale.

Goodwill and fair value adjustments arising from the acquisition of a foreign operation are treated as assets and liabilities of the foreign operation and translated at the exchange rate prevailing at the balance sheet date.

Fair values of financial assets and liabilities

The fair values of financial instruments are based on quoted market prices at the balance sheet date where available. The quoted market price used for financial assets held by the Group is the current bid price; the quoted market price used for financial liabilities is the current ask price.

The fair value of financial instruments that are not traded in an active market are determined using valuation techniques. The Group uses a variety of methods and makes assumptions that are based on market conditions existing at each balance sheet date.

Reference is made to Note 43 'Fair value of assets and liabilities' and the 'Risk management' section for the basis of the determination of the fair value of financial instruments and related sensitivities.

Recognition and derecognition of financial instruments

Recognition of financial assets

All purchases and sales of financial assets classified as fair value through profit and loss (excluding investments for risk of policyholders), held-to-maturity and available-for-sale that require delivery within the time frame established by regulation or market convention ('regular way' purchases and sales) are recognised at trade date, which is the date on which the Group commits to purchase or sell the asset. Loans and receivables are recognised at settlement date, which is the date on which the Group receives or delivers the asset.

Derecognition of financial assets

Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the financial assets have expired or where the Group has transferred substantially all risks and rewards of ownership. If the Group neither transfers nor retains substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of a financial asset, it derecognises the financial asset if it no longer has control over the asset.

Financial liabilities

Debt securities in issue are recognised and derecognised on trade date.

Realised gains and losses on investments

Realised gains and losses on investments are determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and (amortised) cost. For equity securities, the cost is determined using a weighted average per portfolio. For debt securities, the cost is determined by specific identification.

Classification of financial instruments**Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss**

Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss include equity securities, debt securities, derivatives, loans and receivables and other, and comprise the following sub-categories: trading assets, non-trading derivatives, financial assets designated at fair value through profit and loss by management and investments for risk of policyholders.

A financial asset is classified as at fair value through profit and loss if acquired principally for the purpose of selling in the short term or if designated by management as such. Management will make this designation only if this eliminates a measurement inconsistency or if the related assets and liabilities are managed on a fair value basis.

Investments for risk of policyholders are investments against insurance liabilities for which all changes in fair value of invested assets are offset by similar changes in insurance liabilities.

Transaction costs on initial recognition are expensed as incurred. Interest income from debt securities and loans and receivables classified as at fair value through profit and loss is recognised in Interest income banking operations and Investment income in the profit and loss account, using the effective interest method.

Dividend income from equity instruments classified as at fair value through profit and loss is generally recognised in Investment income in the profit and loss account when dividend has been declared. Investment result from investments for risk of policyholders is recognised in investment result for risk of policyholders. For derivatives reference is made to the 'Derivatives and hedge accounting' section. For all other financial assets classified as at fair value through profit and loss changes in fair value are recognised in Net trading income.

Investments

Investments (including loans quoted in active markets) are classified either as held-to-maturity or available-for-sale and are initially recognised at fair value plus transaction costs. Investment debt securities and loans quoted in active markets with fixed maturity where management has both the intent and the ability to hold to maturity are classified as held-to-maturity. Investment securities and actively traded loans intended to be held for an indefinite period of time, which may be sold in response to needs for liquidity or changes in interest rates, exchange rates or equity prices, are classified as available-for-sale.

Available-for-sale financial assets

Available-for-sale financial assets include available-for-sale debt securities and available-for-sale equity securities. Available-for-sale financial assets are initially recognised at fair value plus transaction costs. For available-for-sale debt securities, the difference between cost and redemption value is amortised. Interest income is recognised using the effective interest method. Available-for-sale financial assets are subsequently measured at fair value. Interest income from debt securities classified as available-for-sale is recognised in Interest income banking operations and Investment income in the profit and loss account. Dividend income from equity instruments classified as available-for-sale is generally recognised in Investment income in the profit and loss account when the dividend has been declared. Unrealised gains and losses arising from changes in the fair value are recognised in equity. When the securities are disposed of, the related accumulated fair value adjustments are included in the profit and loss account as Investment income. For impairments of available-for-sale financial assets reference is made to the section 'Impairments of other financial assets'. Investments in prepayment sensitive securities such as Interest-Only and Principal-Only strips are generally classified as available-for-sale.

Held-to-maturity investments

Non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments and fixed maturity for which the Group has the positive intent and ability to hold to maturity and which are designated by management as held-to-maturity assets are initially recognised at fair value plus transaction costs. Subsequently, they are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method less any impairment losses. Interest income from debt securities classified as held-to-maturity is recognised in Interest income in the profit and loss account using the effective interest method. Held-to-maturity investments include only debt securities.

Loans and receivables

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market. They are initially recognised at fair value plus transaction costs. Subsequently, they are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method less any impairment losses. Loans and receivables include Cash and balances with central banks, Amounts due from banks, Loans and advances to customers and Other assets and are reflected in these balance sheet lines. Interest income from loans and receivables is recognised in Interest income and Investment income in the profit and loss account using the effective interest method.

Credit risk management classification

Credit risk management disclosures are provided in the section 'Risk management'. The relationship between credit risk classifications in that section and the consolidated balance sheet classifications above is explained below:

- › Lending risk arises when ING Group grants a loan to a customer, or issues guarantees on behalf of a customer and mainly relates to the balance sheet classification Loans and advances to customers and off balance sheet items e.g. obligations under financial guarantees and letters of credit;
- › Investment risk comprises the credit default and migration risk that is associated with ING Group's investment portfolio and mainly relates to the balance sheet classification Investments (available-for-sale and held-to-maturity);
- › Money market risk arises when ING Group places short term deposits with a counterparty in order to manage excess liquidity and among others relates to the balance sheet classifications Amounts due from banks and Loans and advances to customers;
- › Pre-settlement risk arises when a counterparty defaults on a transaction before settlement and ING Group has to replace the contract by a trade with another counterparty at the then prevailing (possibly unfavourable) market price. The pre-settlement risk classification mainly relates to the balance sheet classification Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss (trading assets and non-trading derivatives) and to securities financing; and
- › Settlement risk arises when there is an exchange of value (funds, instruments or commodities) for the same or different value dates and receipt is not verified or expected until ING Group has paid or delivered its side of the trade. Settlement risk mainly relates to the risk arising on disposal of financial instruments that are classified in the balance sheet as Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss (trading assets and non-trading derivatives) and Investments (available-for-sale and held-to-maturity).

Maximum credit risk exposure

The maximum credit risk exposure for items on the balance sheet is generally the carrying value for the relevant financial assets. For the off-balance sheet items the maximum credit exposure is the maximum amount that could be required to be paid. Reference is made to Note 50 'Contingent liabilities and commitments' for these off-balance sheet items. Collateral received is not taken into account when determining the maximum credit risk exposure.

The manner in which ING Group manages credit risk and determines credit risk exposures for that purpose is explained in the 'Risk management' section.

Derivatives and hedge accounting

Derivatives are initially recognised at fair value on the date on which a derivative contract is entered into and are subsequently measured at fair value. Fair values are obtained from quoted market prices in active markets, including recent market transactions and valuation techniques (such as discounted cash flow models and option pricing models), as appropriate. All derivatives are carried as assets when their fair value is positive and as liabilities when their fair values are negative.

Certain derivatives embedded in other contracts are measured as separate derivatives when their economic characteristics and risks are not closely related to those of the host contract, the host contract is not carried at fair value through profit and loss, and if a separate instrument with the same terms as the embedded derivative would meet the definition of a derivative. These embedded derivatives are measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in the profit and loss account. An assessment is carried out when the Group first becomes party to the contract. A reassessment is carried out only when there is a change in the terms of the contract that significantly modifies the expected cash flows.

The method of recognising the resulting fair value gain or loss depends on whether the derivative is designated as a hedging instrument and, if so, the nature of the item being hedged. The Group designates certain derivatives as hedges of the fair value of recognised assets or liabilities or firm commitments (fair value hedge), hedges of highly probable future cash flows attributable to a recognised asset or liability or a forecast transaction (cash flow hedge), or hedges of a net investment in a foreign operation. Hedge accounting is used for derivatives designated in this way provided certain criteria are met.

At the inception of the transaction ING Group documents the relationship between hedging instruments and hedged items, its risk management objective, together with the methods selected to assess hedge effectiveness. The Group also documents its assessment, both at hedge inception and on an ongoing basis, of whether the derivatives that are used in hedging transactions are highly effective in offsetting changes in fair values or cash flows of the hedged items.

ING Group applies fair value hedge accounting to portfolio hedges of interest rate risk (macro hedging) under the EU 'carve out' of IFRS-EU. The EU 'carve-out' macro hedging enables a group of derivatives (or proportions) to be viewed in combination and jointly designated as the hedging instrument and removes some of the limitations in fair value hedge accounting relating to hedging core deposits and under-hedging strategies. Under the IFRS-EU 'carve-out', hedge accounting may be applied to core deposits and ineffectiveness only arises when the revised estimate of the amount of cash flows in scheduled time buckets falls below the designated amount of that bucket.

ING Group applies fair value hedge accounting for portfolio hedges of interest rate risk (macro hedging) under the EU 'carve-out' to its retail operations. The net exposures of retail funding (savings and current accounts) and retail lending (mortgages) are hedged. The hedging activities are designated under a portfolio fair value hedge on the mortgages. Changes in the fair value of the derivatives are recognised in the profit and loss account, together with the fair value adjustment on the mortgages (hedged items) insofar as attributable to interest rate risk (the hedged risk).

Fair value hedges

Changes in the fair value of derivatives that are designated and qualify as fair value hedges are recognised in the profit and loss account, together with fair value adjustments to the hedged item attributable to the hedged risk. If the hedge relationship no longer meets the criteria for hedge accounting, the cumulative adjustment of the hedged item is, in the case of interest bearing instruments, amortised through the profit and loss account over the remaining term of the original hedge or recognised directly when the hedged

item is derecognised. For non-interest bearing instruments, the cumulative adjustment of the hedged item is recognised in the profit and loss account only when the hedged item is derecognised.

Cash flow hedges

The effective portion of changes in the fair value of derivatives that are designated and qualify as cash flow hedges are recognised in equity. The gain or loss relating to the ineffective portion is recognised immediately in the profit and loss account. Amounts accumulated in equity are recycled to the profit and loss account in the periods in which the hedged item affects net result. When a hedging instrument expires or is sold, or when a hedge no longer meets the criteria for hedge accounting, any cumulative gain or loss existing in equity at that time remains in equity and is recognised when the forecast transaction is ultimately recognised in the profit and loss account. When a forecast transaction is no longer expected to occur, the cumulative gain or loss that was reported in equity is transferred immediately to the profit and loss account.

Net investment hedges

Hedges of net investments in foreign operations are accounted for in a similar way to cash flow hedges. Any gain or loss on the hedging instrument relating to the effective portion of the hedge is recognised in equity and the gain or loss relating to the ineffective portion is recognised immediately in the profit and loss account. Gains and losses accumulated in equity are included in the profit and loss account when the foreign operation is disposed.

Non-trading derivatives that do not qualify for hedge accounting

Derivative instruments that are used by the Group as part of its risk management strategies, but which do not qualify for hedge accounting under ING Group's accounting policies, are presented as non-trading derivatives. Non-trading derivatives are measured at fair value with changes in the fair value taken to the profit and loss account.

Offsetting of financial assets and financial liabilities

Financial assets and financial liabilities are offset, and the net amount reported, in the balance sheet when the Group has a current legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and intends to either settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously. Offsetting is applied to certain interest rate swaps for which the services of a central clearing house are used. Furthermore, offsetting is also applied to certain current accounts for which the product features and internal procedures allow net presentation under IFRS-EU.

Repurchase transactions and reverse repurchase transactions

Securities sold subject to repurchase agreements ('repos') are retained in the consolidated financial statements. The counterparty liability is included in Amounts due to banks, Other borrowed funds, Customer deposits and other funds on deposit, or Trading as appropriate.

Securities purchased under agreements to resell ('reverse repos') are recognised as Loans and advances to customers, Amounts due from banks, or Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss - Trading assets, as appropriate. The difference between the sale and repurchase price is treated as interest and amortised over the life of the agreement using the effective interest method.

Impairments of loans and advances to customers (loan loss provisions)

ING Group assesses periodically and at each balance sheet date whether there is objective evidence that a financial asset or group of financial assets is impaired. A financial asset or a group of financial assets is impaired and impairment losses are incurred if, and only if, there is objective evidence of impairment as a result of one or more events that occurred after the initial recognition of the asset, but before the balance sheet date, (a 'loss event') and that loss event (or events) has an impact on the estimated future cash flows of the financial asset or group of financial assets that can be reliably estimated. The following circumstances, among others, are considered objective evidence that a financial asset or group of assets is impaired:

- › The borrower has sought or has been placed in bankruptcy or similar protection and this leads to the avoidance of or delays in repayment of the financial asset;
- › The borrower has failed in the repayment of principal, interest or fees and the payment failure has remained unsolved for a certain period;
- › The borrower has demonstrated significant financial difficulty, to the extent that it will have a negative impact on the expected future cash flows of the financial asset;
- › The credit obligation has been restructured for non-commercial reasons. ING Group has granted concessions, for economic or legal reasons relating to the borrower's financial difficulty, the effect of which is a reduction in the expected future cash flows of the financial asset; and
- › Historical experience, updated for current events where necessary, provides evidence that a proportion of a group of assets is impaired although the related events that represent impairment triggers are not yet captured by the Group's credit risk systems.

In certain circumstances ING grants borrowers postponement and/or reduction of loan principal and/or interest payments for a temporary period of time to maximise collection opportunities and, if possible, avoid default, foreclosure or repossession. When such postponement and/or reduction of loan principal and/or interest payments is executed based on credit concerns it is also referred to as 'forbearance'. In general, forbearance represents an impairment trigger under IFRS-EU. In such cases, the net present value of the postponement and/or reduction of loan and/or interest payments is taken into account in the determination of the appropriate level of Loan loss provisioning as described below. If the forbearance results in a substantial modification of the terms of the loan, the original loan is derecognised and a new loan is recognised at its fair value at the modification date.

The Group does not consider events that may be expected to occur in the future as objective evidence, and consequently they are not used as a basis for concluding that a financial asset or group of assets is impaired.

In determining the impairment, expected future cash flows are estimated on the basis of the contractual cash flows of the assets in the portfolio and historical loss experience for assets with credit risk characteristics similar to those in the portfolio. Historical loss experience is adjusted on the basis of current observable data to reflect the effects of current conditions that did not affect the period on which the historical loss experience is based and to remove the effects of conditions in the historical period that do not currently exist. Losses expected as a result of future events, no matter how likely, are not recognised.

The Group first assesses whether objective evidence of impairment exists individually for financial assets that are individually significant, and then individually or collectively for financial assets that are not individually significant. If the Group determines that no objective evidence of impairment exists for an individually assessed financial asset, whether significant or not, it includes the asset in a group of financial assets with similar credit risk characteristics and collectively assesses them for impairment. Assets that are individually assessed for impairment and for which an impairment loss is or continues to be recognised are not included in a collective assessment of impairment.

If there is objective evidence that an impairment loss on an asset carried at amortised cost has been incurred, the amount of the loss is measured as the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows (excluding future credit losses that have not been incurred) discounted at the financial asset's original effective interest rate. The carrying amount of the asset is reduced through the use of an allowance account ('Loan loss provision') and the amount of the loss is recognised in the profit and loss account under 'Addition to loan loss provision'. If the asset has a variable interest rate, the discount rate for measuring any impairment loss is the current effective interest rate determined under the contract.

For the purposes of a collective evaluation of impairment, financial assets are grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics. Those characteristics are relevant to the estimation of future cash flows for groups of such assets by being indicative of the debtors' ability to pay all amounts due according to the contractual terms of the assets being evaluated. The collective evaluation of impairment includes the application of a 'loss confirmation period' to default probabilities. The loss confirmation period is a concept which recognises that there is a period of time between the emergence of impairment triggers and the point in time at which those events are captured by the Group's credit risk systems. Accordingly, the application of the loss confirmation period ensures that impairments that are incurred but not yet identified are adequately reflected in the Group's loan loss provision. Although the loss confirmation periods are inherently uncertain, the Group applies estimates to sub-portfolios (e.g. large corporations, small and medium size enterprises and retail portfolios) that reflect factors such as the frequency with which customers in the sub-portfolio disclose credit risk sensitive information and the frequency with which they are subject to review by the Group's account managers. Generally, the frequency increases in relation to the size of the borrower. Loss confirmation periods are based on historical experience and are validated, and revised where necessary, through regular back-testing to ensure that they reflect recent experience and current events.

If, in a subsequent period, the amount of the impairment loss decreases and the decrease can be related objectively to an event occurring after the impairment was recognised (such as an improvement in the debtor's credit rating), the previously recognised impairment loss is reversed by adjusting the provision. The amount of the reversal is recognised in the profit and loss account.

When a loan is uncollectable, it is written off against the related loan loss provision. Such loans are written off after all the necessary procedures have been completed and the amount of the loss has been determined. Subsequent recoveries of amounts previously written off are recognised in the profit and loss account.

In most Retail portfolios, ING Bank has a write-off policy that requires 100% provision for all retail exposure after 2 years (3 years for mortgages) following the last default date.

Impairment of other financial assets

At each balance sheet date, the Group assesses whether there is objective evidence that a financial asset or a group of financial assets is impaired. In the specific case of equity investments classified as available-for-sale, a significant or prolonged decline in the fair value of the security below its cost is considered in determining whether the assets are impaired. 'Significant' and 'prolonged' are interpreted on a case-by-case basis for specific equity securities; generally 25% and 6 months are used as triggers. If any objective evidence exists for available-for-sale debt and equity investments, the cumulative loss – measured as the difference between the acquisition cost and the current fair value, less any impairment loss on that financial asset previously recognised in net result – is removed from equity and recognised in the profit and loss account. Impairment losses recognised on equity instruments can never be reversed. If, in a subsequent period, the fair value of a debt instrument classified as available-for-sale increases and the increase can be objectively related to an event occurring after the impairment loss was recognised in the profit and loss account, the impairment loss is reversed through the profit and loss account.

Investments in associates and joint ventures

Associates are all entities over which the Group has significant influence but not control. Significant influence generally results from a shareholding of between 20% and 50% of the voting rights, but also is the ability to participate in the financial and operating policies through situations including, but not limited to one or more of the following:

- › Representation on the board of directors;
- › Participation in the policymaking process; and
- › Interchange of managerial personnel.

Joint ventures are entities over which the Group has joint control. Joint control is the contractually agreed sharing of control over an arrangement or entity, which exists only when decisions about the relevant activities require the unanimous consent of the parties sharing control. Joint control means that no party to the agreement is able to act unilaterally to control the activity of the entity. The parties to the agreement must act together to control the entity and therefore exercise the joint control.

Investments in associates and joint ventures are initially recognised at cost and subsequently accounted for using the equity method of accounting.

The Group's investment in associates and joint ventures (net of any accumulated impairment loss) includes goodwill identified on acquisition. The Group's share of its associates and joint ventures post-acquisition profits or losses is recognised in the profit and loss account, and its share of post-acquisition changes in reserves is recognised in equity. The cumulative post-acquisition changes are adjusted against the carrying amount of the investment. When the Group's share of losses in an associate or joint venture equals or exceeds its interest in the associate or joint venture, including any other unsecured receivables, the Group does not recognise further losses, unless it has incurred obligations or made payments on behalf of the associate or joint venture.

Unrealised gains on transactions between the Group and its associates and joint ventures are eliminated to the extent of the Group's interest in the associates and joint ventures. Unrealised losses are also eliminated unless they provide evidence of an impairment of the asset transferred. Accounting policies of associates and joint ventures have been changed where necessary to ensure consistency with the policies adopted by the Group. The reporting dates of all significant associates and joint ventures are consistent with the reporting date of the Group.

For interests in investment vehicles the existence of significant influence is determined taking into account both the Group's financial interests for own risk and its role as investment manager.

Real estate investments

Real estate investments are recognised at fair value at the balance sheet date. Changes in the carrying amount resulting from revaluations are recognised in the profit and loss account. On disposal the difference between the sale proceeds and carrying value is recognised in the profit and loss account.

The fair value of real estate investments is based on regular appraisals by independent qualified valuers. For each reporting period every property is valued either by an independent valuer or internally. Indexation is used when a property is valued internally. The index is based on the results of the independent valuations carried out in that period. Market transactions and disposals made by ING Group are monitored as part of the validation procedures to test the indexation methodology. Valuations performed earlier in the year are updated if necessary to reflect the situation at the year-end. All properties are valued independently at least every five years and more frequently if necessary.

The fair values represent the estimated amount for which the property could be exchanged on the date of valuation between a willing buyer and willing seller in an at-arm's-length transaction after proper marketing wherein the parties each acted knowledgeably, prudently and without compulsion. Fair values are based on appraisals using valuation methods such as: comparable market transactions, capitalisation of income methods or discounted cash flow calculations. The underlying assumption used in the valuation is that the properties are let or sold to third parties based on the actual letting status. The discounted cash flow analyses and capitalisation of income method are based on calculations of the future rental income in accordance with the terms in existing leases and estimations of the rental values for new leases when leases expire and incentives like rent free periods. The cash flows are discounted using market based interest rates that reflect appropriately the risk characteristics of real estate.

ING Group owns a real estate portfolio, diversified by region, by investment segment (Office, Retail and Residential) and by investment type. The valuation of different investments is performed using different discount rates ('yields'), dependent on specific characteristics of each property, including occupancy, quality of rent payments and specific local market circumstances.

The valuation of real estate investments takes (expected) vacancies into account. Occupancy rates differ significantly from investment to investment.

For real estate investments held through (minority shares in) real estate investment funds, the valuations are performed under the responsibility of the funds' asset manager.

Subsequent expenditures are recognised as part of the asset's carrying amount only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to ING Group and the cost can be measured reliably. All other repairs and maintenance costs are recognised in the profit and loss account.

Property and equipment

Property in own use

Land and buildings held for own use are stated at fair value at the balance sheet date. Increases in the carrying amount arising on revaluation of land and buildings held for own use are credited to the revaluation reserve in shareholders' equity. Decreases in the carrying amount that offset previous increases of the same asset are charged against the revaluation reserve directly in equity; all other decreases are charged to the profit and loss account. Increases that reverse a revaluation decrease on the same asset previously recognised in net result are recognised in the profit and loss account. Depreciation is recognised based on the fair value and the estimated useful life (in general 20–50 years). Depreciation is calculated on a straight-line basis. On disposal the related revaluation reserve is transferred to retained earnings.

The fair values of land and buildings are based on regular appraisals by independent qualified valuers or internally, similar to appraisals of real estate investments. Subsequent expenditure is included in the asset's carrying amount when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the Group and the cost of the item can be measured reliably.

Property obtained from foreclosures

Property obtained from foreclosures is stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Net realisable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business, less applicable variable selling expenses. Property obtained from foreclosures is included in Other assets - Property development and obtained from foreclosures.

Property development

Property developed and under development for which ING Group has the intention to sell the property after its completion is included in Other assets – Property development and obtained from foreclosures.

Property developed and under development for which ING Group has the intention to sell the property under development after its completion and where there is not yet a specifically negotiated contract is measured at direct construction cost incurred up to the balance sheet date, including borrowing costs incurred during construction and ING Group's own directly attributable development and supervision expenses less any impairment losses. Profit is recognised using the completed contract method (on sale date of the property). Impairment is recognised if the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business, less applicable variable selling expenses is lower than carrying value.

Property under development for which ING Group has the intention to sell the property under development after its completion and where there is a specifically negotiated contract is valued using the percentage of completion method (pro rata profit recognition). The stage of completion is measured by reference to costs incurred to date as percentage of total estimated costs for each contract.

Property under development is stated at fair value (with changes in fair value recognised in the profit and loss account) if ING Group has the intention to recognise the property under development after completion as real estate investments.

Equipment

Equipment is stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and any impairment losses. The cost of the assets is depreciated on a straight line basis over their estimated useful lives, which are generally as follows: for data processing equipment two to five years, and four to ten years for fixtures and fittings. Expenditure incurred on maintenance and repairs is recognised in the profit and loss account as incurred. Expenditure incurred on major improvements is capitalised and depreciated.

Assets under operating leases

Assets leased out under operating leases in which ING Group is the lessor are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and any impairment losses. The cost of the assets is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Disposals

The difference between the proceeds on disposal and net carrying value is recognised in the profit and loss account under Other income.

Borrowing costs

Borrowing costs incurred for the construction of any qualifying asset are capitalised during the period of time that is required to complete and prepare the asset for its intended use. Borrowing costs are determined at the weighted average cost of capital of the project.

Leases

The determination of whether an arrangement is or contains a lease is based on the substance of the arrangement at inception date.

ING Group as the lessee

The leases entered into by ING Group are primarily operating leases. The total payments made under operating leases are recognised in the profit and loss account on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

When an operating lease is terminated before the lease period has expired, any penalty payment to be made to the lessor is recognised as an expense in the period in which termination takes place.

ING Group as the lessor

When assets are held subject to a finance lease, the present value of the lease payments is recognised as a receivable under Loans and advances to customers or Amounts due from banks. The difference between the gross receivable and the present value of the receivable is unearned lease finance income. Lease income is recognised over the term of the lease using the net investment method (before tax), which reflects a constant periodic rate of return. When assets are held subject to an operating lease, the assets are included under Assets under operating leases.

Acquisitions, goodwill and other intangible assets

Acquisitions and goodwill

ING Group's acquisitions are accounted for using the acquisition method of accounting. The consideration for each acquisition is measured at the aggregate of the fair values (at the date of exchange) of assets given, liabilities incurred or assumed, and equity instruments issued in exchange for control of the acquiree. Goodwill, being the difference between the cost of the acquisition (including assumed debt) and the Group's interest in the fair value of the acquired assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities as at the date of acquisition, is capitalised as an intangible asset. The results of the operations of the acquired companies are included in the profit and loss account from the date control is obtained.

Where applicable, the consideration for the acquisition includes any asset or liability resulting from a contingent consideration arrangement, measured at its acquisition-date fair value. Subsequent changes in the fair value of contingent consideration classified as an asset or liability are accounted for in accordance with relevant IFRSs, taking into account the initial accounting period below. Changes in the fair value of the contingent consideration classified as equity are not recognised.

Where a business combination is achieved in stages, ING Group's previously held interests in the assets and liabilities of the acquired entity are remeasured to fair value at the acquisition date (i.e. the date ING Group obtains control) and the resulting gain or loss, if any, is recognised in the profit and loss account. Amounts arising from interests in the acquiree prior to the acquisition date that have previously been recognised in other comprehensive income are reclassified to the profit and loss account, where such treatment would be appropriate if that interest were disposed of. Acquisition-related costs are recognised in the profit and loss account as incurred and presented in the profit and loss account as Other operating expenses.

Until 2009, before IFRS 3 'Business Combinations' was revised, the accounting of previously held interests in the assets and liabilities of the acquired entity were not remeasured at the acquisition date and the acquisition-related costs were considered to be part of the total consideration.

The initial accounting for the fair value of the net assets of the companies acquired during the year may be determined only provisionally as the determination of the fair value can be complex and the time between the acquisition and the preparation of the Annual Accounts can be limited. The initial accounting shall be completed within a year after acquisition.

Goodwill is only capitalised on acquisitions after the implementation date of IFRS-EU (1 January 2004). Accounting for acquisitions before that date has not been restated; goodwill and internally generated intangibles on these acquisitions were recognised directly in shareholders' equity. Goodwill is allocated to reporting units for the purpose of impairment testing. These reporting units represent the lowest level at which goodwill is monitored for internal management purposes. This test is performed annually or more frequently if there are indicators of impairment. Under the impairment tests, the carrying value of the reporting units (including goodwill) is compared to its recoverable amount which is the higher of its fair value less costs to sell and its value in use.

Adjustments to the fair value as at the date of acquisition of acquired assets and liabilities that are identified within one year after acquisition are recognised as an adjustment to goodwill; any subsequent adjustment is recognised as income or expense. On disposal of group companies, the difference between the sale proceeds and carrying value (including goodwill) and the unrealised results (including the currency translation reserve in equity) is included in the profit and loss account.

Computer software

Computer software that has been purchased or generated internally for own use is stated at cost less amortisation and any impairment losses. Amortisation is calculated on a straight-line basis over its useful life. This period will generally not exceed three years. Amortisation is included in Other operating expenses.

Value of business acquired (VOBA)

VOBA is an asset that reflects the present value of estimated net cash flows embedded in the insurance contracts of an acquired company, which existed at the time the company was acquired. It represents the difference between the fair value of insurance liabilities and their carrying value. VOBA is amortised in a similar manner to the amortisation of deferred acquisition costs as described in the section 'Deferred acquisition costs'.

Other intangible assets

Other intangible assets are capitalised and amortised over their expected economic life, which is generally between three and ten years. Intangible assets with an indefinite life are not amortised.

Deferred acquisition costs

Deferred acquisition costs (DAC) are an asset and represent costs of acquiring insurance and investment contracts that are deferred and amortised. The deferred costs, all of which vary with (and are primarily related to) the production of new and renewal business, consist principally of commissions, certain underwriting and contract issuance expenses, and certain agency expenses.

For traditional life insurance contracts, certain types of flexible life insurance contracts, and non-life contracts, DAC is amortised over the premium payment period in proportion to the premium revenue recognised.

For other types of flexible life insurance contracts DAC is amortised over the lives of the policies in relation to the emergence of estimated gross profits. Amortisation is adjusted when estimates of current or future gross profits, to be realised from a group of products, are revised. The estimates and the assumptions are reassessed at the end of each reporting period. Higher/lower expected

profits (e.g. reflecting stock market performance or a change in the level of assets under management) may cause a lower/higher balance of DAC due to the catch-up of amortisation in previous and future years. This process is known as DAC unlocking. The impact of the DAC unlocking is recognised in the profit and loss account of the period in which the unlocking occurs.

DAC is evaluated for recoverability at issue. Subsequently it is tested on a regular basis together with the provision for life insurance liabilities and VOBA. The test for recoverability is described in the section 'Insurance, Investment and Reinsurance Contracts'.

For certain products DAC is adjusted for the impact of unrealised results on allocated investments through equity.

Taxation

Income tax on the result for the year comprises current and deferred tax. Income tax is recognised in the profit and loss account but it is recognised directly in equity if the tax relates to items that are recognised directly in equity.

Deferred income tax

Deferred income tax is provided in full, using the liability method, on temporary differences arising between the tax bases of assets and liabilities and their carrying amounts in the consolidated financial statements. Deferred income tax is determined using tax rates (and laws) that have been enacted or substantially enacted by the balance sheet date and are expected to apply when the related deferred income tax asset is realised or the deferred income tax liability is settled. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are not discounted.

Deferred tax assets are recognised where it is probable that future taxable profit will be available against which the temporary differences can be utilised. Deferred income tax is provided on temporary differences arising from investments in subsidiaries and associates, except where the timing of the reversal of the temporary difference is controlled by the Group and it is probable that the difference will not reverse in the foreseeable future. The tax effects of income tax losses available for carry forward are recognised as an asset where it is probable that future taxable profits will be available against which these losses can be utilised.

Deferred tax related to fair value remeasurement of available-for-sale investments and cash flow hedges, which are recognised directly in equity, is also recognised directly in equity and is subsequently recognised in the profit and loss account together with the deferred gain or loss.

Uncertain tax positions are assessed continually by ING Group and in case it is probable that there will be a cash outflow; a current tax liability is recognised.

Financial liabilities

Financial liabilities at amortised cost

Financial liabilities at amortised cost include the following sub-categories: preference shares, other borrowed funds, debt securities in issue, subordinated loans, amounts due to banks and customer deposits and other funds on deposit.

Borrowings are recognised initially at their issue proceeds (fair value of consideration received) net of transaction costs incurred. Borrowings are subsequently stated at amortised cost; any difference between proceeds, net of transaction costs, and the redemption value is recognised in the profit and loss account over the period of the borrowings using the effective interest method.

If the Group purchases its own debt, it is removed from the balance sheet, and the difference between the carrying amount of the liability and the consideration paid is included in the profit and loss account.

Financial liabilities at fair value through profit and loss

Financial liabilities at fair value through profit and loss comprise the following sub-categories: trading liabilities, non-trading derivatives and other financial liabilities designated at fair value through profit and loss by management. Trading liabilities include equity securities, debt securities, funds on deposit and derivatives. Designation by management will take place only if it eliminates a measurement inconsistency or if the related assets and liabilities are managed on a fair value basis. ING Group has designated an insignificant part of the issued debt, related to market-making activities, at fair value through profit and loss. This issued debt consists mainly of own bonds. The designation as fair value through profit and loss eliminates the inconsistency in the timing of the recognition of gains and losses. All other financial liabilities are measured at amortised cost.

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 initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at the higher of the discounted best estimate of the obligation under the guarantee and the amount initially recognised less cumulative amortisation to reflect revenue recognition principles.

Insurance, investment and reinsurance contracts

Provisions for liabilities under insurance contracts are established in accordance with IFRS 4 'Insurance Contracts'. Under IFRS 4, an insurer may continue its existing pre-IFRS-EU accounting policies for insurance contracts, provided that certain minimum requirements are met. Upon adoption of IFRS in 2005, ING Group decided to continue the then existing accounting principles for insurance contracts under IFRS-EU. ING Group operates in many different countries and the accounting principles for insurance contracts follow local practice in these countries. ING's businesses in the Netherlands apply accounting standards generally accepted in the Netherlands (Dutch GAAP) for its provisions for liabilities under insurance contracts; similarly, ING's businesses in the United States apply accounting standards generally accepted in the United States (US GAAP).

Changes in those local accounting standards (including Dutch GAAP and US GAAP) subsequent to the adoption of IFRS-EU are considered for adoption on a case-by-case basis. If adopted, the impact thereof is accounted for as a change in accounting policy under IFRS-EU.

In addition, for certain specific products or components thereof, ING applies the option in IFRS 4 to measure (components of) the provisions for liabilities under insurance contracts using market consistent interest rates and other current estimates and assumptions. This relates mainly to Guaranteed Minimum Withdrawal Benefits for Life on the Insurance US Closed Block VA book and certain guarantees embedded in insurance contracts in Japan.

Insurance contracts

Insurance policies which bear significant insurance risk and/or contain discretionary participation features are presented as insurance contracts. Provisions for liabilities under insurance contracts represent estimates of future payouts that will be required for life and non-life insurance claims, including expenses relating to such claims. For some insurance contracts the measurement reflects current market assumptions. Unless indicated otherwise below all changes in the insurance provisions are recognised in the profit and loss account.

Provision for life insurance

The Provision for life insurance is generally calculated on the basis of a prudent prospective actuarial method, taking into account the conditions for current insurance contracts. Specific methodologies may differ between business units as they may reflect local regulatory requirements and local practices for specific product features in the local markets.

Insurance provisions on traditional life policies are calculated using various assumptions, including assumptions on mortality, morbidity, expenses, investment returns and surrenders. Assumptions for insurance provisions on traditional life insurance contracts, including traditional whole life and term life insurance contracts, are based on best estimate assumptions including margins for adverse deviations. Generally, the assumptions are set initially at the policy issue date and remain constant throughout the life of the policy.

Insurance provisions for universal life, variable life and annuity contracts, unit-linked contracts, etc. are generally set equal to the balance that accrues to the benefit of the policyholders. Certain variable annuity products contain minimum guarantees on the amounts payable upon death and/or maturity. The insurance provisions include the impact of these minimum guarantees, taking into account the difference between the potential minimum benefit payable and the total account balance, expected mortality and surrender rates.

The as yet unamortised interest rate rebates on periodic and single premium contracts are deducted from the Provision for life insurance. Interest rate rebates granted during the year are capitalised and amortised in conformity with the anticipated recovery pattern and are recognised in the profit and loss account.

Provision for unearned premiums and unexpired insurance risks

The provision is calculated in proportion to the unexpired periods of risk. For insurance policies covering a risk increasing during the term of the policy at premium rates independent of age, this risk is taken into account when determining the provision. Further provisions are made to cover claims under unexpired insurance contracts, which may exceed the unearned premiums and the premiums due in respect of these contracts.

Claims provision

The claims provision is calculated on a case-by-case basis or by approximation on the basis of experience. Provisions have also been made for claims incurred but not reported (IBNR) and for future claims handling expenses. The adequacy of the Claims provision is evaluated each year using standard actuarial techniques. In addition, IBNR reserves are set to recognise the estimated cost of losses that have occurred but which have not yet been notified to the Group.

Deferred profit sharing

For insurance contracts with discretionary participation features a deferred profit sharing amount is recognised for the full amount of the unrealised revaluation on allocated investments. Upon realisation, the profit sharing on unrealised revaluation is reversed and a deferred profit sharing amount is recognised for the share of realised results on allocated investments that is expected to be shared with policyholders. The deferred profit sharing amount is reduced by the actual allocation of profit sharing to individual policyholders. The change in the deferred profit sharing amount on unrealised revaluation (net of deferred tax) is recognised in equity in the Revaluation reserve.

Provisions for life insurance for risk of policyholders

For insurance contracts for risk of policyholders the provisions are generally shown at the balance sheet value of the related investments.

Reinsurance contracts

Reinsurance premiums, commissions and claim settlements, as well as the reinsurance element of technical provisions are accounted for in the same way as the original contracts for which the reinsurance was concluded. If the reinsurers are unable to meet their obligations, the Group remains liable to its policyholders for the portion reinsured. Consequently, provisions are made for receivables on reinsurance contracts which are deemed uncollectable.

Adequacy test

The adequacy of the provision for life insurance, net of unamortised interest rate rebates, DAC and VOBA (the net insurance liabilities), is evaluated regularly by each business unit for the business originated in that business unit. The test considers current estimates of all

contractual and related cash flows, and future developments. It includes investment income on the same basis as it is included in the profit and loss account.

If, for any business unit, it is determined, using a best estimate (50%) confidence level, that a shortfall exists, and there are no offsetting amounts within other business units in the same segment (Business Line), the shortfall is recognised immediately in the profit and loss account.

If, for any business unit, the net insurance liabilities are not adequate using a prudent (90%) confidence level, but there are offsetting amounts within other Group business units, then the business unit is allowed to take measures to strengthen the net insurance liabilities over a period no longer than the expected life of the policies. To the extent that there are no offsetting amounts within other Group business units, any shortfall at the 90% confidence level is recognised immediately in the profit and loss account.

If the net insurance liabilities are determined to be adequate at above the 90% confidence level, no reduction in the net insurance liabilities is recognised.

The adequacy test continues to be applied to businesses that are presented as discontinued operations; the relevant businesses continue to be evaluated as part of the adequacy test of the business line in which these were included before classification as discontinued operations.

Investment contracts

Insurance policies without discretionary participation features which do not bear significant insurance risk are presented as Investment contracts. Provisions for liabilities under investment contracts are determined either at amortised cost, using the effective interest method (including certain initial acquisition expenses) or at fair value.

Other liabilities

Defined benefit plans

The net defined benefit asset or liability recognised in the balance sheet in respect of defined benefit pension plans is the fair value of the plan assets less the present value of the defined benefit obligation at the balance sheet date.

Plan assets are measured at fair value at the balance sheet date. For determining the pension expense, the return on plan assets is determined using a high quality corporate bond rate identical to the discount rate used in determining the defined benefit obligation.

Changes in plan assets that effect Shareholders' equity and/or Net result, include mainly:

- › return on plan assets using a high quality corporate bond rate at the start of the reporting period which are recognised as staff costs in the profit and loss account; and
- › remeasurements which are recognised in Other comprehensive income (equity).

The defined benefit obligation is calculated by internal and external actuaries through actuarial models and calculations using the projected unit credit method. This method considers expected future payments required to settle the obligation resulting from employee service in the current and prior periods, discounted using a high quality corporate bond rate. Inherent in these actuarial models are assumptions including discount rates, rates of increase in future salary and benefit levels, mortality rates, trend rates in health care costs, consumer price index and the expected level of indexation. The assumptions are based on available market data as well as management expectations and are updated regularly. The actuarial assumptions may differ significantly from the actual results due to changes in market conditions, economic and mortality trends, and other assumptions. Any changes in these assumptions could have a significant impact on the defined benefit plan obligation and future pension costs.

Changes in the defined benefit obligation that effects Shareholders' equity and/or Net result, include mainly:

- › service cost which are recognised as staff costs in the profit and loss account;
- › interest expenses using a high quality corporate bond rate at the start of the period which are recognised as staff costs in the profit and loss account; and
- › remeasurements which are recognised in Other comprehensive income (equity).

Remeasurements recognised in other comprehensive income are not recycled to profit and loss. Any past service cost relating to a plan amendment is recognised in profit or loss in the period of the plan amendment. Gains and losses on curtailments and settlements are recognised in the profit and loss account when the curtailment or settlement occurs.

The recognition of a net defined benefit asset in the consolidated balance sheet is limited to the present value of any economic benefits available in the form of refunds from the plans or reductions in future contributions to the plans.

Defined contribution plans

For defined contribution plans, the Group pays contributions to publicly or privately administered pension insurance plans on a mandatory, contractual or voluntary basis. The Group has no further payment obligations once the contributions have been paid. The contributions are recognised as staff expenses in the profit and loss when they are due. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that a cash refund or a reduction in the future payments is available.

Other post-employment obligations

Some group companies provide post-employment healthcare and other benefits to certain employees and former employees. The entitlement to these benefits is usually conditional on the employee remaining in service up to retirement age and the completion

of a minimum service period. The expected costs of these benefits are accrued over the period of employment using an accounting methodology similar to that for defined benefit pension plans.

Other provisions

A provision involves a present obligation arising from past events, the settlement of which is expected to result in an outflow from the company of resources embodying economic benefits, however the timing or the amount is uncertain. Provisions are discounted when the effect of the time value of money is significant using a before tax discount rate. The determination of provisions is an inherently uncertain process involving estimates regarding amounts and timing of cash flows.

Reorganisation provisions include employee termination benefits when the Group is demonstrably committed to either terminating the employment of current employees according to a detailed formal plan without possibility of withdrawal, or providing termination benefits as a result of an offer made to encourage voluntary redundancy.

Income recognition

Gross premium income

Premiums from life insurance policies are recognised as income when due from the policyholder. For non-life insurance policies, gross premium income is recognised on a pro-rata basis over the term of the related policy coverage. Receipts under investment contracts are not recognised as gross premium income.

Interest

Interest income and expense are recognised in the profit and loss account 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 Group 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 and points paid or received between parties to the contract that are an integral part of the effective interest rate, transaction costs and all other premiums or discounts. Once a financial asset or a group of similar financial assets has been written down as a result of an impairment loss, interest income is recognised using the rate of interest used to discount the future cash flows for the purpose of measuring the impairment loss.

All interest income and expenses from trading positions and non-trading derivatives are classified as interest income and interest expenses in the profit and loss account. Changes in the 'clean fair value' are included in Net trading income and Valuation results on non-trading derivatives.

Fees and commissions

Fees and commissions are generally recognised as the service is provided. 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 income when the syndication has been completed and the Group 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 or the purchase or sale of businesses – are recognised on completion of the underlying transaction. Portfolio and other management advisory and service fees are recognised based on the applicable service contracts as the service is provided. Asset management fees related to investment funds and investment contract fees are recognised on a pro-rata basis over the period the service is provided. The same principle is applied for wealth management, financial planning and custody services that are continuously provided over an extended period of time. Fees received and paid between banks for payment services are classified as commission income and expenses.

Lease income

The proceeds from leasing out assets under operating leases are recognised on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease agreement. Lease payments received in respect of finance leases when ING Group is the lessor are divided into an interest component (recognised as interest income) and a repayment component.

Expense recognition

Expenses are recognised in the profit and loss account as incurred or when a decrease in future economic benefits related to a decrease in an asset or an increase in a liability has arisen that can be measured reliably.

Share-based payments

Share-based payment expenses are recognised as a staff expense over the vesting period. A corresponding increase in equity is recognised for equity-settled share-based payment transactions. A liability is recognised for cash-settled share-based payment transactions. The fair value of equity-settled share-based payment transactions is measured at the grant date and the fair value of cash-settled share-based payment transactions is measured at each balance sheet date. Rights granted will remain valid until the expiry date, even if the share based payment scheme is discontinued. The rights are subject to certain conditions, including a pre-determined continuous period of service.

Government grants

Government grants are recognised where there is reasonable assurance that the grant will be received and all attached conditions will be complied with. When the grant relates to an expense item, the grant is recognised over the period necessary to match the grant on a systematic basis to the expense that it is intended to compensate. In such case, the grant is deducted from the related expense in the profit and loss account.

Earnings per ordinary share

Earnings per ordinary share is calculated on the basis of the weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding. In calculating the weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding:

- › Own shares held by group companies are deducted from the total number of ordinary shares in issue;
- › The computation is based on daily averages; and
- › In case of exercised warrants, the exercise date is taken into consideration.

The non-voting equity securities are not ordinary shares, because their terms and conditions (especially with regard to coupons and voting rights) are significantly different. Therefore, the weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding during the period is not impacted by the non-voting equity securities.

Diluted earnings per share data are computed as if all convertible instruments outstanding at year-end were exercised at the beginning of the period. It is also assumed that ING Group uses the assumed proceeds thus received to buy its own shares against the average market price in the financial year. The net increase in the number of shares resulting from the exercise is added to the average number of shares used to calculate diluted earnings per share.

Share options with fixed or determinable terms are treated as options in the calculation of diluted earnings per share, even though they may be contingent on vesting. They are treated as outstanding on the grant date. Performance-based employee share options are treated as contingently issuable shares because their issue is contingent upon satisfying specified conditions in addition to the passage of time.

Fiduciary activities

The Group commonly acts as trustee and in other fiduciary capacities that result in the holding or placing of assets on behalf of individuals, trusts, retirement benefit plans and other institutions. These assets and income arising thereon are excluded from these financial statements, as they are not assets of the Group.

Statement of cash flows

The statement of cash flows is prepared in accordance with the indirect method, classifying cash flows as cash flows from operating, investing and financing activities. In the net cash flow from operating activities, the result before tax is adjusted for those items in the profit and loss account, and changes in balance sheet items, which do not result in actual cash flows during the year.

For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, Cash and cash equivalents comprise balances with less than three months' maturity from the date of acquisition, including cash and non-restricted balances with central banks, treasury bills and other eligible bills, amounts due from other banks and amounts due to banks. Investments qualify as a cash equivalent if they are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

Cash flows arising from foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency using the exchange rates at the date of the cash flows.

The net cash flow shown in respect of Loans and advances to customers relates only to transactions involving actual payments or receipts. The Addition to loan loss provision which is deducted from the item Loans and advances to customers in the balance sheet has been adjusted accordingly from the result before tax and is shown separately in the statement of cash flows.

The difference between the net cash flow in accordance with the statement of cash flows and the change in Cash and cash equivalents in the balance sheet is due to exchange rate differences and is accounted for separately as part of the reconciliation of the net cash flow and the balance sheet change in Cash and cash equivalents.

Parent company accounts

The parent company accounts of ING Groep N.V. are prepared in accordance with the financial reporting requirements included in Part 9 of Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code.

Notes to the consolidated balance sheet

Assets

2 Cash and balances with central banks

Cash and balances with central banks

	2014	2013
Amounts held at central banks	10,549	10,625
Cash and bank balances	1,684	2,471
Short term deposits insurance operations		220
	12,233	13,316

In 2014, the change in Cash and balances with central banks includes EUR -2,217 million (EUR -3,816 million as per classification date) related to the classification of NN Group as held for sale and EUR -398 million related to the deconsolidation of Vysya. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'.

Amounts held at central banks reflect on demand balances.

Reference is made to Note 47 'Assets not freely disposable' for restrictions on Cash balances with central banks.

3 Amounts due from banks

Amounts due from banks

	Netherlands		International		Total	
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013
Loans and advances to banks	11,833	10,895	24,183	30,011	36,016	40,906
Cash advances, overdrafts and other balances	614	1,634	495	475	1,109	2,109
	12,447	12,529	24,678	30,486	37,125	43,015
Loan loss provisions			-6	-19	-6	-19
	12,447	12,529	24,672	30,467	37,119	42,996

In 2014, the change in Amounts due from Banks includes EUR -575 million related to the deconsolidation of Vysya. Reference is made to Note 57 'Other events'.

Loans and advances to banks include balances (mainly short-term deposits) with central banks amounting to EUR 3,105 million (2013: EUR 5,393 million).

As at 31 December 2014, Amounts due from banks includes receivables with regard to securities which have been acquired in reverse repurchase transactions amounting to EUR 4,162 million (2013: EUR 5,137 million) and receivables related to finance lease contracts amounting to EUR 59 million (2013: EUR 73 million).

Reference is made to Note 48 'Transfer of financial assets' for information on securities lending as well as sale and repurchase transactions.

As at 31 December 2014, the non-subordinated receivables amount to EUR 37,059 million (2013: EUR 42,995 million) and the subordinated receivables amount to EUR 60 million (2013: EUR 1 million).

Reference is made to Note 47 'Assets not freely disposable' for restrictions on Amounts due from banks.

No individual amount due from banks has terms and conditions that significantly affect the amount, timing or certainty of consolidated cash flows of the Group. For details on significant concentrations see 'Risk management' section.

4 Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss

Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss

	2014	2013
Trading assets	136,959	114,247
Investments for risk of policyholders		39,589
Non-trading derivatives	4,384	8,546
Designated as at fair value through profit and loss	2,756	2,790
	144,099	165,172

In 2014, the change in Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss includes EUR -43,918 million (EUR -47,821 million as per classification date) as a result of the classification of NN Group as held for sale and EUR -384 million related to the deconsolidation of Vysya. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'.

Reference is made to Note 48 'Transfer of financial assets' for information on securities lending as well as sale and repurchase transactions.

Trading assets

Trading assets by type		
	2014	2013
Equity securities	17,193	13,619
Debt securities	21,584	18,890
Derivatives	46,608	31,433
Loans and receivables	51,574	50,305
	136,959	114,247

As at 31 December 2014, Trading assets includes receivables of EUR 50,692 million (2013: EUR 48,690 million) with regard to reverse repurchase transactions.

In 2014, the increase in trading equity securities are mainly due to new trades. The increase in the trading derivatives is mainly due to changes in fair value resulting from market interest rates. The increase is substantially mitigated by a similar increase in Trading derivative liabilities.

Trading assets and trading liabilities include assets and liabilities that are classified under IFRS-EU as 'Trading' but are closely related to servicing the needs of the clients of ING Group. ING offers institutional and corporate clients and governments products that are traded on the financial markets. A significant part of the derivatives in the trading portfolio are related to servicing corporate clients in their risk management to hedge for example currency or interest rate exposures. In addition, ING provides its customers access to equity and debt markets for issuing their own equity or debt securities ('securities underwriting'). Although these are presented as 'Trading' under IFRS-EU, these are directly related to services to ING's customers. Loans and receivables in the trading portfolio mainly relate to (reverse) repurchase agreements, which are comparable to collateralised lending. These products are used by ING as part of its own regular treasury activities, but also relate to the role that ING plays as intermediary between different professional customers. Trading assets and liabilities held for ING's own risk are very limited. From a risk perspective, the gross amount of trading assets must be considered together with the gross amount of trading liabilities, which are presented separately on the balance sheet. However, IFRS-EU does not allow netting of these positions in the balance sheet. Reference is made to Note 21 'Financial liabilities at fair value through profit and loss' for information on trading liabilities.

Investments for risk of policyholders

Investments for risk of policyholders by type		
	2014	2013
Equity securities		36,919
Debt securities		1,821
Loans and receivables		849
	–	39,589

As at 31 December 2013, investments in investment funds (with underlying investments in debt, equity securities, real estate and derivatives) are included under equity securities.

Non-trading derivatives

Non-trading derivatives by type		
	2014	2013
Derivatives used in		
– fair value hedges	1,223	1,383
– cash flow hedges	1,254	4,630
– hedges of net investments in foreign operations	111	138
Other non-trading derivatives	1,796	2,395
	4,384	8,546

In 2014, the change in Non-trading derivatives includes EUR –3,111 million (EUR –5,409 million as per classification date) related to the classification of NN Group as held for sale. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'.

As at 31 December 2014, Non-trading derivatives includes EUR 180 million relating to warrants on the shares of Voya.

Other non-trading derivatives mainly includes interest rate swaps for which no hedge accounting is applied.

Designated as at fair value through profit and loss

Designated as at fair value through profit and loss by type		
	2014	2013
Equity securities	9	437
Debt securities	1,124	1,289
Loans and receivables	1,623	1,052
Other		12
	2,756	2,790

Included in the Financial assets designated as at fair value through profit and loss is a portfolio of loans and receivables which is economically hedged by credit derivatives. The hedges do not meet the criteria for hedge accounting and the loans are recorded at fair value to avoid an accounting mismatch. The maximum credit exposure of the loans and receivables included in Financial assets designated as at fair value through profit and loss approximates its carrying value. The cumulative change in fair value of the loans attributable to changes in credit risk is not significant.

The notional value of the related credit derivatives is EUR 83 million (2013: EUR 111 million). The change in fair value of the credit derivatives attributable to changes in credit risk since the loans were first designated amounts was EUR –10 million (2013: EUR –4 million) and the change for the current year was EUR –6 million (2013: EUR 2 million).

As at 31 December 2014, Loans and receivables designated as at fair value through profit and loss includes EUR 1,112 million (2013: nil) with regard to reverse repurchase transactions.

The changes in fair value of the (designated) loans attributable to changes in credit risk have been calculated by determining the changes in credit spread implicit in the fair value of bonds issued by entities with similar credit characteristics.

Other includes investments in private equity funds, hedge funds, other non-traditional investment vehicles and limited partnerships.

5 Investments

Investments by type		
	2014	2013
Available-for-sale		
– equity securities - shares in ING managed Investment funds		1,832
– equity securities - shares in third party managed structured entities	210	1,759
– equity securities - other	2,508	3,674
	2,718	7,265
– debt securities	92,684	130,632
	95,402	137,897
Held-to-maturity		
– debt securities	2,239	3,098
	2,239	3,098
	97,641	140,995

In 2014, the change in Investments includes EUR –61,014 million (EUR –69,249 million as per classification date) related to the classification of NN Group as held for sale and EUR –1,681 million related to the deconsolidation of Vysya. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'. This overall change is partly offset by an increase in Available-for-sale debt securities (high-quality liquid assets) ahead of the introduction of the liquidity coverage ratio.

In 2014, the remaining stake of 10.3% in SulAmérica S.A. was divested for EUR 170 million. The profit of EUR 31 million was recognised as Investment income in the profit and loss account. For the earlier divestments in SulAmérica S.A. reference is made to Note 7 'Investments in associates and joint ventures'.

Consolidated annual accounts

Notes to the consolidated annual accounts of ING Group continued

Exposure to debt securities

ING Group's exposure to debt securities is included in the following balance sheet lines:

Debt securities ⁽¹⁾		
	2014	2013
Available-for-sale investments	92,684	130,632
Held-to-maturity investments	2,239	3,098
Loans and advances to customers	10,579	21,914
Amounts due from banks	2,583	3,059
Available-for-sale investments and Assets at amortised cost	108,085	158,703
Trading assets	21,584	18,890
Investments for risk of policyholders		1,821
Designated as at fair value through profit and loss	1,124	1,289
Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss	22,708	22,000
	130,793	180,703

(1) Excludes exposure to debt securities related to businesses classified as held for sale. In 2014 mainly NN Group (2013: mainly Voya).

In 2014, the change in Exposure to debt securities includes EUR –63,749 million (EUR –69,959 million as per classification date) related to the classification of NN Group as held for sale. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'.

ING Group's total exposure to debt securities included in available-for-sale investments and assets at amortised cost of EUR 108,085 million (2013: EUR 158,703 million) is specified as follows by type of exposure and by banking and insurance operations:

Debt securities by type and balance sheet lines - Available-for-sale investments and Assets at amortised cost (banking operations)										
	Available-for-sale investments		Held-to-maturity investments		Loans and advances to customers		Amounts due from banks		Total Banking operations	
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013
Government bonds	68,198	52,629	315	50	1,146	3,654			69,659	56,333
Covered bonds	10,829	8,216	1,567	2,563	2,810	4,559	2,525	3,059	17,731	18,397
Corporate bonds	1,935	1,576			919	805			2,854	2,381
Financial institutions' bonds	11,022	11,855		130	386	81	58		11,466	12,066
Bond portfolio (excluding ABS)	91,984	74,276	1,882	2,743	5,261	9,099	2,583	3,059	101,710	89,177
US agency RMBS	319	334							319	334
US prime RMBS	10	12							10	12
US Alt-A RMBS	42	84							42	84
US subprime RMBS	14	13							14	13
Non-US RMBS	119	185			3,505	4,493			3,624	4,678
CDO/CLO	8	20							8	20
Other ABS	176	296	357	355	1,806	1,739			2,339	2,390
CMBS	12	18			7	104			19	122
ABS portfolio	700	962	357	355	5,318	6,336			6,375	7,653
	92,684	75,238	2,239	3,098	10,579	15,435	2,583	3,059	108,085	96,830

Debt securities by type and balance sheet lines - Available-for-sale investments and Assets at amortised cost (insurance operations)

	Available-for-sale investments		Held-to-maturity investments		Loans and advances to customers		Amounts due from banks		Total Insurance operations	
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013
Government bonds		43,307								43,307
Covered bonds		721								721
Corporate bonds		6,436								6,436
Financial institutions' bonds		4,303								4,303
Bond portfolio (excluding ABS)		54,767								54,767
US agency RMBS		143								143
US prime RMBS		1								1
US Alt-A RMBS		5								5
Non-US RMBS		210				3,410				3,620
CDO/CLO		39				197				236
Other ABS		218				2,531				2,749
CMBS		11				341				352
ABS portfolio		627				6,479				7,106
	-	55,394	-	-	-	6,479	-	-	-	61,873

Debt securities by type and balance sheet lines - Available-for-sale investments and Assets at amortised cost (total)

	Available-for-sale investments		Held-to-maturity investments		Loans and advances to customers		Amounts due from banks		Total	
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013
Government bonds	68,198	95,936	315	50	1,146	3,654			69,659	99,640
Covered bonds	10,829	8,937	1,567	2,563	2,810	4,559	2,525	3,059	17,731	19,118
Corporate bonds	1,935	8,012			919	805			2,854	8,817
Financial institutions' bonds	11,022	16,158		130	386	81	58		11,466	16,369
Bond portfolio (excluding ABS)	91,984	129,043	1,882	2,743	5,261	9,099	2,583	3,059	101,710	143,944
US agency RMBS	319	477							319	477
US prime RMBS	10	13							10	13
US Alt-A RMBS	42	89							42	89
US subprime RMBS	14	13							14	13
Non-US RMBS	119	395			3,505	7,903			3,624	8,298
CDO/CLO	8	59				197			8	256
Other ABS	176	514	357	355	1,806	4,270			2,339	5,139
CMBS	12	29			7	445			19	474
ABS portfolio	700	1,589	357	355	5,318	12,815			6,375	14,759
	92,684	130,632	2,239	3,098	10,579	21,914	2,583	3,059	108,085	158,703

Approximately 90% (2013: 90%) of the exposure in the ABS portfolio is externally rated AAA, AA or A.

The Dutch Government Debt Securities related to the restructured Illiquid Assets Back-Up Facility ('IABF') was classified as Loans and advances to customers until repayment by the Dutch Government in early 2014 (2013: EUR 2.5 billion (USD 3.4 billion)). Reference is made to Note 56 'Transactions with the Dutch State and the European Commission Restructuring Plan'.

Changes in available-for-sale and held-to-maturity investments

	Available-for-sale equity securities		Available-for-sale debt securities		Held-to-maturity		Total
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2013
Opening balance	7,265	7,707	130,632	185,877	3,098	6,545	200,129
Additions	1,313	954	78,864	123,668	315		124,622
Amortisation			-317	-650	1	-6	-656
Transfers and reclassifications	-167			-282			-282
Changes in unrealised revaluations	995	23	11,326	-7,470	-2	-1	-7,448
Impairments	-117	-177	3	-11			-188
Reversals of impairments			1	4			4
Disposals and redemptions	-656	-1,599	-63,883	-118,718	-1,173	-3,439	-123,756
Exchange rate differences	47	-48	1,001	-4,365			-4,413
Changes in the composition of the group and other changes	-5,962	405	-64,943	-47,421		-1	-47,017
Closing balance	2,718	7,265	92,684	130,632	2,239	3,098	140,995

In 2014, Changes in the composition of the group and other changes includes EUR -69,249 million as a result of the classification of NN Group as held for sale. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'.

In 2013, Changes in the composition of the group and other changes included EUR -55,501 million as a result of the classification of Voya as held for sale and EUR 9,674 million as a result of the classification to continuing operations of ING Japan. Reference is made to Note 57 'Other events'.

Reference is made to Note 24 'Investment income' for details on Impairments.

Transfers and reclassifications of available-for-sale and held-to-maturity investments

	Available-for-sale equity securities		Available-for-sale debt securities		Total
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2013
To/from loans and advances to customers/amounts due from banks				-282	-282
To/from investment in associates and joint ventures	-167				-167
	-167	-	-	-282	-282

In 2014, Transfers and reclassifications includes transfers of investments in real estate funds from Available-for-sale investments to Associates and joint ventures and the transfer of the investment in SulAmérica S.A. from Associates and joint ventures to Available-for-sale investments, both following changes in ownership interests.

In 2013, To/from loans and advances to customers/amounts due from banks in relation to Available-for-sale debt securities related to a debt security that was reclassified to Loans and advances to customers because there was no active market.

Reclassifications to Loans and advances to customers and Amounts due from banks (2009 and 2008)

Reclassifications out of available-for-sale investments to loans and receivables are allowed under IFRS-EU as of the third quarter of 2008. In the first quarter of 2009 and in the fourth quarter of 2008 ING Group reclassified certain financial assets from Investments available-for-sale to Loans and advances to customers and Amounts due from banks. The Group identified assets, eligible for reclassification, for which at the reclassification date it had the intention to hold for the foreseeable future. The table below provides information on the two reclassifications made in the fourth quarter of 2008 and the first quarter of 2009. Information is provided for each of the two reclassifications (see columns) as at the date of reclassification and as at the end of the subsequent reporting periods (see rows). This information is disclosed under IFRS-EU as long as the reclassified assets continue to be recognised in the balance sheet. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' for reclassifications by NN Group in 2009.

In 2012, the decrease in the carrying value of the reclassified Loans and advances compared to 2011 was mainly due to disposals.

Reclassifications to Loans and advances to customers and Amounts due from banks

	Q1 2009	Q4 2008
As per reclassification date		
Fair value	22,828	1,594
Range of effective interest rates (weighted average)	2.1%–11.7%	4.1%–21%
Expected recoverable cash flows	24,052	1,646
Unrealised fair value losses in shareholders' equity (before tax)	-1,224	-69
Recognised fair value gains (losses) in shareholders' equity (before tax) between the beginning of the year in which the reclassification took place and the reclassification date	nil	-79
Recognised fair value gains (losses) in shareholders' equity (before tax) in the year prior to reclassification	-192	-20
Recognised impairment (before tax) between the beginning of the year in which the reclassification took place and the reclassification date	nil	nil
Recognised impairment (before tax) in the year prior to reclassification	nil	nil
Impact on the financial years after reclassification:		
2014		
Carrying value as at 31 December	5,936	361
Fair value as at 31 December	5,982	426
Unrealised fair value losses recognised in shareholders' equity (before tax) as at 31 December	-98	nil
Effect on shareholders' equity (before tax) as at 31 December if reclassification had not been made	46	65
Effect on result (before tax) if reclassification had not been made	nil	nil
Effect on result (before tax) for the year (interest income and sales results)	182	19
Recognised impairments (before tax)	nil	nil
Recognised provision for credit losses (before tax)	nil	nil
2013		
Carrying value as at 31 December	7,461	366
Fair value as at 31 December	7,215	422
Unrealised fair value losses recognised in shareholders' equity (before tax) as at 31 December	-137	nil
Effect on shareholders' equity (before tax) as at 31 December if reclassification had not been made	-246	56
Effect on result (before tax) if reclassification had not been made	nil	nil
Effect on result (before tax) for the year (interest income and sales results)	188	20
Recognised impairments (before tax)	nil	nil
Recognised provision for credit losses (before tax)	nil	nil
2012		
Carrying value as at 31 December	8,707	443
Fair value as at 31 December	8,379	512
Unrealised fair value losses recognised in shareholders' equity (before tax) as at 31 December	-221	-2
Effect on shareholders' equity (before tax) as at 31 December if reclassification had not been made	-328	69
Effect on result (before tax) if reclassification had not been made	nil	nil
Effect on result (before tax) for the year (interest income and sales results)	-164	22
Recognised impairments (before tax)	nil	nil
Recognised provision for credit losses (before tax)	nil	nil
2011		
Carrying value as at 31 December	14,419	633
Fair value as at 31 December	13,250	648
Unrealised fair value losses recognised in shareholders' equity (before tax) as at 31 December	-446	-8
Effect on shareholders' equity (before tax) as at 31 December if reclassification had not been made	-1,169	15
Effect on result (before tax) if reclassification had not been made	nil	nil
Effect on result (before tax) for the year (mainly interest income)	390	28
Recognised impairments (before tax)	nil	nil
Recognised provision for credit losses (before tax)	nil	nil

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Reclassifications to Loans and advances to customers and Amounts due from banks (continued)

	Q1 2009	Q4 2008
2010		
Carrying value as at 31 December	16,906	857
Fair value as at 31 December	16,099	889
Unrealised fair value losses recognised in shareholders' equity (before tax) as at 31 December	-633	-65
Effect on shareholders' equity (before tax) as at 31 December if reclassification had not been made	-807	32
Effect on result (before tax) if reclassification had not been made	nil	nil
Effect on result (before tax) for the year (mainly interest income)	467	34
Recognised impairments (before tax)	nil	nil
Recognised provision for credit losses (before tax)	nil	nil
2009		
Carrying value as at 31 December	20,551	1,189
Fair value as at 31 December	20,175	1,184
Unrealised fair value losses in shareholders' equity (before tax) as at 31 December	-902	-67
Effect on shareholders' equity (before tax) as at 31 December if reclassification had not been made	-376	-5
Effect on result (before tax) if reclassification had not been made	nil	nil
Effect on result (before tax) after the reclassification until 31 December (mainly interest income)	629	n.a
Effect on result (before tax) for the year (mainly interest income)	n.a	47
Recognised impairments (before tax)	nil	nil
Recognised provision for credit losses (before tax)	nil	nil
2008		
Carrying value as at 31 December		1,592
Fair value as at 31 December		1,565
Unrealised fair value losses recognised in shareholders' equity (before tax) as at 31 December		-79
Effect on shareholders' equity (before tax) as at 31 December if reclassification had not been made		-27
Effect on result (before tax) if reclassification had not been made		nil
Effect on result (before tax) after the reclassification until 31 December (mainly interest income)		9
Recognised impairments (before tax)		nil
Recognised provision for credit losses (before tax)		nil

Available-for-sale equity securities by banking and insurance operations

	Listed		Unlisted		Total
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014
Banking operations	2,224	1,134	494	511	2,718
Insurance operations		2,688		2,932	5,620
	2,224	3,822	494	3,443	2,718

Debt securities by banking and insurance operations

	Available-for-sale		Held-to-maturity		Total
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014
Banking operations	92,684	75,238	2,239	3,098	94,923
Insurance operations		55,394			55,394
	92,684	130,632	2,239	3,098	94,923

In 2014, the change in available-for-sale equity securities and debt securities includes EUR -5,620 million and EUR -55,394 million (EUR -5,954 million and EUR -63,295 million as per classification date) respectively, related to the classification of NN Group as held for sale. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'.

Reference is made to Note 48 'Transfer of financial assets' for information on securities lending as well as sale and repurchase transactions. Borrowed debt securities are not recognised in the balance sheet and amount to nil (2013: nil).

6 Loans and advances to customers

Loans and advances to customers by banking and insurance operations

	2014	2013
Banking operations	517,478	511,045
Insurance operations		25,360
	517,478	536,405
Eliminations		-4,750
	517,478	531,655

In 2014, the change in Loans and advances to customers includes EUR -24,773 million (EUR -28,576 million as per classification date) as a result of the classification of NN Group as held for sale and EUR -4,388 million related to the deconsolidation of Vysya. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'. This overall change is partly offset by an increase in Loans and advances to customers mainly due to increased business and consumer lending and foreign currency developments.

Loans and advances to customers by type – banking operations

	Netherlands		International		Total	
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013
Loans to, or guaranteed by, public authorities	26,504	29,132	18,894	15,119	45,398	44,251
Loans secured by mortgages	138,438	144,161	149,379	147,764	287,817	291,925
Loans guaranteed by credit institutions	2	776	1,325	3,367	1,327	4,143
Personal lending	4,852	4,849	23,541	21,904	28,393	26,753
Asset backed securities			5,318	6,336	5,318	6,336
Corporate loans	39,684	43,868	115,530	99,904	155,214	143,772
	209,480	222,786	313,987	294,394	523,467	517,180
Loan loss provisions	-3,058	-2,970	-2,931	-3,165	-5,989	-6,135
	206,422	219,816	311,056	291,229	517,478	511,045

In 2014, the change in Loans to, or guaranteed by, public authorities includes the repayment of EUR 2.7 billion by the Dutch State on the Illiquid Assets Back-Up Facility ('IABF') loan. In 2013, EUR 6.1 billion was repaid by the Dutch State on the IABF loan.

As at 31 December 2014, Loans and advances to customers includes receivables with regard to securities which have been acquired in reverse repurchase transactions related to the banking operations amounting to EUR 1,779 million (2013: EUR 810 million).

Loans and advances to customers analysed by subordination – banking operations

	2014	2013
Non-subordinated	516,949	510,549
Subordinated	529	496
	517,478	511,045

Reference is made to Note 48 'Transfer of financial assets' for information on securities lending as well as sale and repurchase transactions.

Loans and advances to customers by type – insurance operations

	Netherlands		International		Total	
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013
Policy loans		33		146		179
Loans secured by mortgages		15,364		9		15,373
Unsecured loans		2,498		70		2,568
Asset backed securities		6,479				6,479
Other		835		14		849
		25,209		239		25,448
Loan loss provisions		-83		-5		-88
	-	25,126	-	234	-	25,360

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No individual loan or advance has terms and conditions that significantly affect the amount, timing or certainty of the consolidated cash flows of the Group. For details on significant concentrations see 'Risk management' section.

Loans and advances to customers and Amounts due from banks include finance lease receivables and are detailed as follows:

Finance lease receivables		
	2014	2013
Maturities of gross investment in finance lease receivables		
– within 1 year	3,108	3,924
– more than 1 year but less than 5 years	6,147	7,239
– more than 5 years	4,337	4,949
	13,592	16,112
Unearned future finance income on finance leases	-1,748	-2,364
Net investment in finance leases	11,844	13,748
Maturities of net investment in finance lease receivables		
– within 1 year	2,741	3,424
– more than 1 year but less than 5 years	5,299	6,283
– more than 5 years	3,804	4,041
	11,844	13,748
Included in Amounts due from banks	59	73
Included in Loans and advances to customers	11,785	13,675
	11,844	13,748

The allowance for uncollectable finance lease receivables includes in the loan loss provisions an amount of EUR 269 million as at 31 December 2014 (2013: EUR 344 million).

No individual finance lease receivable has terms and conditions that significantly affect the amount, timing or certainty of the consolidated cash flows of the Group.

Loan loss provisions analysed by type – banking operations

	Netherlands		International		Total	
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013
Loans to, or guaranteed by, public authorities			2	2	2	2
Loans secured by mortgages	1,069	1,265	793	631	1,862	1,896
Loans guaranteed by credit institutions			8	21	8	21
Personal lending	169	139	701	672	870	811
Asset backed securities			2	142	2	142
Corporate loans	1,820	1,566	1,431	1,716	3,251	3,282
	3,058	2,970	2,937	3,184	5,995	6,154
The closing balance is included in						
– Amounts due from banks			6	19	6	19
– Loans and advances to customers	3,058	2,970	2,931	3,165	5,989	6,135
	3,058	2,970	2,937	3,184	5,995	6,154

Changes in loan loss provisions

	Banking operations		Insurance operations		Total	
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013
Opening balance	6,154	5,505	88	111	6,242	5,616
Write-offs	-1,729	-1,609	-25	-31	-1,754	-1,640
Recoveries	105	116		1	105	117
Increase in loan loss provisions	1,594	2,289			1,594	2,289
Exchange rate differences	36	-109		-2	36	-111
Changes in the composition of the group and other changes	-165	-38	-63	9	-228	-29
Closing balance	5,995	6,154	0	88	5,995	6,242

In 2014, Changes in the composition of the group and other changes includes EUR -73 million as a result of the classification of NN Group as held for sale and EUR -170 million due to the deconsolidation of ING Vysya. Reference is made to Note 7 'Investments in associates and joint ventures', Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'.

In 2013, Changes in the composition of the group and other changes included EUR –5 million as a result of the classification of Voya as held for sale and nil as a result of the classification to continuing operations of ING Japan. Reference is made to Note 57 'Other events'. Furthermore, Changes in the composition of the group and other changes related to the sale of ING's mortgage business in Mexico. Reference is made to Note 52 'Companies and businesses acquired and divested'.

7 Investments in associates and joint ventures

Investments in associates and joint ventures

2014	Interest held (%)	Fair value of listed investment	Balance sheet value	Total assets	Total liabilities	Total income	Total expenses
TMB Public Company Limited	30	961	670	19,208	17,564	545	341
Appia Group	30		35	626	497		
Ontwikkelingscombinatie Overhoeks C.V.	70		36	53	2	10	9
Ivy Retail SRL	50		33	122	57	2	2
Other investments in associates and joint ventures			179				
			953				

In 2014, the 2013 comparative were adjusted due to the implementation of IFRS 11. Reference is made to Note 1 section 'Changes in accounting policies in 2014'.

Investments in associates and joint ventures

2013	Interest held (%)	Fair value of listed investment	Balance sheet value	Total assets	Total liabilities	Total income	Total expenses
TMB Public Company Limited	30	601	556	16,397	15,068	464	358
SulAmérica S.A.	21	332	186	4,655	3,787	2,752	2,692
CBRE UK Property Fund LP	29		146	567	55	79	27
CBRE Retail Property Fund Iberica LP	29		118	1,322	902		67
CBRE Property Fund Central Europe LP	25		100	850	450	45	39
CBRE Retail Property Fund France Belgium C.V.	15		77	1,336	822	71	78
CBRE French Residential Fund C.V.	42		76	240	58	12	10
CBRE Retail Property Fund Central and Eastern Europe	21		51	688	439	47	55
Allee Center Kft	50		94	158	5	12	
Other investments in associates and joint ventures			618				
			2,022				

TMB Public Company Limited

TMB Public Company Limited ('TMB'), is a public listed retail bank in Thailand.

Other

ING Group does not hold any interests in Investments in Associates and joint ventures that are individually significant to ING Group. Other investments in associates and joint ventures represents a large number of associates and joint ventures with an individual balance sheet value of less than EUR 25 million. In 2014, ING Group reduced this threshold from EUR 50 million to EUR 25 million following the deconsolidation of Voya and the classification of NN Group as held for sale and discontinued operations.

Accumulated impairments of EUR 24 million (2013: EUR 25 million) have been recognised. The values presented in the table above could differ from the values presented in the individual annual accounts of the associates and joint ventures, due to the fact that the individual values have been brought in line with ING Group's accounting principles. Where the listed fair value is lower than the balance sheet value, an impairment review and an evaluation of the going concern basis has been performed.

In general, the reporting dates of all significant associates and joint ventures are consistent with the reporting date of the Group. However, the reporting dates of certain associates and joint ventures can differ from the reporting date of the Group, but by no more than three months.

Significant influence for associates in which the interest held is below 20%, is based on the combination on ING Group's financial interest and other arrangements, such as participation in the Board of Directors.

The associates and joint ventures of ING are subject to legal and regulatory restrictions regarding the amount of dividends it can pay to ING. These restrictions are for example dependant on the laws in the country of incorporation for declaring dividends or as a result of minimum capital requirements that are imposed by industry regulators in the countries in which the associates and joint ventures operate. In addition, the associates and joint ventures also consider other factors in determining the appropriate levels of equity needed. These factors and limitations include, but are not limited to, rating agency and regulatory views, which can change over time.

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Changes in Investments in associates and joint ventures

	2014	2013
Opening balance	2,022	2,461
Additions	480	80
Transfers to and from Investments	167	
Revaluations	69	61
Share of results	138	150
Dividends received	-53	-55
Disposals	-487	-356
Exchange rate differences	181	-124
Changes in the composition of the group and other changes	-1,564	-195
Closing balance	953	2,022

ING Vysya Bank Limited

ING Vysya Bank Limited ('ING Vysya') is a private bank with retail and wholesale activities. Following the deconsolidation of ING Vysya in the first quarter of 2014, ING Vysya was recognised as an associate during the year. The remaining interest in ING Vysya is presented as an associate held for sale at 31 December 2014. These transactions are included in Changes in the composition of the group and other changes. Reference is made to Note 12 Assets and liabilities held for sale, Note 25 'Result on disposal of group companies' and Note 57 'Other events'.

Revaluations

In 2014, Revaluations includes EUR 53 million relating to associates of NN Group before classification of NN Group as held for sale, EUR 10 million relating to Vysya (2013: nil), EUR 0 million relating to TMB (2013: EUR -2 million) and nil (2013: EUR -2 million) relating to SulAmérica S.A.

Share of results

In 2014, Share of results of EUR 138 million (2013: EUR 150 million) and impairments of nil (2013: nil) are presented in the profit and loss account in Share of result from associates and joint ventures for EUR 138 million (2013: EUR 150 million).

In 2014, Share of results includes EUR 17 million relating to Vysya (2013: nil), EUR 56 million (2013: EUR 29 million) relating to TMB and EUR 56 million (2013: EUR 128 million) relating to a gain on further sale of SulAmérica S.A.

Disposals

SulAmérica S.A., is a public listed insurance company in Brazil. In 2013, ING reduced its 36.5% stake in SulAmérica S.A. to approximately 21.5% through two separate transactions. Under the International Finance Corporation transaction, ING sold a stake of approximately 7.9% in SulAmérica S.A. for a total consideration of approximately EUR 140 million. Under the terms of the Larragoiti transaction, ING sold a stake in SulAmérica S.A. of approximately 7% to the Larragoiti family, swapped its remaining indirect stake for tradable units, and unwound the existing shareholder's agreement. A net gain/loss of EUR 64 million (EUR 64 million after tax) was recognised in the Result from associates and joint ventures in the profit and loss account on these transactions in the second and fourth quarter of 2013.

In the first quarter of 2014, ING completed the sale to Swiss Re Group of 37.7 million units in SulAmérica S.A. The transaction further reduced ING's stake in the Brazilian insurance holding to approximately 10.3%. ING received a total cash consideration of EUR 176 million. The transaction resulted in a net gain to ING of EUR 56 million which represents the difference between the carrying value and the fair value for both the 11.3% stake in scope of the transaction with Swiss Re and the 10% stake retained by ING which was recognised in 2014 in the profit and loss account in the line Result from associates. The remaining investment in SulAmérica S.A. was accounted for as an available-for-sale investment until the final divestment in 2014. Reference is made to Note 5 'Investments' and Note 24 'Investment income'.

Exchange rate differences

In 2014, Exchange rate differences includes EUR 47 million relating to Vysya (2013: nil), EUR 76 million (2013: EUR -65 million) relating to TMB, EUR 31 million (2013: EUR -42 million) relating to SulAmérica S.A..

Changes in the composition of the group and other changes

In 2014, Changes in the composition of the group and other changes includes EUR -1,602 million related to the classification of NN Group as held for sale as well as the recognition as associate and transfer of ING Vysya to held for sale. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'.

In 2013, Changes in the composition of the group and other changes included EUR -62 million as a result of the classification of Voya as held for sale and EUR -17 million as a result of the classification to continuing operations of ING Japan. Reference is made to Note 57 'Other events'.

8 Real estate investments

Changes in real estate investments

	2014	2013
Opening balance	1,046	1,190
Additions	322	200
Transfers to and from Property in own use	26	
Transfers to and from Other assets	-6	-61
Fair value gains/(losses)	3	-5
Disposals	-192	-265
Exchange rate differences		-2
Changes in the composition of the group and other changes	-1,119	-11
Closing balance	80	1,046

In 2014, Changes in the composition of the group and other changes includes EUR -1,022 million related to the classification of NN Group as held for sale. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'.

In 2013, Changes in the composition of the group and other changes includes EUR -6 million as a result of the classification of Voya as held for sale and nil as a result of the classification to continuing operations of ING Japan. Reference is made to Note 57 'Other events'.

Real estate investments by banking and insurance operations

	2014	2013
Banking operations	80	325
Insurance operations		721
	80	1,046

The total amount of rental income recognised in the profit and loss account for the year ended 31 December 2014 is EUR 9 million (2013: EUR 74 million). The total amount of contingent rent recognised in the profit and loss account for the year ended 31 December 2014 is nil (2013: nil).

The total amount of direct operating expenses (including repairs and maintenance) in relation to Real estate investments that generated rental income for the year ended 31 December 2014 is EUR 4 million (2013: EUR 45 million). The total amount of direct operating expenses (including repairs and maintenance) incurred on Real estate investments that did not generate rental income for the year ended 31 December 2014 is nil (2013: EUR 7 million).

Real estate investments by year of most recent appraisal by independent qualified valuers

in percentages	2014	2013
Most recent appraisal in the current year	84	100
Most recent appraisal one year ago	16	
	100	100

ING Group's exposure to real estate is included in the following balance sheet lines:

Real estate exposure ⁽¹⁾

	2014	2013
Real estate investments	80	1,046
Investments in associates and joint ventures	159	1,085
Other assets – property development and obtained from foreclosures	405	746
Property and equipment – property in own use	1,020	1,243
Investments – available-for-sale	99	1,495
	1,763	5,615

(1) Excludes exposure to real estate related to businesses classified as held for sale. In 2014 mainly NN Group (2013: mainly Voya).

Furthermore, the exposure is impacted by third party interests, leverage in funds and off-balance commitments, resulting in an overall exposure of EUR 1.7 billion (2013: EUR 7.3 billion) of which EUR 1.7 billion (2013: EUR 2.5 billion) relates to banking operations and nil (2013: EUR 4.8 billion) relates to insurance operations. Reference is made to the section 'Risk management'.

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9 Property and equipment

Property and equipment by type

	2014	2013
Property in own use	1,020	1,243
Equipment	998	1,134
Assets under operating leases	82	69
	2,100	2,446

Property in own use by banking and insurance operations

	2014	2013
Banking operations	1,020	1,143
Insurance operations		100
	1,020	1,243

Changes in property in own use

	2014	2013
Opening balance	1,243	1,423
Additions	64	39
Transfers to and from Real estate investments	-26	
Transfers to and from Other assets		-2
Depreciation	-19	-24
Revaluations	-56	-4
Impairments	-36	-30
Reversal of impairments	5	5
Disposals	-28	-34
Exchange rate differences	1	-26
Changes in the composition of the group and other changes	-128	-104
Closing balance	1,020	1,243
Gross carrying amount as at 31 December	1,840	2,169
Accumulated depreciation as at 31 December	-612	-696
Accumulated impairments as at 31 December	-208	-230
Net carrying value as at 31 December	1,020	1,243
Revaluation surplus		
Opening balance	449	470
Revaluation in the year	-73	-5
Released in the year		-16
Closing balance	376	449

In 2014, Changes in the composition of the group and other changes includes EUR -88 million related to the classification of NN Group as held for sale and EUR -40 million related to the deconsolidation of ING Vysya. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'.

In 2013, Changes in the composition of the group and other changes included EUR -104 million as a result of the classification of Voya as held for sale and nil as a result of the classification to continuing operations of ING Japan. Reference is made to Note 57 'Other events'.

The cost or the purchase price amounted to EUR 1,475 million (2013: EUR 1,680 million). Cost or the purchase price less accumulated depreciation and impairments would have been EUR 655 million (2013: EUR 794 million) had property in own use been valued at cost instead of at fair value.

in percentages	2014	2013
Most recent appraisal in the current year	57	63
Most recent appraisal one year ago	14	17
Most recent appraisal two years ago	18	10
Most recent appraisal three years ago	4	4
Most recent appraisal four years ago	7	6
	100	100

Changes in equipment

	Data processing equipment		Fixtures and fittings and other equipment		Total
	2014	2013	2014	2013	
Opening balance	314	338	820	908	1,246
Additions	131	175	173	169	344
Disposals	-13	-18	-14	-9	-27
Depreciation	-133	-161	-193	-215	-376
Impairments	-4		-3		-7
Exchange rate differences	1	-10	1	-14	-24
Changes in the composition of the group and other changes	-31	-10	-51	-19	-29
Closing balance	265	314	733	820	1,134
Gross carrying amount as at 31 December	1,052	1,347	2,368	2,498	3,845
Accumulated depreciation as at 31 December	-786	-1,032	-1,635	-1,678	-2,710
Accumulated impairments as at 31 December	-1	-1			-1
Net carrying value as at 31 December	265	314	733	820	1,134

10 Intangible assets

Changes in intangible assets

	Value of business acquired		Goodwill		Software		Other		Total
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	
Opening balance	20	513	1,137	1,304	614	633	70	189	2,639
Additions					141	171			171
Capitalised expenses		50			146	162			212
Amortisation and unlocking	-2	-25			-281	-289	-19	-40	-354
Impairments					-1	-9			-9
Effect of unrealised revaluations in equity		308							308
Exchange rate differences		-7	27	-167	-1	-6		-7	-187
Disposals					-4	-8			-8
Changes in the composition of the group and other changes	-18	-819	-103		-40	-40	-31	-72	-931
Closing balance	0	20	1,061	1,137	574	614	20	70	1,841
Gross carrying amount as at 31 December		41	1,061	1,137	1,579	2,079	24	265	3,522
Accumulated amortisation as at 31 December		-21			-1,002	-1,421	-2	-192	-1,634
Accumulated impairments as at 31 December					-3	-44	-2	-3	-47
Net carrying value as at 31 December		20	1,061	1,137	574	614	20	70	1,841

In 2014, Changes in the composition of the group and other changes includes EUR -198 million related to the classification of NN Group as held for sale. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale', Note 33 'Discontinued operations' and Note 57 'Other events'.

In 2013, Changes in the composition of the group and other changes included EUR -894 million as a result of the classification of Voya as held for sale and EUR 5 million as a result of the classification to continuing operations of ING Japan. Reference is made to Note 57 'Other events'.

Amortisation of software and other intangible assets is included in the profit and loss account in Other operating expenses and Intangible amortisation and other impairments.

Goodwill

Changes in Goodwill

In addition to exchange rate differences, changes in goodwill relate to impairments and changes in composition of the group.

2014 – Changes in composition of the group and other changes

In 2014, 'Changes in composition of the group and other changes' represents the reclassification of goodwill to 'Assets held for sale'. This includes all goodwill that relates to businesses classified as held for sale. For 2014, the amount is EUR 103 million and relates to NN Group. As businesses to which these goodwill amounts relate are classified as held for sale, the related goodwill is no longer evaluated

at the level of the reporting unit to which it is allocated in the regular goodwill impairment test. Instead, it is reviewed as part of the valuation of the disposal group that is presented as held for sale.

Goodwill is allocated to goodwill reporting units as follows:

Goodwill allocation to reporting units		
	2014	2013
Retail Netherlands		1
Retail Belgium	50	50
Retail Germany	349	349
Retail Central Europe	638	611
Commercial Banking	24	24
Insurance Europe		101
	1,061	1,137

In 2014, goodwill of EUR 103 million was written-off, as NN group is expected to be sold below its carrying value. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale', Note 33 'Discontinued operations' and Note 57 'Other events'. Other changes in 2014 are mainly due to changes in currency exchange rates.

The changes in reportable segments as disclosed in Note 39 'Segments' resulted in the above reporting units but did not impact the outcome of the impairment test.

Goodwill impairment testing

Goodwill is tested for impairment at the lowest level at which it is monitored for internal management purposes. This level is defined as the so called 'reporting units' as set out above. Goodwill is tested for impairment by comparing the carrying value of the reporting unit to the best estimate of the recoverable amount of that reporting unit. The carrying value is determined as the IFRS-EU net asset value including goodwill. The recoverable amount is estimated as the higher of fair value less cost to sell and value in use. Several methodologies are applied to arrive at the best estimate of the recoverable amount.

As a first step of the impairment test, the best estimate of the recoverable amount of reporting units to which goodwill is allocated is determined separately for each relevant reporting unit based on Price to Earnings, Price to Book, and Price to Assets under management ratios. The main assumptions in this valuation are the multiples for Price to Earnings, Price to Book and Price to Assets under management; these are developed internally but are either derived from or corroborated against market information that is related to observable transactions in the market for comparable businesses. Earnings and carrying values are equal to or derived from the relevant measure under IFRS-EU where available the test includes the use of market prices for listed business units.

If the outcome of this first step indicates that the difference between recoverable amount and carrying value may not be sufficient to support the amount of goodwill allocated to the reporting unit, an additional analysis is performed in order to determine a recoverable amount in a manner that better addresses the specific characteristics of the relevant reporting unit.

Such additional analyses were performed for the goodwill that was concluded to be impaired as set out above. For other reporting units, in both 2014 and 2013, the first step as described above indicates that there is a significant excess of recoverable amount over book value for both reporting units to which goodwill is allocated. As a result, a second step was not necessary and there is no significant exposure of goodwill impairment for sensitivities in the underlying assumptions.

11 Deferred acquisition costs

	Life insurance		Non-life insurance		Total	
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013
Opening balance	1,316	4,513	37	36	1,353	4,549
Capitalised	283	616	23	8	306	624
Amortisation and unlocking	-249	-1,885	-7	-7	-256	-1,892
Effect of unrealised revaluations in equity		660				660
Exchange rate differences	31	-494			31	-494
Changes in the composition of the group and other changes	-1,381	-2,094	-53		-1,434	-2,094
Closing balance	0	1,316	0	37	0	1,353

In 2014, Changes in the composition of the group and other changes includes EUR -1,431 million related to the classification of NN Group as held for sale. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'.

In 2013, Changes in the composition of the group and other changes included EUR -4,416 million as a result of the classification of Voya as held for sale and EUR 2,409 million as a result of the classification to continuing operations of ING Japan.

In 2013, the separate reporting of the Japan Closed Block VA business line triggered a write-off of all deferred acquisition costs (DAC) related to the Japan Closed Block VA business of EUR 1,405 million, partly compensated by a release of the Life insurance provision related to unearned revenues of EUR 867 million. The write-off was included in Amortisation and unlocking. Reference is made to Note 33 'Discontinued operations'.

For flexible life insurance contracts the growth rate assumption used to calculate the amortisation of the deferred acquisition costs for 2013 was 6.0% gross and 4.3% net of investment management fees. Percentages were based on the portfolios from continuing operations.

12 Assets and liabilities held for sale

Assets and liabilities held for sale includes disposal groups whose carrying amount will be recovered principally through a sale transaction rather than through continuing operations. This relates to businesses for which a sale is agreed upon but for which the transaction has not yet closed or a sale is highly probable at the balance sheet date but for which no sale has yet been agreed.

As at 31 December 2014, Assets and liabilities held for sale relates to mainly to NN Group including Japan, the associate ING Vysya and the available-for-sale investment Voya . As at 31 December 2014, the Investment in associate of 43% in ING Vysya amounts to EUR 704 million. As at 31 December 2014, the available-for-sale equity investment of 18.9% in Voya amounts to EUR 1,591 million.

As at 31 December 2013, Assets and liabilities held for sale related to Voya and the remaining ING Insurance and investment management businesses in Asia ('Asia') excluding ING Japan.

During 2014, the (partial) divestments of Voya and the Taiwanese investment management businesses closed. As a result these businesses are no longer consolidated as at 31 December 2014. During 2013, the divestments of the insurance businesses in Hong Kong, Macau and Thailand, ING's investment management business in Malaysia and Thailand, ING's Insurance joint ventures in South Korea and India and ING Direct UK closed. Reference is made to Note 52 'Companies and businesses acquired and divested'.

NN Group

In July 2014, ING Group sold 31.9% of its interest in NN Group (a wholly owned subsidiary of ING Group) through an Initial Public Offering ('IPO') and transactions with anchor investors and underwriters reducing its remaining interest in NN Group to 68.1%. These partial divestment transactions did not impact the profit and loss account of ING Group in 2014, as NN Group continued to be fully consolidated. Reference is made to Note 14 'Equity'.

In 2014, NN Group is presented as Assets and liabilities held for sale and discontinued operations because it is assessed highly probable that ING will lose control within a year. Upon classification, the carrying amount of the disposal group was compared to NN Group's fair value less cost to sell. The fair value less cost to sell was lower than the carrying value of the disposal group and as a result goodwill and certain other non-current non-financial assets of EUR 103 million and EUR 367 million respectively were written-off. Reference is made to Note 33 'Discontinued operations', Note 57 'Other events' and Note 58 'Subsequent events'.

Voya

As of 30 September 2013, Voya was presented as Assets and liabilities held for sale and discontinued operations because it was assessed highly probably that ING would lose control within a year. The sale in March 2014 of 37.7 million shares reduced ING Group's stake in Voya to approximately 43.2%, from 56.5% as at 31 December 2013. Following this transaction, Voya was deconsolidated and was accounted for as an associate held for sale. The investment in Voya was recognised at its fair value which amounted to EUR 2,914 million at the date when control was lost.

In September 2014, ING Group sold a further 10.8% to reduce ING Group's interest in Voya to 32.5%. ING Group sold 22.3 million Voya shares in the public offering. In addition ING Group sold to Voya 7.7 million shares for an aggregate amount of USD 300 million. These transactions resulted in an after tax profit of EUR 40 million and is recognised in the profit and loss account in the line Net result from disposal of discontinued operations.

In November 2014, ING Group sold a further 34.5 million shares of Voya. ING Group sold 30.0 million Voya shares in the public offering. In addition, ING Group sold to Voya 4.5 million shares for an aggregate amount of EUR 138 million (USD 175 million). These transactions settled on 18 November 2014. The sale of the total of 34.5 million shares from the combined transactions reduces ING Group's stake in Voya from 32.5% to 18.9%. As a result of these transactions, ING Group loses significant influence over Voya and accounts for its stake in Voya as an available-for-sale investment held for sale as at 31 December 2014. These transactions resulted in an after tax profit of EUR 418 million and is recognised in the profit and loss account in the line Net Result from disposal of discontinued operations in 2014. Reference is made to Note 57 'Other events'.

If ING would sell its entire equity interest in Voya, this interest may be sold at a discount to the quoted market price.

Investment Management Taiwan

In 2013, goodwill of EUR 42 million related to Investment Management Taiwan was written-off. The developments in the sales process of Investment Management Taiwan during 2013 (resulting in a sale in January 2014) indicated that the expected sales proceeds was no longer above the carrying value. The related charge was included in 2013 in the profit and loss account in Net result from discontinued operations.

ING Direct UK

In 2012, goodwill of EUR 16 million related to ING Direct UK was written-off and the charge was included in the profit and loss account in the line Result on disposals of group companies.

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Notes to the consolidated annual accounts of ING Group continued

Assets held for sale

	2014	2013	2012
Cash and balances with central banks	6,239	2,264	1,342
Amounts due from banks			123
Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss	49,438	80,743	26,688
Investments	73,868	52,806	24,805
Loans and advances to customers	27,530	8,380	8,705
Reinsurance contracts	241	4,388	98
Investments in associates and joint ventures	2,244	146	37
Real estate investments	1,104	6	
Property and equipment		129	56
Intangible assets	17	875	176
Deferred acquisition costs	1,403	4,402	5,124
Other assets	3,448	2,745	-1,558
	165,532	156,884	65,596

Liabilities held for sale

	2014	2013	2012
Debt securities in issue		2,548	
Other borrowed funds	7,341	138	
Insurance and investments contracts	119,237	135,851	51,828
Amounts due to banks	56		
Customer deposits and other funds on deposit	5,911		14,207
Financial liabilities at fair value through profit and loss	3,100	2,554	2,081
Other liabilities	6,487	5,310	-619
	142,132	146,401	67,497

Shareholders' equity

Included in Shareholders' equity is cumulative other comprehensive income of EUR 3,466 million related to NN Group (2013: EUR 35 million related to Voya) related to Assets and liabilities held for sale.

Insurance and investment contracts, reinsurance contracts of NN Group

In 2014, following the classification as held for sale of NN Group both the Insurance and investment contracts and Reinsurance contracts are presented as Assets and liabilities held for sale. The 2013 comparatives are disclosed in Note 18 'Insurance and investment contracts, Reinsurance contracts'.

Insurance and investment contracts, reinsurance contracts - Held for sale - NN Group

2014	Provision net of reinsurance	Reinsurance contracts	Insurance and investment contracts
Provision for non-participating life policy liabilities	18,152	27	18,179
Provision for participating life policy liabilities	47,661	87	47,748
Provision for (deferred) profit sharing and rebates	7,712		7,712
Life insurance provisions excluding provisions for risk of policyholders	73,525	114	73,639
Provision for life insurance for risk of policyholders	39,671	46	39,717
Life insurance provisions	113,196	160	113,356
Provision for unearned premiums and unexpired risks	264	3	267
Reported claims provision	2,583	77	2,660
Claims incurred but not reported (IBNR)	612	1	613
Claims provisions	3,195	78	3,273
Total provisions for insurance contracts	116,655	241	116,896
Investment contracts for risk of company	772		772
Investment contracts for risk of policyholders	1,569		1,569
Total provisions for investment contracts	2,341	0	2,341
Total	118,996	241	119,237

To the extent that the assuming reinsurers are unable to meet their obligations, the Group is liable to its policyholders for the portion reinsured. Consequently, provisions are made for receivables on reinsurance contracts which are deemed uncollectable.

Where discounting is used in the calculation of Life insurance provisions, the rate is within the range 2.0% to 3.7% in 2014 based on weighted averages.

Where discounting is used in the calculation of the Claims provision the rate is within the range 2.3% to 4.0% in 2014 based on weighted averages.

Deferred acquisition costs (DAC)

For flexible life insurance contracts the average growth rate assumption used to calculate the amortisation of the DAC for 2014 is 6.4% gross and 4.8% net of investment management fees.

Reserve adequacy

The provisions for insurance contracts are adequate at both the 90% and 50% confidence levels, both in aggregate for NN Group and for each of the segments. The provisions for insurance contracts in the segment Netherlands Life are approximately at the 90% confidence level.

Legal proceedings

Insurance provisions include a provision for the estimated cost of the agreement with regard to unit-linked policies. For more information reference is made to Note 51 'Legal proceedings'.

Fair value measurement

The fair value hierarchy of financial assets and liabilities (measured at fair value), which are presented as held for sale is included below. The fair value hierarchy consists of three levels, depending upon whether fair values were determined based on (unadjusted) quoted prices in active markets (Level 1), valuation techniques supported by observable inputs (Level 2) or valuation techniques that incorporate inputs which are unobservable and which have a more than insignificant impact on the fair value of the instrument (Level 3). Reference is made to Note 43 'Fair value of assets and liabilities' for more details on the fair value hierarchy.

The fair values of the financial instruments carried at fair value were determined as follows:

Methods applied in determining fair values of financial assets and liabilities – Held for sale – NN Group				
2014	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Financial assets				
Trading assets	10	14	604	628
Investments for risk of policyholders	36,997	3,985	240	41,222
Non-trading derivatives	152	6,944		7,096
Financial assets designated as at fair value through profit and loss	454	38		492
Available-for-sale investments	51,445	18,981	1,851	72,277
	89,058	29,962	2,695	121,715
Financial liabilities				
Non-trading derivatives	30	3,069		3,099
Investment contracts (for contracts at fair value)	1,515	54		1,569
	1,545	3,123		4,668

Level 3 Financial assets at fair value

Financial assets measured at fair value in the balance sheet as at 31 December 2014 of EUR 121.8 billion include an amount of EUR 2.7 billion (2.2%) that is classified as Level 3 (31 December 2013: EUR 3.1 billion (3.0%)).

Financial assets in Level 3 include both assets for which the fair value was determined using valuation techniques that incorporate unobservable inputs and assets for which the fair value was determined using quoted prices, but for which the market was not actively trading at or around the balance sheet date. Unobservable inputs are inputs which are based on NN Group's own assumptions about the factors that market participants would use in pricing an asset, developed based on the best information available in the circumstances. Unobservable inputs may include volatility, correlation, spreads to discount rates, default rates and recovery rates, prepayment rates and certain credit spreads. Fair values that are determined using valuation techniques using unobservable inputs are sensitive to the inputs used. Fair values that are determined using quoted prices are not sensitive to unobservable inputs, as the valuation is based on unadjusted external price quotes. These are classified in Level 3 as a result of the illiquidity in the relevant market, but are not significantly sensitive to NN Group's own unobservable inputs.

Trading assets

Of the total amount of financial assets classified as level 3 as at 31 December 2014 of EUR 2.7 billion, an amount of EUR 0.6 billion relates to trading assets (private equity investments) that are recognised at fair value through profit and loss.

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Notes to the consolidated annual accounts of ING Group continued

Valuation methodology

The fair value of private equity investments is generally based on a forward looking market approach. This approach uses a combination of company financials and quoted market multiples. In the absence of quoted prices in an active market, fair value is estimated on the basis of an analysis of the investee's financial position and results, risk profile, prospects, price, earnings comparisons and by reference to market valuations for similar entities quoted in an active market. Valuations of private equity investments are mainly based on an 'adjusted multiple of earnings' methodology on the following basis:

- › Earnings: Reported earnings adjusted for non-recurring items, such as restructuring expenses, for significant corporate actions and, in exceptional cases, for run-rate adjustments to arrive at maintainable earnings. The most common measure is earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation ('EBITDA'). Earnings used are usually management forecasts for the current year, unless data from management accounts for the 12 months preceding the reporting period or the latest audited annual accounts provide a more reliable estimate of maintainable earnings.
- › Earnings multiples: Earnings multiples are derived from comparable listed companies or relevant market transaction multiples for companies in the same industry and, where possible, with a similar business model and profile in terms of size, products, services and customers, growth rates and geographic focus. Adjustments are made for differences in the relative performance in the group of comparable companies.
- › Adjustments: A marketability or liquidity discount is applied based on factors such as alignment with management and other investors and NN Group's investment rights in the deal structure.

Key assumptions

Key assumptions in the valuation of private equity investments are the Earnings multiples and the Marketability/liquidity adjustments. The Marketability/liquidity adjustment is typically in the range of 10% to 20%. Earnings multiples used range from 2.8x to 8.8x (2013: 2.6x to 10.1x) after Marketability/liquidity adjustment (net).

Sensitivities

If the net multiples (Earnings multiple adjusted for Marketability/liquidity) would have been increased or decreased by 10%, this would have had an impact on the directly held unquoted private equity investment portfolio of +12% and -12% respectively (2013: +13% and -13%).

Investments for risk of policyholders

Of the EUR 2.7 billion Level 3 investments EUR 0.2 billion relates to investments for risk of policyholders. Therefore Net result is unaffected by reasonable changes in fair value of these investments.

Available-for-sale

The remaining EUR 1.9 billion relates to Available-for-sale investments whose fair value is generally based on unadjusted quoted prices in inactive markets. This includes for example debt securities and shares in real estate investment funds and private equity investment funds for which the fair value is determined using quoted prices for the securities or quoted prices obtained from the asset managers of the funds. It is estimated that a 10% change in valuation of these investments would have no impact on Net result but would increase or reduce Shareholders' equity of NN Group by EUR 190 million being approximately 0.9% (before tax) of Total equity.

Methods applied in determining fair values of financial assets and liabilities - Held for sale - Voya

2013	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Financial assets				
Investments for risk of policyholders	74,094	3,944	9	78,047
Non-trading derivatives	1	833	69	903
Financial assets designated as at fair value through profit and loss	37	943	813	1,793
Available-for-sale investments	4,315	47,878	613	52,806
	78,447	53,598	1,504	133,549
Financial liabilities				
Non-trading derivatives	231	1,015	1,308	2,554
Investment contracts (for contracts at fair value)	1,569	3,903	9	5,481
	1,800	4,918	1,317	8,035

The fair values of the non-financial assets carried at fair value were determined as follows:

Methods applied in determining fair values of non-financial assets – Held for sale – NN Group

2014	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Real estate investments			1,104	1,104
Property in own use			88	88
			1,192	1,192

Methods applied in determining fair values of non-financial assets - Held for sale - Voya

2013	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Real estate investments			6	6
Property in own use			102	102
			108	108

Reclassifications to Loans and advances to customers in 2009

In the second quarter of 2009 NN Group reclassified certain financial assets from Investments available-for-sale to Loans and advances to customers. NN Group identified assets, eligible for reclassification, for which at the reclassification date it had the intention to hold for the foreseeable future. The table below provides information on this reclassification. Information is provided for this reclassification as at the date of reclassification and as at the end of the subsequent reporting periods. This information is disclosed under IFRS-EU as long as the reclassified assets continue to be recognised in the balance sheet.

Reclassifications to Loans and advances to customers

	Q2 2009
As per reclassification date	
Fair value	6,135
Range of effective interest rates (weighted average)	1.4%–24.8%
Expected recoverable cash flows	7,118
Unrealised fair value gains/losses in shareholders' equity (before tax)	–896
Recognised fair value gains (losses) in shareholders' equity (before tax) between the beginning of the year in which the reclassification took place and the reclassification date	173
Recognised fair value gains (losses) in shareholders' equity (before tax) in the year prior to reclassification	–971
Recognised impairment (before tax) between the beginning of the year in which the reclassification took place and the reclassification	nil
Recognised impairment (before tax) in the year prior to reclassification	nil

Reclassifications to Loans and advances to customers

	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
Years after reclassification						
Carrying value	809	1,098	1,694	3,057	4,465	5,550
Fair value	984	1,108	1,667	2,883	4,594	5,871
Unrealised fair value gains/losses recognised in shareholders' equity (before tax)	–213	–111	–186	–307	–491	–734
Effect on shareholders' equity (before tax) if reclassification had not been made	175	10	–27	–174	129	321
Effect on result (before tax) if reclassification had not been made	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Effect on result (before tax) after the reclassification (mainly interest income)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	121
Effect on result (before tax) for the year (interest income and sales results)	–2	–10	–47	90	89	n.a.
Recognised impairments (before tax)	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Recognised provision for credit losses (before tax)	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil

13 Other assets

Other assets by type

	2014	2013	2012
Net defined benefit assets	589	1,006	1,590
Deferred tax assets	1,145	1,380	2,244
Reinsurance and insurance receivables		635	1,763
Property development and obtained from foreclosures	405	746	1,033
Income tax receivable	289	597	558
Accrued interest and rents	6,848	9,988	12,356
Other accrued assets	555	961	1,542
Other	4,135	6,026	5,124
	13,966	21,339	26,210

In 2014, the change in Other assets includes EUR –3,641 million (EUR –3,607 million as per classification date) as a result of the classification of NN Group as held for sale and EUR –195 million related to the deconsolidation of Vysya. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'.

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Disclosures in respect of Net defined benefit assets are provided in Note 41 'Pension and other post-employment benefits' and deferred tax assets are provided in Note 42 'Taxation'.

In 2013, the change in Other assets includes EUR –2,495 million as a result of the classification of Voya as held for sale and EUR 1,251 million as a result of the classification to continuing operations of ING Japan.

Reinsurance and insurance receivables

Reinsurance and insurance receivables		
	2014	2013
Receivables on account of direct insurance from		
– policyholders		500
– intermediaries		51
Reinsurance receivables		84
	–	635

In 2014, the change in Reinsurance and insurance receivables includes EUR –635 million (EUR –927 million as per classification date) as a result of the classification of NN Group as held for sale. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'.

The allowance for uncollectable reinsurance and insurance receivables amounted to EUR 62 million as at 31 December 2013. The allowance is deducted from this receivable.

Property development and obtained from foreclosures

Property development and obtained from foreclosures		
	2014	2013
Property under development	1	14
Property developed	319	658
Property obtained from foreclosures	85	74
	405	746
Gross carrying amount as at 31 December	887	1,601
Accumulated impairments as at 31 December	–482	–855
Net carrying value	405	746

In 2014, the change in Property development and obtained from foreclosures includes EUR –3 million (EUR –2 million as per classification date) as a result of the classification of NN Group as held for sale. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'.

The total amount of borrowing costs relating to Property development and obtained from foreclosures, capitalised in 2014 is nil (2013: nil).

Accrued interest and rents

Accrued interest and rents includes EUR 3,152 million (2013: EUR 4,541 million) accrued interest on assets measured at amortised cost under the IAS 39 classification Loans and receivables.

Other

Other includes EUR 2,144 million (2013: EUR 3,400 million) related to transactions still to be settled at balance sheet date.

Equity

14 Equity

Total equity			
	2014	2013	2012
Share capital	925	921	919
Share premium	16,046	16,038	16,034
Revaluation reserve	11,021	5,557	10,476
Currency translation reserve	-741	-2,161	-841
Net defined benefit asset/liability remeasurement reserve	-504	-3,766	-2,861
Other reserves	23,677	29,187	27,576
Shareholders' equity (parent)	50,424	45,776	51,303
Non-voting equity securities		1,500	2,250
	50,424	47,276	53,553
Minority interests	8,072	5,913	1,643
Total equity	58,496	53,189	55,196

Share capital

	Number x1,000			Ordinary shares (par value EUR 0.24)		
	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012
Authorised share capital	14,500,000	14,500,000	14,500,000	3,480	3,480	3,480
Unissued share capital	10,641,138	10,659,106	10,668,439	2,555	2,559	2,561
Issued share capital	3,858,862	3,840,894	3,831,561	925	921	919

Changes in issued share capital

	Ordinary shares (par value EUR 0.24)	
	Number x1,000	Amount
Issued share capital as at 1 January 2013	3,831,561	919
Issue of shares	9,333	2
Issued share capital as at 31 December 2013	3,840,894	921
Issue of shares	17,968	4
Issued share capital as at 31 December 2014	3,858,862	925

In 2014, ING Groep N.V. issued 18.0 million (depository receipts for) ordinary shares at par value (2013: 9.3 million) in order to fund obligations arising from share-based employee incentive programmes. No changes occurred in the issued share capital in 2012.

Ordinary shares

All ordinary shares are in registered form. No share certificates have been issued. Ordinary shares may be transferred by means of a deed of transfer. A transfer of ordinary shares requires written acknowledgement by ING Groep N.V. The par value of ordinary shares is EUR 0.24. The authorised ordinary share capital of ING Groep N.V. currently consists of 14,500 million ordinary shares. As at 31 December 2014, 3,859 million of ordinary shares were issued and fully paid.

Depository receipts for ordinary shares

More than 99.9% of the ordinary shares issued by ING Groep N.V. is held by Stichting ING Aandelen (ING Trust Office). In exchange for these shares, ING Trust Office has issued depository receipts in bearer form for these shares. The depository receipts are listed on various stock exchanges. Depository receipts can be exchanged upon request of the holders of depository receipts for (non-listed) ordinary shares without any restriction, other than payment of an administrative fee of EUR 0.01 per depository receipt with a minimum of EUR 25 per exchange transaction.

The holder of a depository receipt is entitled to receive from ING Trust Office payment of dividends and distributions corresponding to the dividends and distributions received by ING Trust Office on an ordinary share.

In addition, the holder of a depository receipt is entitled to attend and to speak at the General Meeting of Shareholders of ING Groep N.V. either in person or by proxy. A holder of a depository receipt, who thus attends the General Meeting of Shareholders, is entitled to vote as a proxy of the ING Trust Office but entirely at his own discretion for a number of shares equal to the number of his depository receipts.

A holder of depository receipts who does not attend the General Meeting of Shareholders in person or by proxy is entitled to give a binding voting instruction to the Trust Office for a number of shares equal to the number of his depository receipts.

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Depository receipts for ordinary shares held by ING Group (Treasury shares)

As at 31 December 2014, 4.3 million (2013: 4.0 million; 2012: 30.1 million) depository receipts for ordinary shares ING Groep N.V. with a par value of EUR 0.24 are held by ING Groep N.V. or its subsidiaries. The obligations with regard to the existing stock option plan and the share plans will be funded either by cash or by newly issued shares at the discretion of ING Group.

Share premium

In 2014 and in 2013, share premium increased with EUR 8 million and EUR 4 million respectively as a result of issuance of ordinary shares for share-based employee incentive programmes. No changes occurred in the share premium in 2012.

Revaluation reserve**Changes in revaluation reserve**

	Property in own use reserve	Available- for-sale reserve and other	Cash flow hedge reserve	Total
2014				
Opening balance	334	3,344	1,879	5,557
Unrealised revaluations	-28	7,656		7,628
Realised gains/losses transferred to profit and loss		-133	-4	-137
Changes in cash flow hedge reserve			3,105	3,105
Transfer to insurance liabilities/DAC		-2,658		-2,658
Impact of IPO NN Group	-2	-874	-1,100	-1,976
Changes in composition of the group and other changes	2	-497	-3	-498
Closing balance	306	6,838	3,877	11,021

Impact of NN Group relates to the IPO of NN Group as explained in Note 57 'Other events'.

Changes in composition of the group and other changes includes EUR -502 million related to the deconsolidation of Voya. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'.

Changes in revaluation reserve

	Property in own use reserve	Available- for-sale reserve and other	Cash flow hedge reserve	Total
2013				
Opening balance	345	7,442	2,689	10,476
Unrealised revaluations	-7	-5,527		-5,534
Realised gains/losses transferred to profit and loss		-327		-327
Changes in cash flow hedge reserve			-812	-812
Transfer to insurance liabilities/DAC		2,200		2,200
Impact of Voya	-4	-444	2	-446
Closing balance	334	3,344	1,879	5,557

Impact of Voya relates to the IPO and second tranche sale of Voya as explained in Note 57 'Other events'.

Changes in revaluation reserve

	Property in own use reserve	Available- for-sale reserve and other	Cash flow hedge reserve	Total
2012				
Opening balance	367	3,212	1,971	5,550
Unrealised revaluations	-22	7,183		7,161
Realised gains/losses transferred to profit and loss		-772		-772
Changes in cash flow hedge reserve			718	718
Transfer to insurance liabilities/DAC		-2,181		-2,181
Closing balance	345	7,442	2,689	10,476

Transfer to insurance liabilities/DAC includes the change in the deferred profit sharing liability (net of deferred tax). Reference is made to Note 18 'Insurance and investment contracts, reinsurance contracts'.

Currency translation reserve

Changes in currency translation reserve			
	2014	2013	2012
Opening balance	-2,161	-841	93
Unrealised revaluations	-53	335	-142
Realised gains/losses transferred to profit and loss	481	213	-68
Exchange rate differences	940	-1,868	-724
Impact of IPO NN Group	52		
Closing balance	-741	-2,161	-841

Unrealised revaluations relates to changes in the value of hedging instruments that are designated as net investment hedges.

Net defined benefit asset/liability remeasurement reserve

The change in the Net defined benefit asset/liability remeasurement reserve relates mainly to the transfer of all future funding and indexation obligations under ING's current closed defined benefit plan in the Netherlands to the Dutch ING Pension Fund. Reference is made to Note 41 'Pension and other post-employment benefits'.

Other reserves

Changes in other reserves					
2014	Retained earnings	Share of associates and joint ventures reserve	Treasury shares	Other reserves	Total
Opening balance	27,575	1,644	-32		29,187
Result for the year	1,251				1,251
Changes in treasury shares			-14		-14
Transfer to share of associates and joint ventures reserve	161	-161			
Employee stock options and share plans	87				87
Repurchase premium	-750				-750
Impact of IPO NN Group	-2,339				-2,339
Changes in composition of the group and other changes	-3,745				-3,745
Closing balance	22,240	1,483	-46		23,677

Impact of NN Group relates to the Initial Public Offering ('IPO') of NN Group N.V., ING's Europe-based retirement, investment and insurance business ('NN Group') as explained in Note 57 'Other events'.

The repurchase premium of EUR 750 million is paid in relation to the repayment of the EUR 1,500 million non-voting equity securities to the Dutch State.

Changes in composition of the group and other changes includes a decrease of EUR 3,279 million in Retained earnings as result of the transfer of part of the Net defined benefit asset/liability remeasurement reserve due to the financial independence of the Dutch ING Pension Fund. Furthermore, Changes in composition of the group and other changes also includes EUR 87 million related to the deconsolidation of Voya. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale', Note 41 'Pension and other post-employment benefits' and Note 57 'Other events'.

In 2014, ING changed the presentation of the components within the Other reserves in equity. The items previously presented in Other within the Other reserves, with the exception of the Net defined benefit asset/liability measurement reserve for the defined benefit plans, are now being presented in the component Retained earnings. The new presentation improves transparency. The 2013 comparatives were restated accordingly.

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Changes in other reserves

2013	Retained earnings	Share of associates and joint ventures reserve	Treasury shares	Other reserves	Total
Opening balance	26,460	1,526	-410		27,576
Result for the year	3,545				3,545
Changes in treasury shares			378		378
Transfer to share of associates and joint ventures reserve	-118	118			
Employee stock options and share plans	-84				-84
Repurchase premium	-375				-375
Impact of Voya	-2,080				-2,080
Changes in composition of the group and other changes	227				227
Closing balance	27,575	1,644	-32		29,187

Impact of Voya relates to the IPO and second tranche sale of Voya as explained in Note 57 'Other events'.

The repurchase premium of EUR 375 million is paid in relation to the repayment of the EUR 750 million non-voting equity securities.

Changes in other reserves

2012	Retained earnings	Share of associates and joint ventures reserve	Treasury shares	Other reserves	Total
Opening balance	23,456	1,290	-665		24,081
Result for the year	4,362				4,362
Unrealised revaluations	-79				-79
Changes in treasury shares			255		255
Transfer to share of associates and joint ventures reserve	-236	236			
Employee stock options and share plans	7				7
Repurchase premium	-375				-375
Changes in composition of the group and other changes	-675				-675
Closing balance	26,460	1,526	-410		27,576

The repurchase premium of EUR 375 million is paid in relation to the repayment of the EUR 750 million non-voting equity securities.

Changes in treasury shares

	Amount			Number		
	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012
Opening balance	32	410	665	3,994,055	30,112,671	49,305,917
Purchased/sold	6	14	-86	351,252	976,907	-14,554,460
Share-based payments		-100	-67	-43,185	-6,698,947	-4,638,786
Other	8	-292	-102		-20,396,576	
Closing balance	46	32	410	4,302,122	3,994,055	30,112,671

Non-voting equity securities (Core Tier 1 securities)

On 7 November 2014, ING Group made the final repayment on the Core Tier 1 securities of EUR 1.025 billion to the Dutch State. Including this final payment, the total amount paid to the Dutch State is EUR 13.5 billion, containing EUR 10 billion in principal and EUR 3.5 billion in interest and premiums, giving the Dutch State an annualised return of 12.7%. For information on the non-voting equity securities and the repayments made, reference is made to Note 56 'Transactions with the Dutch State and the European Commission Restructuring Plan'.

Ordinary shares – Restrictions with respect to dividend and repayment of capital

The following equity components cannot be freely distributed: Revaluation reserve, Share of associates and joint ventures reserve (included in Other reserves), Currency translation reserve and the part of the Other reserves that relate to the former Stichting Regio Bank and the former Stichting Vakbondsspaarbank SPN.

As at 31 December 2014, an amount of EUR 1,070 million (2013: EUR 987 million; 2012: EUR 911 million) related to the former Stichting Regio Bank and the former Stichting Vakbondsspaarbank SPN is included.

ING Groep N.V. is subject to legal restrictions regarding the amount of dividends it can pay to the holders of its ordinary shares. Pursuant to the Dutch Civil Code, dividends can only be paid up to an amount equal to the excess of the company's own funds over the sum of the paid-up capital, and reserves required by law.

Moreover, ING Groep N.V.'s ability to pay dividends is dependent on the dividend payment ability of its subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures. ING Groep N.V. is legally required to create a non-distributable reserve insofar profits of its subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures are subject to dividend payment restrictions which apply to those subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures themselves. Such restrictions may among others be of a similar nature as the restrictions which apply to ING Groep N.V.

Legally distributable reserves, determined in accordance with the financial reporting requirements included in Part 9 of Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code, from ING Group's subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures are as follows:

Legally distributable reserves				
2014	ING Bank	NN Group	Other	Total
Equity invested	38,064	13,549	122	51,735
Non-distributable reserves	7,411	6,134		13,545
Legally distributable reserve	30,653	7,415	122	38,190

Legally distributable reserves				
2013	ING Bank	NN Group	Other	Total
Equity invested	32,805	14,062	5,628	52,495
Non-distributable reserves	7,340	3,105	239	10,684
Legally distributable reserve	25,465	10,957	5,389	41,811

Legally distributable reserves				
2012	ING Bank	NN Group	Other	Total
Equity invested	34,963	25,948	151	61,062
Non-distributable reserves	4,007	7,253		11,260
Legally distributable reserve	30,956	18,695	151	49,802

Furthermore there are restrictions to the ability of subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures to distribute reserves to ING Groep N.V. as a result of minimum capital requirements that are imposed by industry regulators in the countries in which the subsidiaries operate.

Minimum capital requirements for ING Group's subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures are as follows:

Minimum capital requirements – subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures				
2014	ING Bank	NN Group	Other	Total
Equity invested	38,064	13,549	122	51,735
Regulatory capital	46,015	14,173		
Required minimum regulatory capital	27,501	4,683		
	18,514	9,490		

Equity invested represents the actual stake held by ING Group, which is 100% in ING Bank and 68% in NN Group, as per 31 December 2014.

Minimum capital requirements – subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures				
2013	ING Bank	NN Group	Other	Total
Equity invested	32,805	14,062	5,628	52,495
Regulatory capital	45,287	10,955	9,828	
Required minimum regulatory capital	26,913	4,385	3,761	
	18,374	6,570	6,067	

Other in 2013 includes Voya.

Minimum capital requirements – subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures				
2012	ING Bank	NN Group	Other	Total
Equity invested	34,963	25,948	151	61,062
Regulatory capital	47,116	22,448		
Required minimum regulatory capital	28,767	9,523		
	18,349	12,925		

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In 2012, the regulatory capital and the required minimum regulatory capital is determined based on the Basel II rules.

In addition to the legal and regulatory restrictions on distributing dividends from subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures to ING Groep N.V. there are various other considerations and limitations that are taken into account in determining the appropriate levels of equity in the Group's subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures. These considerations and limitations include, but are not restricted to, rating agency and regulatory views, which can change over time; it is not possible to disclose a reliable quantification of these limitations. Reference is also made to the 'Capital Management' section.

Without prejudice to the authority of the Executive Board to allocate profits to reserves and to the fact that the ordinary shares are the most junior securities issued by ING Groep N.V., no specific dividend payment restrictions with respect to ordinary shares exist.

Furthermore, ING Groep N.V. is subject to legal restrictions with respect to repayment of capital to holders of ordinary shares. Capital may be repaid to the holders of ordinary shares pursuant to an amendment of ING Groep N.V.'s Articles of Association whereby the ordinary shares are written down.

Pursuant to the Dutch Civil Code, capital may only be repaid if none of ING Groep N.V.'s creditors opposes such a repayment within two months following the announcement of a resolution to that effect.

On a distribution of a dividend, ING Groep N.V. is in principle required to withhold an income tax on dividends at a rate of 15%.

Minority interest

Minority interest increased with EUR 2,159 million, mainly due to the impact of the IPO of NN Group of EUR 5,397 million, and the issuance of Undated subordinated notes by NN Group of EUR 986 million (net of transaction costs) as well as an increase in the Other comprehensive income of NN Group attributable to minority interest of EUR 1,089 million since the IPO. These increases are partially offset by the deconsolidation of Voya of EUR -5,100 million and the deconsolidation of ING Vysya of EUR -451 million. Reference is made to Note 57 'Other events'.

Undated subordinated notes issued by NN Group

In July 2014, NN Group N.V. issued Fixed to Floating Rate Undated Subordinated Notes with a par value of EUR 1 billion. The notes are undated, but are callable after 11.5 years and every quarter thereafter (subject to regulatory approval). The coupon is fixed at 4.50% per annum for the first 11.5 years and will be floating thereafter. As these notes are undated and include optional deferral of interest at the discretion of NN Group, these are classified under IFRS as equity. Coupon payments are deducted from equity if and when paid or contractually due. The discount to the par value and certain issue costs were deducted from equity at issue, resulting in a balance sheet value equal to the net proceeds of EUR 986 million. These notes are included as part of minority interest as ING Group does not hold any of these notes.

The proportional interest held and key information on NN Group is included in the tables below.

NN Group N.V. - Balance sheet

2014	Interest held (%)	Total assets	Total liabilities	Total equity	Minority interests
NN Group - total	100	165,481	144,064	21,417	
ING Group's share ⁽¹⁾	68.14			13,870	7,547

(1) ING Group's share after intercompany eliminations

NN Group N.V. - Profit and loss account

2014	Interest held (%)	Total income from continuing operations	Total expenses from continuing operations	Net result from discontinued operations	Net result	Minority interests
NN Group - total	100	13,545	12,918	-16	611	
ING Group's share ⁽¹⁾	68.14				416	195

(1) ING Group's share after intercompany eliminations

NN Group N.V. - Comprehensive income

2014	Interest held (%)	Comprehensive income	Minority interests
NN Group - total	100	5,698	
ING Group's share ⁽¹⁾	68.14	3,883	1,815

(1) ING Group's share after intercompany eliminations

Total assets and Total liabilities of NN Group as presented above, to which the minority interest in NN Group related, are all presented in the Consolidated balance sheet in Assets held for sale and Liabilities held for sale in 2014. Total income and Total expenses of NN Group, to which the minority interest in NN Group related, are all presented in the Consolidated profit and loss account in Net result from discontinued operations.

Voya

In 2014, the deconsolidation of Voya impacted various components of equity including EUR –5,100 million in minority interest. The loss on the deconsolidation of Voya is recognised in the profit and loss account. Following the deconsolidation of Voya there is no remaining minority interest relating to Voya. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'.

In 2013, minority interests increased with EUR 4,358 million due to the IPO and second tranche sale of Voya, as explained in Note 57 'Other events'. This amount represents approximately 43% of the net asset value under IFRS-EU of Voya. The proportional interests held and key information on Voya is included in the tables below.

Voya – Balance sheet

2013	Interest held (%)	Total assets	Total liabilities	Total equity	Minority interests
Voya - total	100	155,499	145,609	9,890	
ING Group's share ⁽¹⁾	56.5			5,532	4,358

(1) ING Group's share after intercompany eliminations.

Voya – Profit and loss account

2013	Interest held (%)	Total income	Total expenses	Net result	Minority interests
Voya - total	100	13,232	13,082	150	
ING Group's share ⁽¹⁾	56.5			39	111

(1) ING Group's share after intercompany eliminations.

Voya – Statement of Comprehensive income

2013	Interest held (%)	Comprehensive income	Minority interests
Voya – total	100	–1,187	
ING Group's share ⁽¹⁾	56.5	–1,124	–63

(1) ING Group's share after intercompany eliminations.

Total assets and Total liabilities as presented above, to which the minority interest in Voya related, were all presented in the Consolidated balance sheet in Assets held for sale and Liabilities held for sale in 2013. Total income and Total expenses as presented above, to which the minority interest in Voya related, were all presented in the Consolidated profit and loss account in Net result from discontinued operations in 2013.

Cumulative preference shares (not issued)

Pursuant to the Articles of Association of ING Groep N.V. the authorised cumulative preference share capital consists of 4.5 billion cumulative preference shares, of which none have been issued. The par value of these cumulative preference shares is EUR 0.24.

The cumulative preference shares rank before the ordinary shares in entitlement to dividend and to distributions upon liquidation of ING Groep N.V.

The dividend on the cumulative preference shares will be equal to a percentage, calculated on the amount compulsorily paid up or yet to be paid up. This percentage shall be equal to the average of the Euro OverNight Index Average (EONIA) as calculated by the European Central Bank. During the financial year for which the distribution is made, this percentage is weighted on the basis of the number of days for which it applies, increased by 2.5 percentage points.

If and to the extent that the profit available for distribution is not sufficient to pay the dividend referred to above in full, the shortfall will be made up from the reserves insofar as possible. If, and to the extent that, the dividend distribution cannot be made from the reserves, the profits earned in subsequent years shall first be used to make up the shortfall before any distribution may be made on shares of any other category.

Cumulative preference shares – Restrictions with respect to dividend and repayment of capital

ING Groep N.V. is subject to legal restrictions regarding the amount of dividends it can pay to the holders of its cumulative preference shares, when issued. Pursuant to the Dutch Civil Code, dividends can only be paid up to an amount equal to the excess of the company's own funds over the sum of the paid-up capital, and reserves required by law.

Moreover, ING Groep N.V.'s ability to pay dividends is dependent on the dividend payment ability of its subsidiaries. ING Groep N.V. is legally required to create a non-distributable reserve insofar profits of its subsidiaries are subject to dividend payment restrictions which apply to those subsidiaries themselves. Such restrictions may among others be of a similar nature as the restrictions which apply to ING Groep N.V. or may be the result of minimum capital requirements that are imposed by industry regulators in the countries in which the subsidiaries operate, or other limitations which may exist in certain countries.

No specific dividend payment restrictions with respect to the cumulative preference shares exist.

Furthermore, ING Groep N.V. is subject to legal restrictions with respect to repayment of capital to holders of cumulative preference shares. Capital may be repaid to the holders of cumulative preference shares pursuant to (i) an amendment of ING Groep N.V.'s Articles of Association whereby the cumulative preference shares are written-down or (ii) a resolution to redeem and cancel the cumulative preference shares.

Pursuant to the Dutch Civil Code, capital may only be repaid if none of ING Groep N.V.'s creditors opposes such a repayment within two months following the announcement of a resolution to that effect.

Liabilities**15 Subordinated loans**

Interest rate	Year of issue	First call date	Step-up	Notional amount in original currency			Balance sheet value	
				Total	Lent on to ING Bank	Lent on to NN Group	2014	2013
4.000%	2014	Anchor investors		EUR 1,125			675	
9.000%	2008	None		EUR 10			10	10
8.000%	2008	18 April 2013	No	EUR 1,500	1,050	450		1,501
7.375%	2007	15 October 2012	No	USD 1,500	816	684 ⁽¹⁾	1,232	1,025
6.375%	2007	15 June 2012	No	USD 1,045	1,045		860	759
5.140%	2006	17 March 2016	Yes	GBP 66	66		85	79
5.775%	2005	8 December 2015	Yes	USD 364	364		301	272
6.125%	2005	15 January 2011	No	USD 700	500	200 ⁽¹⁾	574	486
4.176%	2005	8 June 2015	Yes	EUR 169		169	169	168
Variable	2004	30 June 2014	No	EUR 555	555		559	566
6.200%	2003	15 January 2009	No	USD 500	500		409	353
Variable	2003	30 June 2013	No	EUR 430	430		429	433
7.200%	2002	15 December 2007	No	USD 1,100	1,100		899	715
7.050%	2002	15 September 2007	No	USD 800	800		659	522
							6,861	6,889

(1) These USD loans to NN Group were converted into EUR loans from 30 September 2013.

Subordinated loans consist of perpetual subordinated bonds issued by ING Groep N.V. These bonds have been issued to raise hybrid capital for NN Group (originally issued by ING Verzekeringen N.V.) and Tier 1 capital for ING Bank N.V. Under IFRS-EU these bonds are classified as liabilities. They are considered capital for regulatory purposes.

2014 – Subordinated notes - Anchor investors

In 2014, EUR 1,125 million was received from three external investors (Asian-based investment firms RRJ Capital, Temasek and Sea Town Holdings International) in relation to the IPO of NN Group. This funding, which bears a 4% interest rate, will be repaid in three tranches of NN Group shares. The number of shares in the repayment is variable, such that the fair value of the shares at repayment date equals the notional repayment amount, taking into account a discount in the range of 1.5% to 3% of the market price. In July 2014, a first tranche of EUR 450 million of the mandatorily exchangeable subordinated notes was exchanged into NN Group shares. The remaining two tranches (each for an aggregate amount of EUR 337.5 million) will be mandatorily exchanged into NN Group shares from 2015 onwards. Reference is made to Note 22 'Other liabilities' and Note 57 'Other events'.

Subordinated loans provided by ING Groep N.V. to ING Bank N.V. and NN Group N.V.

	2014	2013
ING Bank N.V.	5,287	4,744
NN Group N.V.	823	2,401
	6,110	7,145

16 Debt securities in issue

Debt securities in issue relate to debentures and other issued debt securities with either fixed interest rates or interest rates based on floating interest rate levels, such as certificates of deposit and accepted bills issued by ING Group, except for subordinated items. Debt securities in issue do not include debt securities presented as Financial liabilities at fair value through profit and loss. ING Group does not have debt securities that are issued on terms other than those available in the normal course of business. The maturities of the debt securities are as follows:

Debt securities in issue – maturities		
	2014	2013
Fixed rate debt securities		
Within 1 year	43,270	37,248
More than 1 year but less than 2 years	9,912	10,327
More than 2 years but less than 3 years	7,674	9,475
More than 3 years but less than 4 years	7,872	7,317
More than 4 years but less than 5 years	5,952	7,836
More than 5 years	23,270	23,899
Total fixed rate debt securities	97,950	96,102
Floating rate debt securities		
Within 1 year	10,329	12,642
More than 1 year but less than 2 years	7,168	5,037
More than 2 years but less than 3 years	3,220	2,866
More than 3 years but less than 4 years	380	1,591
More than 4 years but less than 5 years	1,793	338
More than 5 years	5,512	9,151
Total floating rate debt securities	28,402	31,625
Total debt securities	126,352	127,727

As at 31 December 2014, ING Group has unused lines of credit available including the payment of commercial paper borrowings relating to debt securities in issue of EUR 11,532 million (2013: EUR 8,081 million).

Dutch government guaranteed notes

The following bonds were issued under the Credit Guarantee Scheme of the State of the Netherlands. These bonds were fully repaid in 2014. ING Group paid a fee of 84 basis points over the issued bonds to the Dutch State to participate in the Credit Guarantee Scheme:

- › ING Bank issued a 5 year EUR 4 billion fixed rate government guaranteed senior unsecured bond in February 2009. The issue was priced at a fixed rate of 3.375%, 75 basis points over mid-swaps. After the repurchase in 2013 (see below) there was a remaining amount of approximately EUR 2.72 billion outstanding on these bonds. These bonds were repaid on 3 March 2014;
- › ING Bank issued a 5 year USD 2.25 billion fixed rate government guaranteed senior unsecured bond in March 2009. The issue was priced at a fixed coupon of 3.90%, 145 basis points over USD mid-swaps. After the repurchase in 2013 (see below) there was a remaining amount of approximately USD 1.26 billion outstanding on these bonds. These bonds were repaid on 19 March 2014; and
- › ING Bank issued a 5 year USD 0.4 billion privately placed government guarantee senior unsecured bond in March 2009 with a floating rate of 3 months USD LIBOR + 145 basis points. These bonds were repaid on 27 March 2014.

2013 – Repurchase of certain Dutch Government guaranteed notes

In 2013, ING Bank repurchased certain EUR and USD denominated Dutch Government guaranteed notes. One offer was for the EUR-denominated notes with a total principal amount of EUR 4.0 billion (3.375% fixed rate notes which were due on 3 March 2014). The aggregate principal amount of the notes repurchased was approximately EUR 1.28 billion or 32%, leaving a remaining amount outstanding of approximately EUR 2.72 billion. ING Bank paid a purchase price of EUR 1,022.19 per EUR 1,000 principal amount for the EUR denominated notes. In 2013, a charge of EUR 14 million (EUR 11 million after tax) was recognised in Other income - Other on the EUR-denominated notes.

The second offer was for the USD-denominated notes with a principal amount of USD 2.25 billion (3.90% fixed rate notes which were due on 19 March 2014). The aggregate principal amount of the notes repurchased was approximately USD 990 million or 44%, leaving a remaining amount outstanding of approximately USD 1.26 billion. ING Bank paid a purchase price of USD 1,026.66 per USD 1,000 principal amount for the USD denominated notes. In 2013, a charge of EUR 11 million (EUR 8 million after tax) was recognised in Other income - Other on the USD-denominated notes. These transactions were settled on 3 July 2013.

Furthermore in 2013, ING Bank repurchased an additional EUR 1.1 billion and USD 500 million of Dutch government guaranteed notes. These repurchases resulted in an additional charge of EUR 11 million (EUR 8 million after tax) and was recognised in Other income - Other.

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Notes to the consolidated annual accounts of ING Group continued

17 Other borrowed funds**Other borrowed funds by remaining term**

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Years after 2019	Total
Subordinated loans of group companies	889	158	702			9,118	10,867
Preference shares of group companies						430	430
	889	158	702			9,548	11,297

Other borrowed funds by remaining term

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Years after 2018	Total
Subordinated loans of group companies	105	810	760	1,121	18	6,293	9,107
Preference shares of group companies						379	379
Loans contracted	9	20	15	12		1,122	1,178
Loans from credit institutions	2,762		60			220	3,042
	2,876	830	835	1,133	18	8,014	13,706

In 2014, the change in Other borrowed funds includes EUR –3,476 million (EUR –5,225 million as per classification date) related to the classification of NN Group as held for sale and EUR –144 million related to the deconsolidation of Vysya. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'.

The Tier 1 hybrid as mentioned in Note 15 'Subordinated loans' was replaced by the EUR 1.5 billion 3.625% CRD-IV eligible Tier 2 securities that were successfully issued by ING Bank in February 2014 and are recognised in Other borrowed funds.

Subordinated loans of group companies relates to capital debentures and private loans which are subordinated to all current and future liabilities of ING Bank N.V.

Preference shares of group companies comprise non-cumulative guaranteed Trust Preference Securities which are issued by wholly owned subsidiaries of ING Groep N.V. These securities have a liquidation preference of a certain amount plus any accrued interest and unpaid dividend. Dividends with regard to these preference securities are presented as an interest expense in the profit and loss account. These Trust Preference Securities have no voting rights.

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18 Insurance and investment contracts, reinsurance contracts

In 2013, the provision for Insurance and investment contracts was presented gross in the balance sheet as 'Insurance and investment contracts'. In 2013, the related reinsurance was presented as 'Reinsurance contracts' under Assets in the balance sheet.

	Provision net of reinsurance		Reinsurance contracts		Insurance and investment contracts	
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013
Provision for non-participating life policy liabilities		17,570		34		17,604
Provision for participating life policy liabilities		46,208		88		46,296
Provision for (deferred) profit sharing and rebates		3,799				3,799
Life insurance provisions excluding provisions for risk of policyholders		67,577		122		67,699
Provision for life insurance for risk of policyholders		38,038		49		38,087
Life insurance provisions		105,615		171		105,786
Provision for unearned premiums and unexpired risks		266		3		269
Reported claims provision		2,643		77		2,720
Claims incurred but not reported (IBNR)		595		1		596
Claims provisions		3,238		78		3,316
Total provisions for insurance contracts		109,119		252		109,371
Investment contracts for risk of company		810				810
Investment contracts for risk of policyholders		1,588				1,588
Total provisions for investment contracts		2,398				2,398
Total	–	111,517	–	252	–	111,769

In 2014, the change in Insurance and investment contracts, reinsurance contracts includes EUR –111,769 million (EUR –119,118 million as per classification date) related to the classification of NN Group as held for sale. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'

The deferred profit sharing amount on unrealised revaluation is included in Provision for (deferred) profit sharing and rebates and amounted to EUR 3,488 million as at 31 December 2013.

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Changes in life insurance provisions

	Provision net of reinsurance (excluding provision for life insurance for risk of policyholders)		Provision for life insurance for risk of policyholders (net of reinsurance)		Reinsurance contracts		Life insurance provisions	
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013
Opening balance	67,577	117,834	38,038	90,754	171	5,204	105,786	213,792
Changes in the composition of the group and other changes	-71,081	-41,239	-40,291	-54,915	-180	-4,770	-111,552	-100,924
	-3,504	76,595	-2,253	35,839	-9	434	-5,766	112,868
Current year provisions	3,192	9,973	1,113	8,459	9	490	4,314	18,922
Change in deferred profit sharing liability	2,649	-2,309					2,649	-2,309
Prior year provisions								
- benefit payments to policyholders	-4,805	-17,361	-3,094	-15,466		-756	-7,899	-33,583
- interest accrual and changes in fair value of liabilities	1,911	3,932			1	35	1,912	3,967
- valuation changes for risk of policyholders			3,688	13,519			3,688	13,519
- effect of changes in other assumptions	103	-140	-102		-2	-2	-1	-142
	-2,791	-13,569	492	-1,947	-1	-723	-2,300	-16,239
Exchange rate differences	454	-3,113	648	-4,313	1	-30	1,103	-7,456
Closing balance	0	67,577	0	38,038	0	171	0	105,786

In 2014, Changes in the composition of the group and other changes includes EUR -113,057 million related to the classification of NN Group as held for sale. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'.

In 2013, Changes in the composition of the group and other changes included EUR -136,541 million as a result of the classification of Voya as held for sale and EUR 29,445 million as a result of the classification to continuing operations of ING Japan. Reference is made to Note 57 'Other events'.

Where discounting was used in the calculation of life insurance provisions, the rate was within the range 2.3% to 4.0% in 2013 based on weighted averages.

'Effect of changes in other assumptions' in 2013 related mainly to the assumption refinement for the Insurance US Closed Block VA business. This effect was included as part of Net result from discontinued operations in the Consolidated profit and loss account.

As at 31 December 2013, the total Reinsurance exposure, including Reinsurance contracts and Receivables from reinsurers (presented in Other assets) amounted to EUR 343 million. There was no provision for uncollectable reinsurance in 2013.

Changes in provision for unearned premiums and unexpired risks

	Provision net of reinsurance		Reinsurance contracts		Provision for unearned premiums and unexpired risks	
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013
Opening balance	266	265	3	2	269	267
Changes in the composition of the group and other changes	-413	2	-7	1	-420	3
	-147	267	-4	3	-151	270
Premiums written	1,372	1,642	30	40	1,402	1,682
Premiums earned during the year	-1,225	-1,643	-26	-40	-1,251	-1,683
Closing balance	0	266	0	3	0	269

In 2014, Changes in the composition of the group and other changes includes EUR -398 million related to the classification of NN Group as held for sale. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'.

Changes in claims provisions

	Provision net of reinsurance		Reinsurance contracts		Claims provisions	
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013
Opening balance	3,238	3,179	78	84	3,316	3,263
Changes in the composition of the group and other changes	-3,195	1	-83	-1	-3,278	
	43	3,180	-5	83	38	3,263
Additions						
– for the current year	541	1,176	5	9	546	1,185
– for prior years	-490	-86	5		-485	-86
– interest accrual of provision	17	40			17	40
	68	1,130	10	9	78	1,139
Claim settlements and claim settlement costs						
– for the current year	-17	-452	-1	-1	-18	-453
– for prior years	-97	-618	-4	-13	-101	-631
	-114	-1,070	-5	-14	-119	-1,084
Exchange rate differences	3	-2			3	-2
Closing balance	0	3,238	0	78	0	3,316

In 2014, Changes in the composition of the group and other changes includes EUR –3,272 million related to the classification of NN Group as held for sale. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'.

Where discounting is used in the calculation of the claims provisions, based on weighted averages, the rate is within the range of 3.0% to 4.0% in 2013.

Changes in investment contracts liabilities

	2014	2013
Opening balance	2,398	12,628
Changes in the composition of the group and other changes	-2,422	-9,504
	-24	3,124
Current year liabilities	135	3,773
Prior year provisions		
– payments to contract holders	-195	-4,522
– interest accrual	1	13
– valuation changes investments	83	69
	-111	-4,440
Exchange rate differences		-59
Closing balance	0	2,398

In 2014, Changes in the composition of the group and other changes includes EUR –2,391 million related to the classification of NN Group as held for sale. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale and Note 57 'Other events'.

In 2013, Changes in the composition of the group and other changes included EUR –9,402 million as a result of the classification of Voya as held for sale and nil as a result of the classification to continuing operations of ING Japan. Reference is made to Note 57 'Other events'.

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Gross claims development table

											Accident year
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	Total
Estimate of cumulative claims:											
At the end of accident year	1,096	1,109	1,100	1,020	1,078	1,200	1,169	1,217	1,232	1,217	
1 year later	979	1,041	1,057	923	1,060	1,213	1,198	1,244	1,182		
2 years later	856	940	978	859	1,033	1,153	1,159	1,191			
3 years later	840	911	965	861	1,032	1,146	1,157				
4 years later	843	896	974	842	1,024	1,129					
5 years later	836	893	960	837	1,041						
6 years later	834	875	965	849							
7 years later	834	875	970								
8 years later	828	875									
9 years later	835										
Estimate of cumulative claims	835	875	970	849	1,041	1,129	1,157	1,191	1,182	1,217	10,446
Cumulative payments	-721	-775	-841	-679	-820	-867	-866	-793	-699	-453	-7,514
	114	100	129	170	221	262	291	398	483	764	2,932
Effect of discounting	-6	-13	-15	-24	-30	-32	-39	-54	-50	-34	-297
Liability recognised	108	87	114	146	191	230	252	344	433	730	2,635
Liability relating to accident year prior to 2004											681
Total amount recognised in the balance sheet											3,316

The Group applies the exemption in IFRS-EU not to present Gross claims development for annual periods beginning before 1 January 2004 (the date of transition to IFRS-EU) as it is impracticable to obtain such information.

19 Amounts due to banks

Amounts due to banks include non-subordinated debt due to banks, other than amounts in the form of debt securities.

Amounts due to banks by type

	Netherlands		International		Total
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014
Non-interest bearing	205	1,536	692	620	897
Interest bearing	9,563	5,750	19,539	19,294	29,102
	9,768	7,286	20,231	19,914	29,999
					27,200

In 2014, the change in Amounts due to Banks includes nil (nil as per classification date) related to the classification of NN Group as held for sale and EUR -1,683 million related to the deconsolidation of Vysya. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'.

In 2014, ING participated in the targeted longer-term refinancing operations ('TLTRO') of the European central bank for an amount of EUR 5.7 billion. The TLTRO aims to stimulate lending to the real economy in the Eurozone. The interest rate on the TLTRO's is fixed over the life of each operation at 15 bps (i.e. MRO level prevailing at the time of allotment of 5 bps plus a fixed spread of 10 basis points). Starting 24 months after each TLTRO, ING has the option to repay any part of the amounts allotted in that TLTRO at a semi-annual frequency. Parties that utilised the TLTRO's, but whose eligible net lending in the period from 1 May 2014 to 30 April 2016 is below the benchmark, will be required to repay the TLTRO's in September 2016.

Reference is made to Note 48 'Transfer of financial assets' for information on securities lending as well as sale and repurchase transactions.

20 Customer deposits and other funds on deposit

Customer deposits and other funds on deposit

	2014	2013
Savings accounts	295,532	289,838
Credit balances on customer accounts	140,707	127,073
Corporate deposits	46,203	56,528
Other	1,429	873
	483,871	474,312

Customer deposits and other funds on deposit by type

	Netherlands		International		Total	
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013
Non-interest bearing	13,059	12,277	10,418	9,589	23,477	21,866
Interest bearing	144,295	150,395	316,099	302,051	460,394	452,446
	157,354	162,672	326,517	311,640	483,871	474,312

In 2014, the change in Customer deposits and other funds on deposit includes EUR –5,769 million (EUR –6,597 million as per classification date) related to the classification of NN Group as held for sale and EUR –3,817 million related to the deconsolidation of Vysya. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'. This overall change is offset by an increase in interest bearing customer deposits and other funds on deposit mainly relates to increased savings and current accounts compensated by a decrease in corporate deposits.

No funds have been entrusted to the Group by customers on terms other than those prevailing in the normal course of business.

Reference is made to Note 48 'Transfer of financial assets' for information on securities lending as well as sale and repurchase transactions.

Savings accounts relate to the balances on savings accounts, savings books, savings deposits and time deposits of personal customers. The interest payable on savings accounts, which is contractually added to the accounts, is also included.

21 Financial liabilities at fair value through profit and loss

Financial liabilities at fair value through profit and loss

	2014	2013
Trading liabilities	97,091	73,491
Non-trading derivatives	6,040	11,155
Designated as at fair value through profit and loss	13,551	13,855
	116,682	98,501

In 2014, the change in Financial liabilities at fair value through profit and loss includes EUR –1,792 million (EUR –2,519 million as per classification date) as a result of the classification of NN Group as held for sale and EUR –248 million related to the deconsolidation of Vysya. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'.

The increase in Financial liabilities at fair value through profit and loss mainly relates to an increase in the fair value of derivatives due to a decrease in long-term interest rates and to an increase in repurchase funding.

Trading liabilities by type

	2014	2013
Equity securities	4,658	3,713
Debt securities	6,661	7,396
Funds on deposit	37,753	32,880
Derivatives	48,019	29,502
	97,091	73,491

In 2014, the increase in trading equity securities are mainly due to new trades. The increase in the trading derivatives is mainly due to changes in fair value resulting from market interest rates. The increase is substantially mitigated by a similar increase in Trading derivative assets. Reference is made to Note 4 'Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss' for information on trading assets.

Reference is made to Note 48 'Transfer of financial assets' for information on securities lending as well as sale and repurchase transactions.

Non-trading derivatives by type

	2014	2013
Derivatives used in:		
– fair value hedges	3,210	4,555
– cash flow hedges	1,663	4,385
– hedges of net investments in foreign operations	100	52
Other non-trading derivatives	1,067	2,163
	6,040	11,155

Other non-trading derivatives mainly includes interest rate swaps for which no hedge accounting is applied.

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Designated as at fair value through profit and loss by type

	2014	2013
Debt securities	12,417	12,415
Funds entrusted	409	536
Subordinated liabilities	725	904
	13,551	13,855

In 2014, the change in the fair value of financial liabilities designated as at fair value through profit and loss attributable to changes in credit risk is EUR –98 million (2013: EUR –129 million) and EUR –282 million (2013: EUR –167 million) on a cumulative basis. This change has been determined as the amount of change in fair value of the financial liability that is not attributable to changes in market conditions that gave rise to market risk (i.e. mainly interest rate risk based on yield curves).

The amount that ING Group is contractually required to pay at maturity to the holders of financial liabilities designated as at fair value through profit and loss is EUR 12,568 million (2013: EUR 13,427 million).

22 Other liabilities

Customer deposits and other funds on deposit

	2014	2013	2012
Deferred tax liabilities	860	998	2,813
Income tax payable	450	440	956
Net defined benefit liability	676	336	799
Other post-employment benefits	101	136	220
Other staff-related liabilities	408	558	650
Other taxation and social security contributions	584	833	918
Deposits from reinsurers		58	869
Accrued interest	5,742	7,876	10,569
Costs payable	1,645	1,746	2,160
Amounts payable to brokers		4	50
Amounts payable to policyholders		464	2,139
Reorganisation provisions	728	575	919
Other provisions	289	385	642
Share-based payment plan liabilities	26	44	47
Prepayments received under property under development			21
Amounts to be settled	2,475	4,258	4,832
Other	3,182	2,912	4,925
	17,166	21,623	33,529

In 2014, the change in Other liabilities includes EUR –3,950 million (EUR –5,387 million as per classification date) as a result of the classification of NN Group as held for sale and EUR –266 million related to the deconsolidation of Vysya. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'.

In 2014, the provision for the estimated cost of the agreement with regard to unit-linked policies is included in Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale'. In 2013, the provision for the estimated cost of the agreement with regard to unit-linked policies is included in Note 18 'Insurance and investment contracts, reinsurance contracts'.

Disclosures in respect of Net defined benefit liabilities are provided in Note 41 'Pension and other post-employment benefits' and deferred tax liabilities are provided in Note 42 'Taxation'.

Other staff-related liabilities includes vacation leave provisions, variable compensation provisions, jubilee provisions and disability/illness provisions.

Reorganisation provisions

Changes in reorganisation provision

	2014	2013
Opening balance	575	919
Additions	487	320
Releases	-18	-66
Charges	-212	-580
Exchange rate differences	5	-4
Changes in the composition of the group and other changes	-109	-14
Closing balance	728	575

In 2014, Changes in the composition of the group and other changes includes EUR –101 million as a result of the classification of NN Group as held for sale. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'.

In 2013, Changes in the composition of the group and other changes includes EUR –10 million as a result of the classification of Voya as held for sale and nil as a result of the classification to continuing operations of ING Japan. Reference is made to Note 57 'Other events'. Additions to the reorganisation provision are mainly related to the restructurings for Retail banking in the Netherlands, Commercial banking.

In 2014, the increase in Reorganisation provisions mainly includes a reorganisation provision of EUR 349 million which is recognised in the segment Retail Netherlands relating to an expected reduction of the workforce of around 1,700 FTE's over the next three years. In addition, ING will reduce the number of positions employed by external suppliers by 1,075.

In 2013, a reorganisation provision of EUR 167 million was recognised in the segment Retail Netherlands and Commercial Banking as a result of further measures that have been taken to accelerate the cost savings program. These measures were expected to result in a further reduction of the workforce of around 300 FTEs.

In addition, in 2013, a reorganisation provision of EUR 61 million was recognised at ING Belgium related to an expected reduction of the workforce of around 1,100 FTE's over a period of two years.

Each of these initiatives will be implemented over a period of several years and the estimate of the reorganisation provisions is inherently uncertain. The provision at balance sheet date represents the best estimate of the expected redundancy costs and are expected to be sufficient to cover these costs.

Other provisions

Changes in other provisions

	Litigation		Other		Total	
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013
Opening balance	178	219	207	423	385	642
Additions	30	20	5	22	35	42
Releases	-16	-40	-51	-26	-67	-66
Charges	-11	-6	-13	-254	-24	-260
Exchange rate differences	1	-6	1	-16	2	-22
Changes in the composition of the group and other changes	8	-9	-50	58	-42	49
Closing balance	190	178	99	207	289	385

The amounts included in other provisions are based on best estimates with regard to amounts and timing of cash flows required to settle the obligation.

Other

In 2014, Other liabilities – Other includes a provision of EUR 920 million related to the mandatory exchange of the remaining two tranches of subordinated notes from the Anchor investors into shares of NN Group N.V. The provision is re-measured for changes in the expected number of shares to be issued and the related pro rata IFRS carrying value. This transaction did not impact the profit and loss account of ING Group as NN Group is still consolidated at 31 December 2014. Reference is made to Note 15 'Subordinated loans' and Note 57 'Other events'.

The remainder mainly relates to year-end accruals in the normal course of business.

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Notes to the consolidated profit and loss account

23 Interest result banking operations

Interest result banking operations			
	2014	2013	2012
Interest income on loans	20,186	21,570	24,798
Interest income on impaired loans	1	15	41
Total interest income on loans	20,187	21,585	24,839
Interest income on available-for-sale securities	2,008	2,070	2,507
Interest income on held-to-maturity securities	83	158	297
Interest income on trading portfolio	18,327	19,882	24,616
Interest income on non-trading derivatives (no hedge accounting)	1,520	1,175	1,578
Interest income on non-trading derivatives (hedge accounting)	5,977	6,675	6,297
Other interest income	61	-151	-131
Interest income banking operations	48,163	51,394	60,003
Interest expense on deposits by banks	338	440	623
Interest expense on customer deposits and other funds on deposit	5,355	6,618	9,140
Interest expense on debt securities	2,503	3,197	3,822
Interest expense on subordinated loans	1,185	1,347	1,422
Interest expense on trading liabilities	17,710	19,369	24,048
Interest expense on non-trading derivatives (no hedge accounting)	1,255	1,205	1,528
Interest expense on non-trading derivatives (hedge accounting)	7,123	7,873	7,905
Other interest expense	390	-356	-369
Interest expense banking operations	35,859	39,693	48,119
Interest result banking operations	12,304	11,701	11,884
Interest margin			
in percentages	2014	2013	2012
Interest margin	1.50	1.41	1.30

In 2014, the decrease in total average assets, partly attributable to the deconsolidation of ING Vysya Bank and the additional transfers of assets of WestlandUtrecht Bank to NN Group, leads to a decrease of EUR 152 million in the interest result. In addition, an improvement of the interest margin of 9 basis points led to a EUR 755 million increase in the interest result.

In 2013, the decrease in total average assets, partly attributable to the disposal of ING Direct Canada and ING Direct UK, and the sale and transfer of assets of WestlandUtrecht Bank to NN Group, led to a decrease of EUR 1,070 million in the interest result. In addition, an improvement of the interest margin of 11 basis points led to a EUR 888 million increase in the interest result.

In 2012, the decrease in total average assets, partly attributable to the disposal of ING Direct USA and ING Direct Canada, led to a decrease of EUR 578 million in the interest result. In addition a decrease of 11 basis points of the interest margin led to a decrease in the interest result of EUR 988 million.

24 Investment income

Investment income by banking and Legacy Insurance

	Banking operations			Legacy Insurance			Total		
	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012
Income from real estate investments	6	23	16				6	23	16
Dividend income	36	94	64				36	94	64
	42	117	80				42	117	80
Realised gains/losses on disposal of debt securities	142	129	209				142	129	209
Impairments of available-for-sale debt securities		-1	-16					-1	-16
Reversal of impairments of available-for-sale debt securities	1	2					1	2	
Realised gains/losses and impairments of debt securities	143	130	193				143	130	193
Realised gains/losses on disposal of equity securities	33	61	367	29	59		62	120	367
Impairments of available-for-sale equity securities	-14	-3	-22				-14	-3	-22
Realised gains/losses and impairments of equity securities	19	58	345	29	59		48	117	345
Interest on non-trading derivatives					-13			-13	
Change in fair value of real estate investments	3		-11				3		-11
Investment income	207	305	607	29	46		236	351	607

In 2012, ING sold all of its shares in Capital One Financial Corporation. The transaction resulted in a gain of EUR 323 million (before and after tax) and was recognised in Realised gains/losses on disposal of equity securities. Reference is made to Note 52 'Companies and businesses acquired and divested'.

Impairments and reversals of impairments on investments are presented within Investment income, which is part of Total income. This can be specified for each segment as follows:

Impairments/reversals of impairments on investments per segment

	Impairments			Reversal of impairments		
	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012
Retail Belgium			-1			
Commercial Banking	-14	-3	-26	1	2	
Corporate line banking		-1	-11			
	-14	-4	-38	1	2	

25 Result on disposals of group companies

Result on disposals of group companies

	2014	2013	2012
ING Vysya	202		
ING Direct USA		5	743
ING Direct Canada		1	1,124
ING Direct UK		10	-260
Other	-7	11	-3
	195	27	1,604

In 2014, Result of disposal of group companies includes EUR 202 million profit on the deconsolidation of ING Vysya. Reference is made to Note 7 'Investments in associates and joint ventures', Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'.

In 2014, the result on the partial disposal of NN Group and the result on the disposal of Voya (2013: Insurance and investment management business in Hong Kong, Macau and Thailand and ING Life Korea; 2012: Malaysian operations) is not included above but included in the Result on disposal of discontinued operations. Reference is made to Note 33 'Discontinued operations' and Note 52 'Companies and businesses acquired and divested'.

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Notes to the consolidated annual accounts of ING Group continued

26 Commission income**Gross fee and commission income**

	Banking operations			Legacy Insurance			Total		
	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012
Funds transfer	1,006	982	956				1,006	982	956
Securities business	538	529	511				538	529	511
Insurance broking	172	152	164				172	152	164
Asset management fees	158	113	90				158	113	90
Brokerage and advisory fees	370	334	337				370	334	337
Other	1,053	1,193	1,009			-43	1,053	1,193	966
	3,297	3,303	3,067	-	-	-43	3,297	3,303	3,024

Other includes commission fees of EUR 163 million (2013: EUR 215 million; 2012: EUR 230 million) in respect of bank guarantees and commission fees of EUR 23 million (2013: EUR 27 million; 2012: EUR 17 million) in respect of underwriting syndication loans.

Fee and commission expenses

	Banking operations			Legacy Insurance			Total		
	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012
Funds transfer	355	365	336				355	365	336
Securities business	151	111	98				151	111	98
Insurance broking	14						14		
Asset management fees	-10	28	9			8	-10	28	17
Brokerage and advisory fees	87	81	85				87	81	85
Other	407	514	441				407	514	441
	1,004	1,099	969	-	-	8	1,004	1,099	977

27 Valuation results on non-trading derivatives

Valuation results on non-trading derivatives includes the fair value movements on derivatives (used for both hedge accounting and economically hedging exposures) as well as the changes in the fair value of assets and liabilities included in hedging relationships as hedged items. In addition, Valuation results on non-trading derivatives includes the results on assets and liabilities designated as at fair value through profit and loss.

Valuation results on non-trading derivatives

	Banking operations			Legacy Insurance			Total		
	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012
Change in fair value of derivatives relating to									
- fair value hedges	-486	871	-428				-486	871	-428
- cash flow hedges (ineffective portion)	35	4	17				35	4	17
- other non-trading derivatives	105	345	-2	98		-2	203	345	-4
Net result on non-trading derivatives	-346	1,220	-413	98		-2	-248	1,220	-415
Change in fair value of assets and liabilities (hedged items)	536	-963	536				536	-963	536
Valuation results on assets and liabilities designated as at fair value through profit and loss (excluding trading)	-583	-53	-1,101				-583	-53	-1,101
Net valuation results	-393	204	-978	98	-	-2	-295	204	-980

Included in the Valuation results on non-trading derivatives are the fair value movements on derivatives used to economically hedge exposures, but for which no hedge accounting is applied. The fair value movements on the derivatives are influenced by changes in the market conditions, such as stock prices, interest rates and currency exchange rates.

Valuation results on non-trading derivatives are reflected in the Consolidated statement of cash flows in the line 'Result before tax - Adjusted for: other'.

The Valuation results on assets and liabilities designated as at fair value through profit and loss includes fair value changes on private equity funds and certain issued debt securities. Valuation results on assets and liabilities designated as at fair value through profit and loss were mainly due to changes in the fair value of financial liabilities driven by changes in market conditions and changes in own credit risk as disclosed in Note 21 'Financial liabilities at fair value through profit and loss'. Market conditions includes in particular credit spread developments.

In 2014, for the Banking operations, Valuation results on assets and liabilities designated as at fair value through profit and loss (excluding trading) includes fair value adjustments on own issued notes amounting to EUR 632 million negative (2013: EUR 136 million negative), of which DVA adjustment on own issued notes in 2014 amounted to EUR 98 million negative (2013: EUR 129 million negative).

28 Net trading income

	Banking operations			Legacy Insurance			Total		
	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012
Securities trading results	673	129	252				673	129	252
Foreign exchange transactions results	-454	-138	-142	2			-452	-138	-142
Derivatives trading results	420	411	899	-34			386	411	899
Other	-15	81	113				-15	81	113
	624	483	1,122	-32	-	-	592	483	1,122

Securities trading results includes the results of market making in instruments such as government securities, equity securities, corporate debt securities, money-market instruments, and interest rate derivatives such as swaps, options, futures and forward contracts. Foreign exchange transactions results include gains and losses from spot and forward contracts, options, futures, and translated foreign currency assets and liabilities.

The portion of trading gains and losses relating to trading securities still held as at 31 December 2014 amounts to EUR -18 million (2013: EUR -105 million; 2012: EUR 118 million).

The majority of the risks involved in security and currency trading is economically hedged with derivatives. The securities trading results are partly offset by results on these derivatives. The result of these derivatives is included in Derivatives trading results.

Net trading income relates to trading assets and trading liabilities which include assets and liabilities that are classified under IFRS-EU as 'Trading' but are closely related to servicing the needs of the clients of ING. ING offers institutional and corporate clients and governments products that are traded on the financial markets. A significant part of the derivatives in the trading portfolio are related to servicing corporate clients in their risk management to hedge for example currency or interest rate exposures. In addition, ING provides its customers access to equity and debt markets for issuing their own equity or debt securities ('securities underwriting'). Although these are presented as 'Trading' under IFRS-EU, these are directly related to services to ING's customers. Loans and receivables in the trading portfolio mainly relate to (reverse) repurchase agreements, which are comparable to collateralised borrowing (lending). These products are used by ING as part of its own regular treasury activities, but also relate to the role that ING plays as intermediary between different professional customers. Trading assets and liabilities held for ING's own risk are very limited. From a risk perspective, the gross amount of trading assets must be considered together with the gross amount of trading liabilities, which are presented separately on the balance sheet. However, IFRS-EU does not allow netting of these positions in the balance sheet. Reference is made to Note 4 'Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss' and Note 21 'Financial liabilities at fair value through profit and loss' for information on trading liabilities.

In 2014, for the Banking operations, Net trading income - Derivatives trading results includes EUR 205 million negative CVA/DVA adjustments on trading derivatives, compared with EUR 243 million positive CVA/DVA adjustment in 2013.

In 2014, for Banking operations, Net trading income includes EUR -454 million (2013: EUR -138 million) foreign exchange results.

29 Other income

	2014	2013	2012
Net operating lease income	5	1	1
Income from real estate development projects		32	22
Other	92	137	-399
	97	170	-376

Net operating lease income comprises income of EUR 23 million (2013: EUR 18 million; 2012: EUR 2 million) and depreciation of EUR 18 million (2013: EUR 17 million; 2012: EUR 1 million).

In 2013, Other income - Other includes EUR 100 million result (before tax) on the unwinding of the Illiquid Assets Back-up Facility. Reference is made to Note 56 'Transactions with the Dutch State and the European Commission Restructuring plan'.

In 2012, Other income - Other included losses on disposal of Loans and advances to customers of EUR 618 million.

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Notes to the consolidated annual accounts of ING Group continued

30 Intangible amortisation and other impairments**Intangible amortisation and (reversals of) impairments**

	Impairment losses			Reversals of impairments			Total		
	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012
Property and equipment	43	29	23	-5	-5	-7	38	24	16
Property development	36	84	153		-6		36	78	153
Software and other intangible assets	1	7	5				1	7	5
(Reversals of) other impairments	80	120	181	-5	-11	-7	75	109	174
Amortisation of other intangible assets							13	27	29
							88	136	203

In 2014, EUR 36 million impairments are recognised on Property development relating to real estate development projects and properties obtained from foreclosures.

In 2013, EUR 78 million impairments are recognised on Property development (Commercial Banking segment) relating to various real estate development projects (especially Europe and Australia). The unfavourable economic circumstances in these regions and projects resulted in lower expected sales prices.

In 2012, impairments on Property development related to various real estate development projects (including mainly the United Kingdom, Belgium, Spain and Germany) due to worsening market conditions.

31 Staff expenses**Staff expenses**

	2014	2013	2012
Salaries	3,149	3,247	3,418
Pension costs	1,209	255	-249
Other staff-related benefit costs	9	-24	9
Social security costs	514	512	532
Share-based compensation arrangements	60	67	106
External employees	623	636	625
Education	57	60	63
Other staff costs	167	167	199
	5,788	4,920	4,703

In 2014, a charge of EUR 871 million is recognised in Pensions costs related to the Dutch defined benefit plan settlement. Reference is made to Note 41 'Pension and other post-employment benefits' for information on pensions.

In 2013 and 2012, the Dutch Government imposed an additional tax charge of 16% on the income in excess of EUR 150,000 of each employee who is subject to Dutch income tax. The tax is charged to the company and does not affect the remuneration of involved staff. The tax imposed on ING for relevant employees amounts to nil in 2014 (2013: EUR 15.7 million; 2012: EUR 21.9 million), which is included in the table above.

Number of employees

	Netherlands			International			Total		
	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012
Continuing operations - average number of employees at full time equivalent basis ⁽¹⁾	15,209	16,155	18,072	40,736	48,218	48,807	55,945	64,373	66,879
Discontinued operations - average number of employees at full time equivalent basis	6,851	7,202	6,868	5,635	12,309	18,825	12,486	19,511	25,693
Total average number of employees at full time equivalent basis	22,060	23,357	24,940	46,371	60,527	67,632	68,431	83,884	92,572

(1) The average number of employees includes, on an average basis, employees of entities that were sold or classified as held for sale during the year.

Share-based compensation arrangements includes EUR 57 million (2013: EUR 61 million; 2012: EUR 100 million) relating to equity-settled share-based payment arrangements and EUR 3 million (2013: EUR 17 million; 2012: EUR 22 million) relating to cash-settled share-based payment arrangements.

In 2012, Pension costs includes a release (curtailment) of EUR 251 million (EUR 335 million before tax) due to a change to a new pension scheme. Reference is made to Note 41 'Pension and other post-employment benefits'.

Remuneration of senior management, Executive Board and Supervisory Board

Reference is made to Note 55 'Related parties'.

Stock option and share plans

ING Groep N.V. has granted option rights on ING Groep N.V. shares and conditional rights on depositary receipts (share awards) for ING shares to a number of senior executives (members of the Executive Board, general managers and other officers nominated by the Executive Board), and to a considerable number of employees of ING Group. The purpose of the option and share schemes, apart from promoting a lasting growth of ING Group, is to attract, retain and motivate senior executives and staff.

ING grants three types of share awards, deferred shares, performance shares and upfront shares. The entitlement to the share awards is granted conditionally. If the participant remains in employment for an uninterrupted period between the grant date and the vesting date, the entitlement becomes unconditional. In addition to the employment condition, the performance shares contain a performance condition. The number of ING depositary receipts that would ultimately be granted at the end of a performance period is dependent on ING's performance over that period. Upfront and deferred shares, with retention periods as soon as it becomes unconditional, were awarded to the Management Board members of ING Bank and NN Group, as well as Identified staff. ING has the authority to apply a hold back to awarded but unvested shares and a claw-back to vested shares.

The information presented below on stock options and share plans on ING Groep N.V. shares includes personnel employed by entities that are presented as continuing operations as well as held for sale and discontinued operations.

In 2014, no share awards (2013: nil; 2012: nil) were granted to the members of the Executive Board of ING Groep N.V., 206,650 share awards (2013: 553,600; 2012: 643,644) were granted to the Management Boards of ING Bank and NN Group. To senior management and other employees 6,814,308 share awards (2013: 10,403,613; 2012: 19,802,692) were granted. In 2014, all outstanding ING Groep N.V. share awards held by the Management Board, senior management and other employees of NN Group N.V. were converted into awards on NN Group N.V. shares. The conversion was performed at an exchange factor such that the fair value of the outstanding awards was unchanged. The outstanding option awards on ING Groep N.V. shares which are fully vested, remained unchanged. As of 2014, new awards to the Management Board, senior management and other employees of NN Group are all based on NN Group N.V. shares. In 2013, members of the Management Board, senior management and other employees of Voya received Voya shares instead of the share awards of ING Groep N.V. they received previously.

Every year, the ING Group Executive Board decides whether the option and share schemes are to be continued and, if so, to what extent. In 2010 the Group Executive Board decided not to continue the option scheme as from 2011. The existing option schemes up and until 2010 will be run off in the coming years.

The option rights are valid for a period of five or ten years. Option rights that are not exercised within this period lapse. Option rights granted will remain valid until the expiry date, even if the option scheme is discontinued. The option rights are subject to certain conditions, including a pre-determined continuous period of service. The exercise prices of the options are the same as the quoted prices of ING Groep N.V. shares at the date on which the options are granted.

As at 31 December 2014, ING Group holds no own shares (2013: nil; 2012: 26,429,948) in order to fulfil its obligations with regard to the existing stock option plan.

The obligations with regard to the existing stock option plan and the share plans will be funded either by cash or by newly issued shares at the discretion of ING Group.

Changes in option rights outstanding

	Options outstanding (in numbers)			Weighted average exercise price (in euros)		
	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012
Opening balance	68,292,442	85,193,177	108,138,551	16.02	14.77	15.20
Exercised	-4,796,012	-5,776,911	-3,490,981	5.97	4.53	2.90
Forfeited	-610,095	-1,179,734	-1,480,805	15.91	12.78	11.05
Expired	-10,326,728	-9,944,090	-17,973,588	16.35	12.34	19.92
Closing balance	52,559,607	68,292,442	85,193,177	16.95	16.02	14.77

As per 31 December 2014 total options outstanding consists of 41,685,852 options (2013: 55,321,834; 2012: 70,135,050) relating to equity-settled share-based payment arrangements and 10,873,755 options (2013: 12,970,608; 2012: 15,058,127) relating to cash-settled share-based payment arrangements.

The weighted average share price at the date of exercise for options exercised during 2014 is EUR 10.60 (2013: EUR 8.24; 2012: EUR 6.15).

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Changes in option rights non-vested

	Options non-vested (in numbers)			Weighted average grant date fair value (in euros)		
	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012
Opening balance		15,716,032	32,418,754		3.26	2.65
Vested		-15,243,423	-15,815,049		3.27	2.03
Forfeited		-472,609	-887,673		3.23	2.73
Closing balance		0	15,716,032		0.00	3.26

Summary of stock options outstanding and exercisable

2014	Options outstanding as at 31 December 2014	Weighted average remaining contractual life	Weighted average exercise price	Options exercisable as at 31 December 2014	Weighted average remaining contractual life	Weighted average exercise price
Range of exercise price in euros						
0.00 – 5.00	4,893,647	3.76	2.88	4,893,647	3.76	2.88
5.00 – 10.00	8,527,415	5.21	7.38	8,527,415	5.21	7.38
10.00 – 15.00	145,974	3.71	14.35	145,974	3.71	14.35
15.00 – 20.00	21,003,814	1.54	17.33	21,003,814	1.54	17.33
20.00 – 25.00	8,117,391	1.79	24.57	8,117,391	1.79	24.57
25.00 – 30.00	9,871,366	1.29	25.18	9,871,366	1.29	25.18
	52,559,607			52,559,607		

Summary of stock options outstanding and exercisable

2013	Options outstanding as at 31 December 2013	Weighted average remaining contractual life	Weighted average exercise price	Options exercisable as at 31 December 2013	Weighted average remaining contractual life	Weighted average exercise price
Range of exercise price in euros						
0.00 – 5.00	6,646,603	4.63	2.88	6,646,603	4.63	2.88
5.00 – 10.00	12,487,960	6.21	7.37	12,487,960	6.21	7.37
10.00 – 15.00	6,249,261	0.33	14.33	6,249,261	0.33	14.33
15.00 – 20.00	23,127,059	2.56	17.31	23,127,059	2.56	17.31
20.00 – 25.00	9,010,163	2.80	24.57	9,010,163	2.80	24.57
25.00 – 30.00	10,771,396	2.29	25.18	10,771,396	2.29	25.18
	68,292,442			68,292,442		

Summary of stock options outstanding and exercisable

2012	Options outstanding as at 31 December 2012	Weighted average remaining contractual life	Weighted average exercise price	Options exercisable as at 31 December 2012	Weighted average remaining contractual life	Weighted average exercise price
Range of exercise price in euros						
0.00 – 5.00	10,586,734	5.49	2.88	10,586,734	5.49	2.88
5.00 – 10.00	21,728,644	5.35	7.92	6,012,612	0.47	9.41
10.00 – 15.00	6,732,540	1.32	14.28	6,732,540	1.32	14.28
15.00 – 20.00	24,938,253	3.58	17.30	24,938,253	3.58	17.3
20.00 – 25.00	9,724,341	3.83	24.57	9,724,341	3.83	24.57
25.00 – 30.00	11,482,665	3.28	25.18	11,482,665	3.28	25.18
	85,193,177			69,477,145		

As at 31 December 2014, the aggregate intrinsic values of options outstanding and exercisable are EUR 68 million (2013: EUR 82 million; 2012: EUR 44 million) and EUR 68 million (2013: EUR 82 million; 2012: EUR 44 million), respectively.

As at 31 December 2014, total unrecognised compensation costs related to stock options amounted to nil (2013: nil; 2012: EUR 3 million). Cash received from stock option exercises for the year ended 31 December 2014 is EUR 24 million (2013: EUR 22 million; 2012: EUR 8 million).

The fair value of options granted is recognised as an expense under staff expenses and is allocated over the vesting period of the options. The fair values of the option awards have been determined using a Monte Carlo simulation. This model takes the risk free interest rate into account (2.0% to 4.6%), as well as the expected life of the options granted (5 to 9 years), the exercise price, the current share price (EUR 2.90 – EUR 26.05), the expected volatility of the certificates of ING Groep N.V. shares (25% – 84%) and the expected dividend yield (0.94% to 8.99%). The source for implied volatilities used for the valuation of the stock options is ING's trading system. The implied volatilities in this system are determined by ING's traders and are based on market data implied volatilities not on historical volatilities.

Changes in share awards

	Share awards (in numbers)			Weighted average grant date fair value (in euros)		
	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012
Opening balance	25,059,992	49,416,632	48,022,886	7.23	7.78	7.90
Granted	7,020,958	10,957,213	20,446,336	9.78	5.80	6.53
Performance effect	1,003,576	788,196	-1,274,485	6.02	10.25	9.41
Vested	-19,444,374	-33,757,098	-15,530,788	8.01	7.61	6.29
Forfeited	-933,888	-2,344,951	-2,247,317	6.83	7.80	8.23
Closing balance	12,706,264	25,059,992	49,416,632	7.37	7.23	7.78

In July 2014, 2.8 million share awards of ING Group were converted in NN Group share awards, these are presented in the line Vested.

As at 31 December 2014 the share awards consists of 11,282,373 share awards (2013: 21,993,875; 2012: 43,632,814) relating to equity-settled share-based payment arrangements and 1,423,891 share awards (2013: 3,066,117; 2012: 5,783,818) relating to cash-settled share-based payment arrangements.

The fair value of share awards granted is recognised as an expense under staff expenses and is allocated over the vesting period of the share awards. The fair values of share awards containing a market based performance condition have been determined using a Monte Carlo simulation based valuation model. The model takes into account the risk free interest rate, the current stock prices, expected volatilities and current dividend yields of the performance peer group used to determine ING's Total Shareholder Return (TSR) ranking.

As at 31 December 2014 total unrecognised compensation costs related to share awards amount to EUR 31 million (2013: EUR 53 million; 2012: EUR 102 million). These costs are expected to be recognised over a weighted average period of 1.3 years (2013: 1.5 years; 2012: 1.2 years)

32 Other operating expenses

Other operating expenses

	Banking operations			Legacy Insurance			Total		
	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012
Depreciation of property and equipment	326	345	361				326	345	361
Amortisation of software	237	234	214				237	234	214
Computer costs	705	695	725				705	695	725
Office expenses	620	649	713				620	649	713
Travel and accommodation expenses	140	146	157				140	146	157
Advertising and public relations	405	404	496				405	404	496
External advisory fees	230	223	255				230	223	255
Postal charges	59	79	80				59	79	80
Addition/(releases) of provision for reorganisations and relocations	469	222	458				469	222	458
Other	1,171	763	1,257	21	18	22	1,192	781	1,279
	4,362	3,760	4,716	21	18	22	4,383	3,778	4,738

Other operating expenses include lease and sublease payments in respect of operating leases of EUR 239 million (2013: EUR 206 million; 2012: EUR 234 million) in which ING Group is the lessee. No individual operating lease has terms and conditions that significantly affect the amount, timing and certainty of the consolidated cash flows of the Group.

For Addition/(releases) of provision for reorganisations and relocations reference is made to the disclosure on the reorganisation provision in Note 22 'Other liabilities'.

The External advisory fees include fees for audit services and non-audit services provided by the Group's auditors.

In 2014, Other operating expenses – Other include EUR 304 million related to the SNS Reaal one-time levy, and includes EUR 138 million (2013: EUR 149 million) related to the Netherlands bank tax.

In 2012, Other operating expenses – Other included the settlement with US authorities of EUR 473 million and the Netherlands bank tax of EUR 175 million.

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Fees of Group's auditors ⁽¹⁾

	2014	2013	2012
Audit fees	16	16	17
Audit related fees	1	1	5
Tax fees	1	2	3
Total	18	19	25

(1) These figures exclude Group's auditors fees for entities presented as held for sale and discontinued operations. Total Group's auditors fees for 2014 amounted to EUR 32 million (2013: EUR 40 million; 2012: EUR 52 million).

Fees as disclosed above relate to the network of the Group's auditors and are the amounts related to the respective years, i.e. on an accrual basis.

33 Discontinued operations

In 2014, Net result from discontinued operations mainly includes results from the NN Group and Voya. In 2013, Net result from discontinued operations mainly included the results of NN Group, including the results of ING's Insurance and investment management businesses in Asia and Voya. In light of ING's intention to divest its remaining interests over time, NN Group and the Voya available-for-sale investment are classified as held for sale and discontinued operations in 2014.

Total net result from discontinued operations

	2014	2013	2012
NN Group	608	497	448
Voya	138	208	553
Net result from discontinued operations	746	705	1,001
Net result from classification as discontinued operations NN Group	-470	-42	-394
Net result from disposal of discontinued operations ⁽¹⁾	-1,572	17	752
Total net result from discontinued operations	-1,296	680	1,359

(1) The tax effect on the result on disposal of discontinued operations in 2014 is EUR 114 million (2013: nil; 2012: nil).

Net result from discontinued operations

In 2014, 2013 and 2012, Net result from discontinued operations includes the total net result (after tax) of the businesses classified as discontinued operations and is presented separately in the profit and loss account. Net result from discontinued operations was as follows:

Net result from discontinued operations – NN Group and Voya

	2014	2013	2012
Total income	14,359	28,057	34,894
Total expenses	13,456	27,300	33,811
Result before tax from discontinued operations	903	757	1,083
Taxation	157	52	82
Net result from discontinued operations	746	705	1,001

Net result from classification as discontinued operations

In 2014, goodwill and certain other non-current non-financial assets of EUR 103 million and EUR 367 million respectively were written-off as the sale of NN Group is expected to be sold below the carrying value. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale'.

In 2013, Net result from classification as discontinued operations Asia included a goodwill write-off of EUR 42 million in IIM Taiwan.

In 2012, Net result from classification as discontinued operations Asia included goodwill write-offs of EUR 200 million in ING Life Korea, EUR 180 million in Investment Management Korea and EUR 15 million in ING Vysya Life Insurance.

Net result from disposal of discontinued operations

In 2014, Net result from disposal of discontinued operations mainly includes the total net divestment loss of EUR -1,546 million on the further sale of Voya in the first (EUR -2,005 million), third (EUR 40 million) and fourth quarter of 2014 (EUR 418 million). Reference is made to Note 57 'Other events'.

In 2013, Net result from disposal of discontinued operations included mainly the tax exempt divestment gain on the sale of the

Insurance businesses in Hong Kong, Macau and Thailand of EUR 945 million and the divestment loss of EUR 989 million on the sale of ING Life Korea.

In 2012, Net result from disposal of discontinued operations included the tax exempt divestment gain of EUR 745 million on the sale of the Insurance businesses in Malaysia.

Reference is made to Note 52 'Companies and businesses acquired and divested'.

Cash flows from discontinued operations

The net cash flow from discontinued operations was as follows:

Net result from discontinued operations – NN Group and Voya			
	2014	2013	2012
Operating cash flow	-4,006	-7,906	3,486
Investing cash flow	1,295	11,110	-2,881
Financing cash flow	3,834	-1,780	-2,939
Net cash flow	1,123	1,424	-2,334

Sales proceeds of 2014 are not included in the table above, but are included in the Consolidated statement of cash flows as follows:

- › Sale of Voya shares which resulted in the loss of control in March 2014: EUR 950 million in 'Net cash flow from investing activities – Disposals and redemptions: group companies';
- › Reduction of interest in the Voya associate in September 2014 and November 2014: EUR 1,940 million in 'Net cash flow from investing activities – Disposals and redemptions: associates and joint ventures'; and
- › IPO of NN Group in 2014: EUR 1,747 million in 'Net cash flow from financing activities – Proceeds of IPO NN Group'

In 2013, sales proceeds in cash of EUR 1,422 million is presented in the consolidated statement of cash flows under 'Net cash flow from investment activities – Disposals and redemptions: group companies' and is not included in the table above.

Segments prior to classification as discontinued operations

NN Group

The activities of NN Group were previously included in the segments Netherlands Life, Netherlands Non-Life, Insurance Europe, Japan Life, Investment Management, Other and Japan Closed Block VA before they were classified as discontinued operations and held for sale in 2014. These segments ceased to exist, following the classification of NN Group as discontinued operations, as all activities previously included in these segments are now discontinued operations.

Voya

The activities of Voya were previously included in the segments Insurance United States (US), Investment Management US, Insurance US Closed Block VA and in the Corporate Line US before they were classified as discontinued operations and held for sale in 2013. These segments ceased to exist, following the classification of Voya as discontinued operations.

Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'.

34 Earnings per ordinary share

	Amount (in millions of euros)			Weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding during the period (in millions)			Per ordinary share (in euros)		
	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012
Net result	1,251	3,545	4,362	3,849.7	3,825.0	3,796.1			
Attribution to non-voting equity securities	-750	-526	-642						
Basic earnings	501	3,019	3,720	3,849.7	3,825.0	3,796.1	0.13	0.79	0.98
Effect of dilutive instruments:									
Stock option and share plans				6.3	8.5	6.3			
				6.3	8.5	6.3			
Diluted earnings	501	3,019	3,720	3,856.0	3,833.5	3,802.4	0.13	0.79	0.98

Attribution to non-voting equity securities

The attribution in 2014 includes the premium of EUR 750 million (2013: EUR 375 million; 2012: EUR 375 million) paid in relation to the repayment of the EUR 1,500 million (2013: EUR 750 million; 2012: EUR 750 million) non-voting equity securities.

In 2012 and 2013, the attribution to non-voting equity securities also represented the amount that would be payable on the non-voting equity securities if and when the entire net result for the period would be distributed as dividend. This amount was only included for

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the purpose of determining earnings per share under IFRS-EU and did not represent a payment (neither actual nor proposed) to the holders of the non-voting equity securities.

Dilutive instruments

Diluted earnings per share is calculated as if the stock options and share plans outstanding at the end of the period had been exercised at the beginning of the period and assuming that the cash received from exercised stock options and share plans is used to buy own shares against the average market price during the period. The net increase in the number of shares resulting from exercising stock options and share plans is added to the average number of shares used for the calculation of diluted earnings per share.

The potential conversion of the non-voting equity securities had an anti-dilutive effect on the earnings per share calculation in 2013 and 2012 (the diluted earnings per share becoming higher or less negative than the basic earnings per share). Therefore, the potential conversion was not taken into account in the calculation of diluted earnings per share for these years.

Reference is made to Note 56 'Transactions with the Dutch State and the European Commission Restructuring Plan'.

Earnings per ordinary share from continuing operations

	Amount (in millions of euros)			Weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding during the period (in millions)			Per ordinary share (in euros)		
	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012
Basic earnings	501	3,019	3,720	3,849.7	3,825.0	3,796.1			
Less: Net result from discontinued operations	-1,406	495	1,280						
Basic earnings from continuing operations	1,907	2,524	2,440	3,849.7	3,825.0	3,796.1	0.50	0.66	0.64
Effect of dilutive instruments:									
Stock option and share plans				6.3	8.5	6.3			
				6.3	8.5	6.3			
Diluted earnings from continuing operations	1,907	2,524	2,440	3,856.0	3,833.5	3,802.4	0.49	0.66	0.64

Earnings per ordinary share from discontinued operations

	Amount (in millions of euros)			Weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding during the period (in millions)			Per ordinary share (in euros)		
	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012
Net result from discontinued operations	478	520	922						
Net result from classification as discontinued operations	-320	-42	-394						
Net result from disposal of discontinued operations	-1,564	17	752						
Total net result from discontinued operations	-1,406	495	1,280	3,849.7	3,825.0	3,796.1			
Basic earnings from discontinued operations	-1,406	495	1,280	3,849.7	3,825.0	3,796.1	-0.37	0.13	0.34
Effect of dilutive instruments:									
Stock option and share plans				6.3	8.5	6.3			
				6.3	8.5	6.3			
Diluted earnings from discontinued operations	-1,406	495	1,280	3,856.0	3,833.5	3,802.4	-0.36	0.13	0.34

35 Dividend per ordinary share**Proposed dividend per ordinary share**

Per ordinary share (in euros)	2014
Total amount of dividend proposed	0.12 470

For 2014, the Executive Board, with the approval of the Supervisory Board, has proposed a cash dividend of EUR 0.12 per ordinary share of EUR 0.24. The dividend will be paid entirely in cash after ratification of the proposal by the General Meeting of Shareholders.

In 2013 and 2012 no dividend was declared, therefore the dividend per ordinary share was nil.

Notes to the consolidated statement of cash flows

36 Net cash flow from investing activities

Information on the impact of companies acquired or disposed is presented in Note 52 'Companies and businesses acquired and divested'.

37 Interest and dividend included in net cash flow

Interest and dividend received and paid			
	2014	2013	2012
Interest received	51,301	53,069	61,481
Interest paid	-38,001	-42,137	-48,793
	13,300	10,932	12,688
Dividend received	61	108	89

Interest received, interest paid and dividends received are included in operating activities in the cash flow statement.

38 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents			
	2014	2013	2012
Treasury bills and other eligible bills	677	574	518
Amounts due from/to banks	-2,036	1,015	4,633
Cash and balances with central banks	12,233	13,316	17,657
Cash and cash equivalents classified as Assets held for sale	6,239	2,275	1,342
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	17,113	17,180	24,150

Treasury bills and other eligible bills included in cash and cash equivalents			
	2014	2013	2012
Treasury bills and other eligible bills included in trading assets	457	489	79
Treasury bills and other eligible bills included in available-for-sale investments	220	85	439
	677	574	518

Amounts due to/from banks			
	2014	2013	2012
Included in cash and cash equivalents:			
– amounts due to banks	-11,825	-11,451	-12,147
– amounts due from banks	9,789	12,466	16,780
	-2,036	1,015	4,633
Not included in cash and cash equivalents:			
– amounts due to banks	-18,174	-15,749	-26,557
– amounts due from banks	27,330	30,530	22,273
	9,156	14,781	-4,284
Total as included in balance sheet:			
– amounts due to banks	-29,999	-27,200	-38,704
– amounts due from banks	37,119	42,996	39,053
	7,120	15,796	349

Cash and cash equivalents includes amounts due to/from banks with a term of less than three months from the date on which they were acquired.

ING Group's risk management (including liquidity) is explained in the 'Risk management' section.

Segment reporting

39 Segments

a. General

ING Group's segments are based on the internal reporting structure by lines of business.

The following table specifies the segment and the main sources of income of each of the segments:

Specification of the main sources of income of each of the segments	
Segment	Main source of income
Retail Netherlands	Income from retail and private banking activities in the Netherlands, including the SME and mid-corporate segments. The main products offered are current and savings accounts, business lending, mortgages and other consumer lending in the Netherlands.
Retail Belgium	Income from retail and private banking activities in Belgium, including the SME and mid-corporate segments. The main products offered are similar to those in the Netherlands.
Retail Germany	Income from retail and private banking activities in Germany. The main products offered are current and savings accounts, mortgages and other customer lending.
Retail Rest of World	Income from retail banking activities in the rest of the world, including the SME and mid-corporate segments in specific countries. The main products offered are similar to those in the Netherlands.
Commercial Banking	Income from wholesale banking activities (a full range of products is offered from cash management to corporate finance), real estate and lease.

The Executive Board of ING Group, the Management Board of ING Bank set the performance targets, approve and monitor the budgets prepared by the business lines. Business lines formulate strategic, commercial and financial policy in conformity with the strategy and performance targets set by the Executive Board of ING Group and the Management Board of ING Bank.

The accounting policies of the segments are the same as those described in Note 1 'Accounting policies'. Transfer prices for inter-segment transactions are set at arm's length. Corporate expenses are allocated to business lines based on time spent by head office personnel, the relative number of staff, or on the basis of income, expenses and/or assets of the segment.

As of 1 January 2014, certain changes were made with regard to the allocation of costs to the various Banking segments. These changes were made to reflect reporting changes with respect to funding costs and Dutch banking tax. ING has transferred the results of treasury activities within Commercial Banking to Corporate Line Banking to isolate the costs for replacing short-term with long-term funding, which mainly consists of negative interest results. Additionally, in order to allocate the Dutch Banking tax, these costs will be transferred from Corporate Line Banking to the relevant business lines from 2014 onwards. The comparatives were adjusted to reflect the new segment structure.

As of 30 September 2014, the Insurance segments (Netherlands Life, Netherlands Non-Life, Insurance Europe, Japan Life, Investment Management, Other and Japan Closed Block VA) ceased to exist, following the classification of NN Group as discontinued operations.

As of 30 September 2014, Legacy Insurance consists of the intercompany eliminations between ING Bank and NN Group, the results from Insurance Other and the results from discontinued operations. Insurance Other reflects (former) insurance related activities that are not part of the discontinued operations of NN Group or Voya. In 2014, Insurance Other includes mainly the fair value movements of the Voya warrants and the net result from the sale of the remaining investment in SulAmérica S.A. In 2013, Insurance Other included mainly the net result from ING's associate SulAmérica S.A., which was partly offset by certain expenses that were not allocated to the business units.

ING Group evaluates the results of its banking segments using a financial performance measure called underlying result. Underlying result was previously defined as result under IFRS-EU (continuing and discontinuing operations) excluding the impact of divestments, special items and total net result from discontinued operations. As of 30 September 2014, ING Group's 'Underlying result' was adjusted in order to better reflect the performance of the Total banking business. Therefore, the remaining legacy insurance activities (included in 'Insurance Other') as well as the intercompany eliminations between ING Bank and NN Group will no longer be included as part of ING Group's underlying result. The presentation of previously reported underlying profit and loss figures has been adjusted accordingly.

Special items include items of income or expense that are significant and arise from events or transactions that are clearly distinct from the ordinary operating activities. Disclosures on comparative periods also reflect the impact of current period's divestments.

Underlying result as presented below is a non-GAAP financial measure and is not a measure of financial performance under IFRS-EU. Because underlying result is not determined in accordance with IFRS-EU, underlying result as presented by ING may not be comparable to other similarly titled measures of performance of other companies. The underlying result of ING's segments is reconciled to the Net result as reported in the IFRS-EU Consolidated profit and loss account below. The information presented in this note is in line with the information presented to the Executive and Management Boards.

In addition to these segments, ING Group reconciles the total segment results to the total result of Banking using Corporate Line Banking. The Corporate Line Banking is a reflection of capital management activities and certain expenses that are not allocated to the banking businesses. ING Group applies a system of capital charging for its banking operations in order to create a comparable basis for the results of business units globally, irrespective of the business units' book equity and the currency they operate in.

This note does not provide information on the revenue specified to each product or service as this is not reported internally and is therefore not readily available.

b. ING Group**ING Group Total**

2014	Total Banking	Legacy Insurance	Total
Underlying income			
– Net interest result - banking operations	12,376		12,376
– Commission income	2,290		2,290
– Total investment and other income	630		630
Total underlying income	15,296		15,296
Underlying expenditure			
– Operating expenses	8,891		8,891
– Additions to loan loss provision	1,594		1,594
– Other impairments	88		88
Total underlying expenses	10,573		10,573
Underlying result before taxation	4,724		4,724
Taxation	1,221		1,221
Minority interests	79		79
Underlying net result	3,424		3,424
Divestments	202		202
Special items	-1,021		-1,021
Intercompany eliminations between ING Bank and NN Group		-55	-55
Insurance Other ⁽¹⁾		107	107
Net result IFRS-EU (continuing operations)	2,606	52	2,657
Total net result from discontinued operations NN Group		65	65
Total net result from discontinued operations Voya		-1,471	-1,471
Net result IFRS-EU (continuing and discontinued operations) attributable to equity holder of the parent	2,606	-1,354	1,251

(1) Insurance Other comprises mainly the net result relating to warrants on the shares of Voya Financial.

Reconciliation between Underlying and IFRS-EU income, expenses and net result

2014	Income	Expenses	Net result
Underlying	15,296	10,573	3,424
Divestments	202		202
Special items		1,259	-1,021
Intercompany eliminations between ING Bank and NN Group	-70		-55
Insurance Other	132	21	107
IFRS-EU (continuing operations)	15,560	11,853	2,657
Total net result from discontinued operations	12,901	13,926	-1,406
Net result IFRS-EU (continuing and discontinued operations) attributable to equity holder of the parent	28,461	25,779	1,251

Divestments in 2014 reflect the result on the deconsolidation of ING Vysya Bank following changes to the governance structure.

Special items in 2014 include the impact (after tax) of the charges for making the Dutch Defined Benefit pension fund financially independent, the levy related to the SNS Reaal nationalisation and additional charges related to the restructuring programmes in Retail Netherlands announced before 2013.

Reference is made to Note 33 'Discontinued operations' for information on discontinued operations.

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ING Group Total			
2013	Total Banking	Legacy Insurance	Total
Underlying income			
– Net interest result - banking operations	11,804		11,804
– Commission income	2,244		2,244
– Total investment and other income	1,257		1,257
Total underlying income	15,305		15,305
Underlying expenditure			
– Operating expenses	8,558		8,558
– Additions to loan loss provision	2,288		2,288
– Other impairments	136		136
Total underlying expenses	10,983		10,983
Underlying result before taxation	4,323		4,323
Taxation	1,078		1,078
Minority interests	90		90
Underlying net result	3,155		3,155
Divestments	–41		–41
Special items	–82		–82
Intercompany eliminations between ING Bank and NN Group		–97	–97
Insurance Other ⁽¹⁾		117	117
Net result IFRS-EU (continuing operations)	3,031	20	3,050
Total net result from discontinued operations NN Group		455	455
Total net result from discontinued operations Voya		40	40
Net result IFRS-EU (continuing and discontinued operations) attributable to equity holder of the parent	3,031	515	3,545

(1) Insurance Other comprises mainly the net result from ING's associate SulAmérica, partly offset by certain expenses that are not allocated to the business units.

Reconciliation between Underlying and IFRS-EU income, expenses and net result			
2013	Income	Expenses	Net result
Underlying	15,305	10,983	3,155
Divestments	–9	14	–41
Special items		109	–82
Intercompany eliminations between ING Bank and NN Group	–129		–97
Insurance Other	123	17	117
IFRS-EU (continuing operations)	15,290	11,123	3,050
Total net result from discontinued operations	28,074	27,342	495
Net result IFRS-EU (continuing and discontinued operations) attributable to equity holder of the parent	43,364	38,465	3,545

Divestments in 2013 included the sale of ING Direct UK.

Special items in 2013 was primarily related to the previously announced restructuring programmes in ING Bank which is partly offset by pension curtailments in the Netherlands.

Reference is made to Note 33 'Discontinued operations' for information on discontinued operations.

ING Group Total			
2012	Total Banking	Legacy Insurance	Total
Underlying income			
– Net interest result - banking operations	11,664		11,664
– Commission income	2,173		2,173
– Total investment and other income	477		477
Total underlying income	14,313		14,313
Underlying expenditure			
– Operating expenses	8,638		8,638
– Additions to loan loss provision	2,121		2,121
– Other impairments			
Total underlying expenses	10,759		10,759
Underlying result before taxation	3,554		3,554
Taxation	1,013		1,013
Minority interests	91		91
Underlying net result	2,450		2,450
Divestments	1,279		1,279
Special items	–595		–595
Intercompany eliminations between ING Bank and NN Group		–110	–110
Insurance Other ⁽¹⁾		56	56
Net result IFRS-EU (continuing operations)	3,134	–55	3,082
Total net result from discontinued operations NN Group		727	727
Total net result from discontinued operations Voya		553	553
Net result IFRS-EU (continuing and discontinued operations) attributable to equity holder of the parent	3,134	1,226	4,362

(1) Insurance Other comprises mainly the net result from ING's associate SulAmérica, partly offset by certain expenses that are not allocated to the business units.

Reconciliation between Underlying and IFRS-EU income, expenses and net result			
2012	Income	Expenses	Net result
Underlying	14,313	10,759	2,450
Divestments	1,793	245	1,279
Special items	–4	751	–595
Intercompany eliminations between ING Bank and NN Group	–147		–110
Insurance Other	55	12	56
IFRS-EU (continuing operations)	16,010	11,769	3,082
Total net result from discontinued operations	35,646	34,205	1,280
Net result IFRS-EU (continuing and discontinued operations) attributable to equity holder of the parent	51,656	45,972	4,362

Divestments in 2012 included the gain on the sale of ING Direct Canada of EUR 1,135 million, the gain on the sale of ING Direct USA of EUR 489 million and the loss of EUR 260 million related to the sale of ING Direct UK.

Special items in 2012 included costs mainly related to the strategic reorganisation measures taken in Retail Netherlands, Commercial Banking, the separation and costs related to the final settlement with US authorities concerning transactions subject to sanctions by the US of EUR 386 million, which was partly offset by a pension curtailment of EUR 251 million following the new Dutch employee pension scheme announced in 2012.

Reference is made to Note 33 'Discontinued operations' for information on discontinued operations.

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c. Banking activities

Segments Banking							
2014	Retail Netherlands	Retail Belgium	Retail Germany	Retail Rest of World	Commercial Banking	Corporate Line Banking	Total Banking
Underlying income							
– Net interest result	3,818	1,974	1,519	1,792	3,473	–201	12,376
– Commission income	469	377	143	344	960	–2	2,290
– Total investment and other income	–36	139	–41	188	494	–113	630
Total underlying income	4,250	2,490	1,621	2,324	4,927	–316	15,296
Underlying expenditure							
– Operating expenses	2,621	1,502	774	1,499	2,393	102	8,891
– Additions to loan loss provision	714	142	72	165	500		1,594
– Other impairments ⁽¹⁾	27	2		9	37	14	88
Total underlying expenses	3,362	1,646	846	1,673	2,930	116	10,573
Underlying result before taxation	888	844	775	651	1,997	–431	4,724
Taxation	231	243	250	142	458	–103	1,221
Minority interests		1	1	51	26		79
Underlying net result	657	600	524	458	1,513	–328	3,424
Divestments				202			202
Special items	–63					–957	–1,021
Net result (continuing operations)	594	600	524	660	1,513	–1,286	2,606

(1) Analysed as a part of operating expenses.

Segments Banking							
2013	Retail Netherlands	Retail Belgium	Retail Germany	Retail Rest of World	Commercial Banking	Corporate Line Banking	Total Banking
Underlying income							
– Net interest result	3,574	1,817	1,314	1,778	3,292	30	11,804
– Commission income	463	346	114	361	964	–3	2,244
– Total investment and other income	42	158	–39	235	1,156	–294	1,257
Total underlying income	4,079	2,321	1,388	2,374	5,412	–269	15,305
Underlying expenditure							
– Operating expenses	2,344	1,471	709	1,628	2,308	98	8,558
– Additions to loan loss provision	877	183	82	280	867		2,288
– Other impairments ⁽¹⁾	24	5		2	78	27	136
Total underlying expenses	3,245	1,659	791	1,911	3,252	125	10,982
Underlying result before taxation	834	663	598	464	2,160	–395	4,323
Taxation	221	196	188	111	520	–157	1,078
Minority interests		–4	1	66	27		90
Underlying net result	613	470	409	287	1,613	–238	3,155
Divestments				–41			–41
Special items	–107					25	–82
Net result (continuing operations)	506	470	409	245	1,613	–213	3,031

(1) Analysed as a part of operating expenses.

Segments Banking

2012	Retail Netherlands	Retail Belgium	Retail Germany	Retail Rest of World	Commercial Banking	Corporate Line Banking	Total Banking
Underlying income							
– Net interest result	3,377	1,723	1,141	1,740	3,655	27	11,664
– Commission income	485	335	87	339	907	19	2,173
– Total investment and other income	34	136	–36	–273	637	–23	477
Total underlying income	3,897	2,194	1,193	1,807	5,200	23	14,313
Underlying expenditure							
– Operating expenses	2,280	1,419	669	1,626	2,299	133	8,427
– Additions to loan loss provision	665	168	83	250	955		2,121
– Other impairments ⁽¹⁾	13	6			162	29	211
Total underlying expenses	2,958	1,593	752	1,877	3,416	162	10,759
Underlying result before taxation	939	601	441	–70	1,784	–140	3,554
Taxation	244	168	161	33	491	–84	1,013
Minority interests			1	66	23		91
Underlying net result	695	433	278	–169	1,269	–56	2,450
Divestments				1,278			1,278
Special items	–284	–22			–129	–160	–595
Net result (continuing operations)	411	411	278	1,109	1,140	–216	3,134

(1) Analysed as a part of operating expenses.

d. Other information by segment

Interest income and interest expenses breakdown by segments Banking

2014	Retail Netherlands	Retail Belgium	Retail Germany	Retail Rest of World	Commercial Banking	Corporate Line Banking	Total Banking
Interest income	7,496	2,444	3,597	4,059	29,227	2,115	48,937
Interest expense	1,186	661	2,269	2,340	25,988	4,118	36,562
	6,310	1,783	1,328	1,719	3,239	–2,003	12,376

Total interest income and interest expenses

2014	Total Banking	Eliminations ⁽¹⁾	Total external
Interest income	48,937	–774	48,163
Interest expense	36,562	–703	35,859
	12,376	–71	12,304

(1) Eliminations with discontinued operations.

Interest income and interest expenses breakdown by segments Banking

2013	Retail Netherlands	Retail Belgium	Retail Germany	Retail Rest of World	Commercial Banking	Corporate Line Banking	Total Banking
Interest income	7,526	2,575	3,640	5,030	30,736	2,998	52,505
Interest expense	1,568	781	2,489	3,284	28,155	4,440	40,717
	5,958	1,794	1,151	1,746	2,581	–1,442	11,788

Total interest income and interest expenses

2013	Total Banking	Eliminations	Total external
Interest income	52,505	–1,111	51,394
Interest expense	40,717	–1,024	39,693
	11,788	–87	11,701

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Notes to the consolidated annual accounts of ING Group continued

Interest income and interest expenses breakdown by segments Banking

2012	Retail Netherlands	Retail Belgium	Retail Germany	Retail Rest of World	Commercial Banking	Corporate Line Banking	Total Banking
Interest income	7,986	2,684	3,738	6,976	36,922	2,991	61,297
Interest expense	1,952	997	2,676	4,996	34,047	4,661	49,329
	6,034	1,687	1,062	1,980	2,875	-1,670	11,968

Total interest income and interest expenses

2012	Total Banking	Eliminations	Total external
Interest income	61,297	-1,294	60,003
Interest expense	49,329	-1,210	48,119
	11,968	-84	11,884

IFRS-EU balance sheets by segment are not reported internally to, and not managed by, the chief operating decision maker.

40 Information on geographical areas

ING Group's business lines operate in seven main geographical areas: the Netherlands, Belgium, Rest of Europe, North America, Latin America, Asia and Australia. The Netherlands is ING Group's country of domicile. Geographical distribution of income is based on the origin of revenue. A geographical area is a distinguishable component of the Group engaged in providing products or services within a particular economic environment that is subject to risks and returns that are different from those of segments operating in other economic environments. The geographical analyses are based on the location of the office from which the transactions are originated.

Geographical areas

2014	Netherlands	Belgium	Rest of Europe	North America	Latin America	Asia	Australia	Other	Eliminations	Total
Total income	4,786	3,191	5,623	531	45	634	512	241	-2	15,560
Total assets	664,365	177,712	373,608	60,243	1,342	73,146	35,607	738	-393,905	992,856

Geographical areas

2013	Netherlands	Belgium	Rest of Europe	North America	Latin America	Asia	Australia	Other	Eliminations	Total
Total income	4,788	3,297	5,287	575	60	836	449		-1	15,290
Total assets	604,923	160,859	342,866	212,127	1,966	70,719	34,420	425	-346,988	1,081,317

Geographical areas

2012	Netherlands	Belgium	Rest of Europe	North America	Latin America	Asia	Australia	Other	Eliminations	Total
Total income	6,651	3,020	4,047	1,007	64	766	453		2	16,010
Total assets	684,600	180,337	344,866	214,152	2,051	79,323	41,734	27,429	-409,938	1,164,554

Additional notes to the consolidated annual accounts

41 Pension and other post-employment benefits

In 2014, ING reached final agreement with the trade unions, the ING Pension Fund, the Central Works Council and the Association of Retired ING Employees (VSI) to settle all future funding and indexation obligations under ING's current closed defined benefit plan in the Netherlands to the Dutch ING Pension Fund. The agreement made the ING Pension Fund financially independent from ING.

The key elements of the agreement are:

- › Responsibility for future indexation and funding thereof is transferred to the Dutch ING Pension Fund;
- › ING's obligation to restore the coverage ratio of the Dutch ING Pension Fund ceased;
- › The cross guarantees between ING Bank and NN Group to jointly and severally fund the obligations of the Dutch ING Pension Fund are terminated;
- › ING paid EUR 549 million (before tax) to the Dutch ING Pension Fund for the removal of these obligations; and
- › ING will reduce the employees' own contribution to the pension premium under the new defined contribution plan by approximately EUR 80 million over a 6 year period.

As part of the agreement, ING Bank and NN Group are released from all financial obligations arising out of the Dutch defined benefit plan. Accordingly, this plan is no longer accounted for as a defined benefit plan and, consequently, it has been removed from ING's balance sheet in 2014. The removal of the net pension asset related to the Dutch defined benefit pension fund from ING's balance sheet of EUR 770 million (EUR 578 million after tax), the payment to the Dutch ING Pension Fund of EUR 549 million (EUR 412 million after tax), the compensation for lower employee contribution of EUR 80 million (EUR 60 million after tax) and other impacts resulted in a charge of EUR 1,413 million (EUR 1,059 million after tax). EUR 871 million (EUR 653 million after tax) of this charge is allocated to ING Bank and EUR 542 million (EUR 406 million after tax) is allocated to NN Group and included in Net result from discontinued operations.

Balance sheet - Net defined benefit asset/liability

Summary of net defined benefit asset/liability		
	2014	2013
Fair value of plan assets	2,703	21,621
Defined benefit obligation	2,790	20,951
Funded status (Net defined benefit asset/(liability))	-87	670
Presented as:		
- Other assets	589	1,006
- Other liabilities	-676	-336
	-87	670

ING Group maintains defined benefit retirement plans in some countries. These plans provide benefits that are related to the remuneration and service of employees upon retirement. The benefits in some of these plans are subject to various forms of indexation. The indexation is, in some cases, at the discretion of management; in other cases it is dependent upon the sufficiency of plan assets.

Annual contributions are paid to the funds at a rate necessary to adequately finance the accrued liabilities of the plans calculated in accordance with local legal requirements. Plans in all countries comply with applicable local regulations governing investments and funding levels.

ING Group provides other post-employment employee benefits to certain employees and former employees. These are primarily post-employment healthcare benefits and discounts on ING products provided to employees and former employees.

The most recent (actuarial) valuations of the plan assets and the present value of the defined benefit obligation were carried out as at 31 December 2014. The present value of the defined benefit obligation, and the related current service cost and past service cost, were determined using the projected unit credit method.

Changes in the fair value of plan assets for the period were as follows:

Changes in fair value of plan assets

	Fair value of plan assets	
	2014	2013
Opening balance	21,621	22,576
Interest income	203	824
Remeasurements: Return on plan assets excluding amounts included in interest income	1,201	-1,020
Employer's contribution	861	1,088
Participants contributions	6	10
Benefits paid	-197	-586
Effect of curtailment or settlement	-21,050	-97
Exchange rate differences	120	-50
Changes in the composition of the group and other changes	-62	-1,124
Closing balance	2,703	21,621

2014 - Effect of curtailment or settlement

In 2014, EUR 20,403 million is recognised in Effect of curtailment or settlement related to the Dutch defined benefit plan settlement as a result of the agreement that made the ING Pension Fund financially independent from ING.

Changes in composition of the group and other changes

In 2014, Changes in the composition of the group and other changes include EUR -47 million as a result of the deconsolidation of ING Vysya and EUR -22 million as a result of the classification of NN Group as held for sale. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'.

In 2013, Changes in the composition of the group and other changes included EUR -1,123 million as a result of the classification of Voya as held for sale and nil as a result of the classification to continuing operations of ING Japan. Reference is made to Note 57 'Other events'.

Other

The actual return on the plan assets amounts to EUR 1,410 million (2013: EUR -302 million).

No plan assets are expected to be returned to ING Group during 2015.

Changes in the present value of the defined benefit obligation and other post-employment benefits for the period was as follows:

Changes in defined benefit obligation and other post-employment benefits

	Defined benefit obligation		Other post-employment benefits	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
Opening balance	20,951	21,779	137	190
Current service cost	39	358	-6	-25
Interest cost	206	781	3	2
Remeasurements: Actuarial gains and losses arising from changes in demographic assumptions	4	-10	6	
Remeasurements: Actuarial gains and losses arising from changes in financial assumptions	1,595	243		
Participants' contributions	1			
Benefits paid	-204	-591	-2	
Past service cost	-12	3		
Effect of curtailment or settlement	-19,725	-138		-1
Exchange rate differences	103	-56	4	-2
Changes in the composition of the group and other changes	-168	-1,418	-41	-27
Closing balance	2,790	20,951	101	137

2014 - Effect of curtailment or settlement

In 2014, EUR 19,079 million is recognised in Effect of curtailment or settlement related to the Dutch defined benefit plan settlement as a result of the agreement that made the ING Pension Fund financially independent from ING.

In 2013, the Effect of curtailment or settlement included the curtailments of two minor pension plans in the Netherlands. These plans were closed for new pension rights and are replaced by defined contribution schemes.

Changes in composition of the group and other changes

In 2014, Changes in the composition of the group and other changes of the Defined benefit obligation include EUR -53 million related to the deconsolidation of ING Vysya and include EUR -119 million related to the classification of NN Group as held for sale. Changes in the composition of the group and other changes of Other post-employment benefits include EUR -41 million as a result of the classification of NN Group as held for sale. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'.

In 2013, Changes in the composition of the group and other changes included EUR -1,494 million as a result of the classification of Voya as held for sale and EUR 45 million as a result of the classification to continuing operations of ING Japan. Reference is made to Note 57 'Other events'.

Amounts recognised directly in Other comprehensive income (equity) were as follows:

Changes in the net defined benefit assets/liability remeasurement reserve		
	2014	2013
Opening balance	-3,802	-2,860
Remeasurement of plan assets	1,207	-885
Actuarial gains and losses arising from changes in demographic assumptions	-4	21
Actuarial gains and losses arising from changes in financial assumptions	-1,682	-208
Transfer to Other reserves	27	
Taxation	163	125
Total Other comprehensive income movement for the year	-289	-947
Transfer to Other reserves (pension settlement)	3,434	5
Changes in the composition of the group and other changes	142	
Closing balance	-515	-3,802

The amount of the remeasurement of the net defined benefit asset/liability in 2014 was mainly a result of the change in the high quality corporate bond rate. The weighted average discount rate as at 31 December 2014 was 2.5% (31 December 2013: 3.7%). The change in this rate impacts both the Remeasurement of plan assets and Actuarial gains and losses arising from changes in financial assumptions.

In 2014, EUR 3,279 million is recognised in Transfer to Other reserves (pension settlement) related to the Dutch defined benefit plan settlement.

In 2014, Changes in composition of the group and other changes includes EUR 143 million as a result of deconsolidation of Voya and nil as a result of classification of NN Group as held for sale. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'.

The accumulated amount of remeasurements recognised directly in Other comprehensive income (equity) is EUR 753 million (EUR 515 million after tax) as at 31 December 2014 (2013: EUR -5,113 million, EUR -3,802 million after tax).

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Information on plan assets and defined benefit obligation per country

The defined benefit obligation per country and the plan assets per country can be specified as follows:

Plan assets and defined benefit obligation per country				
	Plan assets		Defined benefit obligation	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
The Netherlands		19,329	243	18,664
United States	132	101	218	145
United Kingdom	1,822	1,391	1,236	1,055
Belgium	614	607	811	740
Other countries	135	193	282	347
	2,703	21,621	2,790	20,951

As at 31 December 2014 the various defined benefit plans did not hold any investments in ING Groep N.V. (2013: nil)

The defined benefit plans in the United Kingdom and Belgium are not considered to be significant. Therefore, no more detailed information is disclosed.

Determination of the net defined benefit asset/liability

The table provides the key assumptions used in the determination of the Net defined benefit asset/liability and the Other post-employment benefits.

Weighted averages of basic actuarial assumptions in annual % as at 31 December				
	Net defined benefit asset/liability		Other post-employment benefits	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
Discount rates	2.50	3.70	2.30	2.90
Mortality rates	0.90	0.80	1.10	0.80
Expected rates of salary increases (excluding promotion increases)	3.10	2.10		2.00
Indexation	2.50	2.00	2.00	2.00

The assumptions above are weighted by defined benefit obligations. The rates used for salary developments, interest discount factors and other adjustments reflect country-specific conditions.

The discount rate is the weighted average of the discount rates that are applied in different regions where the Group has defined benefit pension plans. The discount rate is based on a methodology that uses market yields on high quality corporate bonds of the specific regions with durations matching the pension liabilities as key input. Market yields of high quality corporate bonds reflect the yield on corporate bonds with an AA rating for durations where such yields are available. An extrapolation is applied in order to determine the yield to the longer durations for which no AA-rated corporate bonds are available. As a result of the limited availability of long-duration AA-rated corporate bonds, extrapolation is an important element of the determination of the discount rate.

The discount rate is approximately 2.5% on 31 December 2014 (2013: 3.7%). The discount rate used by ING is based on AA-rated corporate bonds. Discussions were ongoing, both in the industry and at the IASB, on the definition of the discount rate for defined benefit pension liabilities and ING would reconsider the methodology for setting the discount rate if and when appropriate. During 2013, ING further refined its methodology to extrapolate the observable AA-rated corporate bond rates to the full duration of the defined benefit pension liability. The refined methodology and the resulting discount rate are more in line with observed market practices. The impact of the refinement of the extrapolation was an increase in the defined benefit obligation as at 31 December 2013 of approximately EUR 3.2 billion (EUR 2.4 billion after tax); this impact was recognised in Other comprehensive income (equity) in 2013.

As at 31 December 2014, the actuarial assumption for Indexation for inflation is 2.5% (2013: 2.0%). The percentage for 2014 is mainly based on the expected inflation and the best estimate assumption for future indexation in the pension plans in the United Kingdom, Belgium and the Netherlands (before 2014 the percentage was based on the plan in the Netherlands). The best estimate assumption for future indexation was amended in 2013 to reflect the outcome of the arbitration in respect of the 2013 indexation as disclosed in Note 51 'Legal proceedings'.

Sensitivity analysis of key assumptions

The sensitivity analysis of the most significant assumptions has been determined based on changes of the assumptions occurring at the end of the reporting period that are deemed reasonably possible.

The table discloses the financial impact on the defined benefit obligation if the weighted averages of each significant actuarial assumption would increase or decrease if all other assumptions were held constant. In practice, this is unlikely to occur, and some changes of the assumptions may be correlated.

Sensitivity analysis – financial impact of changes in significant actuarial assumptions on the defined benefit obligation

	Financial impact of increase		Financial impact of decrease	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
Discount rates – increase/decrease of 1%	-403	-1,207	500	1,334
Mortality – increase/decrease of 1 year	93	669	-93	-676
Expected rates of salary increases (excluding promotion increases) – increase/decrease of 0.25%	29	188	-27	-173
Indexation – increase/decrease 0.25%	93	871	-84	-821

Expected cash flows

Annual contributions are paid to the funds at a rate necessary to adequately finance the accrued liabilities of the plans calculated in accordance with local legal requirements. Plans in all countries comply with applicable local regulations governing investments and funding levels. ING Group's subsidiaries should fund the cost of the entitlements expected to be earned on a yearly basis.

For 2015 the expected contributions to pension plans are EUR 41 million.

The following benefit payments, which reflect expected future service as appropriate, are expected to be made by the plan:

Benefit payments

	Defined benefit obligation	Other post-employment benefits
2015	85	8
2016	92	8
2017	103	9
2018	119	9
2019	114	9
Years 2020 – 2024	427	29

The average duration of the benefit obligation at the end of the reporting period is 17 years (2013: 20 years). This number can be subdivided into the duration related to:

- › active members: 12 years (2013: 26 years);
- › inactive members: 24 years (2013: 23 years); and
- › retired members: 13 years (2013: 11 years).

Profit and loss account – Pension and other staff-related benefit costs

Pension and other staff-related benefit costs

	Net defined benefit asset/liability			Other post-employment benefits			Other			Total		
	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012	2014	2012	
Current service cost	36	268	181	-6	-18	-2	20	-11	14	50	239	193
Past service cost	-3	3	-2					-16		-3	-13	-2
Net Interest cost	3	-41	-161	3	2	4	4	6	6	10	-33	-151
Effect of curtailment or settlement	871	-37	-335							871	-37	-335
Other							-12	13	-13	-12	13	-13
Defined benefit plans	907	193	-317	-3	-16	2	12	-8	7	916	169	-308
Defined contribution plans										302	62	68
										1,218	231	-240

Defined benefit plans

In 2014, a charge of EUR 871 million is recognised in Effect of curtailment or settlement related to the Dutch defined benefit plan settlement.

In 2012, ING reached final agreement on a new pension scheme for employees in the Netherlands. Two new separate pension funds were created, one for banking and one for NN Group. The new schemes took effect on 1 January 2014 and qualifies as a defined contribution scheme under IFRS-EU and replaced the existing defined scheme in the Netherlands. As of the start of the new defined contribution plan, the defined benefit plan stopped accruing new pension benefits. Accruals built up under the defined benefit plan remain valid. The change to the new pension scheme represented a curtailment under IFRS-EU and resulted in a release of provisions previously taken by ING to cover estimated future liabilities in the existing defined benefit plan which are no longer required. This release amounted to a one-off after tax gain of EUR 251 million (EUR 335 million before tax) and was recognised in 2012.

Defined contribution plans

The increase in Pension costs for Defined contribution plans in 2014 is as a result of the new defined contribution pension scheme for employees in the Netherlands which took effect on 1 January 2014.

Certain group companies sponsor defined contribution pension plans. The assets of all ING Group's defined contribution plans are held in independently administered funds. Contributions are generally determined as a percentage of pay. These plans do not give rise to balance sheet provisions, other than relating to short-term timing differences included in other assets/liabilities.

Additional information on the closed defined benefit plan in the Netherlands in 2013

The largest plan in 2013 was a plan in the Netherlands (84% of total DBO in 2013). The defined benefit plan is administered by a separate fund (PFI) that is legally separated from ING Group. The board of the pension fund is required by law or by articles of association to act in the interest of the fund and of all relevant stakeholders in the scheme, i.e. active employees, inactive employees, retirees and the employer. The board of the pension fund is responsible for the investment policy with regard to the assets of the fund, including the asset-liability matching strategies of the plan. The primary financial objective of the closed defined benefit plan in the Netherlands (the plan) is to secure accumulated participant retirement benefits. From 1 January 2014 the plan is closed for new pension accruals and no premiums will be paid into the Plan.

Before 2014, the plan in the Netherlands typically exposed ING Group to risks such as: investment risk, interest rate risk and longevity risk. ING decided annually whether or not to grant a lump sum payment for indexation of the accrued pensions. When the coverage ratio (assets divided by liabilities) of the plan was lower than 105% at year-end, ING was required to pay the plan an additional contribution in order to increase the coverage ratio to 106.7%. When the coverage ratio of the plan was lower than 110% but higher than 105% at year-end, ING was required to pay the plan an additional lump sum contribution in accordance with a pre-defined formula. When the coverage ratio was higher than 140%, ING received a premium reduction in future periods.

In 2014, ING reached an agreement with the various stakeholders to transfer all future funding and indexation obligations under ING's current closed defined benefit plan in the Netherlands to the Dutch ING Pension Fund. The agreement made the Dutch ING Pension Fund financially independent. This agreement resulted in the removal of the net pension asset related to the Dutch defined benefit pension fund from ING Group's balance sheet in 2014.

Closed defined benefit plan in the Netherlands – Major categories of plan assets

	Fair value of plan assets					Total 2013
	Quoted price		Other		2014	
	2014	2013	2013	2014		
Investment portfolio of the pension fund						
Debt securities (fixed income investments)						
– Governments bonds		9,104				9,104
– Corporate bonds		1,406				1,406
– Other bonds (developing markets)		909				909
Total fixed income investments		11,419				11,419
Equity security investments						
– Equity securities in developed markets		3,488				3,488
– Equity securities in developing markets		1,019				1,019
Total equity security investments		4,507				4,507
Real estate investments						
– Listed		169				169
– Not listed				846		846
Total real estate investments		169		846		1,015
Alternative investments						
– Private equity				350		350
– Hedge funds				171		171
– Commodities						
Total alternative investments				521		521
Other assets and liabilities (including accrued interest)				257		257
Derivatives ⁽¹⁾		552				552
Cash and cash equivalents				442		442
Total Assets of the pension fund		–	16,647	–	2,066	–
						18,713

(1) Derivatives are presented net.

The table above relates to the defined benefit pension fund in the Netherlands that was closed for new pension rights as of 1 January 2014. The agreement reached to make the Dutch ING Pension Fund financially independent resulted in the removal of the plan assets related to the Dutch defined benefit pension fund from ING Group's balance sheet in 2014. As a result the major categories of plan assets for this plan are no longer disclosed above.

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42 Taxation

Balance sheet – Deferred tax

Deferred taxes are recognised on all temporary differences under the liability method using tax rates applicable in the jurisdictions in which ING Group is subject to taxation.

Changes in deferred tax

	Net liability (+) Net asset (-) 2013	Change through equity	Change through net result	Exchange rate differences	Changes in the composition of the group and other changes	Net liability (+) Net asset (-) 2014
Investments	1,382	1,719	314	-5	-2,346	1,064
Real estate investments	285		-2		-281	2
Financial assets and liabilities at fair value through profit and loss	-812		-315	12	3	-1,112
Deferred acquisition costs and VOBA	312		20	10	-342	
Depreciation	33		5	5	3	46
Insurance provisions	-1,369	-685	39	1	2,014	
Cash flow hedges	603	910		-5	-1,275	233
Pension and post-employment benefits	75	-137	-128	-7	-16	-213
Other provisions	-1	-1	28	-4	-64	-42
Receivables	-79		-201	-3	25	-258
Loans and advances to customers	-243	5	333		41	136
Unused tax losses carried forward	-637		-325	-9	641	-330
Other	69	-12	142	9	-19	189
	-382	1,799	-90	4	-1,616	-285
Presented in the balance sheet as:						
– deferred tax liabilities	998					860
– deferred tax assets	-1,380					-1,145
	-382					-285

In 2014, Changes in the composition of the group and other changes includes EUR -1,647 million as a result of the classification of NN Group as held for sale and EUR 61 million as a result of the deconsolidation of ING Vysya. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'.

Changes in deferred tax

	Net liability (+) Net asset (-) 2012	Change through equity	Change through net result	Exchange rate differences	Changes in the composition of the group and other changes	Net liability (+) Net asset (-) 2013
Investments	3,749	-1,960	-717	-17	327	1,382
Real estate investments	349		-22		-42	285
Financial assets and liabilities at fair value through profit and loss	-1,089		274	-3	6	-812
Deferred acquisition costs and VOBA	1,351	339	-332	-153	-893	312
Depreciation	39		-5	-2	1	33
Insurance provisions	-3,986	692	1,079	25	821	-1,369
Cash flow hedges	897	-309			15	603
Pension and post-employment benefits	-176	-230	197	8	276	75
Other provisions	-19		-6	10	14	-1
Receivables	-87		1	-1	8	-79
Loans and advances to customers	963	-10	-1,179	6	-23	-243
Unused tax losses carried forward	-1,453		823	9	-16	-637
Other	31	-51	149	24	-84	69
	569	-1,529	262	-94	410	-382
Presented in the balance sheet as:						
– deferred tax liabilities	2,813					998
– deferred tax assets	-2,244					-1,380
	569					-382

Changes through net result for Unused tax losses carried forward and Loans and advances to customers in 2013 related mainly to an intercompany transaction that resulted in taxable profit in 2013, but did not impact the consolidated result under IFRS.

In 2013, Changes in the composition of the group and other changes included EUR 158 million as a result of the classification of Voya as held for sale and EUR 551 million as a result of the classification to continuing operations of ING Japan. Reference is made to Note 57 'Other events'.

Deferred tax in connection with unused tax losses carried forward

	2014	2013
Total unused tax losses carried forward	2,456	3,725
Unused tax losses carried forward not recognised as a deferred tax asset	-1,127	-1,076
Unused tax losses carried forward recognised as a deferred tax asset	1,329	2,649
Average tax rate	24.8%	24.1%
Deferred tax asset	330	637

In 2014, the change in Total unused tax losses carried forward is mainly attributable due to the classification of NN Group as held for sale. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'.

The following tax losses carried forward and tax credits will expire as follows as at 31 December:

Total unused tax losses carried forward analysed by expiry terms

	No deferred tax asset recognised		Deferred tax asset recognised	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
Within 1 year		19		13
More than 1 year but less than 5 years	145	392	4	86
More than 5 years but less than 10 years	48	124		1,313
More than 10 years but less than 20 years	347	338	6	295
Unlimited	587	203	1,319	942
	1,127	1,076	1,329	2,649

Deferred tax assets are recognised for temporary deductible differences, for tax losses carried forward and unused tax credits only to the extent that realisation of the related tax benefit is probable.

Breakdown of certain net deferred tax asset positions by jurisdiction

	Banking operations		Insurance operations		Total
	2014	2013	2014	2013	
Netherlands	358				358
Great Britain		122			122
Belgium	1			39	1
Australia		2			2
Spain		46		55	101
France		65			65
Slovakia	2	3			2
Luxembourg	17	9			17
Italy	62	160			62
	440	407	-	94	440

The table above includes a breakdown of certain net deferred tax asset positions by jurisdiction for which the utilisation is dependent on future taxable profits whilst the related entities have incurred losses in either the current or the preceding year. In 2014, the aggregate amount for the most significant entities is EUR 440 million (2013: EUR 501 million).

In 2014, the Netherlands is included in the table above mainly due to the impact of the pension settlement and restructuring charges on the result. The three year medium term plan was used to substantiate the deferred tax assets in the Netherlands.

In 2014, the change in deferred tax assets for insurance operations is due to the classification of NN Group as held for sale. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'.

Recognition is based on the fact that it is probable that the entity will have taxable profits and/or can utilise tax planning opportunities before expiration of the deferred tax assets. Changes in circumstances in future periods may adversely impact the assessment of the recoverability. The uncertainty of the recoverability is taken into account in establishing the deferred tax assets.

As at 31 December 2014 and 31 December 2013, ING Group had no significant temporary differences associated with the parent company's investments in subsidiaries as any economic benefit from those investments will not be taxable at parent company level.

Profit and loss account – Taxation

	Netherlands			International			Total	
	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013
Current taxation	-58	-40	-90	1,099	1,032	1,066	1,041	992
Deferred taxation	-127	73	-34	57	-28	135	-70	45
	-185	33	-124	1,156	1,004	1,201	971	1,037

For the year 2014 the tax charge in the Netherlands decreased with EUR 218 million to negative EUR 185 million caused by lower results.

For the year 2013 the tax charge in the Netherlands increased with EUR 157 million to EUR 33 million caused by higher results in combination with less tax exempt income on divestments compared to 2012.

Reconciliation of the weighted average statutory income tax rate to ING Group's effective income tax rate			
	2014	2013	2012
Result before tax from continuing operations	3,707	4,167	4,241
Weighted average statutory tax rate	29.5%	29.0%	31.2%
Weighted average statutory tax amount	1,095	1,211	1,323
Participation exemption	-70	-29	-560
Other income not subject to tax	-169	-165	-131
Expenses not deductible for tax purposes	187	114	127
Impact on deferred tax from change in tax rates	-2		36
Deferred tax benefit from previously unrecognised amounts	38	-22	-23
Current tax benefit from previously unrecognised amounts	-58	-24	-37
Write-off/reversal of deferred tax assets	1	40	382
Adjustment to prior periods	-51	-88	-40
Effective tax amount	971	1,037	1,077
Effective tax rate	26.2%	24.9%	25.4%

The weighted average statutory tax rate in 2014 compared to 2013 does not differ significantly.

The weighted average statutory tax rate in 2013 is lower compared to 2012. This is mainly caused by changes in the composition of the profit before tax from continuing operations in 2013 compared to 2012. In 2013 more profits were taxable in countries with lower tax rates compared to 2012.

The effective tax rate in 2014 is lower than the weighted average statutory tax rate. This is mainly caused by non-taxable income, the recognition of tax benefits from previously unrecognised amounts and prior year adjustments which are only partly offset by non-deductible items.

The effective tax rate in 2013 was lower than the weighted average statutory tax rate. This was mainly caused by non-taxable income and prior year adjustments which are only partly offset by non-deductible expenses and write-off of deferred tax assets.

The effective tax rate in 2012 was lower than the weighted average statutory tax rate. This was mainly caused by non-taxable income, which was partly offset by non-deductible expenses and write-offs of deferred tax assets.

Tax exempt income (participation exemption) mainly includes non-taxable income on divestments, tax exempt share in result from associates and joint ventures and tax exempt gains on financial assets.

In 2012, tax exempt profit on divestments included mainly the results on the following transactions:

- › ING Direct Canada (transaction gain EUR 1,124 million); and
- › ING Direct USA (transaction gain EUR 743 million) and the related sale of shares in Capital One (transaction gain EUR 323 million).

Adjustment to prior periods in 2013 related to a true-up of tax positions. Adjustment to prior periods in 2012 related mainly to a tax settlement.

Equity – Other comprehensive income

Income tax related to components of other comprehensive income			
	2014	2013	2012
Remeasurement of the net defined benefit asset/liability	137	230	1,060
Unrealised revaluations property in own use			4
Unrealised revaluations available-for-sale investments and other	-1,719	1,841	-2,678
Realised gains/losses transferred to profit and loss (reclassifications from equity to profit and loss)	49	57	22
Changes in cash flow hedge reserve	-910	305	-227
Transfer to insurance liabilities/DAC		-879	911
Exchange rate differences and other	644	-25	-132
Total income tax related to components of other comprehensive income	-1,799	1,529	-1,040

43 Fair Value of Assets and Liabilities

Financial assets and liabilities

The following table presents the estimated fair values of ING Group's financial assets and liabilities. Certain balance sheet items are not included in the table, as they do not meet the definition of a financial asset or liability. The aggregation of the fair values presented below does not represent, and should not be construed as representing, the underlying value of ING Group.

	Estimated fair value		Balance sheet value	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
Financial assets				
Cash and balances with central banks	12,233	13,316	12,233	13,316
Amounts due from banks	37,220	43,157	37,119	42,996
Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss				
– trading assets	136,959	114,247	136,959	114,247
– investments for risk of policyholders		39,589		39,589
– non-trading derivatives	4,384	8,546	4,384	8,546
– designated as at fair value through profit and loss	2,756	2,790	2,756	2,790
Investments				
– available-for-sale	95,402	137,897	95,402	137,897
– held-to-maturity	2,277	3,153	2,239	3,098
Loans and advances to customers	529,191	540,924	517,478	531,655
Other assets ⁽¹⁾	11,537	17,676	11,537	17,676
	831,959	921,295	820,107	911,810
Financial liabilities				
Subordinated loans	7,373	6,861	6,861	6,889
Debt securities in issue	130,958	131,319	126,352	127,727
Other borrowed funds	11,297	13,830	11,297	13,706
Investment contracts for risk of company		849		810
Investment contracts for risk of policyholders		1,588		1,588
Amounts due to banks	30,684	27,675	29,999	27,200
Customer deposits and other funds on deposit	484,918	474,003	483,871	474,312
Financial liabilities at fair value through profit and loss				
– trading liabilities	97,091	73,491	97,091	73,491
– non-trading derivatives	6,040	11,155	6,040	11,155
– designated as at fair value through profit and loss	13,551	13,855	13,551	13,855
Other liabilities ⁽²⁾	13,067	17,280	13,067	17,279
	794,979	771,906	788,129	768,012

(1) Other assets do not include (deferred) tax assets, net defined benefit asset and property development and obtained from foreclosures.

(2) Other liabilities do not include (deferred) tax liabilities, net defined benefit liability, prepayments received under property under development, other provisions and other taxation and social security contributions.

The estimated fair values represent the price at which an orderly transaction to sell the financial asset or to transfer the financial liability would take place between market participants at the balance sheet date ('exit price'). The fair value of financial assets and liabilities is based on quoted market prices, where available. Such quoted market prices are primarily obtained from exchange prices for listed instruments. Where an exchange price is not available, market prices are obtained from independent vendors, brokers or market makers. Because substantial trading markets do not exist for all financial instruments, various techniques have been developed to estimate the approximate fair values of financial assets and liabilities that are not actively traded. These techniques are subjective

in nature and involve various assumptions about the relevant pricing factors, especially for inputs that are not readily available in the market (such as credit spreads for own-originated loans and advances to customers). Changes in these assumptions could significantly affect the estimated fair values. Consequently, the fair values presented may not be indicative of the net realisable value. In addition, the calculation of the estimated fair value is based on market conditions at a specific point in time and may not be indicative of future fair values. Where exposures of a group of financial assets and financial liabilities are managed on a net basis ING applies the IFRS exception that allows ING to measure the fair value of the group of financial assets and financial liabilities on the basis of the price that would be received to sell a net long position or settle a net short position.

To include credit risk in the fair valuation, ING applies both credit and debit valuation adjustments (CVA, DVA). Own issued debt and structured notes that are valued at fair value are adjusted for credit risk by means of a DVA. Additionally, derivatives valued at fair value are adjusted for credit risk by a CVA. The CVA is of a bilateral nature as both the credit risk on the counterparty as well as the credit risk on ING are included in the adjustment. All market data that is used in the determination of the CVA is based on market implied data.

Additionally, wrong-way risk (when exposure to a counterparty is increasing and the credit quality of that counterparty decreases) and right-way risk (when exposure to a counterparty is decreasing and the credit quality of that counterparty increases) are included in the adjustment. ING also applies CVA for pricing credit risk into new external trades with counterparties.

The following methods and assumptions were used by ING Group to estimate the fair value of the financial instruments:

Financial assets

Cash and balances with central banks

The carrying amount of cash approximates its fair value.

Amounts due from banks

The fair values of receivables from banks are generally based on quoted market prices or, if unquoted, on estimates based on discounting future cash flows using available market interest rates offered for receivables with similar characteristics, similar to Loans and advances to customers described below.

Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss and Investments

Derivatives

Derivatives contracts can either be exchange-traded or over the counter (OTC). The fair value of exchange-traded derivatives is determined using quoted market prices in an active market and those derivatives are classified in Level 1 of the fair value hierarchy. For those instruments not actively traded, fair values are estimated based on valuation techniques. OTC derivatives and derivatives trading in an inactive market are valued using valuation techniques because quoted market prices in an active market are not available for such instruments. The valuation techniques and inputs depend on the type of derivative and the nature of the underlying instruments. The principal techniques used to value these instruments are based on discounted cash flows, Black-Scholes option models and Monte Carlo simulation. These valuation models calculate the present value of expected future cash flows, based on 'no-arbitrage' principles. These models are commonly used in the financial industry. Inputs to valuation models are determined from observable market data where possible. Certain inputs may not be observable in the market directly, but can be determined from observable prices via valuation model calibration procedures. The inputs used include prices available from exchanges, dealers, brokers or providers of pricing, yield curves, credit spreads, default rates, recovery rates, dividend rates, volatility of underlying interest rates, equity prices and foreign currency exchange rates. These inputs are determined with reference to quoted prices, recently executed trades, independent market quotes and consensus data, where available.

Equity securities

The fair values of publicly traded equity securities are based on quoted market prices when available. Where no quoted market prices are available, fair value is determined based on quoted prices for similar securities or other valuation techniques.

The fair value of private equity is based on quoted market prices, if available. In the absence of quoted prices in an active market, fair value is estimated on the basis of an analysis of the investee's financial position and results, risk profile, prospects, price, earnings comparisons and revenue multiples and by reference to market valuations for similar entities quoted in an active market.

Debt securities

Fair values for debt securities are based on quoted market prices, where available. Quoted market prices may be obtained from an exchange, dealer, broker, industry group, pricing service or regulatory service. If quoted prices in an active market are not available, fair value is based on an analysis of available market inputs, which may include values obtained from one or more pricing services or by a valuation technique that discounts expected future cash flows using a market interest rate curves, referenced credit spreads, maturity of the investment and estimated prepayment rates where applicable.

Loans and receivables

Reference is made to Loans and advances to customers below.

Loans and advances to customers

For loans and advances that are repriced frequently and have had no significant changes in credit risk, carrying amounts represent a reasonable estimate of the fair value. The fair value of other loans is estimated by discounting expected future cash flows using a discount rate that reflects credit risk, liquidity and other current market conditions. The fair value of mortgage loans is estimated by taking into account prepayment behaviour. Loans with similar characteristics are aggregated for calculation purposes.

Other assets

The other assets are stated at their carrying value which is not significantly different from their fair value.

Financial liabilities**Subordinated loans**

The fair value of the subordinated loans is estimated using discounted cash flows based on interest rates and credit spreads that apply to similar instruments.

Investment contracts

For investment contracts for risk of the company the fair values have been estimated using a discounted cash flow approach based on interest rates currently being offered for similar contracts with maturities consistent with those remaining for the contracts being valued. For investment contracts for risk of policyholders the fair value generally equals the fair value of the underlying assets.

Amounts due to banks

The fair values of payables to banks are generally based on quoted market prices or, if not available, on estimates based on discounting future cash flows using available market interest rates and credit spreads for payables to banks with similar characteristics.

Customer deposits and other funds on deposit

The carrying values of customer deposits and other funds on deposit with no stated maturity approximate their fair values. The fair values of deposits with stated maturities have been estimated based on discounting future cash flows using the interest rates currently applicable to deposits of similar maturities.

Financial liabilities at fair value through profit and loss

The fair values of securities in the trading portfolio and other liabilities at fair value through profit and loss are based on quoted market prices, where available. For those securities not actively traded, fair values are estimated based on internal discounted cash flow valuation techniques using interest rates and credit spreads that apply to similar instruments. Reference is made to Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss above.

Debt securities in issue and other borrowed funds

The fair value of debt securities in issue and other borrowed funds is generally based on quoted market prices or, if not available, on estimated prices by discounting expected future cash flows using a current market interest rate and credit spreads applicable to the yield, credit quality and maturity.

Other liabilities

The other liabilities are stated at their carrying value which is not significantly different from their fair value.

Fair value hierarchy

ING Group has categorised its financial instruments that are either measured in the balance sheet at fair value or of which the fair value is disclosed, into a three level hierarchy based on the priority of the inputs to the valuation. The fair value hierarchy gives the highest priority to (unadjusted) quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities and the lowest priority to valuation techniques supported by unobservable inputs. An active market for the asset or liability is a market in which transactions for the asset or liability occur with sufficient frequency and volume to provide reliable pricing information on an ongoing basis. The fair value hierarchy consists of three levels, depending upon whether fair values were determined based on (unadjusted) quoted prices in an active market (Level 1), valuation techniques with observable inputs (Level 2) or valuation techniques that incorporate inputs which are unobservable and which have a more than insignificant impact on the fair value of the instrument (Level 3). Financial assets in Level 3 include for example illiquid debt securities, complex OTC and credit derivatives, certain complex loans (for which current market information about similar assets to use as observable, corroborated data for all significant inputs into a valuation model is not available) and asset backed securities for which there is no active market and a wide dispersion in quoted prices.

Observable inputs reflect market data obtained from independent sources. Unobservable inputs are inputs which are based on the Group's own assumptions about the factors that market participants would use in pricing an asset or liability, developed based on the best information available in the circumstances. Unobservable inputs may include volatility, correlation, spreads to discount rates, default rates and recovery rates, prepayment rates and certain credit spreads. Transfers into and transfers out of fair value hierarchy levels are recognised as of the date of the event or change in circumstances that caused the transfer.

Financial instruments at fair value

The fair values of the financial instruments were determined as follows:

Methods applied in determining fair values of financial assets and liabilities (carried at fair value)				
2014	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Financial Assets				
Trading assets	35,965	100,184	810	136,959
Non-trading derivatives		4,074	310	4,384
Financial assets designated as at fair value through profit and loss	346	2,320	90	2,756
Available-for-sale investments	89,101	5,728	573	95,402
	125,412	112,306	1,783	239,501
Financial liabilities				
Trading liabilities	11,204	84,890	997	97,091
Non-trading derivatives		6,024	16	6,040
Financial liabilities designated as at fair value through profit and loss	1,719	11,509	323	13,551
	12,923	102,423	1,336	116,682

Methods applied in determining fair values of financial assets and liabilities (carried at fair value)				
2013	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Financial Assets				
Trading assets	27,684	84,544	2,019	114,247
Investments for risk of policyholders	38,228	1,113	248	39,589
Non-trading derivatives	4	8,363	179	8,546
Financial assets designated as at fair value through profit and loss	571	2,021	198	2,790
Available-for-sale investments	111,273	23,473	3,151	137,897
	177,760	119,514	5,795	303,069
Financial liabilities				
Trading liabilities	10,967	61,419	1,105	73,491
Non-trading derivatives	118	11,037		11,155
Financial liabilities designated as at fair value through profit and loss	1,912	11,600	343	13,855
Investment contracts (for contracts at fair value)	1,588			1,588
	14,585	84,056	1,448	100,089

Level 1 – (Unadjusted) quoted prices in active markets

This category includes financial instruments whose fair value is determined directly by reference to published quotes in an active market that ING Group can access. A financial instrument is regarded as quoted in an active market if quoted prices are readily and regularly available from an exchange, dealer, broker, industry group, pricing service or regulatory agency, and those prices represent actual and regularly occurring market transactions with sufficient frequency and volume to provide pricing information on an ongoing basis.

Transfers out of Level 1 into Level 2 occur when ING Group establishes that markets are no longer active and therefore (unadjusted) quoted prices no longer provide reliable pricing information.

Level 2 – Valuation technique supported by observable inputs

This category includes financial instruments whose fair value is determined using a valuation technique (e.g. a model), where inputs in the model are taken from an active market or are observable. If certain inputs in the model are unobservable, the instrument is still classified in this category, provided that the impact of those unobservable inputs on the overall valuation is insignificant. Included in this category are items whose value is derived from quoted prices of similar instruments, but for which the prices are modified based on other market observable external data and items whose value is derived from quoted prices but for which there was insufficient evidence of an active market. This category also includes financial assets and liabilities whose fair value is determined by reference to price quotes but for which the market is considered inactive.

Level 3 – Valuation technique supported by unobservable inputs

This category includes financial instruments whose fair value is determined using a valuation technique (e.g. a model) for which more than an insignificant part of the inputs in terms of the overall valuation are not market observable. This category also includes financial assets and liabilities whose fair value is determined by reference to price quotes but for which the market is considered inactive. Level 3 Trading assets, Non-trading derivatives and Assets designated at fair value through profit and loss and Level 3 Financial liabilities at fair value through profit and loss include financial instruments with different characteristics and nature, which are valued on the basis of valuation techniques that feature one or more significant inputs that are unobservable. An instrument in its entirety is classified as Level 3 if a significant portion of the instrument's fair value is driven by unobservable inputs. Unobservable in this context means that there

is little or no current market data available from which the price at which an arm's length transaction would be likely to occur can be derived. More details on the determination of the fair value of these instruments is included above under 'Derivatives', 'Debt securities' and 'Loans and advances to customers'.

Recognition of unrealised gains and losses in Level 3

Amounts recognised in the profit and loss account relating to unrealised gains and losses during the year that relates to Level 3 assets and liabilities are included in the profit and loss account as follows:

- › Results on trading assets and trading liabilities are included in Net trading income;
- › Investments for risk of policyholders are included in Net result from discontinued operations;
- › Non-trading derivatives are included in Valuation results on non-trading derivatives;
- › Financial assets and liabilities designated as at fair value through profit and loss are included in Valuation results on non-trading derivatives - Valuation results on assets and liabilities designated as at fair value through profit and loss (excluding trading);
- › Changes in the fair value of Real estate investments are included in Investment income; and
- › Impairments on Property in own use are included in Intangible amortisation and other impairments.

Unrealised gains and losses recognised in Other comprehensive income that relate to Available-for-sale investments are included in the Revaluation reserve – Available-for-sale reserve and other. Unrealised gains and losses on Property in own use are also included in the Revaluation reserve – Property in own use reserve.

Changes in Level 3 Financial assets

2014	Trading assets	Investments for risk of policyholders	Non-trading derivatives	Financial assets designated as at fair value through profit and loss	Available-for-sale investments	Total
Opening balance	2,019	248	179	198	3,151	5,795
Amounts recognised in the profit and loss account during the year	-264		131	-67	-39	-239
Revaluation recognised in equity during the year					81	81
Purchase of assets	287			49	218	554
Sale of assets	-334			-45	-278	-657
Maturity/settlement	-76			-45	-500	-621
Transfers into Level 3	71			48	5	124
Transfers out of Level 3	-293			-48	-3	-344
Exchange rate differences	9	-2			28	35
Changes in the composition of the group and other changes	-609	-246			-2,090	-2,945
Closing balance	810	0	310	90	573	1,783

In 2014, Changes in composition of the group and other changes includes EUR -2,600 million as a result of the classification of NN Group as held for sale. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'.

Main changes in fair value hierarchy in 2014

In 2014, the change in Available-for-sale investments (level 1) mainly reflects the presentation of NN Group as held for sale. This change is offset by an increase in Government bonds to strengthen the liquidity of the Group. Ahead of the introduction of the liquidity coverage ratio in 2015 matured bonds (level 2 in 2013) are re-invested in Government bonds (level 1). As at 31 December 2014, ING Direct Australia reclassified EUR 2.6 billion Government and Semi-Government debt securities from level 2 to level 1 as the input is based on quoted prices in an active market.

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Changes in Level 3 Financial assets

2013	Trading assets	Investments for risk of policyholders	Non-trading derivatives	Financial assets designated as at fair value through profit and loss	Available-for-sale investments	Total
Opening balance	2,010	150	612	2,121	4,188	9,081
Amounts recognised in the profit and loss account during the year	146	9	462	-253	-103	261
Revaluation recognised in equity during the year					-34	-34
Purchase of assets	558	154	334	263	672	1,981
Sale of assets	-704	-52	-322	-562	-575	-2,215
Maturity/settlement	-242		-20	-465	-227	-954
Transfers into Level 3	264	2		86	407	759
Transfers out of Level 3	-158	-9	-832	-129	-165	-1,293
Exchange rate differences				38	-29	9
Changes in the composition of the group and other changes	145	-6	-55	-901	-983	-1,800
Closing balance	2,019	248	179	198	3,151	5,795

In 2013, Changes in the composition of the group and other changes includes EUR -1,654 million as a result of the classification of Voya as held for sale and nil as a result of the classification to continuing operations of ING Japan.

Main changes in fair value hierarchy in 2013

In 2013, the change in Available-for-sale investments (level 2) reflects the presentation of Voya as held for sale.

There were no significant transfers between Level 1 and 2.

Changes in Level 3 Financial liabilities

2014	Trading liabilities	Non-trading derivatives	Financial liabilities designated as at fair value through profit and loss	Total
Opening balance	1,105		343	1,448
Amounts recognised in the profit and loss account during the year	-54	14	-81	-121
Issue of liabilities	418	2	172	592
Early repayment of liabilities	-371		-78	-449
Maturity/settlement	-68	-1	-66	-135
Transfers into Level 3	42		88	130
Transfers out of Level 3	-82		-55	-137
Changes in the composition of the group and other changes	7	1		8
Closing balance	997	16	323	1,336

In 2014, Changes in composition of the group and other changes includes EUR 0 million as a result of the classification of NN Group as held for sale. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'.

Changes in Level 3 Financial liabilities

2013	Trading liabilities	Non-trading derivatives	Financial liabilities designated as at fair value through profit and loss	Investment contracts (for contracts at fair value)	Total
Opening balance	1,523	1,500	5,102	12	8,137
Amounts recognised in the profit and loss account during the year	-110	315	-137		68
Issue of liabilities	510	263	226	6	1,005
Early repayment of liabilities	-720	-452	-907	-8	-2,087
Maturity/settlement	-276	-9	-420		-705
Transfers into Level 3	245		152	2	399
Transfers out of Level 3	-64		-3,676	-8	-3,748
Exchange rate differences	-3	-372	3		-372
Changes in the composition of the group and other changes		-1,245		-4	-1,249
Closing balance	1,105	0	343	0	1,448

In 2013, Changes in the composition of the group and other changes included EUR –1,250 million as a result of the classification of Voya as held for sale and nil as a result of the classification to continuing operations of ING Japan.

In 2013, EUR 3.7 billion of Financial liabilities designated as at fair value through profit and loss were transferred from level 3 to level 2 due to refinements in the methodology used to classify these liabilities. It was observed that the valuation techniques used for calculating the fair values, for the majority of the portfolio, are not significantly impacted by unobservable inputs. These liabilities are reported in level 2. Furthermore, EUR 0.9 billion of Assets Non-trading derivatives were also transferred from Level 3 to Level 2 as the valuation is now not significantly impacted by unobservable inputs.

Amounts recognised in profit and loss account during the year (Level 3)

2014	Held at balance sheet date	Derecognised during the year	Total
Financial assets			
Trading assets	–286	22	–264
Non-trading derivatives	131		131
Financial assets designated as at fair value through profit and loss	–67		–67
Available-for-sale investments	–70	31	–39
	–292	53	–239
Financial liabilities			
Trading liabilities	–54		–54
Non-trading derivatives	14		14
Financial liabilities designated as at fair value through profit and loss	–81		–81
	–121		–121

Amounts recognised in profit and loss account during the year (Level 3)

2013	Held at balance sheet date	Derecognised during the year	Total
Financial assets			
Trading assets	158	–12	146
Investments for risk of policyholders	10	–1	9
Non-trading derivatives	436	26	462
Financial assets designated as at fair value through profit and loss	–341	88	–253
Available-for-sale investments	–130	27	–103
	133	128	261
Financial liabilities			
Trading liabilities	–110		–110
Non-trading derivatives	315		315
Financial liabilities designated as at fair value through profit and loss	–137		–137
	68		68

Level 3 Financial assets and liabilities

Financial assets measured at fair value in the balance sheet as at 31 December 2014 of EUR 240 billion include an amount of EUR 1.8 billion (0.8%) which is classified as Level 3 (31 December 2013: EUR 5.7 billion, being 1.9%). Changes in Level 3 from 31 December 2013 to 31 December 2014 are disclosed above in the table 'Changes in Level 3 Financial assets'.

Financial liabilities measured at fair value in the balance sheet as at 31 December 2014 of EUR 117 billion include an amount of EUR 1.3 billion (1.1 %) which is classified as Level 3 (31 December 2013: EUR 1.4 billion, being 1.4%). Changes in Level 3 from 31 December 2013 to 31 December 2014 are disclosed above in the table 'Changes in Level 3 Financial liabilities'.

Financial assets and liabilities in Level 3 include both assets and liabilities for which the fair value was determined using valuation techniques that incorporate unobservable inputs and assets and liabilities for which the fair value was determined using quoted prices, but for which the market was not actively trading at or around the balance sheet date. Unobservable inputs are inputs which are based on ING's own assumptions about the factors that market participants would use in pricing an asset or liability, developed based on the best information available in the circumstances. Unobservable inputs may include volatility, correlation, spreads to discount rates, default rates and recovery rates, prepayment rates and certain credit spreads. Fair values that are determined using valuation techniques using unobservable inputs are sensitive to the inputs used. Fair values that are determined using quoted prices are not sensitive to unobservable inputs, as the valuation is based on unadjusted external price quotes. These are classified in Level 3 as a result of the illiquidity in the relevant market, but are not significantly sensitive to ING's own unobservable inputs.

Of the total amount of financial assets classified as Level 3 as at 31 December 2014 of EUR 1.8 billion, an amount of EUR 0.8 billion (50%) is based on unadjusted quoted prices in inactive markets. As ING does not generally adjust quoted prices using its own inputs, there is no significant sensitivity to ING's own unobservable inputs.

Furthermore, Level 3 financial assets includes approximately EUR 0.1 billion which relates to financial assets that are part of structures that are designed to be fully neutral in terms of market risk. Such structures include various financial assets and liabilities for which the overall sensitivity to market risk is insignificant. Whereas the fair value of individual components of these structures may be determined using different techniques and the fair value of each of the components of these structures may be sensitive to unobservable inputs, the overall sensitivity is by design not significant.

The remaining EUR 0.9 billion of the fair value classified in Level 3 financial assets is established using valuation techniques that incorporates certain inputs that are unobservable. This relates mainly to assets that are classified as Available-for-sale investments, for which changes in fair value are recognised in shareholders' equity and do not directly impact profit and loss.

Of the total amount of financial liabilities classified as Level 3 as at 31 December 2014 of EUR 1.3 billion, an amount of EUR 0.7 billion (54%) is based on unadjusted quoted prices in inactive markets. As ING does not generally adjust quoted prices using its own inputs, there is no significant sensitivity to ING's own unobservable inputs.

Furthermore, Level 3 financial liabilities includes approximately EUR 0.2 billion which relates to financial liabilities that are part of structures that are designed to be fully neutral in terms of market risk. As explained above, the fair value of each of the components of these structures may be sensitive to unobservable inputs, but the overall sensitivity is by design not significant.

The remaining EUR 0.4 billion of the fair value classified in Level 3 financial liabilities is established using valuation techniques that incorporates certain inputs that are unobservable.

The table below provides a summary of the valuation techniques, key unobservable inputs and the lower and upper range of such unobservable inputs, by type of level 3 asset/liability. The lower and upper range mentioned in the overview represent the lowest and highest variance of the respective valuation input as actually used in the valuation of the different financial instruments. Amounts and percentages stated are unweighted. The range could change from period to period subject to market movements and change in Level 3 position. Lower and upper bounds reflect the variability of Level 3 positions and their underlying valuation inputs in the portfolio, but do not adequately reflect their level of valuation uncertainty. For valuation uncertainty assessment, please refer to section below 'Sensitivity analysis of unobservable inputs'.

Valuation techniques and range of unobservable inputs (Level 3) – ING Bank

2014	Assets	Liabilities	Valuation techniques	Significant unobservable inputs	Lower range	Upper range
At fair value through profit and loss						
Debt securities	161	5	Price based	Price (%)	0%	114%
			Net asset value	Price (%)	59%	101%
Loans and advances	55	12	Price based	Price (%)	0%	100%
Structured notes		323	Price based	Price (%)	0%	115%
			Net asset value	Price (%)	100%	100%
			Option pricing model	Equity volatility (%)	17%	94%
				Equity/Equity correlation	0.0	0.8
				Equity/FX correlation	-0.8	0.2
				Dividend yield (%)	0%	9%
				Interest rate volatility (%)	18%	58%
			Present value techniques	Implied correlation	0.7	0.9
Derivatives						
– Rates	375	471	Option pricing model	Interest rate volatility (%)	18%	58%
				Interest rate correlation	0.9	0.9
				IR/INF correlation	0.5	0.5
			Present value techniques	Reset spread	3%	3%
				Inflation rate (%)	1%	3%
– FX	306	258	Present value techniques	Inflation rate (%)	0%	2%
– Credit	43	45	Present value techniques	Credit spread (bps)	1	1,362
				Implied correlation	0.6	1.0
– Equity	84	221	Option pricing model	Equity volatility (%)	0%	107%
				Equity/Equity correlation	-0.1	1.0
				Equity/FX correlation	-1.0	1.0
				Dividend yield (%)	0%	23%
– Other	6	1	Option pricing model	Commodity volatility	9%	75%
				Com/Com correlation	0.0	0.9
				Com/FX correlation	-0.8	0.7
Available for sale						
– Debt	78		Price based	Price (%)	3%	100%
			Present value techniques	Credit spread (bps)	97	300
– Equity	495		Discounted cash flow	Financial Statements	n.a	n.a
			Multiplier method	Observable market factors	n.a	n.a
			Comparable transactions		n.a	n.a
Total	1,603	1,336				

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Valuation techniques and range of unobservable inputs (Level 3) – ING Bank						
2013	Assets	Liabilities	Valuation techniques	Significant unobservable inputs	Lower range	Upper range
At fair value through profit and loss						
Debt securities	341	26	Price based	Price (%)	0%	150%
			Net asset value	Price (%)	118%	118%
			Loan pricing model	Credit spread (bps)	696	696
Loans and advances	164	5	Price based	Price (%)	1%	100%
			Net asset value	Price (%)	32%	38%
			Present value techniques	Credit spread (bps)	106	2,101
			Loan pricing model	Credit spread (bps)	696	696
Structured notes		343	Price based	Price (%)	65%	110%
			Net asset value	Price (%)	118%	118%
			Option pricing model	Equity volatility (%)	17%	74%
				Equity/Equity correlation	-0.1	0.9
				Equity/FX correlation	-0.6	0.9
				Dividend yield (%)	0%	7%
Derivatives						
- Rates	303	387	Option pricing model	Interest rate volatility (%)	11%	69%
				Interest rate correlation	0.9	0.9
				Inflation rate (%)	0%	4%
			Present value techniques	Reset spread	3%	3%
				Prepayment rate	5%	5%
- FX	462	384	Present value techniques	Inflation rate (%)	-1%	3%
- Credit	54	60	Present value techniques	Credit spread (bps)	1	1,372
				Implied correlation	0.4	1
- Equity	102	240	Option pricing model	Equity volatility (%)	5%	94%
				Equity/Equity correlation	-0.1	1
				Equity/FX correlation	-0.9	0.5
				Dividend yield (%)	0%	9%
- Other	1	3	Option pricing model	Commodity volatility	6%	28%
				Com/Com correlation	-0.1	0.9
				Com/FX correlation	-0.8	-0.2
Other	8					
Available for sale						
- Debt	657					
- Equity	509					
Total	2,601	1,448				

Included at Group level are EUR 180 million (2013: EUR 116 million) Voya warrants which are classified as level 3 instruments. These warrants are valued using an option pricing model where equity volatility is a significant unobservable input. The lower and upper ranges of that unobservable input used are 19.22% and 26.78% (2013: 22.70% and 36.68%). Reference is made to Note 4 'Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss'.

Non-listed equity investments

Level 3 equity securities mainly include corporate investments, fund investments, real estate positions and other equity securities which are not traded in active markets. In the absence of an active market, fair values are estimated on the basis of the analysis of fund managers reports, company's financial position, future prospects and other factors, considering valuations of similar positions or by the reference to acquisition cost of the position. For equity securities best market practice will be applied using the most relevant valuation method.

All non-listed equity investments, including investments in private equity funds, are subject to a standard review framework which ensures that valuations reflect fair values.

Price

For securities where market prices are not available fair value is measured by comparison with observable pricing data from similar instruments. Prices of 0% are distressed to the point that no recovery is expected, while prices significantly in excess of 100% or par are expected to pay a good yield.

Credit spreads

Credit spread is the premium above a benchmark interest rate, typically LIBOR or relevant Treasury instrument, required by the market participant to accept a lower credit quality. Higher credit spreads indicate lower credit quality and a lower value of an asset.

Volatility

Volatility is a measure for variation of the price of a financial instrument or other valuation input over time. Volatility is one of the key inputs in option pricing models. Typically, the higher the volatility, the higher value of the option. Volatility varies by the underlying reference (equity, commodity, foreign currency and interest rates), by strike and maturity of the option. The minimum level of volatility is 0% and there is no theoretical maximum.

Correlation

Correlation is a measure of dependence between two underlying references which is relevant in derivatives and other instruments which have more than one underlying reference. For example, correlation between underlying equity names may be a relevant input parameter for basket equity option pricing models. High positive correlation (close to 1) indicates strong positive relationship between underlyings, implying they typically move in the same direction. High negative correlation, on the other hand, implies that underlyings typically move in opposite directions.

Interest rates

Prepayment rate and reset spread are key inputs to mortgage linked prepayments swaps valuation. Prepayment rate is the estimated rate at which mortgage borrowers will repay their mortgages early, e.g. 5% per year. Reset spread is the future spread at which mortgages will re-price at interest rate reset dates.

Inflation rate is a key input to inflation linked instruments. Inflation linked instruments protect against price inflation and are denominated and indexed to investment units. Interest payments would be based on the inflation index and nominal rate in order to receive/pay the real rate of return. A rise in nominal coupon payments is a result of an increase in inflation expectations, real rates, or both. As markets for these inflation linked derivatives are illiquid, the valuation parameters become unobservable.

Dividend yield

Dividend yield is an important input for equity option pricing models showing how much dividends a company pays out each year relative to its share price. Dividend yields are generally expressed as an annualised percentage of share price.

Sensitivity analysis of unobservable inputs (Level 3)

Where the fair value of a financial instrument is determined using inputs which are unobservable and which have a more than insignificant impact on the fair value of the instrument the actual value of those inputs at the balance date may be drawn from a range of reasonably possible alternatives. In line with market practice the upper and lower bounds of the range of alternative input values reflect a 90% level of valuation certainty. The actual levels chosen for the unobservable inputs in preparing the financial statements are consistent with the valuation methodology used for fair valued financial instruments.

If ING had used input values from the upper and lower bound of this range of reasonable possible alternative input values when valuing these instruments as of 31 December 2014 then the impact would have been higher or lower as indicated below. The purpose of this disclosure is to present the possible impact of a change of unobservable inputs in the fair value of financial instruments where unobservable inputs are significant to the valuation.

As ING has chosen to apply a 90% confidence level already for its IFRS valuation of fair valued financial instruments as of end of 2014, the downward valuation uncertainty has become immaterial, whereas the potential upward valuation uncertainty, reflecting a potential profit, has increased. Specifically for the AFS Equity positions the upward valuation uncertainty decreased.

For more detail on the valuation of fair valued instruments, refer to the section Risk Management, paragraph Fair values of financial assets and liabilities in this document.

Valuation uncertainty in practice is measured and managed per exposure to individual valuation inputs (i.e. risk factors) at portfolio level across different product categories. Where the disclosure looks at individual level 3 inputs the actual valuation adjustments may also reflect the benefits of portfolio offsets.

Because of the approach taken, the valuation uncertainty in the table below is broken down by related risk class rather than by product.

In reality some valuation inputs are interrelated and it would be unlikely that all unobservable inputs would ever be simultaneously at the limits of their respective ranges of reasonably possible alternatives. Therefore it can be assumed that the estimates in the table below show a greater fair value uncertainty than the realistic position at year end.

Also, this disclosure does not attempt to indicate or predict future fair value move. The numbers in isolation give limited information as in most cases these level 3 assets and liabilities should be seen in combination with other instruments (for example as a hedge) that are classified as level 2.

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Sensitivity analysis of level 3 instruments

	Positive fair value movements from using reasonable possible alternatives	Negative fair value movements from using reasonable possible alternatives
2014		
Fair value through profit and loss		
Equity (equity derivatives, structured notes)	106	
Interest rates (Rates derivatives, FX derivatives)	115	
Credit (Debt securities, Loans, structured notes, credit derivatives)	21	
Available-for-sale		
Equity	19	28
Debt	11	
	272	28

Sensitivity analysis of level 3 instruments

	Positive fair value movements from using reasonable possible alternatives	Negative fair value movements from using reasonable possible alternatives
2013		
Fair value through profit and loss		
Equity (equity derivatives, structured notes)	42	9
Interest rates (Rates derivatives, FX derivatives)	36	32
Credit (Debt securities, Loans, structured notes, credit derivatives)	24	17
Available-for-sale		
Equity	103	108
Debt	14	23
	219	189

Asset backed security portfolio**Fair value hierarchy of certain ABS bonds**

2014	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
US Subprime RMBS		14		14
US Alt-A RMBS		45		45
CDO/CLOs			12	12
CMBS		12		12
Total		71	12	83

Fair value hierarchy of certain ABS bonds

2013	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
US Subprime RMBS		13		13
US Alt-A RMBS		96		96
CDO/CLOs	4		175	179
CMBS		18	11	29
Total	4	127	186	317

Other financial instruments

The fair values of the financial instruments carried at amortised cost in the balance sheet, but for which fair values are disclosed are determined as follows:

Methods applied in determining fair values of financial assets and liabilities (carried at amortised cost)				
2014	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Financial assets				
Cash and balances with central banks	12,233			12,233
Amounts due from banks	4,605	22,744	9,871	37,220
Held-to-maturity investments	580	1,615	82	2,277
Loans and advances to customers	4,060	29,127	496,004	529,191
	21,478	53,486	505,957	580,921
Financial liabilities				
Subordinated loans	6,861	512		7,373
Debt securities in issue	56,976	32,269	41,713	130,958
Other borrowed funds	11,114	101	82	11,297
Amounts due to banks	4,643	17,777	8,264	30,684
Customer deposits and other funds on deposit	387,482	41,752	55,685	484,919
	467,076	92,411	105,744	665,231

As at 31 December 2014, it was assessed that certain loan portfolios were classified as level 3, as more than an insignificant part of the inputs, in terms of the overall valuation were determined not to be market observable. Certain comparative figures were adjusted from level 2 to level 3.

As at 31 December 2014, Customer deposits and other funds on deposit which are payable on demand are classified as level 1, as their fair value equals their carrying value. Certain comparative figures were adjusted from level 3 to level 1.

Methods applied in determining fair values of financial assets and liabilities (carried at amortised cost)				
2013	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Financial assets				
Cash and balances with central banks	13,316			13,316
Amounts due from banks	4,830	30,327	8,000	43,157
Held-to-maturity investments	1,225	1,928		3,153
Loans and advances to customers	3,586	29,190	508,148	540,924
	22,957	61,445	516,148	600,550
Financial liabilities				
Subordinated loans	5,074	1,102	685	6,861
Debt securities in issue	58,751	35,817	36,751	131,319
Other borrowed funds	8,326	3,775	1,729	13,830
Investment contracts (for contracts at amortised cost)	20		829	849
Amounts due to banks	5,126	20,712	1,837	27,675
Customer deposits and other funds on deposit	355,182	69,756	49,065	474,003
	432,479	131,162	90,896	654,537

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Non-financial assets and liabilities

In addition to financial assets and liabilities, the following table presents the estimated fair values of ING Group's non-financial assets and liabilities that are measured at fair value in the balance sheet. Reference is made to Note 1 'Accounting policies' in the sections 'Real estate investments' and 'Property in own use' for the methods and assumptions used by ING Group to estimate the fair value of the non-financial assets.

Fair value of non-financial assets		
	Estimated fair value	Balance sheet value
2014		
Real estate investments	80	80
Property in own use	1,020	1,020
	1,100	1,100

Fair value of non-financial assets		
	Estimated fair value	Balance sheet value
2013		
Real estate investments	1,046	1,046
Property in own use	1,243	1,243
	2,289	2,289

The fair values of the non-financial assets carried at fair value were determined as follows:

Methods applied in determining fair values of non-financial assets				
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
2014				
Real estate investments			80	80
Property in own use			1,020	1,020
			1,100	1,100

Methods applied in determining fair values of non-financial assets				
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
2013				
Real estate investments			1,046	1,046
Property in own use			1,243	1,243
			2,289	2,289

Changes in Level 3 Non-financial assets			
	Real estate investments	Property in own use	Total non-financial assets
2014			
Opening balance	1,046	1,243	2,289
Amounts recognised in the profit and loss account during the year	3	-80	-77
Revaluation recognised in equity during the year		-27	-27
Purchase of assets	322	64	386
Sale of assets	-192	-27	-219
Reclassifications	20	-26	-6
Exchange rate differences		1	1
Changes in the composition of the group and other changes	-1,119	-128	-1,247
Closing balance	80	1,020	1,100

Changes in Level 3 Non-financial assets			
	Real estate investments	Property in own use	Total non-financial assets
2013			
Opening balance	1,190	1,423	2,613
Amounts recognised in the profit and loss account during the year	-5	-49	-54
Revaluation recognised in equity during the year		-4	-4
Purchase of assets	200	39	239
Sale of assets	-265	-34	-299
Reclassifications	-61	-2	-63
Exchange rate differences	-2	-26	-28
Changes in the composition of the group and other changes	-11	-104	-115
Closing balance	1,046	1,243	2,289

Amounts recognised in the profit and loss account during the year (Level 3)

2014	Held at balance sheet date	Derecognised during the year	Total
Non-financial assets			
Real estate investments	3		3
Property in own use	-58	-22	-80
	-55	-22	-77

Amounts recognised in the profit and loss account during the year (Level 3)

2013	Held at balance sheet date	Derecognised during the year	Total
Non-financial assets			
Real estate investments	-25	20	-5
Property in own use	-42	-7	-49
	-67	13	-54

44 Derivatives and hedge accounting**Use of derivatives and hedge accounting**

As described in the 'Risk management' section, ING Group uses derivatives (principally interest rate swaps and cross currency interest rate swaps) for economic hedging purposes in the management of its asset and liability portfolios and structural positions. The objective of economic hedging is to enter into positions with an opposite risk profile to an identified exposure to reduce that exposure. The impact of ING Group's hedging activities is to optimise the overall cost to the Group of accessing debt capital markets and to mitigate the market risk which would otherwise arise from structural imbalances in the duration and other profiles of its assets and liabilities. In addition, hedging activities are undertaken to hedge against the interest rate risk in the mortgage offer period in relation to retail mortgages and to lock in the interest margin in relation to interest bearing assets and the related funding.

The accounting treatment of hedge transactions varies according to the nature of the instrument hedged and whether the hedge qualifies under the IFRS-EU hedge accounting rules. Derivatives that qualify for hedge accounting under IFRS-EU are classified and accounted for in accordance with the nature of the instrument hedged and the type of IFRS-EU hedge model that is applicable. The three models applicable under IFRS-EU are: fair value hedge accounting, cash flow hedge accounting and net investment hedge accounting. These are described under the relevant headings below. The company's detailed accounting policies for these three hedge models are set out in Note 1 'Accounting policies' in the section 'Principles of valuation and determination of results'.

To qualify for hedge accounting under IFRS-EU, strict criteria must be met. Certain hedges that are economically effective from a risk management perspective do not qualify for hedge accounting under IFRS-EU. The fair value changes of derivatives relating to such non-qualifying hedges are taken to the profit and loss account. However, in certain cases, the Group mitigates the profit and loss account volatility by designating hedged assets and liabilities at fair value through profit and loss. If hedge accounting is applied under IFRS-EU, it is possible that during the hedge a hedge relationship no longer qualifies for hedge accounting and hedge accounting cannot be continued, even if the hedge remains economically effective. As a result, the volatility arising from undertaking economic hedging in the profit and loss account may be higher than would be expected from an economic point of view.

With respect to exchange rate and interest rate derivative contracts, the notional or contractual amount of these instruments is indicative of the nominal value of transactions outstanding at the balance sheet date; however they do not represent amounts at risk. ING Group uses credit derivatives to manage its exposure to credit risk, including total return swaps and credit default swaps, to sell or buy protection for credit risk exposures in the loan, investment and trading portfolios. Hedge accounting is not applied in relation to credit derivatives.

Fair value hedge accounting

ING Group's fair value hedges principally consist of interest rate swaps and cross-currency interest rate swaps that are used to protect against changes in the fair value of fixed-rate instruments due to movements in market interest rates.

Gains and losses on derivatives designated under fair value hedge accounting are recognised in the profit and loss account. The effective portion of the fair value change on the hedged item is also recognised in the profit and loss account. As a result, only the net accounting ineffectiveness has an impact on the net result.

For the year ended 31 December 2014, ING Group recognised EUR -486 million (2013: EUR 871 million) of fair value changes on derivatives designated under fair value hedge accounting in the profit and loss account. This amount was partly offset by EUR 536 million (2013: EUR -963 million) fair value changes recognised on hedged items. This resulted in EUR 50 million (2013: EUR -92 million) net accounting ineffectiveness recognised in the profit and loss account. As at 31 December 2014, the fair values of outstanding derivatives designated under fair value hedge accounting was EUR -1,987 million (2013: EUR -3,172 million), presented in the balance sheet as EUR 1,223 million (2013: EUR 1,383 million) positive fair values under assets and EUR 3,210 million (2013: EUR 4,555 million) negative fair values under liabilities.

ING Group applies fair value hedge accounting for portfolio hedges of interest rate risk (macro hedging) under the EU 'carve out' of IFRS-EU. The EU 'carve-out' for macro hedging enables a group of derivatives (or proportions) to be viewed in combination and jointly designated as the hedging instrument and removes some of the limitations in fair value hedge accounting relating to hedging core deposits and under-hedging strategies. Under the IFRS-EU 'carve-out', hedge accounting may be applied to core deposits and ineffectiveness only arises when the revised estimate of the amount of cash flows in scheduled time buckets falls below the designated amount of that bucket. ING Group applies the IFRS-EU 'carve-out' to its retail operations in which the net exposure of retail funding (savings and current accounts) and retail lending (mortgages) is hedged. The hedging activities are designated under a portfolio fair value hedge on the mortgages, using the IFRS-EU provisions.

Cash flow hedge accounting

ING Group's cash flow hedges principally consist of (forward) interest rate swaps and cross-currency interest rate swaps that are used to protect against its exposure to variability in future interest cash flows on non-trading assets and liabilities that bear interest at variable rates or are expected to be refunded or reinvested in the future. The amounts and timing of future cash flows, representing both principal and interest flows, are projected for each portfolio of financial assets and liabilities, based on contractual terms and other relevant factors including estimates of prepayments and defaults. The aggregate principal balances and interest cash flows for the respective portfolios form the basis for identifying the notional amount subject to interest rate risk that is designated under cash flow hedge accounting.

Gains and losses on the effective portions of derivatives designated under cash flow hedge accounting are recognised in Shareholders' equity. Interest cash flows on these derivatives are recognised in the profit and loss account in interest result consistent with the manner in which the forecast cash flows affect net result. The gains and losses on ineffective portions of such derivatives are recognised immediately in the profit and loss account.

For the year ended 31 December 2014, ING Group recognised EUR 2,001 million (2013: EUR –812 million) after tax in equity as effective fair value changes on derivatives under cash flow hedge accounting. As a consequence, the balance of the cash flow hedge reserve in equity as at 31 December 2014 was EUR 5,469 million (2013: EUR 2,448 million) gross and EUR 3,877 million (2013: EUR 1,879 million) after deferred tax. This cash flow hedge reserve will fluctuate with the fair value changes of the underlying derivatives and will be reflected in the profit and loss account under Interest income/expense over the remaining term of the underlying hedged items. The cash flow hedge reserve relates to a large number of derivatives and hedged items with varying maturities, up to 29 years, with the largest concentrations in the range of 3 to 9 years. Accounting ineffectiveness on derivatives designated under cash flow hedge accounting resulted in a gain of EUR 35 million (2013: EUR 4 million gain) which was recognised in the profit and loss account.

As at 31 December 2014, the fair value of outstanding derivatives designated under cash flow hedge accounting was EUR –409 million (2013: EUR 245 million), presented in the balance sheet as EUR 1,254 million (2013: EUR 4,630 million) positive fair values under assets and EUR 1,663 million (2013: EUR 4,385 million) negative fair values under liabilities.

As at 31 December 2014, the fair value of outstanding non-derivatives designated as hedging instruments for cash flow hedge accounting purposes was nil (2013: EUR –299 million).

Included in Interest income and interest expense on non-trading derivatives is EUR 2,644 million (2013: EUR 3,456 million) and EUR 2,261 million (2013: EUR 3,220 million), respectively, relating to derivatives used in cash flow hedges.

Hedges of net investments in foreign operations

ING Group's net investment hedges principally consist of derivatives (including currency forwards and swaps) and non-derivative financial instruments such as foreign currency denominated funding that are used to protect against foreign currency exposures on foreign subsidiaries.

Gains and losses on the effective portions of derivatives designated under net investment hedge accounting are recognised in Shareholders' equity. The balance in equity is recognised in the profit and loss account when the related foreign subsidiary is disposed. The gains and losses on ineffective portions are recognised immediately in the profit and loss account.

As at 31 December 2014, the fair value of outstanding derivatives designated under net investment hedge accounting was EUR 11 million (2013: EUR 86 million), presented in the balance sheet as EUR 111 million (2013: EUR 138 million) positive fair values under assets and EUR 100 million (2013: EUR 52 million) negative fair values under liabilities.

As at 31 December 2014, the fair value of outstanding non-derivatives designated under net investment hedge accounting was EUR 1,306 million (2013: EUR 491 million).

Accounting ineffectiveness recognised in the profit and loss account for the year ended 31 December 2014 on derivatives and non-derivatives designated under net investment hedge accounting was EUR 0 million (2013: nil).

45 Assets by contractual maturity

Amounts presented in these tables by contractual maturity are the amounts as presented in the balance sheet.

Assets by contractual maturity							
2014	Less than 1 month ⁽¹⁾	1–3 months	3–12 months	1–5 years	Over 5 years	Maturity not applicable	Total
Cash and balances with central banks	12,233						12,233
Amounts due from banks	20,863	6,754	4,581	4,313	608		37,119
Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss							
– trading assets	47,925	17,676	21,458	22,836	27,064		136,959
– non-trading derivatives	124	137	198	1,142	2,783		4,384
– designated as at fair value through profit and loss	655	580	736	449	336		2,756
Investments							
– available-for-sale	1,246	3,501	6,394	38,482	43,060	2,719	95,402
– held-to-maturity	90	883	251	658	357		2,239
Loans and advances to customers	60,470	14,648	33,204	135,054	274,102		517,478
Intangible assets			191	383		1,081	1,655
Assets held for sale ⁽²⁾						165,532	165,532
Other assets	6,923	1,551	3,108	951	1,433		13,966
Remaining assets (for which maturities are not applicable) ⁽³⁾						3,133	3,133
Total assets	150,529	45,730	70,121	204,268	349,743	172,465	992,856

(1) Includes assets on demand.

(2) Assets held for sale consist of the assets of the disposal groups classified as held for sale as disclosed in Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale'. For these assets and liabilities, the underlying contractual maturities are no longer relevant to ING. For businesses for which a binding sale agreement exists, all related assets and liabilities held for sale are classified in accordance with the agreed or expected closing date. For other businesses, for which no sale agreement exists, assets and liabilities held for sale are included in 'maturity not applicable'.

(3) Included in remaining assets for which maturities are not applicable are property and equipment, real estate investments and investments in associates. Due to their nature remaining assets consist mainly of assets expected to be recovered after more than 12 months.

Assets by contractual maturity							
2013	Less than 1 month ⁽¹⁾	1–3 months	3–12 months	1–5 years	Over 5 years	Maturity not applicable	Total
Cash and balances with central banks	12,366	950					13,316
Amounts due from banks	27,596	5,022	5,653	4,361	364		42,996
Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss							
– trading assets	51,070	9,199	14,527	19,475	19,245	731	114,247
– investments for risk of policyholders ⁽²⁾						39,589	39,589
– non-trading derivatives		62	302	3,940	4,239	3	8,546
– designated as at fair value through profit and loss	714	213	836	528	473	26	2,790
Investments							
– available-for-sale	3,940	4,310	9,903	41,744	70,735	7,265	137,897
– held-to-maturity	127	30	973	1,639	329		3,098
Loans and advances to customers	63,684	16,353	34,546	123,968	292,831	273	531,655
Reinsurance contracts	10	24	30	10	79	99	252
Intangible assets	3	7	199	435	4	1,193	1,841
Deferred acquisition costs	20	17	91	198	1,027		1,353
Assets held for sale ⁽³⁾	58		572			156,254	156,884
Other assets	11,071	2,179	5,009	1,878	1,202		21,339
Remaining assets (for which maturities are not applicable) ⁽⁴⁾						5,514	5,514
Total assets	170,659	38,366	72,641	198,176	390,528	210,947	1,081,317

(1) Includes assets on demand.

(2) Investments for risk of policyholders are managed on behalf of policyholders on a fair value basis. Although individual instruments may (or may not) have a maturity depending on their nature, this does not impact the liquidity position of ING.

(3) Assets held for sale consist of the assets of the disposal groups classified as held for sale as disclosed in Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale'. For these assets and liabilities, the underlying contractual maturities are no longer relevant to ING. For businesses for which a binding sale agreement exists, all related assets and liabilities held for sale are classified in accordance with the agreed or expected closing date. For other businesses, for which no sale agreement exists, assets and liabilities held for sale are included in 'maturity not applicable'.

(4) Included in remaining assets for which maturities are not applicable are property and equipment, real estate investments and investments in associates. Due to their nature remaining assets consist mainly of assets expected to be recovered after more than 12 months.

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46 Liabilities by maturity

The tables below include all financial liabilities by maturity based on contractual, undiscounted cash flows. Furthermore, the undiscounted future coupon interest on financial liabilities payable is included in a separate line and in the relevant maturity bucket. Derivative liabilities are included on a net basis if cash flows are settled net. For other derivative liabilities the contractual gross cash flow payable is included.

Non-financial liabilities are included based on a breakdown of the balance sheet amounts by expected maturity. Reference is made to the liquidity risk paragraph in the 'Risk Management' section for a description on how liquidity risk is managed.

Liabilities by maturity								
2014	Less than 1 month ⁽¹⁾	1–3 months	3–12 months	1–5 years	Over 5 years	Maturity not applicable	Adjustment ⁽²⁾	Total
Subordinated loans			338	338		6,185		6,861
Debt securities in issue	3,304	26,487	23,809	43,971	25,297		3,484	126,352
Other borrowed funds			889	860	9,060		488	11,297
Amounts due to banks	15,058	1,984	1,490	7,180	4,287			29,999
Customer deposits and other funds on deposit	424,283	27,995	23,806	5,344	2,405		38	483,871
Financial liabilities at fair value through profit and loss								
– other trading liabilities	33,361	6,746	2,503	1,789	3,492		1,181	49,072
– trading derivatives	3,330	3,300	8,119	18,897	18,796		–4,423	48,019
– non-trading derivatives	156	171	1,101	3,283	1,975		–646	6,040
– designated as at fair value through profit and loss	368	549	1,250	5,110	5,979		295	13,551
Financial liabilities	479,860	67,232	63,305	86,772	71,291	6,185	417	775,062
Liabilities held for sale ⁽³⁾						142,132		142,132
Other liabilities	6,825	1,960	4,365	1,393	1,442	1,181		17,166
Non-financial liabilities	6,825	1,960	4,365	1,393	1,442	143,313		159,298
Total liabilities	486,685	69,192	67,670	88,165	72,733	149,498	417	934,360
Coupon interest due on financial liabilities	976	1,139	4,155	11,874	46,742			64,886

(1) Includes liabilities on demand.

(2) This column reconciles the contractual undiscounted cash flows on financial liabilities to the balance sheet values. The adjustments mainly relate to the impact of discounting, and for derivatives, to the fact the contractual cash flows are presented on a gross basis (unless the cash flows are actually settled net).

(3) Liabilities held for sale consist of the liabilities of the disposal groups classified as held for sale as disclosed in Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale'. For these assets and liabilities, the underlying contractual maturities are no longer relevant to ING. For businesses for which a binding sale agreement exists, all related assets and liabilities held for sale are classified in accordance with the agreed or expected closing date. For other businesses, for which no sale agreement exists, assets and liabilities held for sale are included in 'maturity not applicable'.

Liabilities by maturity

2013	Less than 1 month ⁽¹⁾	1–3 months	3–12 months	1–5 years	Over 5 years	Maturity not applicable	Adjustment ⁽²⁾	Total
Subordinated loans						7,104	-215	6,889
Debt securities in issue	5,204	25,865	18,822	44,627	31,300		1,909	127,727
Other borrowed funds	2,592	1	284	2,882	12,812	-6,768	1,903	13,706
Amounts due to banks	16,248	1,834	1,755	2,891	4,472			27,200
Customer deposits and other funds on deposit	411,639	27,067	25,336	2,912	3,201	3,856	301	474,312
Financial liabilities at fair value through profit and loss								
– other trading liabilities	32,561	2,022	2,201	1,767	4,716		722	43,989
– trading derivatives	903	1,910	5,515	15,154	13,657		-7,637	29,502
– non-trading derivatives	353	443	1,727	5,870	-4,439		7,201	11,155
– designated as at fair value through profit and loss	198	216	1,282	5,967	5,991		201	13,855
Financial liabilities	469,698	59,358	56,922	82,070	71,710	4,192	4,385	748,335
Insurance and investment contracts	806	1,115	5,486	17,586	47,038	39,738		111,769
Liabilities held for sale ⁽³⁾	14		453			145,934		146,401
Other liabilities	10,572	2,049	5,863	1,083	1,761	295		21,623
Non-financial liabilities	11,392	3,164	11,802	18,669	48,799	185,967		279,793
Total liabilities	481,090	62,522	68,724	100,739	120,509	190,159	4,385	1,028,128
Coupon interest due on financial liabilities	1,327	1,181	4,248	9,789	39,568			56,113

(1) Includes liabilities on demand.

(2) This column reconciles the contractual undiscounted cash flows on financial liabilities to the balance sheet values. The adjustments mainly relate to the impact of discounting, and for derivatives, to the fact the contractual cash flows are presented on a gross basis (unless the cash flows are actually settled net).

(3) Liabilities held for sale consist of the liabilities of the disposal groups classified as held for sale as disclosed in Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale'. For these assets and liabilities, the underlying contractual maturities are no longer relevant to ING. For businesses for which a binding sale agreement exists, all related assets and liabilities held for sale are classified in accordance with the agreed or expected closing date. For other businesses, for which no sale agreement exists, assets and liabilities held for sale are included in 'maturity not applicable'.

47 Assets not freely disposable

The assets not freely disposable consist primarily of Loans and advances to customers pledged to secure Debt securities in issue, deposits from De Nederlandsche Bank (the Dutch Central Bank) and other banks and serve to secure margin accounts and are used for other purposes required by law. The assets not freely disposable are as follows:

Assets not freely disposable ⁽¹⁾

2014	2014	2013
Investments	723	771
Loans and advances to customers	71,637	60,441
Banks	10,555	12,877
Other assets	767	1,105
	83,682	75,194

(1) Excludes assets classified as held for sale (2014: mainly NN Group; 2013: mainly Voya)

Banks includes Amounts due from banks and balances with central banks. In some jurisdictions ING Bank N.V. has an obligation to maintain a reserve with central banks.

Loans and advances to customers that have been pledged as collateral for Debt securities in issue and for liquidity purposes, amount in the Netherlands to EUR 52.0 billion (2013: EUR 45.9 billion), in Germany to EUR 13.0 billion (2013: EUR 8.4 billion), in Belgium EUR 4.0 billion (2013: EUR 2.5 billion) and in Australia to EUR 3.0 billion (2013: nil).

The loan to the Dutch State in connection with the Illiquid Assets Back-Up Facility agreement as disclosed in Note 55 'Related parties' was included in Loans and advances to customers until full repayment in 2014 (2013: EUR 2.7 billion).

The table does not include assets relating to securities lending as well as sale and repurchase transactions. Reference is made to Note 48 'Transfer of financial assets'.

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48 Transfer of Financial Assets

The majority of ING's financial assets that have been transferred, but do not qualify for derecognition are debt instruments used in securities lending or sale and repurchase transactions. Reference is made to Note 54 'Structured entities'.

Transfer of financial assets not qualifying for derecognition				
2014	Securities lending		Sale and repurchase	
	Equity	Debt	Equity	Debt
Transferred assets at carrying amount				
Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss	2,202	22	6,465	3,684
Investments				3,594
Associated liabilities at carrying amount				
Amounts due to banks	n.a	n.a		
Customer deposits and other funds on deposit	n.a	n.a		
Financial liabilities at fair value through profit and loss	2,202	22	6,414	6,422

Transfer of financial assets not qualifying for derecognition				
2013	Securities lending		Sale and repurchase	
	Equity	Debt	Equity	Debt
Transferred assets at carrying amount				
Amounts due from banks				345
Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss	1,238	102	3,087	315
Investments		2,235		9,111
Loans and advances to customers				200
Associated liabilities at carrying amount				
Amounts due to banks	n.a	n.a		
Other borrowed funds	n.a	348		
Customer deposits and other funds on deposit	n.a	n.a		
Financial liabilities at fair value through profit and loss	1,053	102	3,463	13,090

In 2014, the carrying amount of transferred assets under repurchase agreements and securities lending that do not qualify for derecognition are included in the table above, whereas in 2013, the receivables from reverse repurchase agreements were included. The 2013 comparatives were adjusted.

In 2013, the tables above did not include assets relating to the Illiquid Assets Back-up Facility that ING has agreed with the Dutch State. In 2014, the IABF was unwound. Reference is made to Note 56 'Transactions with the Dutch State and the European Commission Restructuring Plan' for detailed disclosure on the facility.

The table above does not include assets transferred to consolidated securitisation entities as the related asset remain recognised in the consolidated balance sheet.

Transfer of financial assets that qualified for derecognition

In 2013, ING transferred financial assets (mortgage loans) for an amount of approximately EUR 2 billion to a newly established special purpose entity (SPE). The transaction resulted in full derecognition of the financial assets from ING's balance sheet. The derecognition did not have a significant impact on net result. Following this transfer ING continues to have two types of ongoing involvement in the transferred assets: as counterparty to the SPE of a non-standard interest rate swap and as servicer of the transferred assets. ING has an option to unwind the transaction by redeeming all notes at their principal outstanding amount, in the unlikely event of changes in accounting and/or regulatory requirements that significantly impact the transaction. The fair value of the swap as at 31 December 2014 amounted to EUR 33.7 million (2013: EUR 62.3 million); fair value changes on this swap recognised in the profit and loss account in 2014 were EUR 28.6 million (2013: EUR 4.7 million). Fee income recognised in the profit and loss account in 2014 amounted to EUR 0.5 million (2013: EUR 1.2 million).

In 2014, ING sold financial assets (mortgages) for an amount of approximately EUR 990 million in the Australian market. The transaction resulted in full derecognition of the financial assets from ING's balance sheet. This equates to a profit of EUR 17.5 million. Following this transfer, ING continues to have an on-going involvement in the transferred assets as servicer of the transferred assets for a term of four years.

49 Offsetting financial assets and liabilities

The following tables include information about rights to offset and the related arrangements. The amounts included consist of all recognised financial instruments that are presented net in the balance sheet under the IFRS-EU offsetting requirements (legal right to offset and intention to net settle) and amounts presented gross in the balance sheet but subject to enforceable master netting arrangements or similar arrangement.

Financial assets subject to offsetting, enforceable master netting arrangements and similar agreements

2014	Balance sheet line item	Financial instrument	Gross amounts of recognised financial assets	Gross amounts of recognised financial liabilities offset in the balance sheet	Net amounts of financial assets presented in the balance sheet	Related amounts not offset in the balance sheet		Net amount
						Financial instruments	Cash and financial instruments received as collateral	
Amounts due from banks								
		Reverse repurchase, securities borrowing and similar agreements	3,061		3,061	313	2,733	15
		Other	4	-3	1			1
			3,065	-3	3,062	313	2,733	16
Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss								
	Trading assets	Derivatives	31,459	-907	30,552	26,359	1,644	2,549
		Reverse repurchase, securities borrowing and similar agreements	58,676	-18,860	39,816	543	30,395	8,878
		Other	1,905	-3	1,902			1,902
			92,040	-19,770	72,270	26,902	32,039	13,329
	Non-trading derivatives	Derivatives	87,457	-85,024	2,433	2,159		274
			87,457	-85,024	2,433	2,159		274
Loans and advances to customers								
		Reverse repurchase, securities borrowing and similar agreements	925		925	300	625	
		Other	195,489	-188,629	6,860	1	657	6,202
			196,414	-188,629	7,785	301	1,282	6,202
	Other items where offsetting is applied in the balance sheet		4,230	-4,002	228	52		176
Impact of enforceable master netting arrangements or similar arrangements⁽¹⁾								
		Derivatives				-7,656	2,838	4,818
		Other				-15		15
						-7,671	2,838	4,833
	Total financial assets		383,206	-297,428	85,778	22,056	38,892	24,830

(1) The line 'Impact of enforceable master netting agreements or similar arrangements' contains derivative positions under the same master netting arrangements being presented in different balance sheet line items.

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Financial assets subject to offsetting, enforceable master netting arrangements and similar agreements

		Gross amounts of recognised financial assets	Gross amounts of recognised financial liabilities offset in the balance sheet	Net amounts of financial assets presented in the balance sheet	Related amounts not offset in the balance sheet		Net amount
					Financial instruments	Cash and financial instruments received as collateral	
2013							
Balance sheet line item	Financial instrument						
Amounts due from banks							
	Reverse repurchase, securities borrowing and similar agreements	4,047		4,047	22	731	3,294
	Other	3,635	-6	3,629		897	2,732
		7,682	-6	7,676	22	1,628	6,026
Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss							
Trading assets	Derivatives	31,561	-4,995	26,566	19,583	1,820	5,163
	Reverse repurchase, securities borrowing and similar agreements	43,080	-6,112	36,968	694	28,744	7,530
	Other	1,219	-5	1,214			1,214
		75,860	-11,112	64,748	20,277	30,564	13,907
Non-trading derivatives	Derivatives	41,030	-35,788	5,242	3,246	1,385	611
		41,030	-35,788	5,242	3,246	1,385	611
Investments							
Available-for-sale	Reverse repurchase, securities borrowing and similar agreements						
	Other	115		115		113	2
		115		115		113	2
Loans and advances to customers							
	Reverse repurchase, securities borrowing and similar agreements	96		96			96
	Other	159,202	-149,517	9,685	1	393	9,291
		159,298	-149,517	9,781	1	393	9,387
Other items where offsetting is applied in the balance sheet							
		4,796	-5,770	-974	54	1,402	-2,430
Impact of enforceable master netting arrangements or similar arrangements ⁽¹⁾							
	Derivatives				-4,825	3,176	1,649
	Other				-5		5
					-4,830	3,176	1,654
Total financial assets		288,781	-202,193	86,588	18,770	38,661	29,157

(1) The line 'Impact of enforceable master netting agreements or similar arrangements' contains derivative positions under the same master netting arrangements being presented in different balance sheet line items.

Financial liabilities subject to offsetting, enforceable master netting arrangements and similar agreements

2014	Balance sheet line item	Financial instrument	Gross amounts of recognised financial liabilities	Gross amounts of recognised financial assets offset in the balance sheet	Net amounts of financial liabilities presented in the balance sheet	Related amounts not offset in the balance sheet		Net amount
						Financial instruments	Cash and financial instruments pledged as collateral	
Amounts due to banks								
		Repurchase, securities lending and similar agreements	676		676	313	363	
		Other	4	-3	1			1
			680	-3	677	313	363	1
Customer deposits and other funds on deposit								
		Repurchase, securities lending and similar agreements	326		326	300	26	
		Corporate deposits	24,242	-20,450	3,792			3,792
		Other	180,250	-168,179	12,071		104	11,967
			204,818	-188,629	16,189	300	130	15,759
Financial liabilities at fair value through profit and loss								
	Trading liabilities	Derivatives	33,568	-1,429	32,139	30,927	1,078	134
		Repurchase, securities lending and similar agreements	50,543	-18,860	31,683	543	20,374	10,766
		Other	3	-3				
			84,114	-20,292	63,822	31,470	21,452	10,900
	Non-trading derivatives	Derivatives	90,593	-87,154	3,439	3,013	249	177
	Other items where offsetting is applied in the balance sheet		1,501	-1,350	151	113		38
	Impact of enforceable master netting arrangements or similar arrangements ⁽¹⁾	Derivatives				-13,146	6,335	6,811
		Other				-7		7
						-13,153	6,335	6,818
	Total financial liabilities		381,706	-297,428	84,278	22,056	28,529	33,693

(1) The line 'Impact of enforceable master netting agreements or similar arrangements' contains derivative positions under the same master netting arrangements being presented in different balance sheet line items.

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Financial liabilities subject to offsetting, enforceable master netting arrangements and similar agreements

2013		Gross amounts of recognised financial liabilities	Gross amounts of recognised financial assets offset in the balance sheet	Net amounts of financial liabilities presented in the balance sheet	Related amounts not offset in the balance sheet		Net amount
					Financial instruments	Cash and financial instruments pledged as collateral	
Balance sheet line item	Financial instrument						
Amounts due to banks							
	Repurchase, securities lending and similar agreements	1,085		1,085	21	1,063	1
	Other	2,372	-17	2,355		1,714	641
		3,457	-17	3,440	21	2,777	642
Customer deposits and other funds on deposit							
	Repurchase, securities lending and similar agreements	13		13			13
	Corporate deposits	30,541	-23,779	6,762			6,762
	Other	135,981	-125,727	10,254		42	10,212
		166,535	-149,506	17,029		42	16,987
Financial liabilities at fair value through profit and loss							
Trading liabilities	Derivatives	32,536	-5,589	26,947	21,897	1,208	3,842
	Repurchase, securities lending and similar agreements	34,298	-6,111	28,187	695	15,854	11,638
	Other	5	-5				
		66,839	-11,705	55,134	22,592	17,062	15,480
Non-trading derivatives	Derivatives	46,912	-39,036	7,876	5,491	204	2,181
Other items where offsetting is applied in the balance sheet		3,333	-1,929	1,404	245	3,748	-2,589
Impact of enforceable master netting arrangements or similar arrangements ⁽¹⁾	Derivatives				-9,553	10,060	-507
	Other				-26		26
					-9,579	10,060	-481
Total financial liabilities		287,076	-202,193	84,883	18,770	33,893	32,220

(1) The line 'Impact of enforceable master netting agreements or similar arrangements' contains derivative positions under the same master netting arrangements being presented in different balance sheet line items.

50 Contingent liabilities and commitments

In the normal course of business ING Group is party in activities whose risks are not reflected in whole or in part in the consolidated financial statements. In response to the needs of its customers, the Group offers financial products related to loans. These products include traditional off-balance sheet credit-related financial instruments.

Contingent liabilities and commitments

2014 ⁽¹⁾	Less than 1 month	1–3 months	3–12 months	1–5 years	Over 5 years	Maturity not applicable	Total
Banking operations							
Contingent liabilities in respect of							
– guarantees	16,433	557	698	981	3,728		22,397
– irrevocable letters of credit	6,627	3,856	1,356	333	6		12,178
– other	364	12	40	8			424
	23,424	4,425	2,094	1,322	3,734		34,999
Guarantees issued by ING Groep N.V.					417		417
Irrevocable facilities	39,370	7,673	5,090	25,328	4,884		82,345
	62,794	12,098	7,184	26,650	9,035		117,761

(1) Excludes commitments and contingent liabilities related to businesses classified as held for sale. In 2014 mainly NN Group.

Contingent liabilities and commitments

2013 ⁽¹⁾	Less than 1 month	1–3 months	3–12 months	1–5 years	Over 5 years	Maturity not applicable	Total
Banking operations							
Contingent liabilities in respect of							
– discounted bills	1						1
– guarantees	17,536	429	685	1,153	3,334		23,137
– irrevocable letters of credit	7,348	5,253	1,615	363	8		14,587
– other	376	71	50	9			506
	25,261	5,753	2,350	1,525	3,342		38,231
Insurance operations							
Commitments	51	134	135	253	81	29	683
Guarantees	3						3
	54	134	135	253	81	29	686
Irrevocable facilities	37,736	18,113	2,283	21,500	5,425		85,057
	63,051	24,000	4,768	23,278	8,848	29	123,974

(1) Excludes commitments and contingent liabilities related to businesses classified as held for sale. In 2013 mainly Voya.

Guarantees relate both to credit and non-credit substitute guarantees. Credit substitute guarantees are guarantees given by ING Group in respect of credit granted to customers by a third party. Many of them are expected to expire without being drawn on and therefore do not necessarily represent future cash outflows. In addition to the items included in contingent liabilities, ING Group has issued guarantees as a participant in collective arrangements of national industry bodies and as a participant in government required collective guarantee schemes which apply in different countries.

Irrevocable letters of credit mainly secure payments to third parties for a customer's foreign and domestic trade transactions in order to finance a shipment of goods. ING Group's credit risk in these transactions is limited since these transactions are collateralised by the commodity shipped and are of a short duration.

Other contingent liabilities include acceptances of bills and are of a short-term nature. Other contingent liabilities also include contingent liabilities resulting from the normal operations of the Real Estate business including obligations under development and construction contracts. None of the items included in Other contingent liabilities are individually significant.

Irrevocable facilities mainly constitute unused portions of irrevocable credit facilities granted to corporate clients. Many of these facilities are for a fixed duration and bear interest at a floating rate. ING Group's credit risk and interest rate risk in these transactions is limited. The unused portion of irrevocable credit facilities is partly secured by customers' assets or counter-guarantees by the central governments and exempted bodies under the regulatory requirements. Irrevocable facilities also include commitments made to purchase securities to be issued by governments and private issuers.

Furthermore, ING Group leases assets from third parties under operating leases as lessee. The future rental commitments to be paid under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

Future rental commitments for operating lease contracts		
	2014 ⁽¹⁾	2013 ⁽¹⁾
2014		239
2015	281	179
2016	169	150
2017	117	107
2018	94	78
Years after 2018	384	166

(1) Excludes commitments and contingent liabilities related to businesses classified as held for sale. In 2014 mainly NN Group (2013: mainly Voya).

51 Legal proceedings

ING Group companies are involved in litigation and arbitration proceedings in the Netherlands and in a number of foreign jurisdictions, including the U.S., involving claims by and against them which arise in the ordinary course of their businesses, including in connection with their activities as insurers, lenders, broker-dealers, underwriters, issuers of securities and investors and their position as employers and taxpayers. In certain of such proceedings, very large or indeterminate amounts are sought, including punitive and other damages. While it is not feasible to predict or determine the ultimate outcome of all pending or threatened legal and regulatory proceedings, the Company's management is of the opinion that some of the proceedings set out below may have or have in the recent past had a significant effect on the financial position, profitability or reputation of the Company.

Because of the geographic spread of its business, ING may be subject to tax audits in numerous jurisdictions at any point in time. Although ING believes that it has adequately provided for all its tax positions, the ultimate resolution of these audits may result in liabilities which are different from the amounts recognised.

Proceedings in which ING is involved include complaints and lawsuits concerning the performance of certain interest-sensitive products that were sold by a former subsidiary of ING in Mexico. Further, purported class litigation has been filed in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York alleging violations of the federal securities laws with respect to disclosures made in connection with the 2007 and 2008 offerings of ING's Perpetual Hybrid Capital Securities. The District Court has dismissed all claims related to the 2007 and 2008 offerings. The plaintiffs appealed that decision relating to the 2008 offering. The appellate court affirmed the District Court's decision dismissing all claims. The plaintiffs have petitioned the Court for an en banc review of that decision by the entire Court. The request for en banc review has been denied. The plaintiffs have filed an appeal with the U.S. Supreme Court. At this moment it is not practicable to provide an estimate of the (potential) financial effect.

An administrator of an ERISA plan has filed a lawsuit seeking to represent a class of ERISA plan administrators claiming that an ING subsidiary ('ILIAC') has breached certain of its ERISA duties. On 11 April 2014, the parties submitted to the court a motion for preliminary approval of a class-wide settlement agreement under which ILIAC, without admitting liability, would make a payment to the class and adopt certain changes in its disclosure practices.

A complaint has been filed against ING Bank in January 2015 in the New York District Court by Alfredo and Gustavo Villoldo and the executor of their father's estate ('Villoldo'). Villoldo holds two judgments against the Cuban government and other Cuban entities in the aggregate amount of USD 2.9 billion. Those judgments remain outstanding and uncollected. The complaint against ING Bank alleges that if ING Bank had complied with the applicable US sanction laws, Cuba assets would have been frozen by OFAC and available for execution and seizure by Villoldo. The complaint alleges that the acts set out in ING's settlement with OFAC in 2012 constitute wire fraud, money laundering and fraudulent transfer and that Villoldo is therefore entitled to actual damages in the amount to be believed no less than USD 1.654 billion and treble damages of not less than USD 4.962 billion. At this moment it is not practicable to provide an estimate of the (potential) financial effect.

Since the end of 2006, unit-linked products (commonly referred to in Dutch as 'beleggingsverzekeringen') have received negative attention in the Dutch media, from the Dutch Parliament, the AFM and consumer protection organisations. Costs of unit-linked products sold in the past are perceived as too high and Dutch insurers are in general being accused of being less transparent in their offering of such unit-linked products. The criticism on unit-linked products led to the introduction of compensation schemes by Dutch insurance companies that have offered unit-linked products. In 2008, ING's Dutch insurance subsidiaries reached an outline agreement with two main consumer protection organisations to offer compensation to their unit-linked policyholders where individual unit-linked policies had a cost charge in excess of an agreed maximum and to offer similar compensation for certain hybrid insurance products. At 31 December 2008, costs of the settlements were valued at EUR 365 million, for which adequate provisions have been established and of which a substantial portion has been paid out. The remaining unpaid part of the provision as per 31 December 2014 is solely available to cover costs relating to the settlements agreed in 2008. A full agreement on implementation was reached in 2010 with one of the two main consumer protection organisations, with the second main consumer protection organisation signing its agreement in June 2012.

In addition, ING's Dutch insurance subsidiaries announced additional measures (flankerend beleid) that comply with the 'Best in Class' criteria as formulated on 24 November 2011 by the Dutch Minister of Finance. In December 2011, this resulted in an additional agreement on these measures with the two main consumer protection organisations. In 2012, almost all unit-linked policyholders were

informed about the compensation. The agreements with the two consumer protection organisations are not binding on policyholders. Consequently, neither the implementation of the compensation schemes, nor the additional measures offered by ING's Dutch insurance subsidiaries, prevent individual policyholders from initiating legal proceedings against ING's Dutch insurance subsidiaries and making claims for damages.

In November 2013, the so-called 'Vereniging Woekerpolis.nl', an association representing the interests of policyholders, initiated a so-called 'collective action', requesting the District Court in Rotterdam to declare that ING's Dutch insurance subsidiaries sold products in the market, which are defective in various respects (e.g. on transparency regarding cost charges and other product characteristics, and included risks for which the insurer failed to warn, such as considerable stock depreciations, the inability to realise the projected final policy value, unrealistic capital projections due to difference in geometric versus arithmetic returns). ING's Dutch insurance subsidiaries have rejected these claims and will defend themselves in these proceedings.

Apart from the aforementioned 'collective action', several other claim organisations and initiatives were established on behalf of policyholders, such as the organisation Wakkerpolis. This organisation primarily concentrates on the recovery of initial costs for policyholders, based on an interim ruling of the KiFiD issued on 13 May 2013 in an individual case. In this case, the KiFiD concluded that there is no contractual basis for charging initial costs (which are costs charged to the policy during a limited period of time). Apart from the initial costs, it can be derived from the interim ruling – in accordance with past rulings of the KiFiD – that an insurer is obliged to warn against the leverage and capital consumption effect (which is the effect caused by the dependency of life insurance premium on the value of the policy; the lower the value of the policy, the higher the life insurance premium). NN Group and ING believe that this interim ruling is incorrect on several legal grounds.

In proceedings pending before the District Court in Rotterdam, the Court has, upon the request of the parties, including NN, submitted preliminary questions to the European Court of Justice to obtain clarity on principal legal questions with respect to cost transparency related to unit-linked policies. The main preliminary question being considered by the European Court of Justice is whether European law permits the application of information requirements based on general principles of Dutch law that extend beyond information requirements as explicitly prescribed by laws and regulations in force at the time the policy was written. Although the European Court does not decide on the applicable standards in specific cases and solely provides clarification on the interpretation of the applicable European directive, NN and ING believe the ruling of the European Court of Justice can give clarification on this question of legal principle which is also the subject of other legal proceedings in the Netherlands. It is up to the Dutch courts to take the interpretation of the European Court of Justice into account in relevant proceedings, insofar as this interpretation can be reconciled with Dutch legislation applicable at the time the unit-linked products were sold. On 12 June 2014, the Attorney General to the European Court of Justice gave its non-binding advisory opinion to the European Court of Justice. It is expected that the European Court of Justice will render its judgement in the second quarter of 2015.

Since 2012, the AFM requires insurers to reach out to (activeren) policyholders by informing them on the financial gap between the projected value of their policy and the target capital in respect of non-accumulating policies and an overview of possible improvements, to encourage and enable such policyholders to take steps to improve their personal situation. In October 2014, the AFM published a report (Rapport Nazorg beleggingsverzekeringen) which describes, among other things, the individual activation scores of insurers as per 30 June 2014. In the report, NN has reported an activation score of 89% in respect of non-accumulating policies and has committed to realise an ambition level of 90–95% before year-end 2014.

ING's Dutch insurance subsidiaries have issued, sold or advised on approximately one million individual unit-linked policies. There has been for some time, and there continues to be political, regulatory and public attention focused on the unit-linked issue in general. Elements of unit-linked policies are being challenged or may be challenged on multiple legal grounds in current and future legal proceedings. There is a risk that one or more of those legal challenges will succeed. The financial consequences of any of the aforementioned factors or a combination thereof can be substantial for the Dutch insurance business of ING and may affect ING, both financially and reputationally. However, these consequences cannot be reliably estimated or quantified at this point.

In the state aid related proceedings between the EC, the Dutch State and ING before the European Union Courts, the Court of Justice rendered a final judgment on 3 April 2014 and dismissed the EC's appeal against the General Court ruling of March 2012. As earlier agreed in November 2012 between ING, the Dutch State and the EC, the outcome of this appeal will not affect the EC approval of ING's Amended Restructuring Plan. However, if ING does not fulfill any divestment commitment or does not meet any of the so called '2015 NN Bank-related commitments', or in case of other material non-compliance with the Restructuring Plan, the Dutch State will re-notify the recapitalisation measure to the EC. In such event the EC may open a (legal) procedure against ING, require additional restructuring measures and/or take enforcement actions.

In January 2011, the Dutch Association of Stockholders (Vereniging van Effectenbezitters, 'VEB') issued a writ alleging that investors were misled by the prospectus that was issued with respect to the September 2007 rights issue of Fortis N.V. (now Ageas N.V.) against Ageas N.V., the underwriters of such rights issue, including ING Bank N.V., and former directors of Fortis N.V. According to the VEB the prospectus shows substantive incorrect and misleading information. The VEB states that the impact and the risks of the sub-prime crisis for Fortis and Fortis' liquidity position were reflected incorrectly in the prospectus. The VEB requests a declaratory decision stating that the summoned parties acted wrongfully and are therefore responsible for the damages suffered by the investors in Fortis. The amount of damages of EUR 18 billion has yet to be substantiated. ING is defending itself against this claim; at this time ING is not able to assess the outcome of the court proceeding. Therefore, at this moment it is not practicable to provide an estimate of the (potential) financial effect of such action.

In July 2011, the Dutch ING Pensioners' Collective Action Foundation (Stichting Collectieve Actie Pensioengerechtigden ING Nederland), together with two trade unions (FNV Bondgenoten and CNV Dienstenbond) and a number of individual pensioners, instituted legal proceedings against ING's decision not to provide funding for indexing pensions insured by the Dutch ING Pension Fund (Stichting Pensioenfonds ING) in 2009, 2010 and 2011. This claim was rejected by the District Court of Amsterdam on 9 November 2012. On 15 April 2014, the Amsterdam Court of Justice dismissed claimants' appeal against the decision of the District Court of Amsterdam.

In July 2011, the Interest Group ING General Managers' Pensions (Belangenvereniging ING Directiepensioenen), together with a number of individual retired Dutch General Managers of ING, instituted legal proceedings against ING's decision not to provide funding for indexing Dutch General Managers' pensions directly insured with Nationale-Nederlanden in 2010 and 2011. This claim was rejected by the District Court of Amsterdam on 22 October 2012. An appeal was lodged against this District Court decision. It is not feasible to predict the ultimate outcome of these legal proceedings. The ultimate outcome of these proceedings may result in liabilities and provisions for such liabilities which are different from the amounts recognised. At this moment it is not practicable to provide an estimate of the (potential) financial effect of such proceedings.

In December 2005, Interadvies N.V., at the time a subsidiary of ING Bank N.V., sold Arenda Holding B.V. and five subsidiaries (together 'Arenda') to Amodo Europe N.V. ('Amodo'). In November 2006, Amodo instituted legal proceedings against ING. Amodo claimed that ING informed it incorrectly of the current and future financial status of Arenda at the time of the sale. This claim was rejected by the Court on 1 September 2010 but Amodo lodged an appeal against that Court decision. On 6 November 2012, the Court of Appeal partly awarded the claim of Amodo in an interlocutory judgement. In the interlocutory judgement, the Court of Appeal also instructed both ING and Amodo to submit a calculation of the damages involved to the Court of Appeal in order to make a final judgement. Parties have reached a full and final agreement in August 2014, and the court case has been cancelled.

Following a broad industry review by the Dutch regulator DNB, in 2013, NN Group's Netherlands Non-life was instructed to strengthen its policies and procedures in respect of sanctions related customer screening and related compliance matters. Netherlands Non-life implemented DNB's recommendations.

In July 2013, the investment management business in South Korea was agreed to be sold to Macquarie Group. The transaction closed on 2 December 2013. In the fourth quarter of 2014, a provision was recognised following a claim letter that NN Group received from Macquarie Group under the share purchase agreement. NN Group is in continuous dialogue with Macquarie Group and is considering its position.

Arbitration proceedings have been initiated by the purchaser of NN Group's former insurance subsidiary in South Korea alleging that the financial condition of this subsidiary was not accurately depicted. At this stage it is not possible to predict the financial impact of these proceedings, if any.

52 Companies and businesses acquired and divested

Acquisitions effective in 2014

There were no significant acquisitions in 2014.

Divestments effective in 2014

Asia - ING's Taiwanese investment management business

In January 2014, ING agreed to sell ING Investment Management (IM) Taiwan, its Taiwanese asset management business, to Japan-based Nomura Asset Management in partnership with a group of investors. The transaction did not have a significant impact on ING Group results. The transaction closed on 18 April 2014. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 33 'Discontinued operations'.

Asia - Joint venture ING-BOB Life

In July 2013, the 50% interest in the Chinese insurance joint venture ING-BOB Life Insurance Company was agreed to be sold to BNP Paribas Cardif, the insurance arm of BNP Paribas. The transaction closed on 30 December 2014 and does not have a significant impact on the NN Group or ING Group results.

Partial divestments effective in 2014

Voya

In 2014, ING Group reduced its stake in Voya from 56.5% at 31 December 2013 to 18.9% at 31 December 2014 through a number of transactions during the year. Voya was deconsolidated at the end of March 2014 and is accounted for as an available-for-sale investment held for sale as at 31 December 2014. Reference is made to Note 5 Investments, Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'.

NN Group

Following the IPO of NN Group in 2014, ING Group's stake reduced to approximately 68.1%. As from 30 September 2014, NN Group is presented as Assets and liabilities held for sale and discontinued operations. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'.

In addition to the above mentioned transactions, the interest in the joint venture ING Financial Services Private Limited was sold to Hathaway investments.

Other

For details on the (expected) transactions with regard to ING's interest in ING Vysya Bank reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'.

For details on transactions with regard to ING's divestments in SulAmérica S.A., reference is made to Note 5 'Investments' and Note 7 'Investments in associates and joint ventures'.

Most significant companies divested in 2014

	Voya ⁽¹⁾
General	
Primary line of business	Insurance
Sales proceeds	
Cash proceeds ⁽²⁾	950
Investment retained in Voya ⁽³⁾	2,914
Sales proceeds	3,864
Assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	1,901
Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss	79,339
Available-for-sale investments	54,250
Loans and advances to customers	8,245
Reinsurance contracts	4,359
Intangible assets	727
Deferred acquisition costs	4,211
Miscellaneous other assets	2,667
Liabilities	
Insurance and investment contracts	135,971
Financial liabilities at fair value through profit and loss	2,280
Miscellaneous other liabilities	7,288
Net assets	10,160
% disposed ⁽³⁾	56.5%
Net assets disposed	5,740
Loss on disposal ⁽⁴⁾⁽⁵⁾	-2,005

(1) This table includes the disposal transaction that resulted in the loss of control of Voya which took place in March 2014. Reference is made to Note 57 'Other events' for the earlier and subsequent transactions in Voya.

(2) Cash outflow/inflow on group companies in the cash flow statement includes, in addition to the cash amounts in this table, also cash outflows/inflows on individually insignificant disposals.

(3) IFRS requires the derecognition of the subsidiary and the recognition of the retained investment of 43.2% at the fair value on the date of disposal.

(4) The gain/loss on disposal comprises the sales proceeds, the net assets disposed, the expenses directly related to the disposal and the realisation of unrealised reserves.

(5) The portion of the loss attributable to measuring the retained investment in Voya at its fair value amounted EUR -1,467 million.

Acquisitions effective in 2013

There were no significant acquisitions in 2013.

Partial divestments effective in 2013

Voya

In May 2013, Voya was successfully listed on the NYSE reducing ING's ownership interest from 100% to approximately 71.2%. In October 2013, the sale of a second tranche further reduced ING Group's interest in Voya to approximately 56.5%. Reference is made to Note 57 'Other events'.

Divestments effective in 2013

Asia - Joint venture China Merchants Fund

In October 2012, ING reached an agreement to sell its 33.3% stake in China Merchants Fund, an investment management joint venture, to its joint venture partners China Merchants Bank Co., Ltd., and China Merchants Securities Co., Ltd. Under the terms agreed, ING received a total cash consideration of EUR 98 million. The transaction realised a net gain of EUR 59 million which was recognised in 2013. The transaction closed on 3 December 2013.

Asia - Insurance in Hong Kong, Macau, Thailand

In October 2012, ING reached an agreement to sell its life insurance, general insurance, pension and financial planning units in Hong Kong and Macau, and its life insurance operation in Thailand to Pacific Century Group for a combined consideration of EUR 1.6 billion (USD 2.1 billion) in cash. The transaction closed on 28 February 2013 and resulted in a net gain of EUR 945 million.

Asia - ING's investment management business in Thailand

In November 2012, ING reached an agreement to sell its investment management business in Thailand to UOB Asset Management Ltd. ING received a total cash consideration of EUR 10 million for the investment management business in Thailand. The transaction closed on 3 May 2013.

Asia - ING's investment management business in Malaysia

In December 2012, ING reached an agreement to sell its 70%-stake in ING Funds Berhad (IFB), ING's investment management business in Malaysia, to Kenanga Investors Berhad (Kenanga Investors), a wholly owned subsidiary of K & N Kenanga Holdings Berhad (Kenanga). Tab Inter-Asia Services Sdn Berhad has also agreed to sell its 30% stake in IFB to Kenanga Investors. The transaction closed on 19 April 2013.

Asia - Joint venture ING Vysya Life

In January 2013, ING agreed to sell its full interest in ING Vysya Life Insurance Company Ltd. to its joint venture partner Exide Industries Ltd. The transaction resulted in a net loss of EUR 15 million which was recognised in 2012. The transaction closed on 22 March 2013.

Asia - Joint venture KB Life

In April 2013, ING agreed to sell its 49% stake in Korean insurance venture KB Life Insurance Company Ltd. (KB Life) to joint venture partner KB Financial Group. ING received a total cash consideration of EUR 115 million (KRW 166.5 billion) for its 49% stake in KB Life. The transaction closed 20 June 2013.

Asia - ING's investment management business in South Korea

In July 2013, ING reached an agreement to sell its investment management business in South Korea to Macquarie Group, an Australia-based, global provider of financial services. The transaction did not have a significant impact on ING Group results. The transaction closed on 2 December 2013. Reference is made to Note 51 'Legal Proceedings' for information on the notice NN Group received from the Macquarie Group.

Asia - ING Life Korea

In August 2013, ING announced that it had reached an agreement to sell ING Life Korea, its wholly owned life insurance business in South Korea, to MBK Partners for a total purchase price of EUR 1.24 billion (KRW 1.84 trillion). Under the terms of the agreement, ING will hold an indirect stake of approximately 10% in ING Life Korea for an amount of EUR 80 million (KRW 120 billion). ING has also reached a licensing agreement that will allow ING Life Korea to continue to operate under the ING brand for a maximum period of five years. In addition, over the course of one year, ING will continue to provide technical support and advice to ING Life Korea. The transaction resulted in an after tax loss for ING Group of EUR 1.0 billion. This transaction closed on 24 December 2013.

ING's mortgage business in Mexico

In June 2013, ING reached an agreement to sell ING Hipotecaria, its mortgage business in Mexico, to Banco Santander (México) S.A. This announcement did not affect ING's Commercial Banking activities in Mexico. This transaction resulted in a net loss of EUR 64 million which was recognised in 2013. The transaction closed on 29 November 2013.

ING Direct UK

In October 2012, ING reached an agreement to sell ING Direct UK to Barclays. Under the terms of the agreement, the approximately EUR 13.4 billion (GBP 11.6 billion) of savings deposits and approximately EUR 6.4 billion (GBP 5.5 billion) of mortgages of ING Direct UK were transferred to Barclays. The agreement resulted in an after tax loss of EUR 260 million which was recognised in 2012. The transaction closed on 6 March 2013 and a gain of EUR 10 million was recognised on the final settlement. In 2012, ING Direct UK was classified as held for sale. ING Direct UK was included in the segment Retail Rest of World.

Most significant companies divested in 2013

	ING Direct UK	Hong Kong Macau and Thailand	ING Life Korea	Total
General				
Primary line of business	Bank	Insurance	Insurance	
Sales proceeds				
Cash proceeds ⁽¹⁾	-7,186	1,630	1,235	-4,321
Sales proceeds	-7,186	1,630	1,235	-4,321
Assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	290	103	171	564
Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss		763	4,292	5,055
Available-for-sale investments		3,503	9,874	13,377
Loans and advances to customers	6,437	163	1,523	8,123
Reinsurance contracts		70	17	87
Intangible assets		66	32	98
Deferred acquisition costs		601	1,848	2,449
Miscellaneous other assets	24	162	396	582
Liabilities				
Insurance and investment contracts		4,329	15,034	19,363
Financial liabilities at fair value through profit and loss		1	7	8
Customer deposits and other funds on deposit	13,701			13,701
Miscellaneous other liabilities	32	230	729	991
Net assets	-6,982	871	2,383	-3,728
% disposed	100%	100%	100%	
Net assets disposed	-6,982	871	2,383	-3,728
Gain/loss on disposal ⁽²⁾	-250	944	-989	-295

(1) Cash outflow/inflow on group companies in the cash flow statement includes, in addition to the cash amounts in this table, also cash outflows/inflows on individually insignificant disposals.

(2) The gain/loss on disposal comprises the sales proceeds, the net assets disposed, the expenses directly related to the disposal and the realisation of unrealised reserves.

Acquisitions effective in 2012

There were no significant acquisitions in 2012.

Divestments effective in 2012

Insurance businesses in Malaysia

In October 2012, ING reached an agreement with AIA Group Ltd. (AIA) on the sale of ING's insurance operations in Malaysia, which include its life insurance business, its market-leading employee benefits business and its 60% stake in ING Public Takaful Ehsan Berhad. ING received a total cash consideration of EUR 1.3 billion. In December 2012, ING completed the sale with a net transaction gain of EUR 745 million after tax.

ING Direct Canada

In August 2012, ING reached an agreement to sell ING Direct Canada for a total consideration of approximately EUR 2.4 billion (CAD 3.1 billion) to Scotiabank, a leading Canadian financial services company. ING Direct Canada had approximately CAD 40 billion in assets. The sale of ING Direct Canada led to a transaction gain of EUR 1.1 billion after tax. Under the terms of the sale agreement, Scotiabank paid CAD 3.1 billion in cash for all of the shares in ING Bank of Canada, which is the formal name of ING Direct Canada. In addition to this, Scotiabank assumed the responsibility to redeem on the 5 March 2013 (which is the first eligible call date after closing) a locally issued lower tier 2 bond (ISIN CA 456847AA01) with a total outstanding amount of CAD 321 million, which carries a guarantee from ING Bank. ING Direct Canada was included in the segment Retail Rest of World. The transaction closed in November 2012.

ING Direct USA

In June 2011, ING reached an agreement to sell ING Direct USA to Capital One Financial Corporation, a leading US-based financial holding company. In February 2012, ING announced that the transaction closed. Total proceeds of the transaction were approximately EUR 6.9 billion (USD 9.0 billion), including USD 6.3 billion in cash and USD 2.7 billion in the form of 54.0 million shares in Capital One, based on the share price of USD 49.29 at closing on 16 February 2012. These shares represented a 9.7% stake in Capital One at closing. The transaction resulted in a positive result after tax of EUR 489 million and had a positive impact on ING Bank's core Tier 1

Consolidated annual accounts

Notes to the consolidated annual accounts of ING Group continued

ratio of approximately 80 basis points at closing. This result included the release of the currency translation reserve and the available-for-sale reserve. The net negative cash proceeds from the divestment of ING Direct USA of EUR 10.3 billion (being the net amount of cash received of EUR 4.8 billion and cash included in the divestment of EUR 15.1 billion) is included in the cash flow statement in 'Disposals and redemptions – group companies'. ING Direct USA was previously included in the segment Retail Rest of World (ING Direct). In September 2012, ING sold all of its shares in Capital One Financial Corporation as disclosed in Note 24 'Investment income'.

Most significant companies divested in 2012

	ING Direct USA	ING Direct Canada	Insurance Malaysia	Total
General				
Primary line of business	Bank	Bank	Insurance	
Sales proceeds				
Cash proceeds ⁽¹⁾	4,777	2,448	1,332	8,557
Non-cash proceeds ⁽²⁾	2,012			2,012
Sales proceeds	6,789	2,448	1,332	10,569
Assets				
Cash assets	15,092	1	86	15,179
Investments	22,874	3,871	3,293	30,038
Loans and advances to customers	30,546	26,362	539	57,447
Amounts due from banks	268	773		1,041
Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss	3	17	224	244
Real estate investments			87	87
Property and equipment	76			76
Miscellaneous other assets	2,103	186	899	3,188
Liabilities				
Insurance and investment contracts			3,964	3,964
Financial liabilities at fair value through profit and loss	5	253		258
Customer deposits and other funds on deposit	63,744	29,383		93,127
Miscellaneous other liabilities	132	148	512	792
Net assets	7,081	1,426	652	9,159
% disposed	100%	100%	100%	
Net assets disposed	7,081	1,426	652	9,159
Gain/loss on disposal ⁽³⁾	743	1,124	745	2,612

(1) Cash outflow / inflow on group companies in the cash flow statement includes in addition to the cash amounts in this table, also cash outflows / inflows on individually insignificant disposals.

(2) Non-cash proceeds include the shares in Capital One Financial Corporation received.

(3) The gain/loss on disposal comprises the sales proceeds, the net assets disposed, the expenses directly related to the disposal and the realisation of unrealised reserves.

53 Principal subsidiaries

For the majority of ING's principal subsidiaries, ING Bank N.V. has control because it either directly or indirectly owns more than half of the voting power. For subsidiaries in which the interest held is below 50%, control exists based on the combination of ING Bank's financial interest and its rights from other contractual arrangements which result in control over the operating and financial policies of the entity.

For each of the subsidiaries listed, the voting rights held equal the proportion of ownership interest and consolidation by ING is based on the majority of ownership.

The principal subsidiaries of ING Groep N.V. and their statutory place of incorporation or primary place of business are as follows:

Companies that are part of the banking operations

Subsidiary		Proportion of ownership and interest held by the Group	
		2014	2013
ING Bank N.V.	The Netherlands	100%	100%
Bank Mendes Gans N.V.	The Netherlands	100%	100%
ING Lease (Nederland) B.V.	The Netherlands	100%	100%
ING Corporate Investments B.V.	The Netherlands	100%	100%
ING Vastgoed Management Holding B.V.	The Netherlands	100%	100%
WestlandUtrecht Bank N.V.	The Netherlands	100%	100%
ING België N.V.	Belgium	100%	100%
ING Luxembourg S.A.	Luxembourg	100%	100%
ING DiBa A.G.	Germany	100%	100%
ING Bank Slaski S.A.	Poland	75%	75%
ING Financial Holdings Corporation	United States of America	100%	100%
ING Vysya Bank Limited	India		43%
ING Direct N.V. ⁽¹⁾	Spain, Italy		100%
ING Bank A.S.	Turkey	100%	100%
ING Bank (Australia) Ltd	Australia	100%	100%
ING Bank (Eurasia) Z.A.O.	Russia	100%	100%

(1) In 2014, ING Direct N.V. merged with ING Bank N.V.

In 2013, the consolidation of ING Vysya Bank Limited (Vysya), was based on the combination of ownership interest and additional agreements that, amongst others, provide ability to nominate the majority of the board of directors. In 2014, ING reduced the number of directors appointed by ING in ING Vysya Bank's Board of Directors to be proportionate to its shareholding. Although ING Bank's economic interest of approximately 43% remains unchanged, ING Bank no longer has a majority representation in the Board of Directors and influence on ING Vysya's operations are aligned with its shareholding interest. As a result, ING Bank no longer has effective control over ING Vysya and, therefore, ING Vysya is deconsolidated in 2014 and accounted for as an Investment in associate held for sale. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'.

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Notes to the consolidated annual accounts of ING Group continued

Companies that are part of the insurance operations

Subsidiary	Country	Proportion of ownership and interest held by the Group	
		2014	2013
NN Group N.V. ⁽¹⁾	The Netherlands	68%	100%
Nationale-Nederlanden Levensverzekering Maatschappij N.V.	The Netherlands	68%	100%
Nationale-Nederlanden Schadeverzekering Maatschappij N.V.	The Netherlands	68%	100%
Parcom Capital B.V.	The Netherlands	68%	100%
Nationale-Nederlanden Services N.V.	The Netherlands	68%	100%
Movir N.V.	The Netherlands	68%	100%
ING Re (Netherlands) N.V.	The Netherlands	68%	100%
Nationale-Nederlanden Bank N.V.	The Netherlands	68%	100%
ING Investment Management Holdings N.V.	The Netherlands	68%	100%
ING Pojistovna a.s.	The Netherlands	68%	100%
ING Životná poisťovňa a.s.	Slovakia	68%	100%
ING Usługi Finansowe S.A.	Poland	68%	100%
ING Powszechna Towarzystwo Emerytalne S.A.	Poland	54%	80%
ING Asigurari de Viata S.A.	Romania	68%	100%
ING Greek Life Insurance Company S.A.	Greece	68%	100%
ING Biztosító Zártkörűen Működő Részvénytársaság	Hungary	68%	100%
ING Pensionno-Osigoritelno Druženstvo EAD	Bulgaria	68%	100%
ING Life Belgium N.V.	Belgium	68%	100%
ING Non Life Belgium N. V.	Belgium	68%	100%
ING Life Luxembourg S.A.	Luxembourg	68%	100%
Nationale-Nederlanden Vida, Compañía de Seguros y Reaseguros S.A.	Spain	68%	100%
Nationale-Nederlanden Generales, Compañía de Seguros y Reaseguros S.A.	Spain	68%	100%
ING Emeklielik A.S.	Turkey	68%	100%
ING Life Insurance Company Limited	Japan	68%	100%
Voya Financial Inc. ⁽²⁾			
ING International Nominee Holdings, Inc.	United States of America		56%
ING Life Insurance and Annuity Company	United States of America		56%
ING North America Insurance Corporation	United States of America		56%
Lion Connecticut Holdings Inc.	United States of America		56%
ReliaStar Life Insurance Company	United States of America		56%
ReliaStar Life Insurance Company of New York	United States of America		56%
Security Life of Denver Insurance Company	United States of America		56%
ING USA Annuity and Life Insurance Company	United States of America		56%
ING Investment Management Co	United States of America		56%
Security Life of Denver International Limited	United States of America		56%

(1) NN Group is classified as held for sale and discontinued operations in 2014.

(2) Voya was deconsolidated in 2014 following loss of control. Reference is made to Note 57 'Other events'.

54 Structured entities

ING Group's activities involve transactions with various structured entities ('SE') in the normal course of its business. A structured entity is an entity that has been designed so that voting or similar rights are not the dominant factor in deciding who controls the entity, such as when any voting rights relate to administrative tasks only and the relevant activities are directed by means of contractual arrangements. ING Group's involvement in these entities varies and includes both debt financing and equity financing of these entities as well as other relationships. Based on its accounting policies, as disclosed in the section 'Principles of valuation and determination of results' of these financial statements, ING establishes whether these involvements result in no significant influence, significant influence, joint control or control over the structured entity.

The structured entities over which ING can exercise control are consolidated. ING may provide support to these consolidated structured entities as and when appropriate, however this is fully reflected in the consolidated financial statements of ING Group as all assets and liabilities of these entities are included and off-balance sheet commitments are disclosed.

ING's activities involving structured entities are explained below in the following categories:

1. Consolidated ING originated Credit management securitisation programmes;
2. Consolidated ING originated Liquidity management securitisation programmes (Lions);
3. Consolidated ING originated Covered bond programme (CBC);
4. Consolidated ING sponsored Securitisation programme (Mont Blanc);
5. Unconsolidated Securitisation programme;
6. Investments – ING managed Investment funds;
7. Investments – Third party managed structured entities; and
8. Other structured entities.

1. Consolidated ING originated Credit management securitisation programmes

ING Group enters into synthetic securitisation programmes in order to reduce credit risk on certain assets. In synthetic securitisations, ING Group enters into a credit default swap ('CDS') with securitisation Special Purpose Entities ('SPEs'), in relation to which ING Group purchases credit protection in respect of residential mortgage loans and loans to corporates and small and medium-sized enterprises. The SPEs have hedged their exposure with investors through the issue of credit-linked notes or credit-linked commercial paper. As a result of these transactions, ING Group has transferred a part of its credit risk related to these loan portfolios to third-party investors.

As not substantially all risks and rewards of the assets are transferred to the third party investors of the SPEs, ING Group continues to recognise these assets in the consolidated financial statements. Reference is made to Note 6 'Loans and advances to customers'.

Assets used in securitisation programmes		
	2014	2013
Loans to small and medium-sized enterprises	–	426
		426

Since 2007, the most senior tranches of ING Group's own securitisations have been called and are now retained by ING Group. ING Group hedged the first loss tranches in 2009. The mezzanine tranches are transferred to third parties.

In 2012, two synthetic securitisation were unwound and in 2013 one synthetic securitisation is unwound. There was no impact on the balance sheets and profit and loss accounts were not impacted by these unwinding. As at 31 December 2013, there was only one such transaction remaining. As at 31 December 2014, there are no remaining Credit management securitisation programmes. The last programme ended in 2014 on the scheduled termination date.

2. Consolidated ING originated Liquidity management securitisation programmes (Lions)

ING Group enters into liquidity management securitisation programmes in order to obtain funding and improve liquidity. Within the programme ING Group sells ING originated assets to a structured entity. The underlying exposures include residential mortgages in the Netherlands, Germany, Belgium, Spain, Italy and Australia.

The structured entity issues securitised notes ('traditional securitisations') which are eligible collateral for central bank liquidity purposes. In most programmes ING Group acts as investor of the securitised notes. As there are limited transfer of risks and rewards, ING Group continues to consolidate these structured entities.

The structured entity issues securitisation notes in two tranches, one subordinated tranche and one senior tranche, rated AAA by a rating agency. The AAA tranche can subsequently be used by ING Group as collateral in the money market for secured borrowings.

ING Bank originated various securitisations with at 31 December 2014 approximately EUR 74 billion (2013: EUR 76 billion) of AAA rated notes and subordinated notes, of which approximately EUR 5.6 billion (2013: EUR 6.7 billion) are held by third parties. The underlying exposures are residential mortgages and SME loans. Apart from the third party funding, these securitisations did not impact ING Bank's consolidated balance sheet and profit and loss.

In 2013, there are no minority interests as part of the securitisation structured entities that are significant to ING Group. ING Group for the majority of the securitisation vehicles provides the funding for the entity except for EUR 4.8 billion (2013: EUR 5.2 billion) which are funded by third parties.

In 2013, NN Bank (part of NN Group) originated a securitisation program of approximately EUR 2.1 billion mortgage loans ('Hypenn'). The related structured entity was consolidated by NN Bank and, therefore, the related mortgage loans continued to be recognised in the balance sheet. The structured entity was partly funded through the issue of Residential Mortgage backed Securities to ING Bank (as at 31 December 2013: EUR 400 million). In 2014, NN Group is classified as held for sale and discontinued operations. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale' and Note 57 'Other events'.

3. Consolidated ING originated Covered bond programme

ING Group has entered into a covered bond programme. Under the covered bond programme ING issues bonds. The payment of interest and principal is guaranteed by an ING administered structured entity, Covered Bond Company B.V. ('CBC'). In order for CBC to fulfil its guarantee, ING legally transfers mainly Dutch mortgage loans originated by ING to CBC. Furthermore ING offers CBC protection against deterioration of the mortgage loans. CBC is consolidated by ING Group.

Covered bond programme

	Fair value pledged mortgage loans		Cash balance structured entity	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
ING Covered Bond Company B.V. ('CBC')	42,157	43,173		2,282
	42,157	43,173	-	2,282

In general, the third-party investors in securities issued by the structured entity have recourse only to the assets of the entity and not to the assets of ING Group.

4. Consolidated ING sponsored Securitisation programme (Mont Blanc)

In the normal course of business, ING Group structures financing transactions for its clients by assisting them in obtaining sources of liquidity by selling (also referred to as 'factoring') the clients' receivables or other financial assets to an ING sponsored SPE.

The transactions are funded by the ING Group administered multi seller Asset Backed Commercial Paper ('ABCP') conduit Mont Blanc Capital Corporation ('Mont Blanc'), which funds itself in the ABCP market. Mont Blanc does not have minority interests that are significant to ING Group. ING Group facilitates these transactions by providing structuring, accounting, funding and operations services.

The types of assets currently in Mont Blanc include trade receivables, consumer finance receivables, credit card receivables, motor vehicle loans and residential mortgage backed securities ('RMBS').

ING Group supports the commercial paper programmes by providing the SPE with short-term liquidity facilities. These liquidity facilities primarily cover temporary disruptions in the commercial paper market. Once drawn these facilities bear normal credit risk. A number of programmes are supported by granting structured liquidity facilities to the SPE, in which ING Group covers at least some of the credit risk incorporated in these programmes itself (in addition to normal liquidity facilities), and might suffer credit losses as a consequence. Furthermore, under a Programme Wide Credit Enhancement ING Group guarantees to a limited amount all remaining losses incorporated in the SPE to the commercial paper investors.

The liquidity facilities, including programme wide enhancements, provided to Mont Blanc are EUR 1,143 million (2013: EUR 1,728 million). The drawn liquidity amount is nil as at 31 December 2014 (2013: EUR 159 million).

The normal non-structured standby liquidity facilities and the structured facilities are reported under irrevocable facilities. All facilities, which vary in risk profile, are granted to the SPE subject to normal ING Group credit and liquidity risk analysis procedures. The fees received for services provided and for facilities are charged subject to market conditions.

5. Unconsolidated Securitisation programme

In 2013 ING transferred financial assets (mortgages loans) for an amount of approximately EUR 2 billion to a newly established special purpose entity (SPE). The transaction resulted in full derecognition of the financial assets from ING's balance sheet. The derecognition did not have a significant impact on net result. Following this transfer ING continues to have two types of on-going involvement in the transferred assets: as counterparty to the SPE of a non-standard interest rate swap and as servicer of the transferred assets. ING has an option to unwind the transaction by redeeming all notes at their principal outstanding amount, in the unlikely event of changes in accounting and/or regulatory requirements that significantly impact the transaction. The fair value of the swap as at 31 December 2014 amounted to EUR 33.7 million (2013: EUR 62.3 million); fair value changes on this swap recognised in the profit and loss account in 2014 were EUR 28.6 million (2013: EUR 4.7 million). Fee income recognised in the profit and loss account in 2014 amounted to EUR 0.5 million (2013: EUR 1.2 million).

6. Investments – ING managed Investment funds

NN Group is a consolidated subsidiary of ING Group and is presented as held for sale and discontinued operations in 2014. NN Group operations originates investment funds mainly as part of its life insurance operations. NN Group may hold investments in these funds for its own account through the general account investment portfolio of the insurance operations. Other investments in these funds may be held for the account of policyholders or by third parties.

For the majority of these funds, NN Group also acts as the fund manager. NN Group considers both NN Group's financial interests for own risk and its role as investment manager to establish whether control exists and whether the fund is consolidated. In general, NN Group maintains a minority interest in these funds and NN Group receives a fixed fee over assets under management, at arm's length basis, for its asset management activities. These funds are therefore generally not included in the consolidated financial statements of NN Group.

For 2013, Reference is made to Note 5 'Investments' in which Available for sale investments – Equity securities are specified by NN Group managed investment funds and Third party managed investment funds. The maximum exposure to loss for ING is equal to the reported carrying value of the investment recognised in the consolidated balance sheet of ING Group. For 2014, reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale'.

7. Investments – Third party managed structured entities

As part of its investment activities, NN Group invests both in debt and equity instruments of various structured entities originated by third parties.

Most of the debt investments relate to asset backed securities. Furthermore, ING has significant influence for some of its real estate investment funds.

For 2013, reference is made to Note 5 'Investments' in which Available for sale investments – Debt securities – ABS portfolio is disclosed. For 2014, reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale'.

The majority of the equity investments relate to investments in investment funds that are not originated or managed by NN Group. Reference is made to Note 5 'Investments' in which Available for sale investments – Equity securities are specified by NN Group managed investment funds and Third party managed investment funds.

8. Other structured entities

In the normal course of business, ING Group enters into transactions with structured entities as counterparty. Predominantly in its structured finance operations, ING can be instrumental in facilitating the creation of these structured entity counterparties. These entities are generally not included in the consolidated financial statements of ING Group, as ING facilitates these transactions as administrative agent by providing structuring, accounting, funding, lending and operation services.

ING Bank offers various investment fund products to its clients. ING Bank does not invest in these investment funds for its own account nor acts as the fund manager.

55 Related parties

In the normal course of business, ING Group enters into various transactions with related parties. Parties are considered to be related if one party has the ability to control or exercise significant influence over the other party in making financial or operating decisions. Related parties of ING Group include, amongst others, its subsidiaries, joint ventures, associates, key management personnel and various defined benefit and contribution plans. Transactions between related parties have taken place on an arm's length basis and include rendering or receiving of services, leases, transfers under finance arrangements and provisions of guarantees or collateral. There are no significant provisions for doubtful debts or individually significant bad debt expenses recognised on outstanding balances with related parties.

On 7 November 2014, ING Group made the final repayment on the Core Tier 1 securities of EUR 1.025 billion to the Dutch State. Including this final payment, the total amount paid to the Dutch State is EUR 13.5 billion, containing EUR 10 billion in principal and EUR 3.5 billion in interest and premiums, giving the Dutch State and annualised return of 12.7%. During 2014, the Dutch State was fully repaid. As per 8 November 2014, the Dutch state is no longer a related party of ING Group. All other transactions between ING Group and the Dutch State are of a normal business nature and at arm's length. For information on the non-voting equity securities, the Illiquid Assets Back-up Facility and the European Commission Restructuring Plan, refer to Note 56 'Transactions with the Dutch State and the European Commission Restructuring Plan'.

Transactions with joint ventures and associates

	Associates and joint ventures	
	2014	2013
Assets	2	1
Liabilities	42	28
Income received		3

For changes in 'Transactions with associates and joint ventures', reference is made to Note 7 'Investments in associates and joint ventures' and Note 57 'Other events'.

Transactions with ING Bank N.V., NN Group N.V. and Voya Financial Inc.

	ING Bank N.V.		NN Group N.V.		Voya Financial Inc.	
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013
Assets	9,944	5,351	1,223	3,394	–	116
Liabilities	133	1,060	17	54	–	–
Income received	507	757	57	124	–	–
Expenses paid	162	210	–	–	–	–

As at 31 December 2014, Voya Financial Inc. is no longer a related party of ING Groep N.V.

Assets from ING Bank N.V. and NN Group N.V. mainly include long-term funding. Liabilities to ING Bank N.V. mainly include short-term deposits.

Key management personnel compensation

Transactions with key management personnel (Executive Board, Management Boards and Supervisory Board) and post-employment benefit plans are transactions with related parties. These transactions are disclosed in more detail as required by Part 9 Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code in the remuneration report included in the annual report. The relevant sections of the remuneration report therefore are part of the annual accounts. For the post-employment benefit plans see Note 41 'Pension and other post-employment benefits'.

In 2014, 'Management Boards' includes the Management Boards of ING Bank N.V. ('ING Bank') and NN Group N.V. ('NN Group'). The members of these Management Boards are considered to be key management personnel and their compensation is therefore included in the table below.

In 2014, three members of the Executive Board of ING Groep N.V. are also members of the Management Board of ING Bank.

The governance of the insurance operations has changed during 2013 and early 2014. In 2013, all members of the Management Board of ING Insurance Eurasia N.V. became members of the Management Board of ING Verzekeringen N.V. From 1 March 2014 onwards, due to the legal merger between ING Verzekeringen N.V. and ING Topholding N.V. and the subsequent change of the name of the entity to NN Group N.V., all members of the Management Board of ING Verzekeringen N.V. became members of the Management Board of NN Group. Following the IPO of NN Group N.V. in July 2014, three Members of the Executive Board of ING Groep N.V. became members of the Supervisory Board of NN Group N.V. and are no longer members of the Management Board of NN Group N.V.

Key management personnel compensation (Executive Board and Management Boards)

2014 amounts in thousands of euros	Executive Board of ING Groep N.V. ⁽¹⁾	Management Board of ING Bank ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾⁽³⁾⁽⁴⁾	Management Board of NN Group ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾⁽⁴⁾⁽⁵⁾⁽⁶⁾	Total
Fixed Compensation				
– Base salary	2,814	3,480	3,529	9,823
– Pension costs	575	920	734	2,229
– Severance benefits		765		765
Variable compensation				
– Upfront cash		544	557	1,101
– Upfront shares		544	557	1,101
– Deferred cash		816	723	1,539
– Deferred shares		816	835	1,651
– Other			113	113
Total compensation	3,389	7,885	7,048	18,322

(1) Includes their compensation earned in the capacity as Board members.

(2) Excluding members that are also members of the Executive Board of ING Groep N.V.

(3) In 2014, two members stepped down from the Management Board of ING Bank and one new member joined.

(4) Next to compensation in the capacity as a Board member, two of the new Management Board members received a 'sign on award' consisting of a cash amount and shares with a total value of EUR 525,000 (in total for both Board members) at the grant date. The awards vest in the years 2014 - 2017, of which EUR 100,000 in 2014 and EUR 425,000 in the years 2015 - 2017.

(5) In 2014, the compensation of the Management Board NN Group reflects the extension of the Board by two members who were appointed following the IPO of NN Group and one new member who was appointed to the Management Board NN Group on 1 August 2014.

(6) One of the Board members received an award in a deferred investment in funds that are managed by the respective business.

In 2013, 'Management Boards' included the Management Boards of ING Bank N.V. ('ING Bank'), NN Group N.V. ('NN Group') and the Named Executive Officers of ING U.S., Inc. ('ING U.S.'). The Named Executive Officers were in accordance with the requirements of the Securities Exchange Commission (SEC) the CEO, CFO and the three highest compensated Executive Officers. The members of the Management Boards were considered to be key management personnel and their compensation is therefore included in the table below.

In 2013, two members of the Executive Board of ING Groep N.V. were also members of the Board of ING U.S.

Key management personnel compensation (Executive Board and Management Boards)

2013 amounts in thousands of euros	Executive Board of ING Groep N.V. ⁽¹⁾	Management Board of ING Bank ⁽²⁾	Management Board of NN Group ⁽²⁾⁽³⁾	Named Executive Officers ING U.S. ⁽⁴⁾	Total
Fixed Compensation					
– Base salary	3,309	3,195	3,351	2,569	12,424
– Pension costs	549	938	745	409	2,641
– Severance benefits			765		765
Variable compensation					
– Upfront cash		473	395	3,469	4,337
– Upfront shares		473	395		868
– Deferred cash		710	593		1,303
– Deferred shares		710	593	9,198	10,501
– Other				517	517
Total compensation	3,858	6,499	6,837	16,162	33,356
One-time incentive award ⁽⁵⁾				8,368	8,368
Total compensation including one-time incentive award	3,858	6,499	6,837	24,530	41,724

(1) Includes their compensation earned in the capacity as Executive Board members. Mr. Hamers was appointed to the Executive Board on 13 May 2013 and Mr. Hommen stepped down from the Executive Board as per 1 October 2013.

(2) Excluding members that were also members of the Executive Board of ING Groep N.V.

(3) In 2013 the compensation of the Management Board NN Group reflects the extension of the Board by two members.

(4) In 2013 the Named Executive Officers ING U.S. consisted of five persons (in 2012 three Executive Officers).

(5) In 2011, the Named Executive Officers of ING U.S. were granted a one-time incentive award of EUR 8.4 million contingent upon successfully executing the IPO of ING U.S. The awards consist of EUR 2.0 million in cash and EUR 6.4 million in deferred shares.

In 2013, the Dutch Government imposed an additional tax charge of 16% on the income in excess of EUR 150,000 of each employee who is subject to Dutch income tax. The tax was charged to the company and did not affect the remuneration of involved staff. The tax imposed on ING for relevant members of the Executive Board and Management Boards amounted to nil for 2014 (2013: EUR 2.2 million and is not included in the figures in the table above).

Key management personnel compensation (Supervisory Board)

amounts in thousands of euros	2014	2013
Total compensation	971	1,074

The table above shows the fixed remuneration, expense allowances and attendance fees for the Supervisory Board for 2014 and 2013.

Loans and advances to key management personnel

amounts in thousands of euros	Amount outstanding 31 December		Average interest rate		Repayments	
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013
Executive Board members	2,999	3,347	2.4%	2.7%	348	500
Management Board members of ING Bank and NN Group (2013: including Voya)	1,075	800	4.1%	4.0%	130	60
Supervisory Board members	0					
Total	4,074	4,147			478	560

The total number of stock options on ING Groep N.V. shares held by the Executive Board members of ING Groep N.V. amounted to 165,506 as at 31 December 2014 (2013: 178,203) and total number of stock options on ING Groep N.V. shares held by Management Board members of ING Bank and NN Group amounted to 587,786 as at 31 December 2014 (2013: 1,187,306, including Named Executive Officers of Voya Financial Inc.). As at 31 December 2014, members of the Supervisory Board held 389,390 stock options on ING Groep N.V. shares (2013: 92,959). As at 31 December 2014, members of the Executive Board held 210,551 ING Groep N.V. shares (2013: 193,608) and members of the Management Boards of ING Bank and NN Group held 442,906 ING Groep N.V. shares (2013: 395,798, including Named Executive Officers of Voya Financial Inc.). As at 31 December 2014, members of the Supervisory Board held 168,263 ING Groep N.V. shares (2013: 285,157).

Key management personnel compensation is generally included in Staff expenses in the profit and loss account, except for key management personnel employed by entities that are presented as held for sale and discontinued operations in which case their compensation is included in the Total net result from discontinued operations.

Remuneration of the Executive Board and Management Board Bank is recognised in the profit and loss account in Staff expenses as part of Total expenses. Remuneration in respect of Voya Financial Inc. and NN Group is reflected in Net result from discontinued operations and does not impact the Total expenses. The total remuneration of the Executive Board and Management Board Bank as

disclosed in the table above (for 2014: EUR 11.3 million) includes all variable remuneration related to the performance year 2014. Under IFRS, certain components of variable remuneration are not recognised in the profit and loss account directly, but are allocated over the vesting period of the award. The comparable amount recognised in Staff expenses in 2014 and included in Total expenses in 2014, relating to the fixed expenses of 2014 and the vesting of variable remuneration of earlier performance years, is EUR 10.4 million.

Relationship agreement and other agreements NN Group N.V.

In connection with the initial public offering of NN Group N.V., ING Groep N.V. and NN Group N.V. entered into a Relationship Agreement. The Relationship Agreement contains certain arrangements regarding the continuing relationship between ING Groep N.V. and NN Group N.V.

In addition, in connection with the initial public offering, of NN Group N.V., ING Groep N.V. entered into several other agreements with NN Group N.V. such as a transitional intellectual property license agreement, a joinder agreement, an equity administration agreement and an indemnification and allocation agreement.

Master claim agreement

In 2012, ING Groep N.V., Voya Financial Inc. (formerly ING U.S., Inc.) and ING Insurance Eurasia N.V. entered into a master claim agreement to (a) allocate existing claims between these three parties and (b) agree on criteria for how to allocate future claims between the three parties. The master claim agreement contains further details on claim handling, conduct of litigation and dispute resolution.

Indemnification and allocation agreement with NN Group N.V.

ING Groep N.V. and NN Group N.V. have entered into an indemnification and allocation agreement, in which ING Group has agreed to indemnify NN Group N.V. for certain liabilities that relate to the business of or control over certain (former) U.S. and Latin American subsidiaries of the Company in the period until 30 September 2013 or, if the relevant subsidiary was divested by NN Group N.V. after 30 September 2013, such later date of divestment. These liabilities mainly include contingent liabilities that may arise as a result of the initial public offering of Voya Financial Inc. (such as prospectus liability) and the sales of the Latin American businesses (such as claims under warranties and other buyer protection clauses).

Shareholder agreement and other agreements Voya Financial Inc.

In connection with the initial public offering of Voya Financial Inc., ING Groep N.V. entered into a shareholder agreement with Voya Financial Inc. that governs certain aspects of our continuing relationship. In particular, the shareholder agreement addresses the composition of the Voya Financial Inc. board of directors and its committees, other corporate governance matters, ING Groep N.V. approval and consent rights with respect to certain business and corporate actions Voya Financial Inc. may take, mutual rights that Voya Financial Inc. and ING Groep N.V. will have with respect to business and financial information and financial accounting matters and ING Groep N.V. rights with respect to subsequent sales of the common stock of Voya Financial Inc.

In addition, in connection with the initial public offering, of Voya Financial Inc., ING Groep N.V. entered into several other agreements with Voya Financial Inc. such as a transitional intellectual property license agreement, a joinder agreement and an equity administration agreement.

56 Transactions with the Dutch State and the European Commission Restructuring Plan

Following a number of transactions, as disclosed in this note, the Dutch State was a related party of ING Group. During 2014, the Dutch State was fully repaid. As per 8 November 2014, the Dutch state is no longer a related party of ING Group. All other transactions between ING Group and the Dutch State are of a normal business nature and at arm's length.

In the framework of the transactions with the Dutch State disclosed in this note, certain arrangements with respect to corporate governance and executive remuneration were agreed with the Dutch State which were in place until the Illiquid Assets Back-up Facility was unwound. The last State Nominee remained in office until 12 May 2014.

Illiquid Assets Back-up Facility

ING Group and the Dutch State reached an agreement on an Illiquid Assets Back-up Facility ('IABF') on 26 January 2009. The transaction closed on 31 March 2009. The IABF covered the Alt-A portfolios of both ING Direct USA and Voya (formerly ING Insurance US), with a par value of approximately EUR 30 billion. Under the IABF, ING transferred 80% of the economic ownership of its Alt-A portfolio to the Dutch State. As a result, an undivided 80% interest in the risk and rewards on the portfolio was transferred to the Dutch State. ING retained 100% of the legal ownership of its Alt-A portfolio. The transaction price was 90% of the par value with respect to the 80% proportion of the portfolio of which the Dutch State had become the economic owner. The transaction price remained payable by the Dutch State to ING and was redeemed over the remaining life. Furthermore, under the IABF ING paid a guarantee fee to the Dutch State and received a funding fee and a management fee. As a result of the transaction ING derecognised 80% of the Alt-A portfolio from its balance sheet and recognised a receivable from the Dutch State. The transferred Alt-A portfolio was previously included in Available-for-sale debt securities. The Dutch State also acquired certain consent rights with respect to the sale or transfer of the 20% proportion of the Alt-A portfolio that was retained by ING.

Under the terms of the transaction as agreed on 26 January 2009, the overall sales proceeds amounted to EUR 22.4 billion at the transaction date. The amortised cost (after prior impairments) at the transaction date was also approximately EUR 22.4 billion. The transaction resulted in a loss in 2009 of EUR 109 million after tax (the difference between the sales proceeds and the amortised cost). The fair value under IFRS-EU at the date of the transaction was EUR 15.2 billion.

In order to obtain approval from the European Commission ('EC') on ING Group's Restructuring Plan (see below), ING agreed to make additional Illiquid Assets Back-up Facility payments as part of the overall agreement with the EC to the Dutch State corresponding to an adjustment of the fees for the Illiquid Assets Back-up Facility. In total, these additional Illiquid Assets Back-up Facility payments as part of the overall agreement with the European Commission amounted to a net present value of EUR 1.3 billion before tax, which was recognised as a one-off charge in 2009.

The difference between the total sales proceeds of EUR 21.1 billion (EUR 22.4 billion -/- adjustment of EUR 1.3 billion) and the fair value under IFRS-EU of EUR 15.2 billion represents a 'Government grant' under IAS 20. This government grant is considered to be an integral part of the transaction and is therefore accounted for as part of the result on the transaction. The transaction resulted in a reduction of the negative revaluation and therefore an increase in equity of EUR 4.6 billion (after tax).

The valuation method of the 20% Alt-A securities in the IFRS-EU balance sheet is not impacted by the IABF. The methodology used to determine the fair value for these assets in the balance sheet under IFRS-EU is disclosed in Note 46 'Fair value of assets and liabilities'.

In connection with the sale of ING Direct USA, as disclosed in Note 52 'Companies and businesses acquired and divested', ING reached an agreement with the Dutch State to adjust the structure of the IABF. This adjustment served to de-link the IABF from ING Direct USA by putting ING Bank in its place as counterparty for the Dutch State and became effective at the closing of the sale in February 2012. Under the terms of the original transaction ING Direct USA held on its balance the remaining 20% of the Alt-A portfolio, ensuring an alignment of interests between ING and the Dutch state regarding the performance of the portfolio.

Upon closing of the sale ING provided a counter guarantee to the Dutch State covering 25% of the 80% part of the Dutch State. This guarantee covered realised cash losses if they would exceed the 35% that is implied by the market value of the portfolio in June 2011. This adjustment therefore lowered the risk exposure for the Dutch State. The impact on equity and result of the alignment for ING Bank was limited.

In November 2012, NN Group (formerly ING Insurance) restructured the IABF to effectively de-link Voya from the IABF. Voya transferred its Dutch State receivable of approximately EUR 1.1 billion (USD 1.4 billion) to ING Bank, and at the same time transferred legal title to 80% of the Alt-A portfolio to ING Bank. The securities were held in an ING Bank custody account for the benefit of the Dutch State (the portion for which the investment risk has been transferred to the Dutch State). Following the restructuring, Voya continued to own 20% of the Alt-A portfolio (the portion for which the economic ownership and investment risk remained for the risk of ING), but had the right to sell these securities, subject to a right of first refusal granted to ING Bank. ING committed to the Dutch State that it would not sell these securities to non-ING parties without the prior written consent of the Dutch State.

In 2013, ING reached a final agreement with the Dutch State on the unwinding of the IABF. The terms of the agreement were approved by the EC. Under the agreement, the IABF in its current form was terminated, the regular guarantee fee payments were settled for an amount of EUR 0.4 billion and the other restrictions as part of the IABF agreement were no longer applicable. Furthermore, under the agreement, the Dutch State committed to sell the Alt-A securities in the market. Unwinding the IABF also resulted in eliminating a counter-guarantee that ING extended to the Dutch State in connection with the divestment of ING Direct USA in 2012.

The first tranche of the divestment of securities was executed in December 2013. All the remaining securities held by the Dutch State as at 31 December 2013 were sold in January and early February 2014.

The Dutch State used all repayments and net fees received to repay the loan from ING. The loan was fully repaid in January 2014.

Non-voting equity securities (Core Tier 1 securities)

On 12 November 2008, ING Groep N.V. issued one billion non-voting equity securities to the Dutch State at EUR 10 per non-voting equity security, resulting in an increase of ING Group's core Tier 1 capital of EUR 10 billion. The nominal value of each security was EUR 0.24. The non-voting equity securities do not form part of ING Groep N.V.'s share capital; accordingly they did not carry voting rights in the General Meeting of Shareholders.

These non-voting equity securities were deeply subordinated and ranked pari-passu with ordinary shares in a winding up of ING Groep N.V. On these non-voting equity securities a coupon was payable of the higher of EUR 0.85 per security and 125% of the dividend paid on each ordinary share over 2011 onwards (payable in 2012 onwards).

Further coupons were to be paid on 12 May of each year (the coupon date) in cash if dividend on ordinary shares was paid in cash or in scrip securities in the event of a scrip dividend on ordinary shares. Coupons were only due and payable, on a non-cumulative basis and if a dividend was paid on ordinary shares over the financial year preceding the coupon date, either on an interim or a final dividend basis, provided that ING Groep N.V.'s capital adequacy position was and remained satisfactory both before and immediately after payment in the opinion of the Dutch Central Bank ('DNB').

As of 12 November 2011, ING Groep N.V. had the right to repay all or some of the non-voting equity securities at EUR 15 per security at any time, together with the pro-rata coupon accrued to such date. ING Groep N.V. and the Dutch State agreed in October 2009 that up to EUR 5 billion of the EUR 10 billion core Tier 1 securities could have been repaid at any time until 31 January 2010 at the original issue price of EUR 10 per non-voting equity security, plus a repurchase premium and accrued interest.

ING Groep N.V. also had the right to convert all or some of the non-voting equity securities into ordinary shares on the basis of one non-voting equity security for 1.335 ordinary shares or bearer depositary receipts from three years after the issue date onwards, subject to certain conditions. This equated to an exchange price of EUR 7.49. The Dutch State in that case had the right to demand a redemption payment of EUR 10 per non-voting equity security, together with the pro-rata coupon, if due, accrued to such date. Both repayment and conversion of the securities had to be approved by the DNB.

Repayment non-voting equity shares

On 7 November 2014, ING Group made the final repayment on the Core Tier 1 securities of EUR 1.025 billion to the Dutch State. Including this final payment, the total amount paid to the Dutch State is EUR 13.5 billion, giving the Dutch State an annualised return of 12.7%. Information on the repayments is included in the table below.

Repayments of Non-voting equity securities

Date	Non-voting equity securities (Core Tier 1 securities)	Repurchase premium including interest	Total
December 2009	5,000	1,031	6,031
May 2011	2,000	1,000	3,000
November 2012	750	375	1,125
November 2013	750	375	1,125
March 2014	817	408	1,225
November 2014	683	342	1,025
Total repayment to the Dutch State	10,000	3,531	13,531

European Commission Restructuring Plan

In 2009, ING Groep N.V. submitted a Restructuring Plan to the European Commission as part of the process to receive approval for the government support measures. By decision of 18 November 2009, the European Commission, formally approved the Restructuring Plan. The main elements of the Restructuring Plan as announced on 26 October 2009, were as follows:

- › Elimination of double leverage and significant reduction of ING's balance sheet;
- › Divestment of all Insurance and Investment Management activities;
- › Divestment of ING Direct USA;
- › Creation of a new company in the Dutch retail market composed of Interadvies (including Westland Utrecht and the mortgage activities of Nationale-Nederlanden) and the existing consumer lending portfolio of ING Retail in the Netherlands. This business, once separated, needs to be divested;
- › Restriction to be a price leader in any EU country for certain retail and SME banking products and restriction to acquire financial institutions or other businesses that would delay the repayment of the non-voting equity securities.

It was agreed that these restrictions would apply for the shorter period of three years or until the non-voting equity securities have been repaid in full to the Dutch State:

- › An agreement with the Dutch State to alter the repayment terms of 50% of the non-voting equity securities;
- › Repayment of EUR 5 billion of the non-voting equity securities issued in November 2008 to the Dutch State;
- › Additional Illiquid Assets Back-up Facility payments as part of the overall agreement with the European Commission will have to be made to the Dutch State in the form of fee adjustments relating to the Illiquid Assets Back-Up Facility which resulted in a one-off pre-tax charge to ING of EUR 1.3 billion in the fourth quarter of 2009;
- › Launch of a EUR 7.5 billion rights issue, in order to finance the repayment of 50% of the non-voting equity securities and a mitigation of the capital impact of the additional Illiquid Assets Back-up Facility payment as part of the overall agreement with the European Commission to the Dutch State of EUR 1.3 billion;
- › Execution of the Restructuring Plan before the end of 2013;
- › If the overall return on the (remaining) non-voting equity securities (core Tier 1 securities) issued to the Dutch State is expected to be lower than 10% p.a., the EC may consider the imposition of additional behavioural constraints; and
- › The calling of Tier 2 capital and Tier 1 hybrids will in the future be proposed case by case to the Commission for authorisation, for the shorter period of three years starting from the date of the Commission decision or up to the date on which ING has fully repaid the non-voting equity securities (core Tier 1 securities) to the Dutch State (including the relevant accrued interest of core Tier 1 coupons and exit premium fees).

ING announced in November 2012 that, together with the Dutch State, it had submitted significant amendments to the 2009 Restructuring Plan to the EC. The EC approved these amendments by Decision of 16 November 2012.

Amendments to the Restructuring Plan in 2012

The amendments to the 2009 Restructuring Plan as announced in November 2012 extended the time horizon and increased the flexibility for the completion of divestments and have adjusted other commitments in light of the market circumstances, economic climate and more stringent regulatory requirements.

Under the amendments announced in 2012, the ultimate dates for divesting the insurance and investment management businesses changed as follows:

- › The divestment of more than 50% of ING's interest in its Asian insurance and investment management operations had to be completed by year-end 2013, with the remaining interest divested by year-end 2016;
- › The divestment of at least 25% of ING's interest in Voya has to be completed by year-end 2013, more than 50% had to be divested by year-end 2014, with the remaining interest to be divested by year-end 2016;

- › The divestment of more than 50% of ING's interest in its European insurance and investment management activities has to be completed by year-end 2015, with the remaining interest divested by year-end 2018; and as ING has committed to eliminate double leverage, proceeds from the divestments will be used to that end while ensuring adequate leverage ratios of the insurance holding companies.

A divestment of more than 50% of ING's interest as mentioned in this paragraph and furthermore below also means that ING Group (a) no longer has a majority of representatives on the Boards of these operations and (b) has deconsolidated these operations from ING Group's financial statements in line with IFRS accounting rules.

Under the terms of the original Restructuring Plan, ING was required to divest Interadvies (at that point in time named WestlandUtrecht Bank). However, due to market circumstances and changing regulatory requirements, a divestment of WestlandUtrecht had not occurred. Instead, under the amended Restructuring Plan, the commercial operations of WestlandUtrecht Bank were combined with the retail banking activities of Nationale-Nederlanden, which is to be divested as part of ING's insurance and investment management operations in Europe. The result has to be that Nationale-Nederlanden Bank is a viable and competitive business, which stands alone and is separate from the businesses retained by ING. To this end, ING already needs to ring-fence Nationale-Nederlanden Bank up to the divestment of more than 50% of NN Group.

On 1 July 2013, EUR 3.8 billion of WestlandUtrecht Bank's Dutch mortgage portfolio, EUR 0.1 billion of consumer lending and EUR 3.7 billion of Dutch savings portfolio were transferred to Nationale-Nederlanden Bank. In addition approximately 400 of WestlandUtrecht Bank's employees were transferred to Nationale-Nederlanden Bank. All assets and liabilities were transferred at the existing carrying value as included in ING Bank's balance sheet. This transaction was completed on 1 July 2013. In addition, during the second half of 2013 a further EUR 4.2 billion Dutch mortgages were transferred from WestlandUtrecht Bank to NN Group. In 2014, a further EUR 1.2 billion Dutch mortgages were transferred from WestlandUtrecht Bank to NN Group. These transfers were made at arm's length prices.

ING has committed, amongst others, that Nationale-Nederlanden Bank will reach certain targets for mortgage production and consumer credit until the date on which more than 50% of the Insurance and investment management Europe operations has been divested, or until 31 December 2015 if the European Commission requires so. Furthermore, ING has agreed to a maximum ratio for mortgage production at ING Retail Banking Netherlands in relation to mortgage production of Nationale-Nederlanden Bank until year-end 2015.

The 2009 Restructuring Plan included restrictions on acquisitions and price leadership for certain products in EU markets. These restrictions will continue to apply until 18 November 2015 or until the date on which more than 50% of each of the Insurance/IM operations has been divested, whichever date comes first.

The price leadership restrictions in Europe have been amended to reflect specific conditions in various local markets. Under the amendments, the constraint no longer applies in the Netherlands, and ING Direct in the EU will refrain from offering more favourable prices than its best priced direct competitor among the ten financial institutions having the largest market share in the respective countries.

The calling or buy-back of Tier 2 capital and Tier 1 Hybrid Securities continued to be proposed for authorisation to the European Commission on a case by case basis until the full repayment of the core Tier 1 securities to the Dutch State, but ultimately until 18 November 2014, whichever date comes first. Notwithstanding this restriction, ING was allowed to call the EUR 1.25 billion Hybrid originally issued by ING Verzekeringen N.V. on 21 December 2012. With full the repayment of the core Tier 1 securities to the Dutch State on 7 November 2014, this restrictions has ended as of this date.

The 2012 amended Restructuring Plan included a repayment schedule for the remaining core Tier 1 securities to the Dutch State as described in the above-mentioned section 'Repayment non-voting equity shares'. As indicated, on 7 November 2014 the repayment of the core Tier 1 securities to the Dutch State was completed.

The implementation of the commitments and obligations set out in the (amended) Restructuring Plan will be monitored by a monitoring trustee who is independent of ING until 31 December 2015.

The 2012 amended Restructuring Plan was formally approved by the European Commission, by decision of 16 November 2012. As a result, the Commission closed its formal investigations as announced on 11 May 2012 and ING also withdrew its appeal at the General Court of the European Union, filed in July 2012. For principal legal reasons the EC continued with its appeal against the General Court ruling of March 2012. However, as part of the agreement of 19 November 2012, ING, the Dutch State and the EC agreed that the outcome of this appeal would not affect the EC approval of the 2012 amended Restructuring Plan. The EU Court of Justice rendered a final judgment on 3 April 2014 and dismissed the EC's appeal against the General Court ruling of March 2012.

Amendments to the Restructuring Plan in 2013

In November 2013, ING announced further amendments to the Restructuring Plan. ING announced that it will expand the scope of the base case Initial Public Offering (IPO) of NN Group to include ING Life Japan. In that context, ING and the Dutch State have reached an agreement with the EC on revised timelines for the divestment process of ING Life Japan and ING's European insurance and investment management activities.

As part of the previously announced amended restructuring agreement with the EC in 2012, ING planned to divest more than 50% of ING's Asian insurance and investment management businesses by the end of 2013. ING successfully divested most of these businesses over the course of 2013. Under the revised timelines announced, ING will divest ING Life Japan in line with the divestment timeline for ING's European insurance and investment management activities. This means that the timeline to divest more than 50% of ING Life Japan has effectively been extended to year-end 2015, which is also the unchanged timeline to divest more than 50% of ING's European insurance and investment management businesses. As part of the revised 2013 agreement, ING will accelerate the timeline to complete the divestment of 100% of ING's European insurance and investment management activities by year-end 2016.

The amendments to the restructuring plan of 2013 were formally approved by the European Commission by decision of 5 November 2013.

Status of the European Commission Restructuring Plan

ING has completed most commitments of the restructuring plan. As at 31 December 2014, the following were still in progress:

- › Divestment US Insurance and investment management activities ('Voya'): The November sale of Voya shares reduced ING's stake in Voya to 18.9%. In March 2015, ING Group sold its remaining 18.9% stake in Voya. Reference is made to Note 58 'Subsequent events'. As agreed, ING Group divested its remaining stake before year-end 2016; and
- › Divestment European and Japanese insurance and investment management activities (NN Group N.V.): ING Group needs to bring its current stake of 54.6% below 50% and deconsolidate NN Group before year-end 2015 and divest 100% of NN Group by year-end 2016.

These divestments will also ensure that ING Group completes two other commitments: the required reduction of its balance sheet and the elimination of its double leverage.

- › Creation and Divestment of Nationale-Nederlanden Bank (NN Bank): ING Group has committed to create NN Bank – as part of NN Group – as a viable, stand-alone and competitive business with a broad product portfolio and a growth path to become a mid-sized player in the Dutch market. Several detailed commitments need to be met, including targets for mortgage production and consumer credit production as well as the commitment that NN Bank should be sufficiently capitalised to execute its long-term growth plan and in any case to ensure growth to about 2016, which includes a commitment to make available to NN Bank additional capital up to an amount of EUR 120 million if and when needed but ultimately just before the date on which ING Group has deconsolidated NN Group (if the Basel III leverage ratio becomes mandatory or when NN Bank needs capital to execute its business plan).
- › Acquisition and Price Leadership bans: With the repayment of the Core Tier 1 Securities now complete, part of the acquisition ban has ended: ING Group is no longer restricted from acquiring non-financial institutions. However, the ban on acquiring (parts of) financial institutions still applies. This ban continues to apply until ING Group has deconsolidated NN Group, or until 18 November 2015, whichever comes first. These deadlines also apply to the price leadership ban.

Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale', Note 52 'Companies and businesses acquired and divested' and Note 57 'Other events'.

Credit Guarantee Scheme

As part of the measures adopted to protect the financial sector, the Dutch State introduced a EUR 200 billion credit guarantee scheme for the issuance of medium term debt instruments by banks (the Credit Guarantee Scheme). ING Bank N.V. issued government guaranteed debt instruments under this Credit Guarantee Scheme ('Government Guaranteed Bonds') as part of its regular medium-term funding operations. The relevant Rules of the Credit Guarantee Scheme set forth the rules applicable to any issues under the Credit Guarantee Scheme and include information such as scope, denomination, tenor and fees payable by the banks. ING Group paid a fee of 84 basis points over the issued bonds to the Dutch State to participate in the Credit Guarantee Scheme. In 2014, all these bonds were fully repaid. Reference is made to Note 16 'Debt securities in issue'.

57 Other events

NN Group

Initial Public Offering (IPO)

On 2 July 2014, ING sold 77 million existing ordinary shares in the initial public offering of NN Group at EUR 20.00 per share. On 10 July 2014, the joint global coordinators, on behalf of the underwriters, exercised an over-allotment option to purchase 11.55 million of additional existing shares in NN Group at the same price. At the time of the IPO, a first tranche of EUR 450 million of the mandatorily exchangeable subordinated notes (the pre-IPO investments from the three Asian-based investment firms RRJ Capital, Temasek and SeaTown Holdings International) was exchanged into NN Group shares. The remaining two tranches (each for an aggregate amount of EUR 337.5 million) will be mandatorily exchanged into NN Group shares from 2015 onwards.

Total gross proceeds from the NN Group IPO, including the exchange of the first tranche of subordinated notes into NN Group shares and the over-allotment option, amount to EUR 2.2 billion.

As a result of the above, ING's ownership in NN Group declined from 100% to 68.1%. This transaction did not impact the profit and loss account of ING Group, as NN Group will continue to be fully consolidated by ING Group. In 2014, the transactions had a negative impact on shareholders' equity of ING Group of EUR 4,263 million. This amount includes:

- › EUR 2,590 million, being the difference between the net proceeds of the IPO to ING and the IFRS carrying value of the stake in NN Group divested in the IPO (including the exercise of the over-allotment option);
- › EUR 661 million, being the difference between the market value of the NN Group shares exchanged for the first tranche of the mandatorily exchangeable subordinated notes and the related IFRS carrying value; and
- › EUR 1,012 million, being the estimated difference between the market value of the NN Group shares to be exchanged for the second and third tranches of the mandatorily exchangeable notes and the related estimated IFRS carrying value.

In 2014, NN Group is classified as held for sale and discontinued operations. Upon classification, the carrying amount of the disposal group (or group of assets) was compared to NN Group's fair value less cost to sell. The fair value less cost to sell was lower than the carrying value of the disposal group and as a result goodwill and certain other non-current non-financial assets totalling EUR 470 million were written-off in 2014 and recognised in the profit and loss account in the line 'Net result from classification as discontinued

operations'. A remaining expected loss is only recognised in the profit and loss account upon a divestment resulting in deconsolidation.

Upon deconsolidation, the divestment result will reflect ING Group's remaining share (at the transaction date) in the difference between the carrying value of NN Group and the fair value, plus ING Group's share in unrealised revaluations in equity plus the currency translation reserve related to NN Group. The actual divestment result depends on a number of variables, including the share price, the carrying value of NN Group, the level of unrealised reserves in equity and the stake held by ING Group at the date of the transaction. Such a divestment could have a sizeable impact on the profit and loss account and shareholders' equity of ING Group.

Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale', Note 14 'Equity', Note 15 'Subordinated loans', Note 22 'Other liabilities', Note 33 'Discontinued operations' and Note 58 'Subsequent events'.

Establishment of NN Group

In 2014, ING Verzekeringen N.V. ('ING Insurance') was the holding company of the insurance and investment management activities of ING. ING Insurance was a wholly owned subsidiary of ING Insurance Topholding N.V. ('ING Topholding'), a wholly owned subsidiary of the ultimate parent ING Groep N.V. ING Topholding was a holding company with no other assets, liabilities and activities than its 100% holding ING Insurance. On 28 February 2014, ING Insurance and ING Topholding legally merged. Through this merger, the legal entity ING Insurance ceased to exist. The legal merger became effective on 1 March 2014 and on that date the merged entity was renamed NN Group N.V. ('NN Group'). The merged entity NN Group N.V. is in substance a continuation of ING Insurance.

Voya

In May 2013, ING Group sold 28.8% of its interest in Voya through an IPO. In October 2013, ING Group further reduced its interest in Voya to 56.7%. The 2013 divestment transactions did not impact the profit and loss account of ING Group, as Voya continued to be fully consolidated. These transactions had a negative impact on shareholders' equity (parent) of ING Group which reflected the difference between the net proceeds received and the IFRS-EU book value of the interests divested. These amounts were recognised in 'Other reserves'. From the third quarter of 2013 Voya was presented as Assets and liabilities held for sale and discontinued operations because it was assessed highly probable that ING would lose control within a year.

In March 2014, ING Group sold a further 13.3% of its interest in Voya reducing its interest to 43.2% whereby fulfilling the European Commission restructuring requirement to divest at least 50% of Voya before the 2014 year-end. Following this transaction, Voya was deconsolidated and is accounted for as an Investment in associate held for sale from the first quarter of 2014. The remaining investment in Voya was recognised at its fair value of EUR 2,914 million at the transaction date.

The share sale and the deconsolidation of Voya resulted in an after tax loss of EUR 2,005 million in the first quarter of 2014 which is recognised in the profit and loss account in the line 'Net result from disposal of discontinued operations'. This amount reflects the difference between the IFRS book value and the market value of ING Group's 57% stake in Voya at deconsolidation, and includes the release of corresponding revaluation reserves. The portion of the loss attributable to measuring the retained investment in Voya at its fair value amounted to EUR -1,467 million.

In September 2014, ING Group sold a further 10.8% to reduce ING Group's interest in Voya to 32.5%. ING Group sold 22.3 million Voya shares at a price of USD 38.85 per share in the public offering. In addition ING Group sold to Voya 7.7 million shares for an aggregate amount of USD 300 million. The gross proceeds to ING Group from the public offering and the concurrent repurchase by Voya amounted to EUR 888 million (USD 1.2 billion). These transactions resulted in a profit of EUR 40 million in the third quarter of 2014 and are recognised in the profit and loss account in the line Net result from disposal of discontinued operations.

In November 2014, ING Group sold a further 34.5 million shares of Voya. ING Group sold 30.0 million Voya shares at a price of USD 39.15 per share in the public offering. In addition, ING Group sold to Voya 4.5 million shares for an aggregate amount of EUR 138 million (USD 175 million). The gross proceeds to ING Group from the public offering and the concurrent repurchase by Voya amounts to EUR 1.1 billion (USD 1.4 billion). These transactions settled on 18 November 2014. The sale of the total of 34.5 million shares from the combined transactions reduces ING Group's stake in Voya from 32.5% to 18.9%. As a result of these transactions, ING Group loses significant influence over Voya and accounts for its stake in Voya as an available-for-sale equity investment held for sale investment as at 31 December 2014. These transactions resulted in a net profit after tax profit of EUR 418 million and is recognised in the profit and loss account in the line Net Result from disposal of discontinued operations in 2014.

The table below provides a summary of the various Voya divestment transactions that occurred in 2013 and 2014.

Summary of Voya divestment transactions

Date	Interest % held before transaction	Portion of interest sold	Interest % held after transaction	Price per share in USD	Gross sales proceeds EUR millions	Impact on Shareholders' equity	Impact in minority interest	Impact on Total equity	Impact on profit and loss
May 2013	100%	-28.8%	71.2%	19.50	1,061	-1,894	2,954	1,060	nil
October 2013	71.2%	-14.6%	56.5%	29.50	786	-632	1,394	762	nil
2013	100%	-43.5%	56.5%	n.a	1,847	-2,526	4,348	1,822	nil
March 2014	56.5%	-13.3%	43.2%	35.23	950	87	-5,100	-5,013	-2,005
September 2014	43.2%	-10.8%	32.5%	38.85	888	-	-	-	40
November 2014	32.5%	-13.5%	18.9%	39.15	1,068	-	-	-	418
2014	56.5%	-37.6%	18.9%	n.a	2,906	87	-5,100	-5,013	-1,547

Deconsolidation of ING Vysya Bank

In 2014, changes to the governance structure of ING Vysya Bank Limited ('ING Vysya') were implemented in order to better align with prevailing regulations. The regulatory requirements necessitated some governance changes. As part of that, ING has reduced the number of directors appointed by ING in ING Vysya Bank's Board of Directors to be proportionate to its shareholding. Although ING Bank's economic interest of approximately 43% remains unchanged, as a result of these governance changes, ING Bank no longer has a majority representation in the Board of Directors and influence on ING Vysya's operations are aligned with its shareholding interest. As a result, ING Bank no longer has effective control over ING Vysya and, therefore, as of 31 March 2014 ING Vysya was deconsolidated and accounted for as an associate under equity accounting. Before the changes in the governance structure ING Bank had substantial additional powers, including the majority in the Board of Directors and power over operational decision making; as a result, ING Vysya was consolidated by ING. After the deconsolidation, the investment in ING Vysya is recognised as an Investment in associates and joint ventures at its fair value at 31 March 2014 of EUR 617 million. The profit and loss account of 2014 includes the consolidated result of ING Vysya until the deconsolidation and the result upon deconsolidation of EUR 202 million. The result upon deconsolidation is recognised in Other income – Result on disposal of group companies.

ING Vysya Bank to merge with Kotak Mahindra Bank

In November 2014, ING Vysya Bank (Vysya) and Kotak Mahindra Bank (Kotak) announced their intention to merge their respective businesses. With a current shareholding of 42.7%, ING is the largest shareholder in Vysya. ING has indicated its support for the proposed transaction to Vysya and Kotak. In the proposed transaction, Vysya will be merged into Kotak. Shareholders of Vysya will receive 0.725 shares in Kotak for each Vysya share. Upon completion of the merger, ING would hold a stake of approximately 7% in the combined company, which will operate under the Kotak brand. ING's holding in the combined company will be subject to a 1 year lock-up period from the closing of the transaction. The proposed transaction is expected to result in a pro-forma net profit for ING of approximately EUR 313 million to be recognised at the closing. The shareholders of Kotak and Vysya approved this transaction in January 2015. The proposed transaction is subject to customary regulatory approvals. The transaction is expected to close in the second half of 2015. As at 31 December 2014, Vysya is presented as held-for-sale. Reference is made to Note 12 'Assets and liabilities held for sale'.

SNS Reaal nationalisation

In 2013, the nationalisation of SNS Reaal, a Dutch financial institution, was announced. As a consequence of the arrangements made by the Dutch government, ING Bank and other Dutch banks were required to pay a one-time levy of EUR 1 billion in 2014. For ING this resulted in a total charge of EUR 304 million in 2014 in the line Other operating expenses - Other. In accordance with the relevant legislation the levy was charged in three equal quarterly instalments.

58 Subsequent events

Sale of NN Group shares

In February 2015, ING sold 52 million ordinary shares of NN Group. As part of the transaction, NN Group repurchased 8.3 million ordinary shares. The gross proceeds to ING Group from the offering, including the repurchase by NN Group, amounted to EUR 1.2 billion. The transaction reduced the ownership of ING in NN Group from 68.1% to 54.6%. The transaction did not impact the profit and loss account of ING Group, and has a negative impact of approximately EUR 1.6 billion on the shareholders' equity of ING Group, being the difference between the net proceeds of the transaction and the IFRS carrying value as at 31 December 2014 of the equity stake sold. The actual impact on equity may differ from this estimate due to changes in the IFRS carrying value between 31 December 2014 and the close of the transaction.

Sale of Voya shares

In March 2015, ING sold 45.6 million ordinary shares of Voya. In the public offering ING Group has sold approximately 32 million Voya shares at a price of USD 44.20 per share. In addition ING Group has sold to Voya approximately 13.6 million shares for an aggregate amount of USD 600 million. The gross proceeds to ING Group from the public offering and the concurrent repurchase by Voya amount to approximately EUR 1.8 billion at current exchange rates (USD 2.0 billion).

The sale of the total of 45.6 million shares from the combined transactions reduces ING Group's stake in Voya from 18.9% to zero. These transactions settled on 9 March 2015. After this transaction, ING Group will continue to hold warrants for approximately 26 million shares in Voya at an exercise price of USD 48.75. The transactions are expected to result in a net profit to ING at closing of EUR 308 million. This broadly reflects the difference between the market value of our 18.9% stake in Voya at the date ING lost significant influence, and the current market value of this stake of approximately EUR 1.8 billion. The result of this transaction will be included in the profit and loss account of ING in 2015.

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ING Group Risk management

Taking measured risks is the core of ING Group's business. As a financial services company active in banking, investments, life and non-life insurance and retirement services, ING Group is naturally exposed to a variety of risks. To ensure measured risk-taking throughout the organisation, ING Group operates through a comprehensive risk management framework and integrated risk management in its daily business activities and strategic planning. This ensures the identification, measurement and control of risks at all levels of the organisation so that ING Group's financial strength is safeguarded.

Together with the various management boards, Risk management formulates the risk appetite, strategies, policies and limits and provides a review, oversight and support function throughout ING Group on risk-related issues. The main financial risks ING Group is exposed to are credit risk (including transfer risk), market risk (including interest rate, equity, real estate and foreign exchange risks), liquidity & funding risk, insurance risk (via NN Group) and business risk. In addition, ING Group is exposed to non-financial risks, e.g. operational and compliance risks. The way ING Group manages these risks on a day-to-day basis is described in this Risk Management section.

Mission

The mission of ING Group's risk management function is to support ING Group's ambition to be the preferred bank for our customers, by safeguarding ING's current and future financial strengths. The following principles support this mission:

- › The risk management function is embedded in all levels of ING Group's organisation and is part of the daily business activities and to strategic planning to have a sustainable competitive advantage;
- › Products and portfolios are structured, underwritten, priced, approved and managed appropriately and compliance with internal and external rules and guidelines is monitored;
- › Delegated authorities are consistent with the overall Group strategy and risk appetite;
- › Transparent communication to internal and external stakeholders on risk management.

Risk management benefits ING Group and its stakeholders directly by providing more efficient capitalisation and lower costs of risk and funding. The cost of capital is reduced by working closely with rating agencies and regulators to align capital requirements to risks. Risk Management helps business units to lower funding costs, make use of the latest risk management tools and skills, and to lower strategic risk. This enables them to focus on their customers with excellent service, fair and transparent products and pricing, thus maintaining a loyal customer base and a leadership position in our key markets and product franchises.

Group risk management function

The ING Group Chief Risk Officer (CRO) is also the ING Bank CRO and therefore responsible for the day-to-day Risk Management of the Group and the Bank. As a result of the IPO of NN Group, the ING Group CRO has no direct responsibilities in the risk management of NN Group. The remaining risk functions that are specific for the Group function have been delegated to ING Bank.

The remainder of this paragraph focusses on risk management topics related to the remaining Insurance exposures of ING Group. Risk management for ING Bank is discussed from page 246 onwards.

Voya Financial, Inc. Risk Management Governance

During 2014, ING Group lost significant influence on Voya Financial, formerly ING U.S., with the reduction of its stake to 19% per end of 2014 from 57% per end of 2013. As a consequence, the Group Directors designated by ING Group under the Shareholder Agreement have stepped down from the Board of Directors of Voya. As at 31 December, the remaining stake in Voya was accounted as an available-for-sale investment since the loss of significant influence.

On 3 March 2015, ING Group announced that it has reached agreements to sell its remaining shares in Voya Financial, Inc., which will reduce ING Group's stake in Voya at the completion of the transactions to zero from the 19% held at 31 December 2014.

NN Group Risk Management Governance

In 2014, ING Group brought its European insurance and investment business to the market through an IPO. At 31 December 2014 ING Group had a 68.1% stake in NN Group. Therefore, ING Group performance and capital may be impacted by the insurance business through the Dutch unit-linked ('woekerpolis') claims, sustained low interest rates and volatility in the price of the equity stakes.

ING Group is involved in the risk management of NN Group through the participation of the ING Group CRO in the NN Group Supervisory Board and his role as chairman of the NN Group Risk Committee. The activities of NN Group are classified as held for sale and as discontinued operations. Therefore, they are not further discussed in the remainder of this section. For more information, please refer to the risk management section of the NN Group's Annual Report.

Unit-linked 'Woekerpolis'

Proceedings in which ING Group is involved include complaints and lawsuits on Unit-linked products in The Netherlands. For details on the status of the claims on Unit-Linked products reference is made to Note 51 'Legal proceedings'.

Low interest rates

ING Group is exposed to risk related to sustained low(er) interest rates, amongst others due to the ING Bank activities and its significant stake in NN Group. NN Group provides a number of life insurance, pension, income, investment and banking products that expose it

to risks associated with fluctuations in global financial markets in general and particularly in interest rates. For example, some of NN Group's life insurance and pension products contain guaranteed minimum benefits, which have resulted, and may result, in increased values of these guaranteed minimum benefits, and may result in a decrease in customer lapses.

Sustained low interest rate levels could have a material adverse effect on NN Group's revenues and results of operations, and could therefore also impact ING Group's results. For the impact of the lower interest rates on ING Bank, reference is made to the section 'Risk developments in 2014' within the ING Bank Risk Management Paragraph.

Price risk equity stakes

The market value of the remaining shares of NN Group that are in possession of ING Group may be volatile and may be adversely affected by market conditions and other factors beyond the control of ING. Equity markets have experienced significant price and volume fluctuations in recent years. The market prices of shares of insurance companies have experienced fluctuations that have often been unrelated or disproportionate to the operating results of these companies.

Some of the factors that may adversely affect the market price of the NN Group shares or cause the market value of the remaining shares to fluctuate may be internal to NN Group, such as operating and financial performance, introduction of new or enhancement in products or services by NN Group, or by competitors, or external such as adverse developments in the legal or other proceedings related to Dutch unit-linked policies or negative publicity associated therewith, changes in industry conditions or changes in the market outlook for the insurance industry, changes in applicable laws, rules or regulations, as well as regulatory actions affecting NN Group.

ING Bank Risk management

Introduction

Taking measured risks is the core of ING Bank's business. ING Bank operates through a comprehensive risk management framework to ensure the risks are identified, well understood, accurately measured, controlled and pro-actively managed at all levels of the organisation so that ING Bank's financial strength is safeguarded.

ING Bank uses risk assessment and measurement models to guide decision making. To guard the quality of these risk models, there is a governance process for approval of risk models, methods and parameters. This ensures compliance with business and regulatory requirements, via a clear assignment of responsibility and accountability. Nevertheless, users of the disclosed information in the risk management section should bear in mind that the analyses provided are based on forward looking models that rely on assumptions and estimates of future events, some of which are considered extreme and therefore unlikely to occur. In the normal course of business, ING Bank continues to develop, recalibrate and refine the various models, which may result in changes to the risk analyses as disclosed.

The risk management section describes the ING Bank business model, and the key risks that arise from it. It explains how the risk management function is embedded within the organisation based on the 'three lines of defence'. This includes front office as 'first line of defence', risk management as independent observer in the 'second line of defence' and the internal audit function in the 'third line'. The key risks resulting from the bank's business model are managed by dedicated and specific risk management departments that each covers its own area of expertise. Each of these departments explains the respective governance framework, relevant risks and how they are expressed on a qualitative and quantitative basis within this report.

ING Bank's risk management disclosures provides qualitative and quantitative disclosures about credit, market, liquidity and non-financial risks based on International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the European Union 'IFRS-EU'. The risk management section is in line with the accounting standards relating to the nature and the extent of the risks as required by IFRS7 'Financial Instruments: Disclosures' as approved by the EU and covered by the opinion of the External Auditors as being part of the notes to the consolidated financial statements. Pillar III information is from a regulatory perspective largely based on internal modelled risk metrics under the Basel rules and not addressed for verification to the External Auditors.

Enhanced disclosure task force

Although ING Bank strives towards a reporting basis that is consistent over time, the risk management section is subject to enhancements and improvements. These are needed to reflect the continuous developments that take place in ING Bank's risk function and on-going (macro-) economic developments that require additional disclosures. Also the continuing changes in the environment in which ING Bank operates like new regulations but also voluntary initiatives from the banks themselves need to be reflected. ING Bank is a member of the 'Enhanced Disclosure Task Force' (EDTF), a private sector group established by the Financial Stability Board (FSB) and composed of members representing both the users and preparers of financial reports, which released a report with recommendations for improving bank risk disclosures in the areas of among others usability, risk governance and risk management, capital adequacy, liquidity and funding, market risk, and credit risk.

As ING Bank strives to generate the same high-quality and transparent description of its risk, it immediately supported the EDTF principles and recommendations and largely implemented them to further fine-tune its practice on risk disclosures. For 2014 ING Bank further enhanced its disclosures following the EDTF progress report by implementing additional recommendations. ING Bank is of the opinion that disclosures should be clear, balanced and understandable by external observers, and that risk information is disclosed on a timely basis. The latter not only applies for the Annual Accounts and the risk management paragraph but also for the concurrent publication of the Pillar III section. An overview of all the EDTF recommendations and how they are followed-up can also be found in the Pillar III section.

The table below provides clear cross-referencing between the Risk management and Pillar III sections within the Annual Report. This navigation table enables users to locate and navigate across the different risk topics and disclosures. The sequence in which the risk disclosures are presented below is not indicative of their likelihood of occurrence or the potential magnitude of their financial consequences.

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	Credit risk mitigation	288	395

Market risk

	Subjects	Risk Management	Pillar III
Market risk is the risk of potential loss due to adverse movements in market variables.	Governance	298	
	RWA comparison		403
	Economic capital	298	
	Market risk in banking books	299	
	Market risk in trading books	305	
	<i>Fair values of financial trading assets & liabilities</i>	305	
	Capital at Risk		403

Funding and Liquidity risk

	Subjects	Risk Management	Pillar III
Liquidity risk is the risk not to meet its financial liabilities when they come to be due, at reasonable cost and in a timely manner.	Governance	311	
	Liquidity risk management framework	311	
	<i>Liquidity risk appetite</i>	311	
	<i>Funding</i>	312	
	<i>Liquidity buffers</i>	312	404
	<i>Asset encumbrance</i>		404
	<i>Liquidity risk transfer and pricing</i>	313	
	<i>Contingency funding plan</i>	313	
	Regulatory developments	314	

Non-financial risk

	Subjects	Risk Management	Pillar III
Operational risk is the risk of direct or indirect loss returning from inadequate or failed internal processes, people and systems or from external events.	Governance	314	
	Framework	314	
	Operational risk and main developments	315	
	Compliance risk and main developments	315	
Compliance risk is the risk of impairment of ING Bank's integrity as a result of failure to comply with relevant laws, regulations, ING Banks policies and standards.			

Business risk

	Subjects	Risk Management	Pillar III
Business risk is the exposure to value loss due to fluctuations in volumes, margins and costs, as well as customers' behaviour risk.	Analysis business risk	317	

With respect to comparability of risk disclosures, it is important to note that since the start of the financial crisis there has been much debate on the risk-weighted capitalisation of banks, and specifically on whether internal models are appropriate for such purposes. ING Bank is of the opinion that internal models are very valuable since they better represent the bank's business model, its customers and its credit quality than a standardised approach. However, we also acknowledge that interpretations between banks and between regulators may differ. This stresses the importance of having a level playing field via a uniform banking supervision within the EU, but also improves and aligns risk disclosures as proposed by the EDTF as much as possible.

Mission

The mission of ING Bank's risk management function is to support the ambition of ING Bank to be the preferred bank for our customers, by safeguarding ING's current and future financial strength. The following principles support this mission:

- › The risk management function is embedded in all levels of ING Bank's organisation and is part of the daily business activities and strategic planning to align the risk profile with the defined strategy and risk appetite;
- › Products and portfolios are structured, underwritten, priced, approved and managed appropriately and compliance with internal and external rules and guidelines is monitored;
- › Delegated authorities are consistent with the overall Bank strategy and risk appetite; and
- › Transparent communication to internal and external stakeholders on risk management and value creation.

Risk management benefits ING Bank and its stakeholders directly by providing more efficient capitalisation and less volatile costs of risk and funding. The cost of capital is reduced by working closely with rating agencies and regulators to align capital requirements to risks. Risk Management helps business units to lower funding costs, make use of the latest risk management tools and skills, and lower strategic risk. This enables them to focus on their customers with excellent service, fair and transparent products and pricing. Thus maintaining a loyal customer base and a leadership position in our key markets and product franchises.

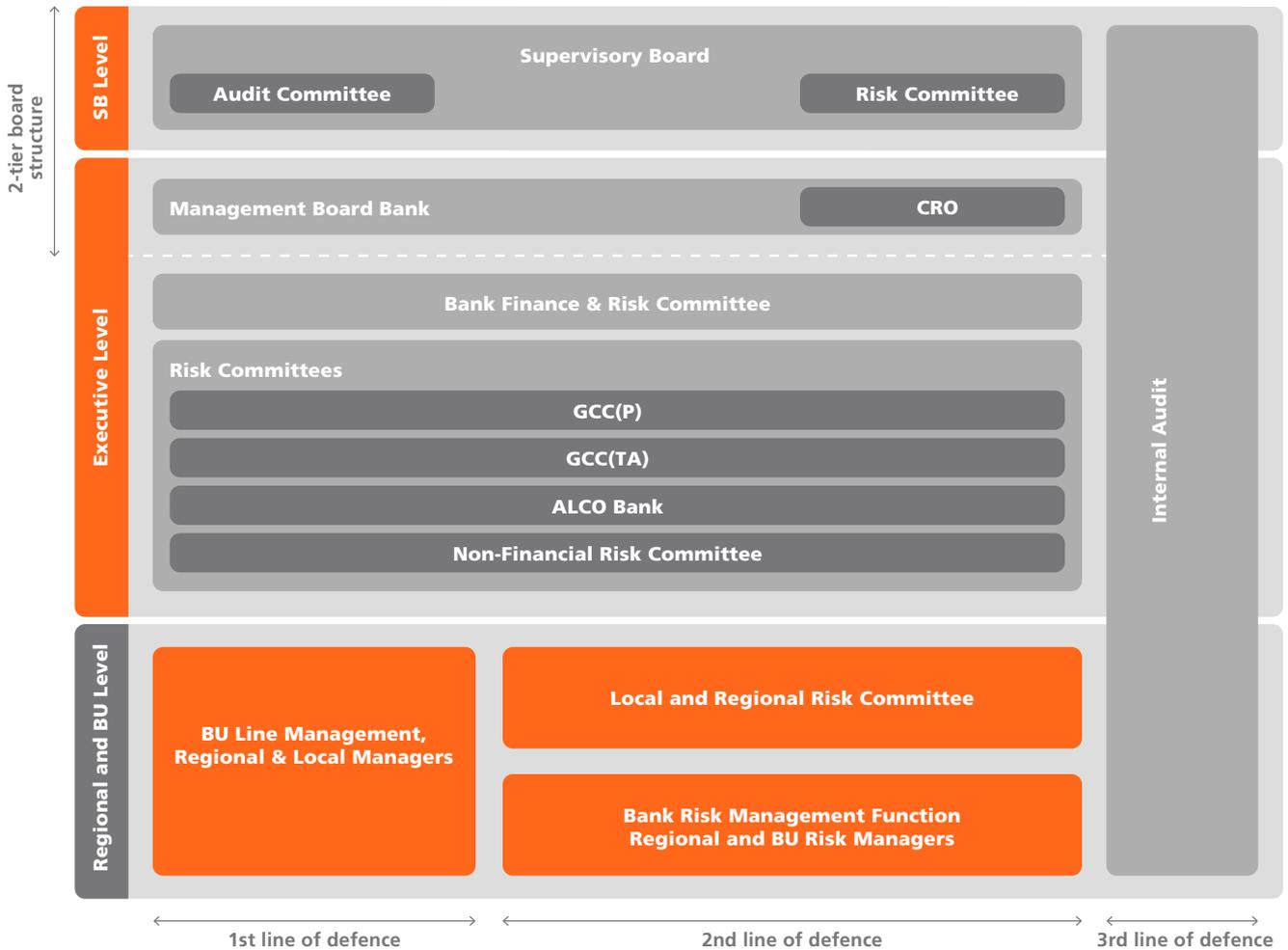
Risk Governance

ING Bank's risk management framework is based on a 'three lines of defence' governance model, whereby each line has a specific role and defined responsibilities and at the same time work closely together to identify, assess and mitigate risks. This governance framework ensures that risk is managed in line with the risk appetite as proposed by the Management Board Bank (MBB), approved by the Supervisory Board (SB) and is cascaded throughout ING Bank.

The commercial departments form the first line of defence and they have primary responsibility for the day-to-day risk management. They originate loans, deposits and other products, they know our customers well and are well-positioned to act in both the customers' and ING's best interest.

The second line of defence consists of oversight functions with a major role for the risk management organisation, headed by the Chief Risk Officer (CRO), and the corporate legal function. The membership of the CRO of the MBB ensures that risk management issues are heard and discussed at the highest level, thus establishing the appropriate tone at the top. The CRO steers a functional, independent risk organisation both at head-office and business-unit level, which supports the commercial departments in their decision-making, but which also has sufficient countervailing power to keep the risk profile within the set risk appetite.

The internal audit function provides an on-going independent (i.e. outside of the risk organisation) and objective assessment of the effectiveness of internal controls of the first two lines, including financial and non-financial risk management and forms the third line of defence.



Board level risk oversight

ING Bank has a two-tier board structure consisting of the Management Board Bank and the Supervisory Board; both tiers play an important role in managing and monitoring the risk management framework.

- › The SB is responsible for supervising the policy of the MBB, the general course of affairs of the Company and its business (including its financial policies and corporate structure). For risk management purposes the SB is assisted by two sub-committees:
 - › The Audit Committee, which assists the SB in monitoring the integrity of the financial statements of ING Bank, in monitoring the compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, and in monitoring the independence and performance of ING's internal and external auditors; and
 - › The Risk Committee, which assists the SB on matters related to risk governance, risk policies and risk appetite setting.
- › The MBB is responsible for managing risks associated with the activities of ING Bank. The MBB's responsibilities include ensuring that internal risk management and control systems are effective and that ING Bank complies with relevant legislation and regulations. On a regular basis, the MBB reports on these issues and discusses the internal risk management and control systems with the SB. On a quarterly basis, the MBB reports on the Bank's risk profile versus its risk appetite to the Risk Committee, explaining changes in the risk profile.

The CRO ensures that the boards are well informed and understand ING Bank's risk position at all times. Every quarter, the CRO reports to the board committees on ING Bank's risk appetite levels and on ING Bank's risk profile. In addition, the CRO briefs the board committees on developments in internal and external risk related issues and ensures the board committees understand specific risk concepts.

As part of the integration of risk management into the annual strategic planning process, the MBB issues a Planning Letter which provides the corporate strategic direction, and addresses key risk issues. Based on the Planning Letter, the business lines and business units develop their business plans which align with the Bank's strategic direction. The process includes a qualitative and quantitative assessment of the risks involved. As part of the process, strategic limits and risk appetite levels are explicitly discussed. Based on the business plans, the MBB formulates the Strategic Plan, which is submitted to the SB for approval.

Risk management function

The risk management function is embedded in all levels of ING Bank's organisation. The CRO, who is a MBB member, bears primary overall responsibility for the risk management function. The CRO is responsible for the management and control of risk on a consolidated level to ensure that ING Bank's risk profile is consistent with its financial resources and the risk appetite. The CRO is also responsible for establishing and maintaining a robust organisational basis for the management of risk throughout the organisation.

The organisation chart below illustrates the functional reporting lines within ING Bank risk organisation.



The heads of these departments (Risk General Managers) report to the CRO and bear direct responsibility for risk (mitigating) decisions at the Bank level. The Risk General Managers and the CRO are responsible for the harmonisation and standardisation of risk management practices.

In addition, two staff departments report to the CRO:

- › Risk & Capital Integration (R&CI), which is responsible for inter-risk aggregation processes and for providing bank-wide risk information to the CRO and MBB, reports functionally to the CRO; and
- › Model Validation (MV), which carries out periodic validations of all significant risk models used by ING Bank. To ensure independence from the business and other risk departments, the department head reports directly to the CRO.

Executive level

The ING Bank Finance and Risk Committee (BF&RC) is a platform for the CRO and the Chief Financial Officer (CFO), along with their respective direct reports, to discuss and decide on issues that relate to both the finance and risk domains. The primary responsibility of the BF&RC is to co-ordinate, on a high level, the finance and risk decisions that have an impact on internal and/or external reporting.

The risk committees described below act within the overall risk policy and delegated authorities granted by the Management Board Bank:

- › ING Bank Credit Committee – Policy (GCC(P)): Discusses and approves policies, methodologies and procedures related to credit, country and reputation risks within ING Bank. The GCC(P) meets on a monthly basis;
- › ING Bank Credit Committee – Transaction Approval (GCC(TA)): Discusses and approves transactions which entail taking credit risk (including issuer investment risk). The GCC(TA) meets twice a week;
- › Asset and Liability Committee ING Bank (ALCO Bank): Discusses and approves on a monthly basis the overall risk profile of all ING Bank's market risks that occur in its activities. ALCO Bank defines the policy regarding funding, liquidity, interest rate mismatch and solvency for ING Bank; and
- › Non-Financial Risk Committee Bank (NFRC Bank): Accountable for the design and maintenance of the Risk Management Framework including the ORM, Compliance and Legal policies, minimum standards, procedures and guidelines; the NFRC structure; development of tools, methods and key parameters (incl. major changes) for risk identification, measurement and monitoring/ reporting.

Regional and business unit level

ING Bank's regional and business unit management have primary responsibility for the management of risks (credit, market, operational, legal and compliance risks) that arise in their daily operations. They are accountable, together with their employees, for the implementation and operation of appropriate risk frameworks affecting their businesses to ensure compliance with procedures and processes set by ING Bank. The local (regional and BU) risk manager is responsible for the analysis, control and management of risks across the whole value chain (from front to back office), based upon which a robust control structure should be maintained.

Risk policies, procedures and standards

ING Bank has a framework of risk management policies, procedures and standards in place to create consistency throughout the organisation, and to define minimum requirements that are binding to all business units. The governance framework of the business units aligns with the Bank's level framework and meets local (regulatory) requirements. Senior management is responsible to ensure

policies, procedures and standards are implemented and adhered to. Policies, procedures and standards are regularly reviewed and updated via the relevant risk committees to reflect changes in markets, products and emerging best practices.

Risk model governance and model validation

All risk models are built according to the internal risk modelling methodology standards and model life cycle, in line with regulatory requirements. After thorough review of the documentation by model development departments and MV, specific model risk committees for each risk type approve the models. After approval by the dedicated risk committee, a risk model is implemented and entitled for usage. In addition, MV validates each model on a regular basis. The validation results and its capital impact are reported on a quarterly basis to senior management and to the supervisor.

An independent model validation department is one of the cornerstones of ING Bank's risk model governance. It consists of the process of determining that a model is appropriate for its intended use. It is an on-going process whereby the reliability of the model is verified at different stages during its lifecycle: at conception, before approval, periodically after implementation, and when significant changes are made to the model. The validation process contains a mix of developmental evidence, process verification and outcome analysis. To ensure the independence of MV, this department reports directly to the CRO.

The MV department undertakes backtesting of all existing risk models. In addition to evaluating the underlying model parameters, ensuring continued applicability of the models for the relevant portfolios, and discussing the model performance with front office and risk users of the models, MV also tests the observed performance of a model (and its components) with the predicted level. A model where the observed results deviate from the predicted results is a candidate for either re-calibration or re-development.

Business Model And Risk Profile

Business model

ING Bank is a large, predominantly European retail bank with a strong world-class commercial banking franchise operating an extensive network with presence in over 40 countries. Next to the operations in its historical markets of the Benelux, ING Bank has developed a strong (internet) banking franchise in a number of European countries and in Asia and Australia.

This business model is translated into the following specific ambitions:

- › Retail Banking will pursue the One Bank approach by combining retail and commercial banking and converge to one retail model: Easy, fair, and at low costs.
- › Optimise the balance sheet to better match assets and liabilities across the Bank and limit growth and risk of the balance sheet.
- › Remain financially healthy through improving cost efficiency and good risk management. Additionally, new regulatory requirements have to be met with focus on strong capital, funding and liquidity management.
- › Build on the ambition to be a predominantly European Bank with growth engines elsewhere.

Key risks

ING Bank recognises the following key risks (financial as well as non-financial risks) that are associated with its business activities.

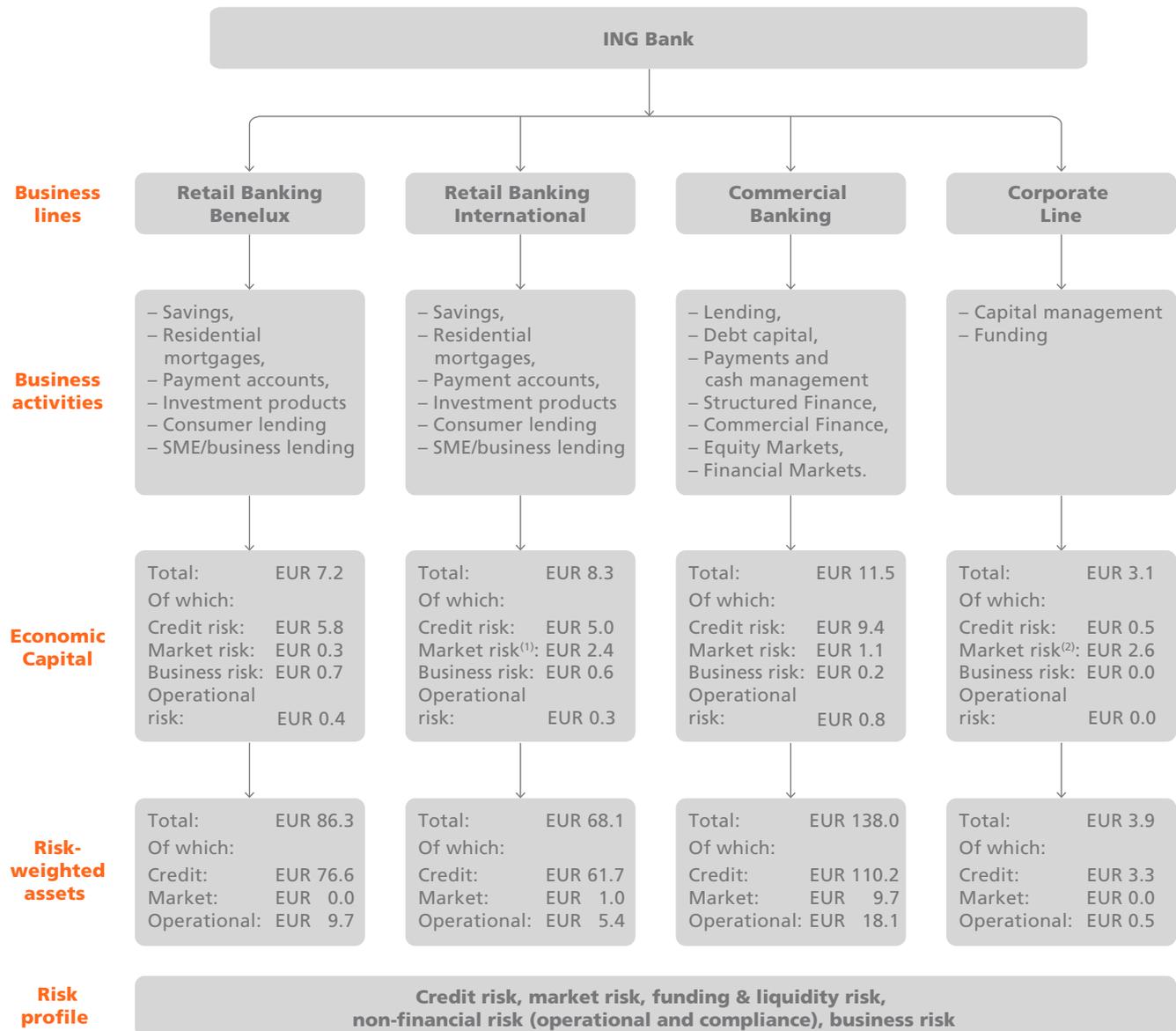
Financial risks:

- › Credit risk: the risk of potential loss due to default and/or credit rating deterioration by ING Bank's debtors (including bond issuers) or trading counterparties;
- › Market risk: the risk of potential loss due to adverse movements in market variables. Market risks include interest rate, equity, real estate, implied volatility, credit spread, and foreign exchange risks;
- › Liquidity risk: the risk that ING Bank or one of its subsidiaries cannot meet its financial liabilities when they come due, at reasonable cost and in a timely manner. Liquidity risk can materialise both through trading and non-trading positions; and
- › Business risk: the exposure to value loss due to fluctuations in volumes, margins and costs, as well as customer behaviour risk. These fluctuations can occur because of internal, industry, or wider market factors. It is the risk inherent to strategy decisions and internal efficiency, and as such strategic risk is included in business risk.

Non-financial risks:

- › Operational risk: the risk of direct or indirect loss resulting from inadequate or failed internal processes, people and systems or from external events. It includes reputational risk, as well as legal risk; and
- › Compliance risk: the risk of impairment of ING Bank's integrity as a result of failure (or perceived failure) to comply with relevant laws, regulations, ING Bank policies and standards as in ING Bank Business Principles.

The chart below provides, in EUR billions, high level information on the risks arising from the Bank's business activities.



(1) EC market risk: Mainly held for the interest rate risk embedded in the long-term investment of ING's capital (investment of own funds). In this overview the replication of capital is presented in line with the regulatory prudential approach and therefore capital itself is classified as an overnight interest rate position;
 (2) EC market risk: Mainly held for the price risk embedded in equity investments.

Risk culture

In the current social and economic environment risk culture is a critical factor in the success or failure of a bank's risk management. Issues relating to risk culture are consequently of interest to all stakeholders of ING Bank. ING Bank considers the good reputation and integrity of its organisation as key requirements to operate successfully in the financial world.

The risk management framework based on the three lines of defence governance model is effective when a strong risk culture is present on all levels. ING Bank promotes awareness of collectively shared values, ideas and goals but also of potential threats and it ensures alignment of individual performance objectives with the short- and long-term strategy. By making ING's risk responsibilities more transparent within the different levels of the organisation and holding every employee accountable for his acts, the risk culture and awareness are embedded in the organisation, which leads to effective risk management.

As explained in the risk governance, the risk function is at all levels independent from the commercial departments which allow its criteria and opinions to be heard and taken into account. At the Bank level, it is represented by the CRO in the MBB, which ensures sufficient countervailing power in the decision-making processes to prevent excessive risks.

Definition

Risk culture and risk awareness are not only issues for senior management during their strategy decisions, but something that every employee has to be aware of and consider in his daily business. It is promoting and being aware of collectively shared values, ideas and goals towards the organisational objectives and mitigating opportunities for unfavourable events to occur that can impact the ability of the organisation to achieve its objectives. Risk awareness is to be alert on potential threats that can occur in day-to-day business, which can be specific to the sector, the region or the clients ING Bank is doing business with.

Commonly seen as norms and traditions of behaviour of individuals and of groups within an organisation, risk culture determines the way in which employees identify, understand, discuss, and act on the risks the organisation confronts and the risks it takes. This is a long-term commitment and journey that cannot be reached overnight. Therefore, ING Bank initiated different programmes and manuals have been issued within the organisation as statement of what the organisation objectives are.

Accountability

In 2009, ING Bank introduced the Promoting Integrity Programme (PIP) a long-term, global, educational and behavioural change programme for the ING Bank employees. The role of the Executive Board in the oversight of corporate culture and successful implementation of the risk culture change is essential in this process.

With the programme, ING Bank gains a sound risk culture and ensures that every employee in every part of the organisation understands how his actions and behaviour can help earn and retain customer and stakeholder trust. This programme is divided into several mandatory modules among others business principles, customer trust, fraud awareness, Financial Economic Crime and IT security. To enhance risk awareness, these topics are discussed between managers and employees through dialogue sessions that managers organise within their teams to create clear and consistent understanding. The endorsement from the executive level and the emphasis in the communication strengthen the culture.

Compensation

Due to economic and financial turmoil, concerns were raised in different countries following the bailout of different financial and industrial companies. The link between risk taken and compensation policies was one of the major topics in the public and political spheres. Several public institutions and initiatives advocated aligning risk and reward in risk-based compensation policies. For further information with regards to ING's compensation policies please refer to the remuneration report in the corporate governance section of the Annual Report and Pillar III remuneration details as published on the corporate website ing.com.

Risk cycle process

ING uses a stepwise risk management approach to know, mitigate and manage its financial and non-financial risks. The approach consists of a cycle of five recurrent activities: risk identification, risk assessment, risk control, risk monitoring and risk reporting. In short, this implies: determine what your risks are, assess which of those risks can really do harm, take mitigating measures to control these risks, monitor if the measures are effective and monitor the development of the risk and report the findings to management at all relevant levels to enable them to take action when needed.

The recurrence is twofold. One: identification, assessment and review and update of mitigating measures are done periodically. Two: if, during the period, monitoring findings indicate new risks are arising, known risks are changing, assessed risk levels are changing, or control measures are not effective enough, analyses of these findings may result in renewed and more frequent risk identification, and/or assessment, and/or in a change of the mitigating measure.



Risk identification

Risk identification is a joint effort of the commercial business and the risk management functions. Its goal is to detect potential new risks and determine changes in known risks. Regular risk identification is essential for both the effectiveness and efficiency of risk management. Potential risks that are not identified, will not be controlled and monitored and may lead to surprises later. Known risks may have changed over time and as a consequence the existing mitigating measures and monitoring may be inadequate or obsolete.

Risk identification is performed periodically. In case of material internal or external change, an additional ad-hoc risk identification can be performed.

Risk assessment and control

Each identified risk is assessed to determine the importance, or risk level, of the risk for the ING Bank entity in scope. This enables the entity to decide which of the identified risks need control measures and how strict or tolerant these measures must be. Known risks are re-assessed to either confirm the risk level or detect change.

The importance of a risk is assessed based on the likelihood that the risk materialises and the financial or reputational impact should the risk occur. A risk that is not very likely to happen but has a huge financial impact when it does needs to be controlled. For a risk that is likely to happen at a higher frequency, but that has a modest financial impact, business management may decide to not mitigate and accept the consequences when it happens.

Risks can be controlled by mitigating measures that either lower the likelihood the risk occurs, or measures that lower the impact if they occur. The ultimate measure to lower risk is to stop the activity or service that causes the risk (risk avoidance). Risk controlling/mitigating measures are defined and maintained at both Bank wide and local level.

Monitoring and reporting

With the monitoring of the risk control measures, ING Bank continuously checks if they are executed, complied with, have the expected mitigating effects and follow the development of the risks and their risk levels. Adequate risk reporting provides senior and local management with the information they need to manage risk.

ING uses iRisk, an application supporting operational risk functions for incident reporting, action tracking, risk assessments, business impacts assessments and key control testing.

The Executive Board and the Supervisory Board of ING Group have approved the ING Whistleblower Procedure. The ING Whistleblower Procedure provides the opportunity for every employee to make his or her complaint, including anonymous complaints, to an independent Reporting Officer in order for the responsible management to take appropriate and adequate action in case of alleged breaches of internal or external regulation or other irregularities.

Risk appetite framework

ING Bank uses an integrated risk management approach for its banking activities. The Management Board Banking uses the bank risk appetite framework both to set boundaries for the Medium Term Plan (MTP) budget process and to monitor and manage the actual risk profile in relation to the risk appetite.

Process

The ING Bank risk appetite framework consists of specific risk appetite statements, which are approved by the SB on an annual basis or more frequently if this is felt necessary, and reviewed quarterly in the MBB and the SB. The bank risk appetite process is focused on setting the appetite at the consolidated Bank level and across the different risk categories. It is therefore essentially a top-down process, which bases itself on the ambition of the Bank in terms of its risk profile and is a function of the capital and liquidity levels and ambitions, the regulatory environment and the economic context. The process is set up according to the following steps:



Step 1. Identify & assess ING Bank's key risks

Setting the Risk Appetite Framework starts with a multi-dimensional step to identify & assess the risks ING Bank is facing when executing its strategy. This step includes the following actions that are performed on an annual basis:

- › detect unidentified risks that are not yet controlled within ING Bank's risk management function & assess their potential impact,
- › benchmark current risk framework versus regulatory developments,
- › re-assess known risks to confirm risk level or detect potential changes,
- › reflect on the current set of Risk Appetite Statements.

This annual Risk Assessment serves as input when defining the global risk appetite which - in line with its business model and risk ambition - is currently formulated as follows:

ING Bank has the ambition to be and remain a strong bank, resilient to possible adverse events on a standalone basis and able to address such developments based on its own strengths and resources.

In order to achieve this risk ambition, ING Bank has the following targets:

- › Rating: have a rating ambition which is in line with the strongest among its peer group;
- › Be able to restore capital and liquidity position following a stress situation on its own strength;
- › Regulatory based: be in a position to meet current and forthcoming regulatory constraints and targets; and
- › Peer comparison based: have a risk profile that compares favourably to its main banking peers.

Step 2. Setting ING Bank Risk Appetite Framework

Based on ING Bank's risk assessment and risk ambition, specific targets are set for both financial and non-financial risks:

Financial risk

For financial risks, ING Bank expresses its risk appetite as the tolerance to allow key ratios to deviate from their target levels. Therefore, the high level risk ambition is translated into quantitative targets on ING Bank level for solvency risk, liquidity & funding risk and for concentration and event risk.

The solvency risk appetite is closely aligned to capital management activities and policies. ING Bank has expressed tolerances for its risk-weighted solvency position (CET1 ratio), for non-risk-weighted solvency (leverage ratio) and for more value based solvency (economic capital). The solvency risk appetite statement is not only compared to the actual reported level, but also includes the potential impact of a standardised and pre-determined 1-in-10-year stress event (i.e. at a 90% confidence level with a 1-year horizon). Based on this mild stress scenario, the impact on ING Bank's earnings, revaluation reserve and risk-weighted assets (RWA) is calculated (which are labelled as earnings-at-risk, revaluation reserve-at-risk and RWA-at-risk). These stressed figures are used as input for a two year simulation which depicts the developments of ING Bank's solvency level versus its risk appetite.

Liquidity and funding risk have two dimensions: where liquidity focuses on having a sufficient buffer to cope with the short-term situation, managing the funding profile ensures long-term compliance with both internal and external targets. Managing liquidity and funding risk focuses on both 'business as usual' (based on the run-off profile to show the stickiness of deposits combined with the run-off of assets without new production) and a stressed situation. There, we define liquidity risk as the time to survive a specific scenario, while for funding risk we focus on the maximum funding gap allowed.

The concentration and event risk appetite set at ING Bank level are directly translated into corresponding limits in the underlying credit, market and liquidity & funding risk appetite statements.

Non-financial risk

To ensure robust non-financial risk management, ING Bank monitors the implementation of ING Bank's Risk Policies and Minimum Standards. Business units have to demonstrate that the appropriate steps have been taken to control their operational, compliance and legal risks. ING Bank applies Key Control testing scorecards to measure the quality of the internal controls within a business unit, which are based on the ability to demonstrate that the required risk management processes are in place and effective within the business units.

Key Control testing scorecards form one of the inputs of the Non-Financial Risk Dashboard (NFRD), which is a report that is discussed each quarter in the MBB and the Risk Committee. NFRD provides management at all organisational levels with information on their key operational, compliance and legal risks. NFRD is based on their risk tolerance within their business and a clear description of the risks and responses enabling management to prioritise and to manage operational, compliance and legal risks.

Step 3. Cascade into statements per risk type and per business

The Bank Risk Appetite is translated per risk type, which is further cascaded down through the organisation to the lowest level needed. The risk appetite statements are then translated into dedicated underlying risk limits which are used for day-to-day monitoring and management of ING Bank's risks.

For financial risks, a sequence of different risk appetite frameworks are implemented to address the most significant risks. This implies that a whole framework of credit risk limits is in place that monitors the overall quality of the ING Bank credit portfolio and that of all the underlying portfolios as well. In addition, specific concentration risk appetites are defined on product level, geographic level and (single name) counterparty level which are cascaded down into the organisation. For market risk, the risk appetite for the trading book activities within Financial Markets is accompanied by a risk appetite framework for market risks in the banking books. For both types of market risk, limits at Bank level are translated into the organisation. The liquidity & funding risk appetite statements that are defined on ING Bank level are translated down into the organisation, taking the liquidity & funding specific situation of each (solo) unit into account.

The non-financial risk appetite framework that is described under the previous step is cascaded down into the organisation without any need to make specific adjustments for each of the reporting solo entity.

Step 4. Monitoring and management of underlying risk limits

In order to verify that it remains within the risk appetite framework as it is executing its budget, ING Bank reports its risk positions vis-à-vis its limits on a regular basis towards senior management committees. The Risk and Capital Management Report reflecting the exposure of ING Bank against the risk appetite targets is submitted quarterly to the MBB and to the (Risk Committee of the) SB.

Stress testing

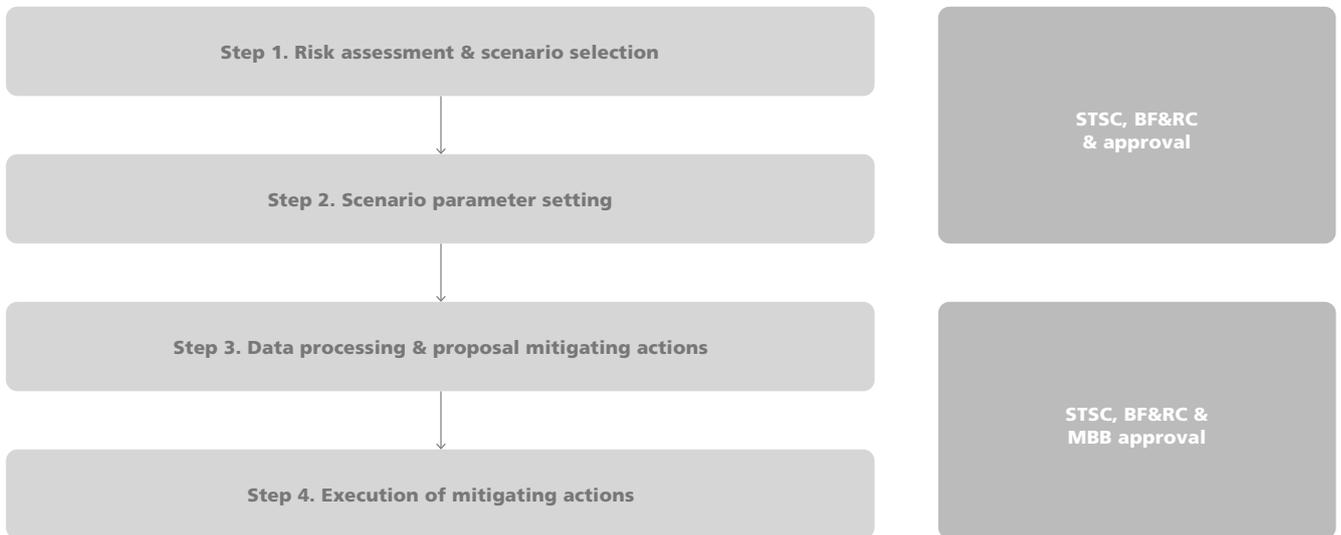
Stress testing is an important risk management tool that supports the MBB with respect to strategic and capital planning. The purpose of stress testing is to investigate whether or not ING Bank will be able to meet its solvency and liquidity requirements in severe but plausible stress scenarios. Stress tests provide insight into vulnerabilities of certain portfolios, given certain assumptions related to the economy, financial markets and the political climate. Stress testing is also used to assess if the risk profile of ING Bank is in line with risk appetite.

Types of stress tests

Within ING Bank, various different types of stress tests are performed. The most comprehensive type of stress tests are the firm-wide scenario analyses, which involve setting scenario assumptions for the relevant macro-economic and market variables in all countries where ING Bank is active. These assumptions are usually complemented by a narrative that provides background for the scenario. In addition to firm-wide scenario analyses, ING Bank also executes scenario analyses for a specific country or asset class. Furthermore, sensitivity analyses are performed, which focus on stressing one or more relevant risk drivers; usually without an underlying scenario narrative. The 1-in-10-year stress scenario used in the risk appetite framework is an example of a sensitivity analysis. Finally, ING Bank also performs reverse stress tests, which aim to determine the circumstances which would lead to a pre-defined severe adverse outcome.

Process

The stress testing process of ING Bank consists of several stages, which are summarised in the diagram.



Step 1. Risk assessment & scenario selection

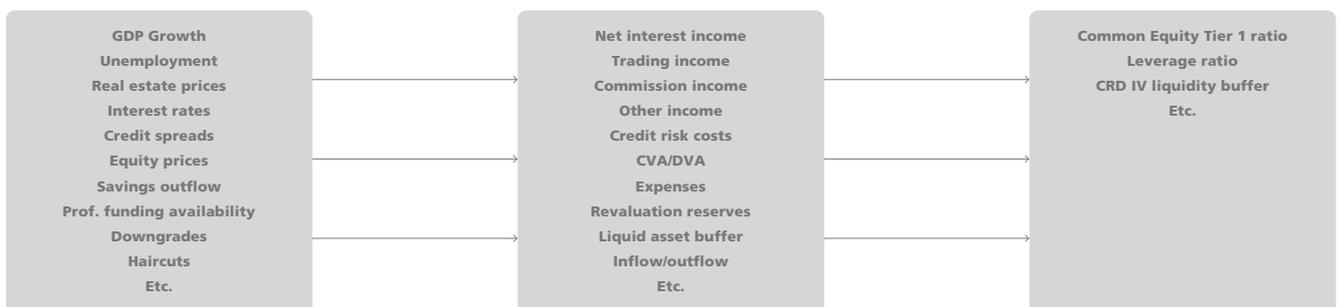
ING Bank formally determines its main risks based on the current economic situation, political and regulatory developments and developments in portfolios on an annual basis. Senior management, business representatives and risk specialists are involved in this process. Based on the risk assessment, relevant scenarios to be evaluated in the remainder of the year are selected. The results of the risk assessment and scenario selection are discussed and approved in the Stress Testing Steering Committee (STSC). All stakeholders are represented in the STSC, such as representatives of the different Corporate Risk departments, Capital Management, Finance and the Economic Bureau. The STSC submits the results of the risk assessment and scenario selection to the BF&RC for formal approval.

Step 2. Scenario parameter setting

After the determination of the high level scenarios in the previous step, they need to be worked out in greater detail. Scope, assumptions and input parameters such as GDP growth, unemployment rates, interest rates and real estate price changes are defined for the countries involved in the exercise. The parameters are discussed and approved in the STSC and subsequently in the BF&RC.

Step 3. Data processing & proposal mitigating actions

When the scenario parameters have been finalised, the impact of the scenario on the solvency and liquidity position is determined. Based on the scenario values for the relevant macro-economic and market variables, the impact on amongst others P&L, revaluation reserves, RWA and liquidity buffers is calculated. These outcomes are subsequently used to calculate the evolution of relevant solvency and liquidity ratios, such as the CET1 ratio, the leverage ratio and the CRD IV liquidity buffer.



As for the previous steps, the calculated impacts of the scenario are first discussed and approved in the STSC, and then in the BF&RC.

Depending on the outcomes of the stress test, and the possibly identified vulnerabilities, mitigating actions may be proposed. Approval of these mitigating actions takes place in the MBB.

Step 4. Execution of mitigating actions

After the MBB has approved the mitigating actions, they need to be executed. Mitigating actions may include sales or transfers of assets, reductions of risk limits, start-up or strengthening of marketing campaigns and lobbying campaigns with regulators or other authorities.

Methodology

For the calculation of the impact of the scenarios on P&L, RWA, revaluation reserves, etc., detailed and comprehensive models are used. In these models, statistical analysis is combined with expert opinion to make sure that the results adequately reflect the scenario assumptions. The methodologies are granular and portfolio-specific and use different macro-economic and market variables as input variables. The stress testing models are subject to a thorough review by the Model Validation department.

**Economic Capital
 Model disclosure**

This model disclosure section explains the methodologies and models used to determine economic capital (EC). The risk models for the EC calculations are reviewed on a periodic basis and validated by the internal Model Validation department. The Economic Capital calculation is also used as part of the CRR/CRD IV Pillar II Internal Capital Adequacy Assessment Process (ICAAP) and the Supervisory Review and Evaluation Process (SREP) that is performed regularly by the supervisor.

EC is defined as the amount of capital that a transaction or business unit requires in order to support the economic risks it takes. In general, EC is measured as the unexpected loss above the expected loss at a given confidence level. This economic capital definition is in line with the net market value (or surplus) definition. The process of EC modelling enables ING Bank to allocate economic capital to the business units and support risk-adjusted performance measurement via the Risk Adjusted Return on Capital (RAROC). The use of RAROC increases focus on risks versus rewards in the decision making process, and consequently stimulates the use of scarce capital in the most efficient way.

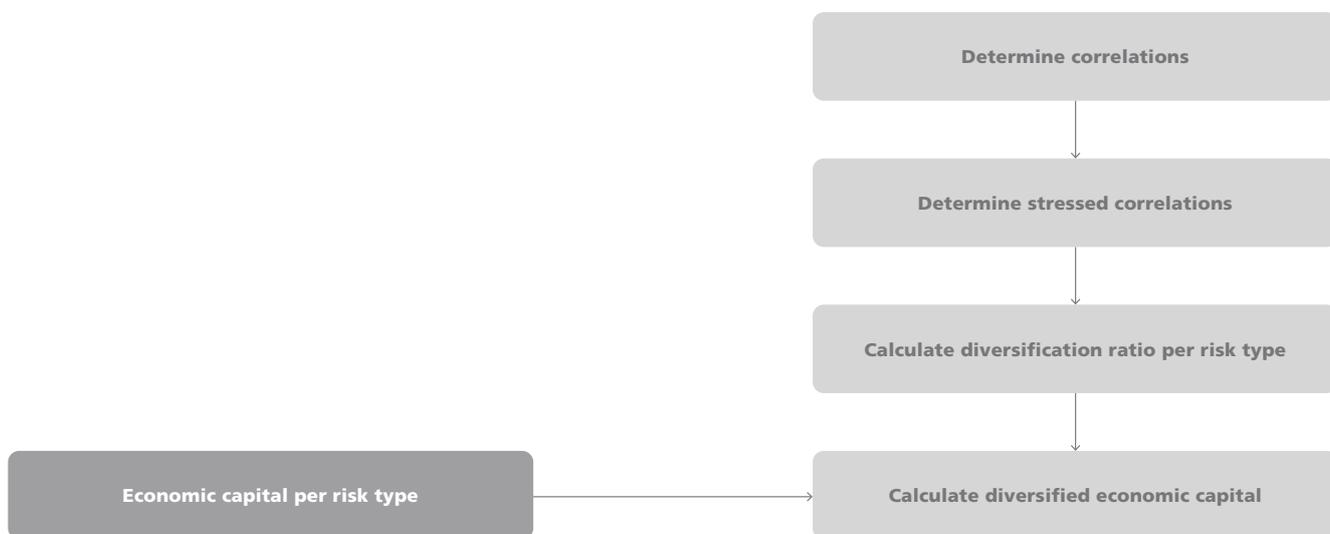
The following fundamental principles and definitions have been established for the model:

- › ING Bank uses a one-sided confidence level of 99.95% and a one-year time horizon to calculate EC;
- › It is assumed that all currently known measurable sources of risk are included;
- › The best estimate risk assumptions are as objective as possible and based on proper analysis of statistical data. There is one set of best-estimate assumptions for each risk type to be used at ING Bank;
- › The EC calculation is based on fair value principles. Where complete and efficient markets exist, fair value is equal to market value;
- › The EC calculations reflect known embedded options and the influence of customer behaviour in banking products;
- › The EC calculations are on a before tax basis and do not consider the effect of regulatory accounting and solvency requirements on capital levels; and
- › The framework does not include any franchise value of the business, discretionary management intervention or future business volumes and margins.

Specific measurement by risk type is described in greater detail in the separate risk type sections.

Aggregation model

The main processes executed in ING Bank’s economic capital aggregation model are depicted in the flowchart below. The light grey boxes show the processes performed by the model while the dark grey box indicates input from other risk departments.



Correlation factors between risk types used for diversification are based on best estimate assumptions supported by statistical analysis of historical data, ING Bank risk expert judgement, external benchmark studies and common logic. As shown in the flow-chart, the correlation factors are stressed upwards where necessary to account for potential measurement inaccuracy in extreme events due to limited historical data observations. Expert opinion is used for aggregating business and operational risk.

The EC for ING Bank involves the aggregation of the underlying EC of five risk types, namely credit, transfer, market, operational and business risks. Model disclosures are given in the respective risk sections. These risk types are aggregated to provide a total diversified ING Bank EC by applying the variance-covariance approach with a 5x5 inter-risk correlation matrix.

For allocation of EC to units and products, diversification factors are calculated for each risk type. These factors are applied consistently throughout ING Bank. The level of diversification benefit is dependent on both the inter-risk correlations as well as the relative size of the undiversified EC exposure for each risk type.

Reporting framework

For each business unit and product line, the gross EC for each risk type is delivered. The net EC figures are calculated by taking the product of the gross EC and one minus the diversification factor. Total EC is calculated as the sum of the net EC for each risk type at all reporting levels.

Economic capital and regulatory capital

Main capital calculation and allocation tools for ING Bank are economic capital and regulatory capital (RC). Both of these capital metrics are used to determine the amount of capital that a transaction or business unit requires to support the economic and regulatory-based risks it faces. RC is driven by methodologies prescribed by regulators whereas EC is driven by internally developed models.

EC is a non-accounting measure that is inherently subject to dynamic changes and updates as a result of ING Bank's portfolio mix and general market developments. ING Bank has been and will continue recalibrating the underlying assumptions behind its economic capital model, which may have an impact on the values of EC going forward.

The tables below provide ING Bank's EC and RC by risk type and business line. For 2014, the total RC increased compared to 2013, while the EC numbers decreased. Both are well below the total amounts of available capital of EUR 46,015 million based on CRD IV phased in rules. Details on the available capital can be found in the Capital Management paragraph, section 'Capital Adequacy Assessment'.

The main changes in ING Bank's economic capital and regulatory capital are:

- › Economic capital for credit risk decreased in 2014, due mainly to the impact of the Scaling Factors, which reflect the effects of using ING-specific correlations to calculate EC. The recalibration of the Scaling Factors in 4Q14, model updates, and rating migrations ensured that all the elements of last year's add-on have been fully incorporated in the INCAP methodology. More information on the Credit Risk EC can be found in the 'Credit Risk Capital and Measurement' section.
- › For market risk, the reported EC numbers increased mainly due to an update of the model parameters and an increase of the equity investment positions. This especially applies for the largest contributors: interest rate risk in the banking books and equity investments. For more information on the Market Risk EC, please refer to the 'Economic capital for market risk' section.
- › For operational risk, ING Bank obtained accreditation for the use of its enhanced Advanced Measurement Approach (AMA) in April 2013 and applies the model for regulatory reporting of capital requirements. The slight decrease in 2014 is mainly caused by deconsolidation. More information on the Operational Risk EC can be found in the 'Advanced Measurement Approach (AMA)' part of the Non-Financial Risk section.

Economic and Regulatory Capital (Bank diversified only) by risk type

	Economic capital		Regulatory capital	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
Credit risk	20,722	18,009	20,148	19,074
Add-on credit risk		6,431		
Market risk	6,306	4,729	858	704
Business risk	1,561	1,773		
Operational risk	1,551	1,571	2,700	2,822
Total banking operations	30,139	32,513	23,706	22,600

Economic and Regulatory Capital (Bank diversified only) by business line combination

	Economic capital		Regulatory capital	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
Commercial Banking	11,543	8,156	11,038	10,174
Retail Banking Benelux	7,206	5,242	6,907	7,015
Retail Banking International	8,249	6,091	5,450	5,155
Corporate Line ⁽¹⁾	3,141	6,593	310	256
Unallocated		6,431		
Total banking operations	30,139	32,513	23,706	22,600

(1) Corporate Line includes funding activities at ING Bank level, internal transactions between business units and the Corporate Line, and is managed by Capital Management.

Differences between RC and EC are mainly due to:

- › The EC figures shown reflect all diversification effects within ING Bank, including risk reduction between the risk categories; while for RC no diversification is taken into account.
- › The credit risk EC is higher than RC due to the fact that EC is defined based on ING's own methodology for credit risk. It is the amount of capital that is needed at a minimum to cover for unexpected losses within a certain confidence level and a certain time horizon. Furthermore, credit risk EC includes transfer risk while RC does not;
- › The market risk EC is higher than the RC primarily due to the inclusion of the interest rate risk in the banking books in EC. In RC, only market risk in trading books is in scope. Furthermore, for Equity Investments the EC figures are reported under market risk, while the RC figures are reported under credit risk;
- › The EC figures include business risk, while RC does not;
- › The operational risk EC is lower than the RC mainly due to the application of inter-risk diversification, whilst RC does not encompass inter-risk diversification; and
- › A 99.95% confidence level is used for EC, while the confidence level is 99.9% for RC.

The above risk metrics and risk appetite framework do not cover liquidity risk: the risk that ING Bank or one of its subsidiaries cannot meet its financial liabilities, at reasonable cost and in a timely manner, when they come due. ING Bank has a separate liquidity management framework in place to manage this risk, which is described in the liquidity risk section of ING Bank.

Ongoing changes in the regulatory environment

After the turmoil in the financial markets and the consequent need for governments to provide aid to financial institutions, financial institutions have been under more scrutiny from the public, supervisors and regulators. This has resulted in more stringent regulations intended to avoid future crises in the financial system and taxpayers' aid in the future.

CRR/CRD IV

To accomplish this, a new Basel accord (Basel III) was adopted in 2010 and consequently translated into regulation by the EU in the Capital Requirement Regulation (CRR) and a Capital Requirement Directive IV. The CRR is binding for all EU member states and became effective per 1 January 2014. The CRR/CRD IV directs all EU member states to implement certain components of Basel III in their own law, in the Netherlands in the Wet Financieel Toezicht (WFT). Main objectives are:

- › Better alignment of risk taking and loss absorbing capacity of financial institutions through a narrower definition of CET1 and Tier 1 capital, back-stops on a bank's leverage via a ratio that should become part of Pillar I of the Basel framework.
- › A reduction of 'pro-cyclicality' to avoid that banks would be required to increase their capital in difficult financial times when it is most scarce.
- › Additional capital requirements for counterparty credit risk.
- › Higher loss absorbency capacity and special resolution regimes for 'systemically important banks' (SIBs). ING Bank has been designated as a global SIB (G-SIB) by FSB and a domestic SIB (D-SIB) by DNB. In accordance with EBA and FSB requirements, ING Bank disclosed its 'Indicators of global systemic importance' via a separate document on the corporate website ing.com.
- › Liquidity and funding requirements via the so-called Liquidity Coverage Ratio and the Net Stable Funding Ratio. The aim of the first metric is to monitor a bank's capability to survive a short-term liquidity stress, where the latter aims to ensure that long-term asset activities are similarly funded.

On 1 January 2014, the CRR/CRD IV officially entered into force with the Capital Requirement Directive currently being transposed into national law. Like other banks, ING Bank participated in semi-annual Basel III monitoring exercises in order to prepare for the functioning of all Basel III elements. Significant management actions have been undertaken to adjust the business model and exposure to certain asset classes to better meet the new Basel III requirements for both the liquidity and capital. Although not all definitions and parameters of the CRR/CRD IV have been finalised, the key principles of Basel III have been included in both the solvency and liquidity risk appetite framework that are continuously monitored by senior management.

Single Supervisory Mechanism

In November 2014, the ECB took over supervisory powers for all banks in the Eurozone, establishing the Single Supervisory Mechanism (SSM). In preparation for this transition the ECB performed a yearlong and Europe wide Comprehensive Assessment, together with existing national regulators; ING Bank N.V. was one of the 130 banks that underwent this health check. The ECB objective was to foster transparency, to repair and to build confidence. The exercise ultimately aimed to provide details of any capital shortfalls and demand corrective measures. The ECB established quantitative benchmarks at various points in the process. Banks falling short of these benchmarks are required to raise additional capital in given time periods.

The Comprehensive Assessment, which included an asset quality review (AQR) and a stress test, commenced in November 2013 and concluded with the publication of results on 26th October 2014. ING Bank passed both the AQR and stress test reflecting ING's strong capital position and resilient balance sheet. The methodology used by the ECB to determine the AQR impact was non-IFRS based and consisted of a combination of a credit file review, extrapolations thereof, review of emergence periods used in collective provisioning, and a review of fair values.

After the publication of the CA, all participating Banks received a letter containing the ECB's main observations following the AQR. ING has taken this feedback seriously and has assessed the impact on the 2014 financial statements. Based on this assessment no impact has been identified relating to emergence periods used in collective provisioning. The assessment did result in some adjustments relating to provisioning for a few credit files and fair value of certain derivatives. The 2014 profit before tax was impacted by less than EUR 15 million by the AQR.

The AQR phase had 10 blocks of activities and focused on three main streams covering a number of these blocks; Banking Book, Fair Value Exposure, and Process Policies and Accounting (PP&A) Review. The AQR looked at both Credit and Market risk - the overall scope providing coverage for at least 50% of the Bank's risk-weighted assets and 40% of the balance sheet.

As the ECB assumes supervision of the consolidated ING Bank, including ING's subsidiaries in the Eurozone, the assessment was executed at consolidated level. This means that for ING Bank N.V., DNB was in the lead and liaised with local regulators on cross-border work. As an example of geographical coverage, the ING in scope Banking Book portfolios included Corporate and Retail portfolios in countries such as for example The Netherlands, Belgium and Germany. Regulators in these markets were also deeply involved in the ING assessment.

The execution of the AQR review process was both qualitative and quantitative; including extensive data integrity validation, onsite file reviews, collateral valuation and the recalculation of loan loss provisions. The ECB and national regulators engaged specialist consultants such as accounting firms, real estate appraisers, and financial modelling firms to undertake various aspects of the process. These external consultants reviewed and challenged ING Bank figures and processes.

The stress test phase, conducted in conjunction with the European Banking Authority (EBA), aimed to test the resilience of the participating banks to adverse macro-economic developments. In this exercise, the impact of both a baseline and adverse scenario for 2014-2016 on amongst others impairments, Net Interest Income and RWA had to be calculated. ING Bank used internal models for these estimations, which were checked and benchmarked by EBA and the ECB.

ING Bank executed the work largely with internal staff as the required expertise is available in house. This strategy also assisted ING Bank in building the knowledge required for a much more data-driven regulatory climate. Both the AQR and the stress test were good preparation to meet these future demands.

In December 2014, the ECB shared some qualitative and quantitative observations with ING that resulted from the Comprehensive Assessment process. Some of these observations have already been addressed in 2014 and the remaining ones have been analysed and there is an agreed upon action plan. This approach was confirmed to ECB in January 2015. ING has an internal tracking process for regulatory items and will continue working with ECB to address the observations.

The ECB Comprehensive assessment was an intensive and time consuming project in which ING Bank participated in an effort to improve transparency and restore trust in the banking industry as a whole.

Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive

Another important element of the regulatory reforms is the Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive (BRRD) that was adopted by the European Parliament on 15 April 2014. The aim of this directive – that applies per 1 January 2015 – is to make EU banks more resilient and to reduce the risk of having to bail out banks using public money. The new rules provide authorities with the means to intervene decisively both before problems occur and early on in the process if they do. If, despite these preventive measures, the financial situation of a bank deteriorates beyond repair, the new law ensures that shareholders and creditors of the banks have to pay their share, reflected via the bail-in requirements which will enter into force on 1 January 2016. To ensure the effectiveness of the bail-in tool, the BRRD requires banks to meet a Minimum Requirement for own funds and Eligible Liabilities (MREL). The implementation of MREL will also depend on the final Total Loss Absorption Capacity (TLAC) proposal for which the Financial Stability Board (FSB) has published a consultative document in November 2014. In 2015 FSB will base on the outcome of the Quantitative Impact Study and the feedback from its stakeholders prepare a final document for the November 2015 G20 meeting. ING supports the bail-in concepts as they are an important component of the new regulatory framework, aimed at reducing the possibility that tax payer money will be needed to bail-out institutions in future crises.

In response to the crisis, ING Bank has set up an all-encompassing Recovery Plan to enhance the bank's readiness and decisiveness to tackle financial crises on its own strength. Furthermore, ING Bank is diligently working towards providing information on the basis of which the Dutch National Resolution Authority will be able to develop a Resolution Plan.

Principles for Effective Risk Data Aggregation and Risk Reporting

In January 2013, the Basel Committee published Principles for Effective Risk Data Aggregation and Risk Reporting (also referred to as PERDARR or BCBS239), following a recommendation made by the Financial Stability Board (FSB). The requirements aim to strengthen risk data aggregation and risk reporting practices at banks to improve their risk management practices. Banks indicated as global SIB – including ING Bank - are required to implement the principles by 2016. As a first step of the implementation, ING Bank performed a 'stocktaking' self-assessment survey in 2013 and another assessment in 2014 to monitor the progress made. The principles coincide with several projects and programs to strengthen risk data aggregation and risk reporting practices that were already underway before these new requirements were published.

For a further update on the ongoing changes in the regulatory environment, refer to the Financial and Regulatory Environment Chapter.

Risk developments in 2014

Risk developments listed below are defined as the risks that may have a potentially significant impact on our business and for which it is difficult to quantify the impact on the organisation. They are triggered in general by unexpected events, and they may introduce volatility in earnings or impact ING's long-term strategy. The sequence in which the top risks are presented below is not indicative of their likelihood of occurrence or the potential magnitude of their financial consequences.

Impact of low interest rate environment

Interest rates in the Eurozone but also in the other main home countries decreased from already low levels to unprecedented low levels. Central bank rates are still at very low and even negative levels, thereby negatively impacting short-term as well as long-term money market rates. The on-going Eurozone crisis in combination with uncertainty on the growth potential of the world economy and the geopolitical tensions are the main reasons for this development.

The typical interest rate position for ING Bank is that the duration of the assets is slightly higher than the duration of the liabilities. Given this mismatch, decreasing interest rates are under normal circumstances favourable for the interest income of ING Bank: liabilities reprice more quickly than assets, and therefore the average rate paid on liabilities would adapt more quickly to lower market interest rates. This would then support ING Bank's net interest income.

However, given the current unusual situation with very low interest rates, the above may not fully apply anymore for the following reasons:

- › ING Bank could be confronted with higher than expected prepayments because of the significant difference between the rates of the existing mortgage portfolio and the prevailing market rates.
- › ING Bank may not be able to fully track further declines in interest rates in savings rates.
- › Returns on new originated assets may decrease, which may for example be the consequence of increased competition.

These factors could put ING Bank's Net Interest Margin under pressure. This situation will remain until structural economic recovery.

Dutch mortgages

In 2014, the Dutch house prices increased every quarter for the first time since 2008, while the real economy showed a fragile recovery. The Dutch housing market is historically characterised by a housing shortage, high income tax with deductibility of interest on mortgages, and tax-driven mortgage products.

ING introduced differentiation in pricing based on LTV buckets attracting new customers with lower LTV, and stimulating existing clients to repay their mortgages. ING has seen a record high of partial repayments in 2014.

By the end of the year, the portfolio showed an elevated but still low percentage of non-performing loans (NPL). This was due to the implementation of the refined EBA's NPL definition. The percentage 90 days overdue remained at a low level. Given the significant amount of mortgages in our credit portfolio, ING Bank closely follows all developments related to the Dutch housing market and its mortgage portfolio.

Business lending Benelux

ING Bank's Business Lending portfolio, defined as lending to corporates in the business line Retail Banking, is concentrated within the Benelux. The weak economic environment was reflected by increased, but lower compared to last year, risk costs and an elevated percentage of non-performing loans. The Netherlands showed increased non-performing loan amounts, which was mainly driven by the sectors transportation & logistics - especially inland shipping and short sea -, builders & contractors and retail non-food. The non-performing loan amounts in Belgium and Luxembourg decreased slightly over 2014.

Real estate finance

Real Estate Finance (REF) is ING Bank's commercial real estate financier with a global portfolio. It is active in all the core real estate sectors: offices, retail, residential, industrial and logistics. REF financing policy is based on cash flow generating prime real estate portfolio, senior secured facilities, relatively low starting Loan-to-Value (LTV) and conservative covenant setting.

In 2014, the commercial real estate key market areas overall improved although it remains challenging. This is reflected in lower risk costs and decrease in non-performing loans compared to 2013. ING managed down the credit outstandings through sale or redemption of loans mainly in The Netherlands. In 2014, the ECB conducted an AQR for the total bank and the CRE portfolio was also included.

Russia & Ukraine

ING has a long history supporting clients in both Ukraine and Russia. We have intensified our monitoring and tightened acceptance criteria. The economic outlook for both Russia and Ukraine is negative and reflects (i) the increasingly subdued medium-term outlook, exacerbated by the prolongation of the Ukraine crisis, including the impact of expanded international sanctions, (ii) the gradual but ongoing erosion of Russia's FX buffers, (iii) Russian borrower's restricted international market access and (iv) low oil prices. Our risk appetite will therefore remain limited and only new exposures with sufficient risk mitigation will be considered. We will focus on international business clients and export-oriented companies. We intend to remain long-term players in both countries as these are defining moments for our clients.

Cybercrime

Cybercrime is an increasing threat to companies in general, and to financial institutions specifically. Both the frequency and the intensity of attacks are increasing at a global scale. In 2014 ING Bank has successfully finished its Cybercrime Resilience Programme to become more mature in being able to protect, detect and respond to e-banking fraud, Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) and targeted attacks (also called Advanced Persistent Threats). The Cybercrime Resilience Programme has handed over the Cybercrime activities to the line organisation to ensure structural embedding.

ING Bank is continuously working on strengthening its global cybercrime resilience including strengthened collaboration against cybercrime with the financial industry, law enforcement authorities, government (e.g. National Cyber Security Centre) and Internet Service Providers (ISPs).

Credit risk

Introduction

The credit risk section provides information on how ING Bank manages, measures and monitors credit risk and will give an insight into the ING Bank portfolio from a credit risk perspective. Prior to providing insight into the portfolio, we will explain how ING Bank ensures that credit risk is properly addressed and managed within ING Bank.

The ING Bank business model is to be a strong predominantly European bank, with leading positions in attractive, stable home markets, with options for future growth beyond Europe. ING Bank primarily extends credit to two types of customers; Retail customers made up largely of individuals and small businesses and Commercial Banking made up of larger corporate, financial and sovereign counterparties. In general, Retail customers tend to be served by country specific organisations while Commercial Banking counterparties are often multi-jurisdictional and even global. Therefore, it is important that the credit risk management department has both local product knowledge as well as understanding of global industries.

In order to properly assess, monitor and manage the credit risks over such a broad spectrum of products, industries and geographies, Credit Risk Management (CRM) is organised both locally and centrally. The local risk management teams have knowledge of specific geographic markets and the products and their risk characteristics. The central risk team focuses on more global industries and customers. The central risk team is also responsible for setting the ING Bank credit risk policies and standards. The local and central credit risk teams strive to have a consistent risk appetite which is facilitated by a robust credit risk infrastructure that supports the entire credit lifecycle.

The overall credit risk appetite framework allows ING Bank to manage the portfolio and avoid undesired concentrations of credit risk. CRM is supported by dedicated credit risk information systems and internal credit risk measurement methodologies for all types of counterparties. CRM creates consistency throughout the credit risk organisation by providing common credit risk policies, methodologies and tools across the ING Bank. Credit risk managers use these tools and processes to manage credit risk within ING Bank.

CRM has a responsibility to ensure a common understanding of the contribution of credit risk to ING Bank's strategy and the diverse aspects of credit risk throughout ING Bank. To accommodate this CRM actively involves stakeholders from the business and other risk departments, but in addition CRM promotes assignments and exchange of employees to facilitate a shared understanding and create an environment of co-operation. CRM informs the ING Bank community about new developments and insights in multiple manners, ranging from presentations, workshops and news alerts.

Key developments in Credit Risk

CRR/CRDIV came into effect from 1st January 2014

For the European Union Basel III has been transposed into law through the Capital Requirements Directive IV (CRDIV) and the Capital Requirements Regulation (CRR). CRR/CRDIV came into effect as of 1 January 2014 and ING Bank has complied with the requirements stated by these regulations. The impact of these regulations was mainly felt through (i) CVA Capital for the derivatives portfolio (ii) higher correlation for large regulated financial institutions (iii) increased haircut for securities financing business and (iv) increased risk weight for Central Clearing Parties. The Financial Markets portfolio was the one which was most significantly impacted by these new regulations along with parts of Retail Banking International, Corporate & FI Lending and Transaction Services units. The impact was seen through an increase in risk density in these units where the ratio of Credit RWA/READ increased.

Improved Credit Quality

The credit RWA density, measured as total credit RWA divided by total EAD, showed an improvement indicating a better risk profile for the year 2014. Improvements were seen through a diminishing inflow in our NPL, fewer files in watch-list (2014: 2.5%, 2013:3.7%) and a decrease in additions to loan loss provisions (2014: EUR 1.6 billion, 2013: EUR 2.3 billion). Overall, the credit portfolio has improved with reduced inflows to problem loan departments, watch-list and a reduction in risk costs compared to 2013.

Mortgages

The total mortgage portfolio remained almost flat over the year. Growth was seen in Belgium, DiBa and Australian markets. In Australia, the FX impact of the Australian Dollar had a significant impact on the size of the portfolio and contributed to most of the growth seen.

In the Netherlands, concentration in the Dutch mortgage portfolio for ING Bank has reduced, mainly through a steady transfer of mortgages from Westland/Utrecht to Nationale-Nederlanden Bank. After years of continued weakness in the housing market, house prices in the Netherlands finally showed an uptick in 2014. This development improved the LTV and reduced RWA for the Dutch mortgages.

Commercial Real Estate

Given the increased risk profile in the real estate sector, ING Bank decided in 2008 to reduce its real estate portfolio and this reduction continued in 2014. The portfolio is now at the level targeted by ING Bank's risk appetite for this asset class. The book is performing better compared to 2013, reflected by an improved Credit RWA density, lower number of clients on the watch list, NPL ratio showing a steady decline in 2014 and a material reduction in risk costs.

Commercial Banking

Structured Finance as well as Transaction Services have seen an increase in 2014. FX had a material impact on these significantly USD denominated portfolios, but, excluding FX these portfolios registered a volume increase. Financial Markets and especially derivatives were impacted by the introduction of CRR/CRDIV resulting in increased READ, RWA density and higher capital requirements (increased Credit RWA by EUR 5.5 billion and additional CVA RWA of EUR 6.2 billion).

Move to the new Masterscale

Since 2012, ING Bank has been working on a project to map the 1-19 rating grades to internal data instead of external rating agency scales. In March 2014, DNB approved the implementation of the new Masterscale (ING Bank internal rating methodology). As of Q2 2014, PD values of the ING Bank Masterscale were adjusted using internal observed default data history from 2005 until 2012 where previously Standard & Poor's data was used. These adjustments are performed to reflect internal default experience, which is better compared to the more US based Standard & Poor's data. This has made the Masterscale a better reflection of the risk profile of ING Bank and consequently has led to a net decrease in RWA. This change in methodology resulted in a release of EUR 3.7 billion in Credit RWA. The planning is to add each year a new year of internal default history to the data set.

Credit risk definitions

Credit risk is the risk of loss from the default and/or credit rating deterioration of counterparties (including bond issuers). Credit risks arise in ING Bank's lending, financial market and investment activities. Credit risk exposure is the total amount of outstanding plus the unused portion of commitments. It can be measured on various levels, such as customer, legal or economic one obligor group, product, portfolio, customer type, industry, and country. Each level can in turn be broken down from the consolidated ING Bank NV level to a local branch/unit level. As the distribution of the exposures is of great importance in correctly managing the credit risk exposure, ING Bank has established the credit risk appetite and concentration framework.

CRM uses risk categories to differentiate between the different types of credit risk exposures. All products within ING Bank are aggregated to one of the following risk categories:

- › **Pre-settlement risk:** arises when a counterparty defaults on a transaction before settlement and ING Bank has to replace the contract by a trade with another counterparty at the then prevailing (possibly unfavourable) market price. The pre-settlement risk (potential or expected risk) is the cost of ING Bank replacing a trade in the market. This credit risk category is associated with dealing room products such as options, swaps, and securities financing transactions. Where there is a mutual exchange of value, the amount of credit risk outstanding is generally based on the replacement value (mark-to-market) plus a potential future volatility concept, using a 3-7 year historical time horizon and a 97.5% confidence level.
- › **Money market risk:** arises when ING Bank places short-term deposits with a counterparty in order to manage excess liquidity. As such, money market deposits tend to be short-term in nature. In the event of a counterparty default, ING Bank may lose the deposit placed. Money market risk is measured as the notional value of the deposit, excluding any accrued and unpaid interest or the effect of any impairment.
- › **Lending risk:** arises when ING Bank grants a loan to a counterparty, or issues guarantees on behalf of a counterparty. This includes term loans, mortgages, revolving credits, overdrafts, guarantees, letters of credit, etc. The risk is measured as the notional amount of the financial obligation that the counterparty has to repay to ING Bank, excluding any accrued and unpaid interest, discount/premium amortisations or impairments.
- › **Investment risk:** is the credit default and risk rating migration risk that is associated with ING Bank's investments in bonds, commercial paper, securitisations, and other similar publicly traded securities. This can be viewed as the worst-case loss that ING Bank may incur as a result of holding a position in underlying securities whose Issuer's credit quality deteriorates or defaults. All investments in the banking book are classified in the investment risk category. The primary purpose of ING Bank's investments in the banking books is for liquidity management.
- › **Settlement risk:** is the risk that a counterparty will fail to deliver on financial markets (PS or MM) transaction/contract at Settlement and ING Bank could lose up to 100% of the value expected to be delivered. Settlement Risk arises when there is an exchange of value (funds or instruments) for the same value date or different value dates and receipt is not verified or expected until after ING has given irrevocable instructions to pay or has paid or delivered its side of the trade. The risk is that ING Bank delivers but does not receive delivery from ING Bank's counterparty. ING manages Settlement Risk in the same way as other risks including a per borrower risk limit structure. However, because of the short term nature and per definition double count of Settlement Risk, ING Bank does not hold provisions or capital for specific Settlement Risk. Although a relatively low risk, ING increasingly uses DVP (Delivery versus Payment) and FITO (First in Then Out) payment techniques to reduce Settlement Risk.

For the reconciliation between credit risk outstanding categories and financial assets we refer to the section 'Credit risk management classification' as included in the chapter 'Accounting policies for the consolidated annual accounts'

Governance

CRM within ING Bank belongs to the second line of defence (the front office being the first, internal audit the third) and aligns the credit risk taking with the strategic planning of ING Bank. It is responsible for reviewing and managing credit risk including environmental and social risk for all types of counterparties. CRM consists of line credit risk managers who are responsible for their business lines and manage specific portfolios and experts who support both the line credit risk manager as well as the business with tools like credit risk systems, policies, models and reporting. To ensure the independence of the risk function the CRM General Manager is functionally responsible for the global network of credit risk staff and the heads of the credit risk management functions for the business lines.

ING Bank's credit policy is to maintain an internationally diversified loan and bond portfolio, while avoiding large risk concentrations. The emphasis is on managing business developments within the business lines by means of the top-down risk appetite framework, which sets concentration limits for countries, individual counterparties and counterparty groups and investment activities. The aim is to expand relationship-banking activities, while maintaining stringent internal risk/reward guidelines and controls. To ensure a proper risk reward balance in our portfolios, the risk appetite framework is linked to the Medium Term Plan (MTP) process.

Credit analysis at portfolio level is a function of different concentration levels and various metrics like Economic Capital, Regulatory Capital, Exposure at Default, Probability of Default and Loss Given Default. The risk/reward is monitored and managed at portfolio level to ensure efficient use of ING Bank's capital. Credit analysis at facility level is also risk/reward-oriented in that the level of credit analysis is a function of the risk amount, tenor, structure (e.g. covers received) of the facility, and the risks entered into. RAROC-based tools are used internally to ensure a proper balance of risk and reward within the portfolio and concentration parameters. ING Bank's credit analysts make use of publicly available information in combination with in-house analysis based on information provided by the counterparty, peer group comparisons, industry comparisons and other quantitative techniques and tools.

Within ING Bank, the ultimate authority approve or decline credit proposals resides with the Management Board Banking (MBB). The MBB has further delegated authorities, based on amounts and tenors to lower levels of the organisation. Transactions are approved via a dual signatory approval system that requires an individual sign off from both front office and credit risk management. For larger and higher risk credits a committee structure exists whereby the credit risk chair takes the final decision with support of the respective committee members, thereby ensuring accountability. Retail business units have delegated authority to decide within policies and mandates approved by CRM and any decisions outside those policies or above the delegated mandate require a specific credit risk approval.

Risk governance per business activity

There is a split between Commercial Banking and Retail Banking. In practice, in 2014 Credit Risk Management (CRM) consisted of the following units; Commercial Banking CRM (CB), Global Credit Restructuring (GCR), Credit Capitals and Retail Risk Management (CC&RRM), Information Management Services (IMS) and Strategy and Business Management (S&BM).



Credit risks of commercial and retail banking are monitored by Commercial Banking CRM, Global Credit Restructuring and Retail Banking. These units are guided, instructed and supported by Credit Capitals, Information Management Services and Strategy & Business Management. Each head of the five units reports directly to the CRM General Manager. As shown in the organisation chart, the CRM General Manager reports directly to CRO.

The CRM role encompasses the following activities:

- › Measures, monitors and manages the credit risks in the Bank's portfolio;
- › Challenges and approves new transactions or any changes to previously approved terms and conditions applicable to clients;
- › Manages the levels of provisioning and risk costs, and advice on impairments;
- › Provides consistent policies and systems and tools to manage the credit lifecycle of all credit risk taking activities.

A range of committees are in place at CRM level both at transactional and policy level. The Global Credit Committee for Transaction Approval (GCC(TA)) is the highest approval authority level within ING Bank (with the exception of MBB and ING Bank Supervisory Board), and is mandated to discuss and approve transactions entailing taking of credit risks. Next to that is the Global Credit Risk Committee Policy. ING Group Credit Risk Committee Policy or "GCC (P)" is the highest level ING Group body (with the exception of ING Group Executive Board), which is authorised to discuss and approve policies, methodologies and procedures related to Credit, Country and Reputation Risks within ING Group or exclusively ING Bank. Following the (partial) divestment of NN bank from ING Group, the GCC(P)'s main focus is on ING Bank items. The Credit Risk Committee (CRC) is the next highest level ING Bank body, authorised to discuss and approve policies, methodologies and procedures related to Credit Risk within ING Bank.

The Models Development Committee (MDC) serves as a technical advisor to CRC and is a planning body for future model development. The MDC has a delegated mandate to approve credit risk models which cover smaller portfolios. The ING Bank Provisioning Committee (IPC) is the sole Approval Authority that can approve Loan Loss Provisions (LLP) amounts for all ING Bank entities. The ING Bank Impairment Committee decides on the quarterly debt, equity and real estate impairments in Available for Sale (AFS) books. The IPC and Impairment Committee are fully integrated as of 2014 and executed in connection with the Finance department.

Commercial Banking

Commercial Banking manages the credit risk of the commercial banking activity i.e. the corporates, sovereigns and counterparties (financial institutions). There is a functional reporting line from the regional CB risk departments to CB CRM. There is a hierarchical reporting line from the risk departments Corporate & Structured Finance, Real Estate Finance, Counterparty & Investment and Real Estate & Other to CB CRM. Several reports are made regularly for monitoring and managing purposes. These reports are intensively discussed with the (regional) risk managers. Credit RWA developments are monitored on portfolio level and per individual client during the month.

Commercial Banking has specific delegated mandates. The approval process for Issuer and Corporate Credit Risk is based on mandates for approval signatories, except for the GCC. Each mandate is further broken down into categories, each representing a different Delegated Authority in amounts. For Counterparties the approval authorities and committees consists of GCC, Counterparty Credit Committee (CPCC) and mandates on (sub) regional or (local) unit level.

Retail risk

The Retail banking business line covers Retail Banking Benelux and Retail Banking International. There is a functional reporting line from the business units to the Retail Risk Management (RRM) department. The retail risk portfolio is defined as a group of homogeneous credit assets, where a set of policies and processes for approving high volumes of counterparties and transactions can be applied. Exposures are pooled and managed through a set of standard policies and procedures over its entire life cycle. Several reports are made regularly for monitoring and managing purposes. These reports are intensively discussed with the (regional) risk managers. Credit RWA and other key credit risk metric developments are monitored on portfolio level during the month.

RRM has two specific delegated mandates: RRM has the mandate to re-allocate retail risk appetite statement boundaries between different segments. Secondly, RRM has the mandate to approve the annual update for the PD, LGD, and EAD parameters for the CRR/CRDIV Standardised portfolio.

Global Credit Restructuring

Global Credit Restructuring is the dedicated and independent corporate department within CRM that deals with non-performing loans and loans that hold a reasonable probability that ING will end up with a loss, if no specific action is taken. Clients can be transferred to GCR from both Retail and Commercial Banking but are usually the larger customers and often it concerns clients from Commercial Banking. A more detailed description regarding the Regional Restructuring Units, GCR and its specific characteristics are shown in the credit quality chapter at the end of this section.

Information Management Services

Information Management Services (IMS) manages, updates and improves the Credit Risk infrastructure of ING Group to support Credit Risk life cycle activities:

- › Supports CRM and ING organisation;
- › Optimises Credit Risk related end-to-end data, processes and systems;
- › Enables advanced technologies and analytics to support decision making;
- › Creates and strengthens a risk/reward culture within the bank.

Supported business processes include Credit Risk Approval, Loan Loss Provisioning and Credit Risk Reporting through the development and maintenance of Credit Risk systems.

Strategy & Business Management

Strategy & Business Management (S&BM) is a strategic business partner for various stakeholders within CCRM, the ING organisation and the regulator. S&BM sets policy, advises on strategic matters, credit and reputation risk within ING; provides management information on credit risk for all portfolios; and coordinates and facilitates various CRM non-risk and supporting processes.

Risk culture

Apart from supporting and promoting ING's Business Principles, CRM has identified a number of areas that helps establish and develop sound risk culture. Key areas where CRM puts its focus on are:

Risk Awareness

Various activities are coordinated within CRM with the goal to update, inform and educate CRM employees and create awareness on factors that influence its activities e.g. Credit Risk Alerts address actual credit risk issues relevant to ING. The alerts are published on various ING intranet portals and distributed by email. Credit Risk Academies where senior leaders and financial specialists address topics ranging from local unit developments to specific credit risk related strategies are held on a regular basis. Short term assignments within risk and finance are promoted to allow experienced employees to heighten their risk awareness.

Engagement

CRM, as a Top Employer, finds it is important to engage staff, and link with society. CRM organises annually a strategy project in which a large deal of interaction between (senior) manager and employees takes place. Regular Town Hall meetings are organised which bring employees and senior management closer. Topics usually include a reflection on the quarterly results of ING but also touch upon HR, ethics, compliance and other subjects. Also, CRM whole heartedly embraces the Winning Performance Culture scan, in which the employee satisfaction is measured and monitored. CRM also promotes support of charity funds like Chances for Children.

Integrity

Specific training on "good banker-ship" is obligatory. These courses, approximately three per year are known as the Personal Integrity Programme (PIP). Each CRM employee, senior managers included, needs to pass these courses within defined time frames. For specific roles within CRM, the Insider regulation applies. Those employees are obliged to adhere to certain rulings in trading in shares and confidentially restrictions. All new CCRM staff must attend an ORM/Compliance introduction workshop. Results and involvement are monitored and a quarterly update is provided to the Management Team in the ORM/Compliance Quarterly Report.

Communication

New methods to improve communication are regularly created and implemented. For example, a network of news brokers has been established. These are dedicated employees, who are kept informed of activities and changes within CRM and are responsible for informing their teams. Additionally they provide bottom up information and carry information from the teams back to the Management Team. CRM also has its own dedicated intranet site, providing Credit Risk Alerts, the Basel III Newsletter and the Policy House while the internal ING networking site, "Buzz", is also used for internal communication.

Credit Risk Appetite and Concentration Risk Framework

The Credit Risk Appetite and Concentration Risk Framework enables ING to prevent undesired high levels of credit risk and credit concentrations within various levels of the ING portfolio.



Credit risk appetite

Credit risk appetite is the maximum level of credit risk ING Bank is willing to accept for growth and value creation. This credit risk appetite is linked to the overall Bank-wide risk appetite framework. Articulating the credit risk appetite is a complex task that requires balanced views. It can be expressed in quantitative and qualitative measures. Having a credit risk appetite achieves:

- › Clarity over the credit risks that ING Bank can assume; focused execution in balancing ING Bank's credit risk exposures within the boundaries of ING's strategy, target setting and prudent risk management;
- › Consistent communication to different stakeholders;
- › Guidelines how to align reporting and monitoring tools with the organisational structure and strategy;
- › Alignment of business strategies and key performance indicators of business units with the overall ING Bank credit risk appetite by means of the MTP.

Credit risk appetite is present across different levels within ING Bank, at the portfolio level as well as transaction level. The various credit risk appetite components at the portfolio and transaction level together result in the credit risk appetite framework.

Credit risk appetite statements are defined top-down across the credit risk categories (pre-settlement, money market, lending, investment), and connected to ING Bank high-level risk appetite across all risk types (credit, market, business and non-financial risk). They consist of a set of high-level credit risk metrics; expected loss, economic capital, risk-weighted assets and exposure at default. For each credit risk metric a boundary is set that is cascaded down and monitored on a monthly basis. The adherence to the boundaries and the pro-active approach to manage the portfolio within the risk appetite boundaries are part of the key performance indicators of the business line managers and as such have a direct impact on their remuneration.

Concentration risk framework

The concentration risk framework consists of a number of different components to properly manage and control any concentration levels within the ING portfolio.

Country risk framework

Country risk is the risk specifically attributable to events in a specific country (or group of countries). Country risk is the risk of loss that ING Bank faces associated with lending, pre-settlement, money market and investment transactions in any given country or group of countries, as a result of country risk events. A country risk event can be described as any event or crisis, which relates mostly to large domestic economic, financial and political shocks, as well as transfer or exchange restrictions, affecting all counterparties in a specific country in an indiscriminate way. The occurrence of a country risk event may cause all counterparties in a country to be unable to ensure timely payments, despite their willingness to meet their contractual debt obligations. As such, country risk is an additional factor to be taken into account in the credit approval process of individual customers, as the country risk event probability may impact the default probability of individual counterparties.

To manage country risk effectively, ING Bank uses two components, which together form the country risk framework: The first component is to set a maximum economic capital consumption and the second component is to assign country reference benchmarks, which define the maximum appetite for credit risk, that ING Bank has per country to ensure that exposures and potential future losses do not exceed a certain agreed level. The country reference benchmark is based on the country's GDP and the funds entrusted locally in that country. In countries where ING Bank is active, the relevant country's risk profile is regularly evaluated, resulting in a country rating, which is used to set the country reference benchmark. Based on these two components country limits are set and exposures derived from lending, investment, pre-settlement and money market activities are then measured and reported against these country limits on a daily basis.

Every country where ING has exposure has a country limit which is reviewed monthly and updated when needed. The country limit is a function of various factors including amount of capital consumption, GDP of the country, internal rating, and amount of funds entrusted generated. In case the utilisation is above 90%, the respective credit risk manager is expected to take action to bring the utilisation below 90% or to submit to the relevant approval mandate holders a country limit review requesting a higher limit to accommodate the increasing exposure. In case of countries with elevated levels of geo-political or severe economic cycle risk like Argentina, Ukraine and Russia in 2014, the monitoring is performed on a more frequent basis with strict pipeline and exposure management to protect ING Bank from adverse impacts.

Single name and sector concentration

ING Bank has established the concentration risk framework in order to identify, measure monitor concentrations at country, portfolio and/or counterparty level. It consists of single name concentration i.e. losses due to the unexpected default of a single counterparty. Sector concentration (systemic risk): substantial increase of the ING Bank risk profile (expressed in increased risk weighted assets) due to the joint deterioration of a group of correlated counterparty/transactions, sensitive to the same external (macro-economic) factor(s) related to their geographic location, exposure class or industry. The LGD of a single name concentration is measured against a maximum LGD amount.

Scenarios and stress tests

Stress testing is a valuable risk management tool. Stress testing evaluates the bank's financial stability under severe but plausible stress scenarios and assists in decision-making that assures the bank to remain a financially-healthy on-going concern after a severe event occurs. In addition to the bank-wide stress test framework as described in the risk profile section of ING Bank, CRM performs stress

tests on a monthly basis in order to continually assess the portfolio risks and concentrations. These monthly stress tests are consistent with the stress scenario as established in the ING Bank wide credit risk appetite framework. The monthly stress tests are reviewed in the Credit Portfolio Committee (CPC) and potential management actions are proposed if necessary.

ING Bank performs periodical stress tests based on a standardised and pre-determined 1-in-10 year-stress event (i.e. at 90% confidence level and 1 year horizon) which is similar to the one applied in the solvency risk appetite. Based on this confidence level, a through the cycle rating migration for the entire portfolio is simulated. For this simulated portfolio, provisions, RWA and EC are recalculated to assess what the combined impact of such a year would be. The additional CRWA that ING should allocate in such an event is named CRWA-at-Risk. These stress test results are submitted to CPC on a periodical basis, in which the results are explained and discussed. If needed actions are formulated.

Next to the periodical pre-determined stress test related to CRWA-at-Risk, CRM performs ad-hoc stress tests based on severe but plausible scenarios. These stress tests can be for internal purposes or at the request of the regulators and are input for future Credit Risk Appetite setting. Stress testing is used as an additional safety net within CRM. Through stress tests the impact of severe but plausible downturn scenarios are determined, which might not be captured in the regular rating models (Probability of Default, Loss Given Default and Exposure at Default). Therefore, next to the Pillar I and Pillar II capital calculations, based on the results of various stress test, ING Bank ensures that adequate levels of capital (and liquidity) are available to sustain such severe but plausible scenarios.

Product approvals

Across ING Bank the product approval and review process ensures effective management of risks associated with products. It ensures that sound due diligence is performed by relevant stakeholders to ensure that risks (credit, operational, legal etc.) are mitigated.

Risk programs

Within ING we distinguish between risk programs for Retail Banking and risk programs for Commercial Banking business.

The Retail risk portfolio program is defined as a set of policies and processes, which are laid down to manage a retail risk portfolio within a predefined risk appetite statement. A retail risk portfolio is defined as a group of sufficiently homogeneous credit assets, where:

- › A consistent set of credit policies and processes for approving a high volume of counterparties and transactions could be applied;
- › Exposures could be pooled and managed through a set of standard policies and procedures over its entire life cycle.

A risk appetite statement in the context of a retail risk portfolio program is a pre-defined set of minimum performance criteria.

The Commercial Banking risk program is a detailed analysis of a defined product and/or industry that identifies the major risk drivers and mitigants, the internal business mandate, and proposes the minimum risk (including business) parameters – and potentially the maximum product and/or portfolio limit - to undertake that business. A risk program is always prepared by the Front Office responsible for the internal business mandate and requires an approval from the ING Bank Global Credit Committee (unless specifically delegated to a different approval mandate).

Reference benchmarks

A reference benchmark defines the appetite for credit risk per obligor or related group of obligor's counterparty group. It is expressed as an EAD exposure at the concentration risk level, which corresponds to a (maximum) internal capital consumption for credit risk. It is used as a reference amount tool in the credit approval process and can be waived on the basis of proper arguments but requires consent from a higher approval authority.

Credit approval process

The credit approval process ensures that individual transactions are assessed on a name-by-name basis. For each type of counterparty (corporate, banks/financial institution, structured products clients) there is a separate process. The line credit risk managers are organised along the business lines of ING Bank and are specialised in the relevant area of expertise. The credit approval process is supported by, amongst others, a credit approval system which ensures consistency and completeness; a risk rating system which contains all the risk rating models to ensure a proper rating is given to a counterparty and a limit and exposure monitoring system which subsequently feeds into the credit approval system. The rating model is used to indicate a counterparty's creditworthiness translated into a probability of default (PD), and to determine the maximum risk appetite that ING Bank may have for a given type of counterparty (reference benchmark). The determination of the delegated authority (the amount that can be approved at various levels of the organisation) also depends on the risk rating. ING Bank has a rating system with in total 22 grades (1=highest rating; 22=lowest rating) and are split in the following categories:

- › Investment grade (Risk Rating 1-10);
- › Non-investment grade (Risk Rating 11-17);
- › Restructuring (Risk Rating 1-19);
- › Problem (Risk Rating 20-22).

Credit risk capital and measurement

Credit risk capital

Regulatory Capital is a law based prudent measure defined by regulators and serves as the minimum amount of Tier 1, Tier 2 and supplementary capital required to absorb for unexpected losses. RC is the minimum amount of capital (based on 99.90% confidence level) that ING Bank must hold from a regulatory perspective as a cushion to be able to survive large unexpected losses.

RWA comparison

Comparison of RWA and risk weights across institutions is inherently challenging. Differences in RWA among banks have been classified by BIS in 3 categories:

- 1) Risk based drivers that stem from the differences in underlying risk at the exposure/ portfolio level and in business models/ strategies including asset class mix;
- 2) Practice-based drivers including approaches to risk management and risk measurement;
- 3) Regulating environment such as supervisory practices, implementing laws and regulations including national discretion and accounting standards.

For further analyses of the ING RWA density compared with the BIS study, we refer to the Pillar III section.

Under regulatory guidance, an IRB bank is allowed to report portfolios on SA up to 15% of total credit RWA. In future, the permanent partial use of SA will be strengthened. This change is laid down in a recently published consultation document from EBA (as mandated in article 150 of the CRR). In this consultation document it is stated that if the number of material counterparties is limited and it would be unduly burdensome to implement IRB, IRB banks can use SA for parts of their portfolio. Exposures and RWA in scope cannot exceed 8% of the relevant exposures. In general, capital calculated with AIRB is more accurate and therefore has often a lower risk weight than when using the Standardised Approach (SA). This Supervisory Practice has an influence on the comparability of RWA across institutions.

Risk based drivers

ING Bank portfolio is heavily dominated by secured lending especially in the areas of residential mortgages, structured finance, leasing and commercial real estate. Secured lending tends to have a much lower LGD, given the collateral involved, which is a key driver of RWA calculation. Another important element of the ING business model is the focus on retail exposures collateralised by residential property. ING's retail portfolio is mainly comprised of residential mortgages. The regulatory formula for this exposure class tends to result in the lowest RWA, all other factors being equal.

Practice based drivers

ING Bank tries to have an 'early in early out' approach to troubled exposures. This means that ING has a conservative default definition. This will have a direct impact on the level of RWA. In addition to an impact on RWA, the conservative default definition implies that many of both corporate and retail customers classified as non-performing are not overdue for more than 90 days in either interest or principal. For all customers, ING uses a borrower rating which means that a customer will only have one PD regardless of the type(s) of transactions done with ING Bank. This means that if one facility is in default, usually all facilities of the client are in default. Once the customer is deemed performing, a non-default PD will be given to the borrower. Non-performing clients which were granted forbearance measures need to stay non-performing for a minimum of one year starting from the moment they are classified as forborne. Only after this probation period the clients may become eligible to be changed back to performing.

Regulatory environment

ING Bank is regulated by many host supervisors; however the primary supervising entity is ECB. ECB ensures that the regulatory rules (CRR/CRDIV) are adhered to, including the strict 'significant change' policy that requires all changes to the internal models (PD, LGD and EAD) above a threshold to be reviewed and approved by ECB.

Next to different risk profiles, which accounts for the largest RWA deviation when comparing RWA levels between financial institutions, risk based drivers, practice based drivers and regulatory environment (e.g. Advanced Internal Rating Based approach or the Standardised Approach) can have a substantial impact on the regulatory capital / RWA of a financial institution. These factors make it challenging to compare capital levels across banks. ING Bank continues to work with industry groups including EDTF to improve the transparent reporting of our capital calculations.

Economic Capital (EC) reflects ING Bank's own view on credit risk, which allows it to be used in decision making processes at transaction level, counterparty level and (sub) portfolio levels. Credit risk and transfer risk capital are calculated on all portfolios which contain credit or transfer risk, including investment portfolios. EC is the minimum amount of capital required to cover for unexpected losses within a 99.95% confidence level and a 12 months' time horizon. It is used throughout ING Bank in the decision making process (mainly commercial banking), in risk adjusted counterparty and portfolio profitability measurement tools (commercial banking and retail), in investment and divestment decisions, in the country risk framework and in concentration risk management such as risk appetite statements (RAS) and the systemic risk reports (sector concentration report).

EC is an important ingredient for the Risk Adjusted Return On Capital (RAROC) ratio. RAROC is a risk adjusted profitability measure over Economic Capital and supports transaction decision-making processes (for example through the ING Bank loan pricer tool). RAROC allows measuring the risk adjusted return of different products and structures within different parts of the organisation along one and the same yardstick. Next to Pillar II based RAROC, within commercial banking, a Pillar I 'sanity check' is performed on transaction level. This sanity check is a 'margin over credit risk weighted asset (CRWA)' ratio, which should exceed a pre-determined level (hurdle), which is tested in the Front Office 'green light committees'.

An important characteristic of the CRM infrastructure and framework is that models are built for several purposes, including EC, RC and Loan Loss Provision. These rating models are broadly used throughout the ING Bank organisation which is therefore compliant with the Basel Use Test requirement and ensures active feedback on the risk parameters by business units.

The short overview below shows the main differences between RC and EC, within ING Bank.

Conceptual differences between Regulatory Capital and Economic Capital

Regulatory capital	Economic capital
For portfolios which are reported on SA, the CRR/CRD IV compliant look-up tables are used to determine risk weights.	EC for SA portfolios is calculated by means of AIRB based unexpected loss formula which is based on the corresponding PD, Downturn LGD and EAD inputs.
The 1.06 regulatory scaling-factor is used.	The 1.06 regulatory scaling-factor is not used.
Regulatory LGD values including potential downturn adjustment are used.	Downturn LGD values which include potential downturn adjustments.
For non-Sovereign exposures the PD values are floored at 3 BPS.	Use of non-floored economic PD.
For Securitisations the risk weights are determined by applying the CRDIV complaint external rating based look-up tables. For Mont Blanc exposures the Internal Assessment Approach is used.	EC for securitisations is calculated by applying the Corporates formulae within the CRR framework (based on internal PD, EAD, DLGD values and remaining maturity).
For exposures from 1 year and longer: PD values represent the PD for 12 months. Shorter than 1 year: 1 year PD values are used. Next to the PD, there is the maturity adjustment: always set to 1 year (for tenors shorter than 1 year) unless, the product is placed on a list of self-liquidation and or trade related products that is CRC approved (in line with the CRR). These should be seen as "not part of the institution's ongoing financing of the obligor" (CRR article 162).	For exposures from 1 year and longer: PD values represent the PD for 12 months. Shorter than 1 year: except for lending to clients rated 11 and worse (1 year PD floor), all PD's are floored at 1 month. So an exposure with a remaining tenor of 6 months will have a PD value based on 6 months.
Regulatory EAD is employed for all exposures.	Economic EAD is employed instead of regulatory EAD for all exposures except for FM products for which regulatory EAD is used (as well as downturn LGD).
The CRR/CRDIV based confidence level of 99.90% is used.	Linked to Risk Appetite, a confidence level of 99.95% is used.
CRR/CRDIV compliant correlations are used. The Increased Correlations for FI's was applied in 2014.	ING specific correlations are used, in order to capture the ING portfolio specifics including diversification benefits, concentration risk and single name risk.
In 2014 CVA Capital Charge is added to Regulatory Capital for credit risk.	CVA risk is taken into account as calculated under Pillar I based on the CRR Standardised Approach.
In the Solvency Report Other non-credit obligation assets (ONCOA) are included.	Credit risk related ONCOA items are included.

EC is calculated using the economic values of rating models (PD, EAD and LGD). In line with regulatory requirements, so-called 'significant changes' to these rating models are communicated to the regulator for approval. Significant changes relate to the impact on Credit RWA (Pillar I) or to the significance (size) of the model for the ING Bank portfolio.

Credit risk measurement

There are two broad ways to measure credit risk within ING Bank's portfolio, depending on whether the exposure is booked under an ING office which is permitted by the DNB to use the Advanced Internal Rating Based (AIRB) approach, or if it falls under the Standardised (SA) approach. ING Bank does not use the Basel Foundation (FIRB) approach for any portfolio.

Standardised Approach

Unlike the AIRB approach, the standardised approach applies a fixed risk weight to each asset as dictated by the Financial Supervisory Authorities, and is based on the exposure class to which the exposure is assigned. As such, the Standardised Approach is the least sophisticated of the Regulatory Capital methodologies and is not as sensitive as the risk-based approach. Where external rating agency ratings are available, they may be used as a substitute to using the fixed risk weightings assigned by the Financial Supervisory Authorities. Because the underlying obligors are relatively small, the underlying obligors tend not to have external ratings.

Advanced Internal Rating Based Approach

There are four elements which drive the Regulatory 'risk-based approach' to the determination of the capital base.

Probability of Default (PD): The first is the counterparty's probability of default, which measures a counterparty's creditworthiness in terms of likelihood to go into default. The result of this calculation attempts to measure the senior, unsecured standalone creditworthiness of an organisation without consideration of structural elements of the underlying transactions, such as collateral, pricing, or maturity. Each borrower should have a rating which translates into a PD.

Exposure at Default (EAD): The second element is the counterparty's exposure at default. These models are intended to estimate the outstanding amount or obligation at the moment of default in the future. Since the fact that a counterparty will go into default is not known, and the level of outstanding that may occur on that date is also not known, ING Bank uses a combination of statistical, expert and hybrid models to estimate the Exposure at Default. With the exception of guarantees and letters of credit, the EAD is always

equal to or higher than the associated credit risk outstanding, under the assumption that counterparties tend to absorb liquidity from available credit resources before financial problems become apparent to the counterparty's creditors. The EAD is largely a function of the type of credit facility (revolving, overdraft, term) offered to the borrower.

Loss Given Default (LGD): The third element is the loss given default. These models are intended to estimate the amount ING Bank will lose when liquidating collateral pledged in association with a given loan or financial obligation, or alternatively, liquidating the company as a whole, as part of a workout process. LGD models are based on cover types, estimated recovery rates given orderly liquidation, and (in) direct cost of liquidation.

Maturity (M): The fourth element is the time to the maturity of the underlying financial obligation. Regulations (CRR/CRDIV) cap the maturity element at five years, despite the fact that many obligations extend their facilities for longer than five years.

Expected Loss (EL): The expected loss provides a measure of the value of the credit losses that ING Bank may reasonably expect to incur on its portfolio. ING Bank must hold a reserve (as part of its capital base) to cover the expected losses in its credit portfolio. In its basic form, the expected loss can be represented as:

$$EL = PD * EAD * LGD$$

Additionally, ING Bank must also maintain a capital buffer against unexpected losses in order to protect itself against credit losses associated with unusual market events outside of the statistical norms.

Securitisations

ING Bank has implemented the AIRB approach for credit risk. As a consequence, ING Bank uses the Rating Based Approach (RBA) for investments in tranches of ABS and mortgage-backed securities (MBS) which have been rated by external rating agencies. Rating agencies which are used by ING Bank under the RBA include: Standard & Poor's, Fitch, Moody's and DBRS.

Under the RBA, the RWA are determined by multiplying the amount of the exposure by the appropriate regulatory risk weights, which depend on:

- › The external rating or an available inferred rating;
- › The seniority of the position;
- › The granularity of the position.

ING Bank uses the Internal Assessment Approach for the support facilities it provides to Asset Backed Commercial Paper (ABCP) conduit Mont Blanc Capital Corp., based on externally published rating agency methodologies.

Credit risk models

Within ING Bank internal Basel compliant models are used to determine the PD, EAD and LGD for regulatory and economic capital. Bank wide, ING Bank has implemented around 80 models, including various sub models that may be applicable for a specific portfolio.

There are three types of modelling which form the foundation of these PD, EAD and LGD models used throughout the Bank.

- › **Statistical models** are created where a large set of default or detailed loss data is available. They are characterised by a sufficient number of data points that facilitate meaningful statistical estimation of the model parameters. The model parameters are estimated with statistical techniques based on the data set available;
- › **Expert models** are based on the knowledge and experience of experts from both risk management and front office staff and literature from rating agencies, supervisors and academics. These models are especially appropriate for 'Low Default Portfolios', where limited historical defaults exist;
- › **Hybrid models** contain characteristics of both expert and statistical models.

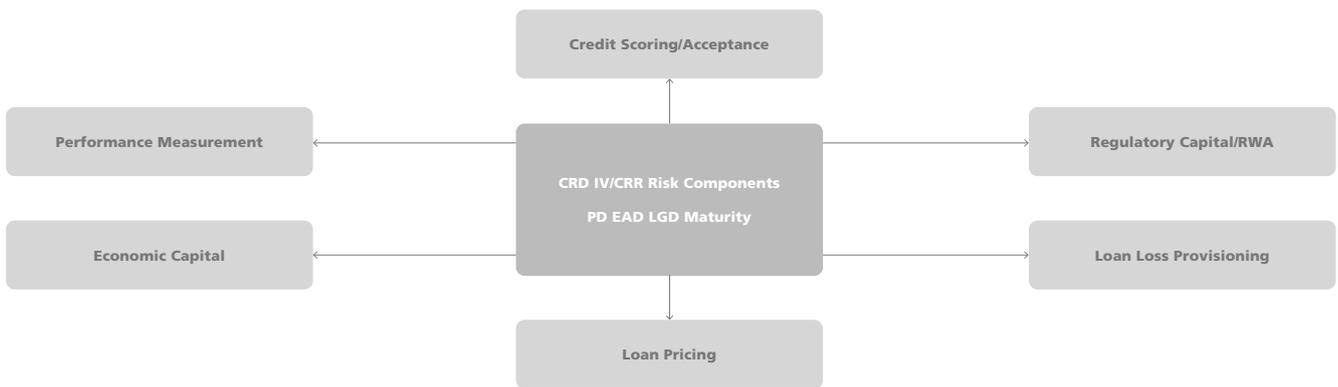
Next to the model choice, the definition of default is an important starting point for model building. ING Bank uses a framework that integrates elements of the regulatory definition of 'Default' and the loan loss provisioning indicators under IAS 39. The rationale is that several indicators are very close to the indications of an obligor's 'unlikelihood to pay' under European regulation (CRR/CRDIV) and similar regulations. Integration of both frameworks makes it possible to use the regulatory risk components PD, LGD and EAD in the collective provisioning process under IAS 39, further enhancing ING Bank's compliance with the CRR/CRDIV 'use test'. Key differences between the parameters used for Loan Loss Provisioning and Regulatory Capital calculations are that Regulatory Capital parameters are typically through the cycle while Loan Loss parameters tend to be more point in time. Additionally, the LGD for Regulatory Capital calculations is based on a down-turn LGD.

Pre-Settlement measurement models.

For regulatory capital the Pre-Settlement (PS) exposure is calculated using a Marked to Market (MtM) plus regulatory-based add-on tables. For internal capital purposes ING Bank uses two methodologies to calculate its PS exposures. Ideally, all parts of ING Bank would apply identical methodologies at all times. However, it is recognised that the ability to implement risk measurement methodologies is highly dependent on systems capabilities, and in certain cases the benefits of implementing a methodology may not be justified by the costs. Therefore more than one methodology is presently in use at ING Bank.

- MtM plus model based add-on approach:** In this approach, the PS risk is calculated as the sum between the MtM of the trade and the model-based Add-on. The MtM fluctuates through the life of the contract. The model-based Add-on is product-specific, and takes into account remaining time to maturity, profiling per time-buckets etc. Add-ons are updated with a frequency that takes into account the major market changes. This methodology is used for pre-deal exposure assessment of all ING Bank financial markets products and for post-deal risk calculations for financial markets portfolios for which computational efforts and costs associated with implementation of Scenario Simulation approach are not justifiable;
- Scenario Simulation approach (Monte Carlo approach):** Scenario Simulation approach is the most complex of the methods for PS risk calculations. This approach is the only approach that fully takes into account the daily market conditions, including correlations between the risk factors and portfolio benefits. This approach is also referred to as Monte Carlo (MC) approach and is currently used for the largest volume of derivative products such as FX and interest rate derivatives. ING Bank is in the process of implementing this approach for more products. The monitoring of the PS exposures and the limit setting for the products within the scope of the MC approach are based on the exposures resulting from the MC approach, the pre-deal check exposure assessment is based on the MtM plus model add-on approach.

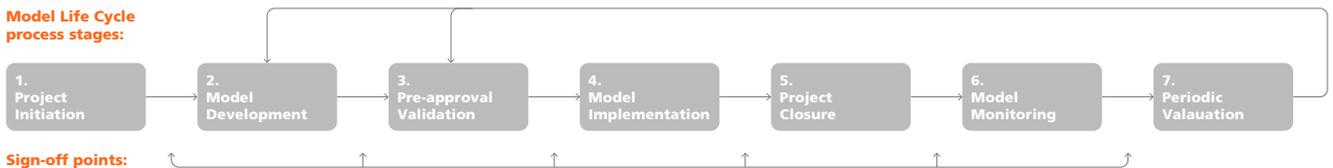
In addition to the two approaches ING recognises that certain trading products that are outside of this scope may be deemed insufficiently accurate. For example, highly structured or exotic derivative transactions may differ significantly from the generic transactions used to calculate the add-ons. For the assessment of risk exposures of such complex products a bespoke calculation is made. The figure below provides a high level summary of the application of model outcomes (PD, EAD and LGD).



Credit risk model governance

All PD, EAD and LGD models are built according to the ING Bank internal credit risk modelling methodology standards and model life cycle. After thorough review of the documentation by the Model Development Committee (MDC) and Model Validation (MV), the Credit Risk Committee (CRC) approves the models. For certain local models, the approval authority is delegated by the CRC to the MDC. Each model has both a credit risk and a front office co-sponsor. Both the MDC and the CRC have participation from both credit risk officers as well as the front office to ensure maximum acceptance by the organisation. The capital impact from the implementation of approved models is reported to the DNB in a quarterly report. In addition, MV validates each model on an annual basis. During such periodical validation the model performance is analysed via amongst others backtesting. Most of the credit models reviewed by MV show a conservative observed performance compared to predicted levels.

Model Life Cycle process stages:



Credit risk rating process

In principle all risk ratings are based on a Risk Rating (PD) Model that complies with the minimum requirements detailed in the CRDIV, the DNB Supervisory Rules and EBA guidelines. This concerns all counterparty types and segments, including countries.

ING Bank’s PD rating models are based on a 1-22 scale (referred to as the “Masterscale”), which roughly corresponds to the same rating grades that are assigned by external rating agencies, such as Standard & Poor’s, Moody’s and Fitch. For example, an ING Bank rating of 1 corresponds to an S&P/Fitch rating of AAA and a Moody’s rating of Aaa; an ING Bank rating of 2 corresponds to an S&P/Fitch rating of AA+ and a Moody’s rating of Aa1, and so on.

Risk ratings for performing loans (1-19) are calculated in ING Bank IT systems with internally developed models based on data either manually or automatically fed. Under certain conditions, the outcome of a manually fed model can be challenged through a clearly defined rating appeal process. Risk ratings for non-performing loans (20-22) are set on the basis of an approved subjective methodology by the global or regional restructuring unit. For securitisation portfolios, the external ratings of the tranche in which ING Bank has invested are leading.

Risk ratings assigned to counterparties are regularly, at least annually, reviewed, and the performance of the underlying models regularly monitored. Over 95% of ING Bank's credit risks have been rated using one of the in-house developed PD rating models. Within the AIRB Portfolio, the level of Regulatory compliant ratings exceeds 99% coverage by exposure. Some of these models are universal in nature, such as models for Large Corporates, Commercial Banks, Insurance Companies, Central Governments, Local Governments, Funds, Fund Managers, Project Finance and Leveraged Companies. While other models are more regional or country specific, such as PD models for SME companies in Central Europe, the Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg, as well as residential mortgage and consumer loan models in the various retail markets.

Rating Models for retail counterparties are predominantly statistically driven and automated, such that they can be updated on a monthly or bi-monthly basis. Models for SME companies, and larger corporates, institutions and banks are manually updated, and are individually monitored on at least an annual basis.

Exposure classes

BCBS (Basel Committee) and the European law (CRR/CRDIV) have developed the concept of 'Exposure Classes'. These are essentially groupings of credit risks associated with a common counterparty type or product type. For the AIRB Approach, most of the exposure classes have subcategories. ING Bank has applied the following definitions to determine Exposure Classes:

- › **Sovereigns** include Sovereign Government entities, Central Banks and recognised Local / Regional Authorities as well as Supranational Organisations;
- › **Institutions** include all Commercial Banks, non-Bank Financial Institutions, such as Funds and Fund Managers, and Insurance Companies, as well as local and regional government entities not classified as governments;
- › **Corporates** includes all legal entities, that are not considered to be Governments, Institutions or Retail Other;
- › **Residential Mortgages** include all mortgage loans for residential properties that are not part of a securitisation; and
- › **Retail Other** includes all other credit obligations related to Retail SMEs, such as partnerships, one-man businesses and private individuals, such as consumer loans, car loans and credit cards.
- › **Securitisations** include securitisation programs for which ING Bank acts as an investor, sponsor or originator.

Under these exposure class definitions, it is possible for a private individual to be included under both residential mortgages and retail other.

The Pillar III disclosure provides detail of the ING portfolio classified by these Exposure Classes. This should be helpful for comparison with other AIRB banks. However, ING Bank does not manage its portfolio according to these exposure classes but based more on geography, customer segment, industry, and product. Therefore, additional portfolio breakdowns are also provided in Pillar III that reflect these management classifications of the portfolio.

The portfolio breakdown of ING Bank per exposure class and per risk category, based on Exposure at Default is shown below. The figures shown in the Credit Risk section are including loans to Group and Insurance being "intercompany loans", unless stated otherwise:

Exposure classes ING Bank portfolio per risk category, as % of total EAD											
2014	Lending		Investment		Money Market		Pre-Settlement		Total		Total (ALL)
	AIRB	SA	AIRB	SA	AIRB	SA	AIRB	SA	AIRB	SA	AIRB + SA
Sovereigns	2.2%	0.0%	9.1%	0.1%	1.0%	0.2%	0.5%	0.0%	12.8%	0.3%	13.1%
Institutions	4.3%	0.2%	2.6%	0.0%	1.1%	0.1%	6.0%	0.0%	14.0%	0.3%	14.3%
Corporate	27.2%	1.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	1.3%	0.0%	28.7%	1.0%	29.7%
Residential mortgages	34.9%	0.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	34.9%	0.7%	35.6%
Other retail	5.0%	1.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	5.0%	1.3%	6.3%
Securitisation	0.2%	0.0%	0.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.0%	0.0%	1.0%
Total (ALL)	73.8%	3.2%	12.7%	0.1%	2.1%	0.2%	7.8%	0.0%	96.4%	3.6%	100.0%

Exposure classes ING Bank portfolio per risk category, as % of total EAD

2013	Lending		Investment		Money Market		Pre-Settlement		Total		Total (ALL)
	AIRB	SA	AIRB	SA	AIRB	SA	AIRB	SA	AIRB	SA	AIRB + SA
Sovereigns	2.8%	0.0%	7.3%	0.4%	1.2%	0.1%	0.5%	0.0%	11.8%	0.5%	12.3%
Institutions	4.3%	0.2%	3.5%	0.0%	1.6%	0.1%	3.7%	0.1%	13.1%	0.4%	13.5%
Corporate	26.2%	1.4%	0.2%	0.0%	0.1%		0.9%	0.0%	27.4%	1.4%	28.8%
Residential mortgages	37.2%	0.8%							37.2%	0.8%	38.0%
Other retail	4.7%	1.4%	0.0%				0.0%	0.0%	4.7%	1.4%	6.1%
Securitisation	0.3%		1.0%				0.0%		1.3%		1.3%
Total (ALL)	75.5%	3.8%	12.0%	0.4%	2.9%	0.2%	5.1%	0.1%	95.5%	4.5%	100.0%

Residential Mortgages and Corporates comprise over 65.3% of the total ING Bank portfolio (down from 66.8% in 2013). Even though the volume of residential mortgages has remained fairly stable over the year, as a proportion of the total portfolio they have declined most notably in the Netherlands.

The investment portfolio grew in 2014, mainly to support liquidity requirements which will be enforced by the introduction of the Liquidity Coverage Ratio, and is mainly concentrated to European central governments and central banks. The maturity of ING Bank originated securitisation BEL-SME 2006 in March 2014 means that the securitisation portfolio now comprises of only Investor (90.9%) and Sponsor (9.1%) securitisations.

The declines seen in the SA categories are due to the deconsolidation of ING Vysya Bank from ING Bank.

Models used for exposure classes

ING Bank has developed PD, EAD and LGD models for Commercial Banking and Retail Banking portfolios. PD, EAD and LGD models are subject to CRC (or in some delegated cases: MDC) approval and changes which significantly impact the results require approval from the regulator before implementation. By nature, the above described exposure classes have different, specific characteristics. To capture these specific characteristics and to have suitable valuations and analyses in place, CRM is continuously updating and developing models within each exposure class. In total, CRM makes use of around 80 different internal models, which have the following features:

- › **PD models:** Probability of Default (PD) estimates the likelihood that a borrower defaults within a given time period based on an assessment of borrower specific information (e.g. financial information and qualitative information), payment behaviour and product related information. For the exposure classes Governments, Institutions and Corporates, with the exception of small and medium-sized entities, the models are mostly expert based scorecards based upon an assessment of borrower specific information. The small and medium-sized entities, Residential Mortgages and Retail models are country specific and are developed statistically or as a hybrid.
- › **EAD models:** Exposure at Default is the expected amount of ING's exposure to a customer or counterpart at the time of default. Usually, this amount is higher than the amount of current outstanding. The EAD is facility-specific. EAD models estimate the expected amount of ING's exposure to a borrower at the time of default based upon the current exposure and current limit. The methodology for EAD models divides the products into revolving and non-revolving products. Depending on the relationship between the limit and exposure at the moment of observation different calculations apply. A separate dimension is required for off-balance sheet exposures to estimate the fraction of off-balance sheet exposure that will be converted to an on-balance sheet exposure in the event of default. Important factors that determine the outcome of the EAD models are related to the portion of the unutilised amount of the limit that is expected to be utilised at the time of default and a factor that translates the (notional) exposure at default into a cash equivalent and is only relevant for off-balance sheet products. The models also make use of a factor that measures unauthorised excess, i.e. drawings beyond the approved Facility Limit, if any. In addition to product type, EAD is also influenced by the approach to risk management. ING Bank has a pro-active risk management approach with active Watch List management that can influence EAD.
- › **LGD models:** Loss Given Default is the measure of anticipated economic losses in a given Event of Default, taking into account the time value of money and includes both direct as well as indirect costs. LGD is facility-specific and expressed as a percentage of the EAD. LGD is largely a function of default scenarios, collateral, and guarantees obtained. Unsecured facilities typically have much higher anticipated loss ratios than secured facilities.

ING distinguishes four types of post default scenarios:

- › *No Loss – Cure:* the Borrower pays all overdue amounts (to the extend ING Bank is legally entitled to) and the asset becomes non-defaulted again. ING Bank does not experience any loss in the process. The relationship is not terminated. The borrower returns back to performing.
- › *No Loss – Exit without loss:* ING Bank (or the borrower) liquidates collaterals and calls guarantees in order to recover the exposure or the Borrower fully repays. Thereafter the relationship is terminated. ING Bank does not experience any loss in the process.
- › *Loss – Exit with loss:* ING Bank (or the borrower) liquidates collaterals and calls guarantees in order to recover the exposure. Thereafter the relationship is terminated. ING Bank suffers loss in the process.
- › *Loss – Distressed Restructuring:* ING Bank restructures the loan agreement so as to recover the exposure after allowing some discount. The relationship with the borrower continues after the restructuring. ING Bank suffers some loss in the process.

As of 2014, ING Bank has implemented the latest forbearance policy in line with EBA guidelines. More details on this are available in the forbearance section.

Changes in 2014 to credit risk models

The credit risk models are updated on a regular basis by taking into account more recent data, regulatory requirements and Model Validation recommendations. In 2014 model changes have been implemented to various important AIRB models across all exposure classes leading to a decrease in RWA of EUR 2.2 billion of which the major changes are:

- › Belgium Business and Consumer Lending: The LGD model for the Belgium Business and Consumer Lending portfolio was updated to better reflect current market circumstances, leading to an increase in RWA;
- › Governments: A new PD model was implemented for Central Governments to support a more efficient rating process. New LGD models were implemented for the Central and Local Government portfolio. These changes lead to a net decrease in RWA;
- › Germany Mortgages: the model was updated with more recent data and implemented in the central infrastructure. The net effect in RWA was neutral;
- › For the Small and Medium Sized entities updates have taken place in the Dutch LGD model, the Belgium LGD model and in the Central Eastern Europe PD and LGD models, leading to an increase in RWA.

In addition to these model updates, methodology change related to Masterscale update led to a decrease in RWA. For further details regarding model changes and the subsequent RWA migration in 2014 we refer to the chapter Risk Weighted Assets Migration Analysis in the Pillar III section.

Securitisations

ING Bank primarily plays three roles in its exposure to securitisations programs which are:

ING Bank as Investor

Retail Banking International has been the primary investor in securitisation transactions within ING Bank. Its core strategy was gathering customer deposits and providing lending products to its retail customers. The savings product is typically the first product to be launched in a country followed by mortgages and other retail products (current accounts, unsecured loans, credit cards etc.). The difference between retail liabilities and own originated retail assets is invested in high quality bonds and when appropriate in certain internal assets originated by other ING Bank entities. The ING Bank strategy has evolved to create more universal banks from the retail operations. In addition, the regulatory requirements for liquidity have become clarified over the last couple of years which decreases the attractiveness of securitisations as a form of liquid buffer. Therefore, ING Bank has greatly reduced its securitisation portfolio over the last years and the remaining portfolio is likely to run-off without replacement.

ING Bank as Originator

ING Bank occasionally originated own securitisation transactions for economic and regulatory capital purposes, as well as liquidity and funding purposes. Securitisations originated by a company may only be considered for balance sheet de-recognition when the requirements for significant credit risk transfer have been fulfilled. However, for a securitisation transaction to be recognised as for RWA reduction, risk transfer alone may be insufficient due to the increasing impact of the maturity mismatch formula. As a consequence, the RWA of the retained tranches for one of the transactions would be higher than the total RWA of the underlying pool before securitisation. In such cases the RWA calculation for the transaction is performed as if it was not securitised. ING Bank had done a very limited number of transactions as Originator. These have all matured or have been unwound.

ING Bank as Sponsor

In the normal course of business, ING Bank structures financing transactions for its clients by assisting them in obtaining sources of liquidity by selling the clients' receivables or other financial assets to an SPV. The transactions are often funded by the ING Bank administered multi seller Asset Backed Commercial Paper (ABCP) conduit Mont Blanc Capital Corp. (rated A-1/P-1). Mont Blanc Capital Corp. continues to fund itself externally in the ABCP markets. In its role as administrative agent, ING Bank facilitates these transactions by providing structuring, accounting, funding and operations services. ING Bank also provides support facilities (liquidity and program wide enhancement) backing the transactions funded by the conduit. Mont Blanc is fully consolidated into the ING Bank financial accounts.

Credit risk tools

Credit risk policies

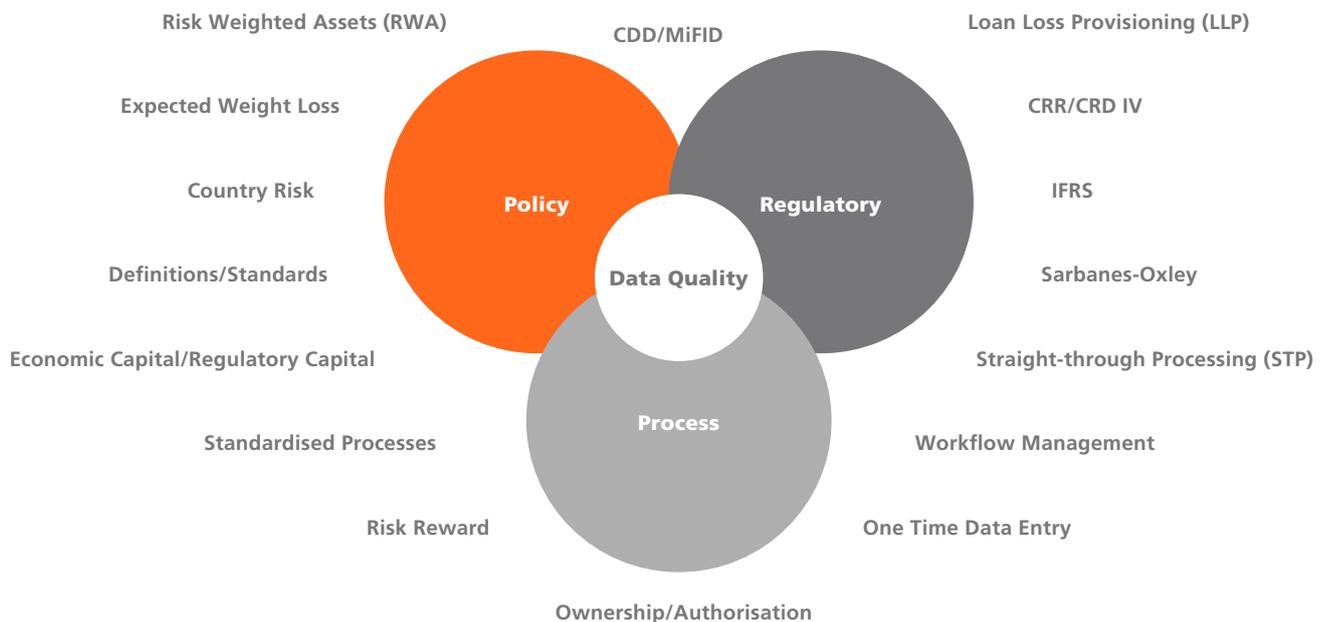
ING credit risk policies provide for generic rules and roles and responsibilities that should always prevail within ING Bank. While allowance is given for discretionary variation to comply with local regulations, such variations must always comply with the content of a global ING Bank wide credit risk policy and approved by (local) credit risk. All credit risk policies are created according to the policy development standards and reviewed on a regular basis. Each policy has a credit risk sponsor and is created in close consultation with the various stakeholders within credit risk, front office and where applicable other corporate departments. All policies require approval by the Credit Risk Committee (CRC) and where applicable by the Global Credit Committee (GCC).

Credit risk systems and data standards

The acceptance, maintenance, measurement, management and reporting of credit risks at all levels of ING Bank is accomplished through promotion of single, common credit risk data standards and the integration into common credit risk tools that support

standardised and transparent credit risk practices. ING has chosen to develop the credit risk tools centrally. Credit Risk Management (CRM) together with the Bank-wide Customer Domain (BCD) jointly designs and operates the tools, the process and the environment while the ING units (the users) provide the data input and various other ING departments and/or external regulators provide the rules, policies, and methodology embedded in the various tools.

The philosophy is to re-use the same data for all purposes, in an integrated approach that overlaps the three key areas of ING Bank policy, the regulatory environment in which we operate, and the daily processes which are active throughout the group. Overlapping these three areas is the essential requirement to ensure data quality standards and discipline remains high. The integrated approach is illustrated in the following diagram.



The CCRM/BCD customer-centric data model conforms strongly to the three core business needs of ING Bank:

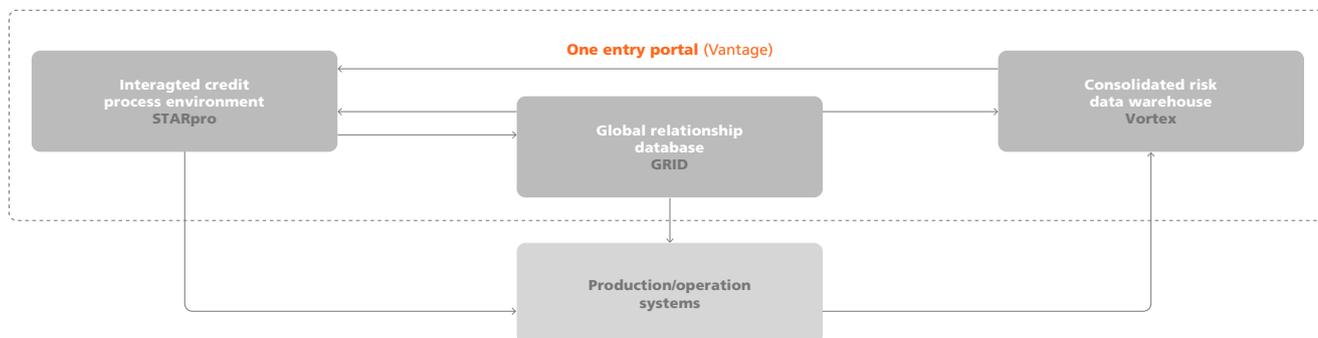
- › To transact efficiently with our counterparties;
- › To be compliant with our internal and external obligations;
- › To monitor the risks we undertake.

The customer-centric approach ensures that ING Bank can react quickly to changing regulations, business needs and best practices in our dealings with our clients and prospects.

Guiding principles regarding data elements

The guiding principles are that each data element should only be input once, and should have a clear 'home' system or database which is leading throughout all uses of that data element. From the data 'home', the data may then be redistributed to other systems or databases that may require that data in an automated Straight through Processing (STP) method. Depending on the need, the data may be transferred in real time, near real time, daily, weekly or monthly. This frequency of underlying data transfer is independent from the data transfer that may take place for consolidation purposes.

The main credit risk systems are all accessed through a portal (Vantage), which also provides global tools for the customer domain, compliance, and regulatory reporting.



ING Bank main credit risk systems

Global relationship database (GRID)

One global counterparty database for all incorporated entities throughout the world, GRID is leading for all data related to an organisation, such as ownership (legal and economic), legal name, industry code, town and country of residence, town and country of incorporation, customer type, and customer segment. The data in GRID is static, which implies that it does not change (on average) more than once per year.

The organisations in GRID include ING Bank's counterparties and prospects. GRID also contains private individuals, who are in scope when they are Private Banking customers, Ultimate Beneficiary Owners (UBOs), related parties, or cover providers to businesses. GRID also contains ING's contacts.

GRID's cross-reference functionality is essential. It enables the bank to link company information from different internal and external databases, with different local identification codes. Additionally, ING Bank automatically uploads credit ratings (from S&P, Fitch, and Moody's) and any (new) security ID (CUSIP, SEDOL, Bloomberg ID, or ISIN) on a daily basis, based on this cross-reference structure.

To ensure data integrity, GRID is reconciled on a weekly basis to over 17 external databases.

ING Bank consolidated risk data warehouse (Vortex)

Vortex was built based on the credit risk requirements, which means it thinks, calculates and reports based on this concept. Vortex has three main functions and three main purposes. The three main functions of Vortex;

- › Credit risk data warehouse covering ING Bank credit risk exposure;
- › Calculation engine: Vortex calculates country risk, large exposure, exceptions, average limit/outstanding, provisions, economic capital and regulatory capital;
- › Provide reports at a transactional, organisational, counterparty, department or ING Bank entity level.

The three main purposes of Vortex;

- › Analysis for decision makers;
- › Compliance: Vortex is compliant and meets the requirements set by the regulators;
- › Disclosure: Vortex delivers reports to regulators, external rating agencies and investor relations.

Vortex Advanced Analytics

Since the beginning of 2014, CRM has introduced SAS based Vortex Advanced Analytics (VAA) as a tool for advanced risk analysis. It enables creation of flexible analyses and reports with high granularity within a short turnaround time. The biggest advantage of using VAA is that it significantly reduces the time spent on data collection and data preparation allowing more time to be spent on value adding analyses. VAA has also provided independence in accessing the right data and reduction in manual interventions due to automated data collection and preparation. VAA was used extensively in the ECB Comprehensive Assessment and continues to be used for the ongoing ad-hoc regulatory requests to which CRM caters to.

Integrated credit process environment (STARpro)

STARpro is an integrated suite of applications, which manages various workflow processes related to counterparty on-boarding for most of the commercial and business banking activities. STARpro is actually a series of interrelated functions that are required to seek approval, such as:

- › Financial statements import and projection analysis;
- › Establishing and appealing risk ratings;
- › Customer due diligence (CDD) Risk Level determination;
- › MiFID classification determination;
- › Environment and social responsibility reviews;
- › Determining loan pricing;
- › Seeking credit risk approval (the analysis);
- › Administration of (standardised) documentation;

- › Problem loan management and determining the level of ISFA provisions;
- › Document management (an electronic library);
- › Research reports from external rating agencies (S&P, Fitch, Moody's, and Graydon) as well as internal equity research;
- › STARpro automatically receives organisation data from GRID and exposure information from Vortex.

The financial statements module provides the user with the ability not only to register a company's financial statements in a common (IFRS-EU based) format, but also to project the company's future financial position as a result of the transactions contemplated. This allows the common view on the company's financial status to be communicated throughout ING and to form a consistent basis on decision making processes relying on financial information. This data is then aggregated and presented on the (read-only) browser-based Financial Statements component of STARpro.

Financial Statements data is automatically forwarded to Risk Rater, where it is incorporated into one of the various probabilities of default rating models. Risk Rater contains two kinds of rating models:

- › Automated, whereby the data for a large number of counterparties is automatically processed from the source systems on a periodic (usually monthly) basis to determine new risk ratings;
- › Manual ratings, which are calculated on an individual basis and where the user is required to also answer additional qualitative questions in order to create a rating.

Once a rating is approved the rating results are forwarded in real time to GRID. GRID then redistributes the rating (update) to the subscribing systems.

The Loan Pricer module is used to price loans and investments. It accesses existing data from within Vantage for existing deals and uses this data in the loan pricing component, a tool which assists the user in structuring and optimising a deal, while determining if the transaction meets ING Bank's internal risk/reward requirements. Functionality includes the ability to create and compare different scenarios, and to search for break-even values.

The Approval Package module supports the credit approval process by automating the creation and management of credit application documents and routing them to reviewers and approvers. Approval Package is the tool that collects the data from all of the other modules (including data received from other STARpro modules and all exposure data from Vortex), in order to put together the credit application package. For annual reviews, the user is required to check the existing data (sourced from their local tools via Vortex), and make any requested changes. For new deals, the user (usually an account manager) inputs the entire deal structure (using local source system codes) directly into Approval Package. The tool then has a workflow function to guide the credit application through the credit approval process.

The Problem Loans module is used to create provisions for organisations where the rating is set to 20, 21 or 22 and the outstanding is equal or bigger than the threshold (in general 1 million Euro, in individual cases or for certain units, the threshold could be lower). It also records detailed information on organisations in default. In addition the Problem Loan tool supports the non-performing loan provisioning process by automating the creation of problem loan applications and routing provisioning proposals to designated reviewers and approvers. It also provides a centralised ING Bank-wide repository for problem loan applications. All relevant policies, regulations and methodologies are as much incorporated in the systems as possible, providing an integrated approach.

Credit risk reporting

Credit risk reporting is a crucial element of credit risk management. Regulators and ING Bank's management increasingly recognise the value of risk-reporting systems and accessibility of data to monitor trends as well as to keep consistency and credibility in published data. A dedicated credit risk reporting department addresses various reporting requirements as well as key reporting principles.

Role of reporting department

The credit risk reporting department contributes in the following ways to CRM:

- › Provides periodic overviews of credit capital, migration of credit risk weighted assets, concentration overviews by industry/sector/counterparty names required or requested by the DNB, the ECB and other European regulators;
- › Create periodic overviews of a set of high level credit risk metrics as defined in the ING Bank Credit Risk Appetite Statements and monitor to ensure that ING Bank remains within its defined Credit Risk Appetite;
- › Participate in the various exercises/simulations conducted by regulators and other policy-makers by being transparent in the data and analysis shared, to allow useful results and work towards more stable and efficient financial markets;
- › Provides senior management and other risk departments an insight showing trends and quantitative as well as qualitative analysis in significant risk areas within ING Bank in a comprehensive and simplified manner to facilitate informed decision-making;
- › Addresses ad hoc requests from regulators, analysts and rating agencies and other external stakeholders which are driven by current market events impacting specific regions, portfolios or counterparties; and
- › Serves as a control function by analysing various portfolios and comparing them to certain risk policies. In addition, significant monthly portfolio changes are analysed and reviewed.

ING Bank's credit risk reporting principles

The Basel Committee on Banking Supervision (BCBS) released a document in January 2013 on Principles for Effective Data Aggregation and Risk Reporting. The paper stems from a recommendation made by the Financial Stability Board (FSB) and outlines 11 key principles for global systemically important banks to follow. Credit risk has done a self-assessment and rates itself satisfactory or better on all reporting principles. Nonetheless, gaps have been identified in certain sub-portfolios and actions are being planned to further improve the credit information technology and reporting.

Credit risk portfolio

ING Bank's credit exposure is mainly related to traditional lending to individuals and businesses followed by investments in bonds and other securitised assets. Loans to individuals are mainly mortgage loans secured by residential property. Loans (including guarantees issued) to businesses are often collateralised, but can be unsecured based on internal analysis of the borrowers' creditworthiness. Bonds in the investment portfolio are generally unsecured. Securitised assets such as Mortgage Backed Securities and Asset Backed Securities are secured by the pro rata portion of the underlying diversified pool of assets (commercial or residential mortgages, car loans and/or other assets) held by the security's issuer. The last major credit risk source involves pre-settlement exposures which arise from trading activities, including derivatives, repurchase transactions and securities lending/borrowing and foreign exchange transactions.

Risk rating buckets per line of business

Risk rating buckets are defined based upon the quality of the exposures in terms of creditworthiness, varying from investment grade to problem grade expressed in S&P, Moody's and Fitch equivalents.

Risk classes ING Bank portfolio, as % of total outstandings ⁽¹⁾

	Commercial Banking		Retail Banking Benelux		Retail Banking International ⁽²⁾		Corporate Line		Total ING Bank	
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013
1 (AAA)	6.1%	1.9%	0.0%	0.0%	9.8%	8.5%	42.3%	5.0%	5.6%	3.2%
2-4 (AA)	10.2%	14.2%	5.7%	5.4%	17.0%	16.6%	0.5%	60.3%	10.5%	12.6%
5-7 (A)	23.3%	23.0%	4.1%	4.1%	15.9%	21.6%	11.6%	16.5%	14.8%	16.1%
8-10 (BBB)	27.2%	26.6%	27.7%	34.4%	33.1%	27.9%	14.9%	5.7%	28.9%	29.3%
11-13 (BB)	22.8%	22.6%	47.3%	41.5%	16.8%	18.8%	30.6%	12.3%	29.2%	27.7%
14-16 (B)	6.3%	6.6%	8.6%	8.2%	5.6%	4.6%	0.0%		6.8%	6.5%
17-22 (CCC & Problem Grade)	4.2%	5.1%	6.6%	6.4%	1.8%	2.0%	0.0%	0.2%	4.2%	4.6%
	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

(1) Based on credit risk measurement contained in lending, pre-settlement, money market and investment activities.

(2) Covered bonds are presented on the basis of the external credit rating of the issuer in question. Covered bond issues generally possess a better external credit rating than the issuer standalone, given structural features of such covered bonds.

The Masterscale used within ING Bank to rate clients was updated in May 2014 to include ING own collected data. This update resulted in the movement seen in Retail Banking International in rating A to BBB and is due to downward re-rating of mortgage clients in DiBa which is now in line with the bank-wide rating methodology. Similar movements were seen in Retail Banking Benelux in mortgages where outflow of WestlandUtrecht mortgages to NN Bank and the economic downturn reflected in the mortgage client ratings causing them to slip from BBB to BB. The big increase in AAA rated clients was due to the increase in investments with European sovereigns.

Credit risk types

Continued transfer of performing mortgages from WestlandUtrecht Bank to NN Bank combined with the economic downturn reflected in the mortgage ratings predicted by the Dutch mortgage models resulted in an increase in BB rated and decrease in BBB rated Lending outstandings. Investments as a proportion of the total ING Bank portfolio have grown to 12.8% (2013: 12.4%). The investment portfolio saw a healthy growth in AAA-rated outstandings due to increased placements with European sovereigns as it becomes more of a liquidity portfolio to support liabilities under a new Liquidity Coverage Ratio regime. Due to local regulatory requirements in certain units, Money Market postings tend to be with central banks and other highly rated financial institutions.

Risk classes ING Bank portfolio per credit risk type, as % of total outstandings ⁽¹⁾

	Lending		Investment		Money Market		Pre-settlement		Total ING Bank	
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013
1 (AAA)	1.5%	1.2%	30.0%	12.1%	4.8%	23.2%	1.2%	1.2%	5.6%	3.2%
2-4 (AA)	5.4%	6.2%	33.7%	48.3%	41.5%	27.1%	11.4%	9.8%	10.5%	12.6%
5-7 (A)	10.1%	11.5%	17.5%	17.9%	21.4%	27.3%	58.1%	61.0%	14.8%	16.1%
8-10 (BBB)	33.1%	34.1%	11.1%	10.4%	23.5%	16.9%	20.0%	17.2%	28.9%	29.3%
11-13 (BB)	36.0%	33.1%	6.9%	10.4%	7.8%	5.5%	7.2%	8.6%	29.2%	27.7%
14-16 (B)	8.6%	8.1%	0.6%	0.7%	0.5%		1.5%	1.3%	6.8%	6.5%
17-22 (CCC & Problem Grade)	5.4%	5.8%	0.3%	0.2%	0.6%		0.6%	0.9%	4.2%	4.6%
	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

(1) Based on credit risk measurement contained in lending, pre-settlement, money market and investment activities. The ratings reflect probabilities of default and do not take collateral into consideration.

Risk industry concentration

ING Bank uses a common industry classification methodology based on the NAICS system (North American Industry Classification System). This methodology has over 1,500 detailed industry descriptions, which are aggregated into 22 industry classes at the highest level. Certain countries require ING Bank to report locally based on other industry classification methodologies, which are generally derived from the NAICS classifications presented here. Residential mortgages are generally only extended to private individuals.

During 2014, the overall portfolio expanded, which caused shifts in concentration per economic sector. A more prominent place is now taken in by Central Governments in the RBI portfolio due to an increased position in the German, Spanish and Italian Unsecured Bonds, whilst the Central Bank concentration decreased mainly due to a swap of cash held at the Central Bank into debt securities. The concentration of mortgages continues to decrease, seen in the private individuals number. Also, the share of Real Estate in the Commercial Banking portfolio decreased substantially due to actively reducing the portfolio via regular repayments.

Risk concentration: ING Bank portfolio, by economic sector ⁽¹⁾

	Commercial Banking		Retail Banking Benelux		Retail Banking International		Corporate Line		Total ING Bank	
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013
Private Individuals	0.0%	0.0%	73.6%	74.1%	59.6%	57.1%	0.0%	0.0%	40.9%	41.5%
Commercial Banks	15.4%	14.8%	0.3%	0.2%	8.1%	11.2%	45.1%	23.0%	8.8%	9.0%
Central Governments	11.9%	10.9%	1.2%	1.3%	8.0%	5.0%	35.0%	59.9%	7.5%	6.7%
Non-Bank Financial Institutions	12.2%	13.2%	0.8%	0.8%	5.0%	7.3%	19.9%	17.1%	6.5%	7.4%
Real Estate	10.3%	12.0%	4.9%	4.9%	0.7%	0.9%	0.0%	0.0%	5.7%	6.2%
Natural Resources	14.0%	14.2%	0.4%	0.4%	0.6%	0.7%	0.0%	0.0%	5.6%	5.4%
Lower Public Administration	0.9%	0.4%	2.7%	1.8%	8.0%	7.3%	0.0%	0.0%	3.5%	2.9%
Transportation & Logistics	7.4%	6.5%	1.2%	1.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	3.3%	2.8%
Food, Beverages & Personal Care	3.4%	2.9%	2.1%	2.1%	1.2%	1.2%	0.0%	0.0%	2.3%	2.1%
Services	2.9%	3.1%	3.3%	3.3%	0.5%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	2.3%	2.4%
General Industries	3.8%	3.3%	1.5%	1.5%	1.3%	1.5%	0.0%	0.0%	2.3%	2.1%
Central Banks	4.2%	5.5%	0.1%	0.2%	1.7%	3.4%	0.0%	0.0%	2.1%	3.0%
Other	13.8%	13.2%	8.0%	8.1%	5.1%	3.6%	0.0%	0.0%	9.3%	8.5%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

(1) Based on the total amount of credit risk in the respective column using ING Bank's internal credit risk measurement methodologies. Economic sectors below 2% are not shown separately but grouped in Other.

Country risk

In Europe, growth continued in the German portfolio, both corporate and retail. Lower proportion of Dutch mortgages in the overall portfolio has reduced the overall concentration of the Netherlands.

Largest economic exposures: ING Bank portfolio, by geographic area ⁽¹⁾

	Commercial Banking		Retail Banking Benelux		Retail Banking International		Corporate Line		Total ING Bank	
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013
Netherlands	15.2%	17.4%	68.4%	70.5%	0.8%	0.7%	49.2%	77.8%	28.2%	30.5%
Belgium	6.6%	6.9%	29.5%	27.5%	0.4%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	12.0%	11.6%
Germany	5.0%	4.5%	0.2%	0.2%	44.9%	43.5%	4.1%	2.8%	14.1%	13.9%
Rest of Europe ⁽²⁾	41.8%	45.4%	1.6%	1.5%	35.9%	34.0%	2.1%	1.5%	27.4%	27.7%
Americas	17.2%	13.1%	0.1%	0.1%	1.4%	1.2%	7.2%	0.7%	7.6%	5.5%
Asia/Pacific	13.3%	12.2%	0.1%	0.1%	16.5%	20.3%	37.4%	17.1%	10.3%	10.6%
Rest of World	1.0%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%	0.2%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

(1) Geographic areas are based on the primary country of risk and not based on country of residence for private individuals.

(2) The top 5 exposures within Rest of Europe are to United Kingdom, Spain, France, Poland and Italy

Credit quality

In this section the credit quality of the ING Bank portfolio is described. Outstandings carrying a risk that ING will end up with an actual loss or with an opportunity loss, if no specific action is taken, are captured in this section. Since the beginning of the crisis, the quantity and the share of the total ING credit risk portfolio of past due obligations, provisions, non-performing loans in general or any other loan that requires special risk management attention has increased. The average turnaround time of problematic files has stabilised in 2013 and improved in 2014, however is not yet back to pre-crisis levels. Obviously, the length and intensity of the crisis require continuous attention for credit quality. In this section the distinction between the Retail and Commercial Banking approach of past due obligations will be explained. Also the watch list and restructuring status will be introduced and an insight in the non-performing portfolio is given. After that, an analysis of the loan loss provisions is made and finally, the concept of forbearance will be discussed. As a logical next step, the credit risk management paragraph will be concluded with extended analyses of the strategy of ING Bank to mitigate its credit risk.

Past-due obligations

Retail Banking continuously measures its portfolio in terms of payment arrears. The retail portfolios are closely monitored on a monthly basis to determine if there are any significant changes in the level of arrears. The methodology is principally extended to loans to private individuals, such as residential mortgage loans, car loans, and other consumer loans. Generally, an obligation is considered 'past-due' if a payment of interest or principal is more than one day late. In practice, the first 5-7 days after an obligation becomes past due are considered to be operational in nature for retail loans and small businesses portfolios. After this period, letters are sent to the obligor reminding the obligor of its (past due) payment obligations. If the arrears continue to exist, the obligor is transferred to a restructuring unit. The obligor is downgraded to risk rating 20 (non-performing) when the arrears exceed 90 days. In order to reduce the number of arrears, ING banking units encourage their obligors to set up automatic debits from their (current) accounts to ensure timely payments. The table below captures all past due exposures starting from day 1, without excluding the first 5-7 day operational time interval.

Aging analysis (past due but not non-performing): ING Bank consumer lending portfolio, outstandings ⁽¹⁾

	2014	2013
Past due for 1–30 days	4,185	5,556
Past due for 31–60 days	849	1,125
Past due for 61–90 days	109	129
Total	5,143	6,810

(1) Based on consumer lending. The amount of past due but not non-performing financial assets in respect of non-lending activities was not significant.

In 2014 the Retail portfolio showed a decrease in the past due but not impaired portfolio of 24%. Past due outstandings decreased over the year mainly due to new forbearance policy resulting in a shift from performing loans to non-performing loans, due to better collection of arrears and due to an overall improvement seen in the economic conditions. The deconsolidation of ING Vysya Bank had an impact of 7% in reducing the exposures. Without these for mentioned declines the decrease would be around 3%.

Commercial Banking: for business loans (governments, institutions, corporates); ING Bank has adopted a policy to classify the obligor as a non-performing loan as quickly as possible upon the occurrence of a payment default or even before. These are the default triggers:

- 1) Bankruptcy or financial reorganisation: The Borrower has sought or has been placed (or is likely to seek or be placed) in bankruptcy or similar protection, where this would avoid or delay repayment of the financial asset;
- 2) The Borrower has failed in the payment of principal or interest/fees and such payment failure has remained unresolved for the following period:
 - › Corporates: more than 90 days;
 - › Financial Institutions and Governments: from day 1, however, a research period of 14 calendar days will be observed in order for ING Bank to establish whether the payment default was due to non-operational reasons (i.e. the deteriorated credit quality of the financial institution) or due to operational reasons. The latter does not trigger default;
- 3) ING Bank thinks the Borrower is unlikely to pay: The Borrower has evidenced significant financial difficulty, to the extent that it will have a negative impact on the future cash flows of the Financial Asset. The following events could be seen as examples of financial difficulty indicators, but not as default triggers per se:
 - › a material breach of contract;
 - › the disappearance of an active market for a certain financial asset;
 - › the downgrading of a Borrower's external rating;
- 4) Restructuring of the credit obligation for non-commercial reasons: ING Bank has granted concessions, for economic or legal reasons relating to the Borrower's financial difficulty, the effect of which is a reduction in ING's expectation of future cash flows of the financial asset below current Carrying Amount.

As such, other than the arrear driven approach at Retail Banking, Commercial Banking has a much more individual name approach, using Early Warnings indicators to signal probable, upcoming, redemption breaches. As a general rule, in line with the Regulatory definition (CRR/CRDIV), ING Bank considers all business loans as non-performing if they are 90 days past due.

Credit restructuring

Global Credit Restructuring (GCR) is the dedicated and independent corporate department within CRM that deals with non-performing loans and loans that hold a reasonable probability that ING will end up with a loss, if no specific action is taken. GCR deals with accounts or portfolios requiring an active approach, which may include renegotiation of terms & conditions and business or financial restructuring. The loans are managed by GCR or by the Regional Restructuring Units in the various regions and business units. GCR can approach files in several manners called Plans. Plan A generally consists of a consensual restructuring with the present owner and, sometimes, the executive management, based on debt reduction, additional collateral or external equity versus improved conditions and risk / reward profile for the bank. In the work out practice, ING faces a number of situations where the traditional Plan A is not realistic. Other cases demand another arrangement or a Plan B. Plan B is a lender led solution, where the bank(s) temporarily take ownership or take the company through, pre-packaged, insolvency to find a new strategic partner, which can add value in terms of liquidity, synergies and management. Thirdly, there is Plan C – the Recovery plan. Recovery status of a borrower means that ING Bank is actively seeking an exit from the credit relationship. This status will generally apply to those borrowers that are not likely to successfully turnaround their business, but there may be other reasons for ING Bank to exit from the credit relation. Further, legal remedies for recovery are being considered and liquidation of collateral may become a primary source of repayment.

Due to the continuous economic pressure the restructuring of files has become more complicated in the crisis. However, after stabilisation in 2013, the average turnaround time of the files at GCR is reducing again in 2014 indicating a further improvement.

As mentioned above, it is ING philosophy to be involved at an early stage in a troubled process to help assist clients and ultimately reduce losses for all stakeholders. To signal the increased credit risk profile in these cases, ING distinguishes three marked categories:

- 5) **Watch list:** If at any time there is a (potential) deterioration in credit risk profile, which requires more than usual attention and/or investigation or monitoring, the account is put on a watch list. Accounts with a watch list status remain under responsibility of Front Office but in active co-operation with their respective Credit Risk Management executives. Exceptionally, extraordinary circumstances, instead of the probability of a financial loss, cause a client to be flagged Watch list. The watch list process functions well for early warning and there is very little corporate exposure that is transferred to a Restructuring Unit that has not been flagged under watch list status before such transfer.
- 6) **Restructuring:** The restructuring status applies to those Borrowers, where there are serious concerns over creditworthiness. The asset may still be performing under all its financial obligations and towards all of its creditors, but to address the deterioration specific and significant action by ING Bank is required. Borrowers with a restructuring status can be rated anywhere in the 1-19 ranges, but typically carry a risk rating 18 or 19. Strategic management responsibility for a Restructuring file will move to Global Credit Restructuring, but Front Office remains fully involved, also as asset owner.
- 7) **Non-performing loans:** Non-performing loans are accounts, which are considered unlikely to service their obligations to ING Bank in full. A successful turnaround is unlikely to happen, without a financial loss for the bank. Legal remedies for recovery are being considered and liquidation of Collateral may become the primary source of repayment. The assessment of unlikelihood to pay in full, results in an IFRS impairment and these accounts hold risk rating 20. Also included in the Non-performing loan portfolio are accounts that go into liquidation phase, and from liquidation ING expects to incur no credit loss (rating 21) or a credit loss if there is insufficient collateral (rating 22). All files that are more than 90 days past due are part of the Non-performing loan portfolio.

Watch list, Restructuring and Non-performing loans are discussed at least on a quarterly basis between Front Office, respective Credit Risk Management executives and GCR, at which time it may be decided to change the status of an account from Watch list to Restructuring or Non-Performing loans or vice versa. Furthermore, all three categories Watch list, Restructuring and Non-performing loans are in scope for forbearance. For further details on forbearance we refer to the Forbearance section.

	Regular	Watch List	Restructuring	Non-performing
Possible ratings	1–19	1–19	1–19	20–22
Typical ratings	1–14	15–17	18–19	20–22
Deterioration in risk	Not significant	Significant	Significant	Significant
Significant intervention	Not required	Not required	Required	Required
Impaired	No	No	No	Yes
Account Ownership	Front Office	Front Office	Front Office	Front Office
Credit Risk Management	Regular	Regular	Credit Restructuring	Credit Restructuring
Primary Manager	Front Office	Front Office	Credit Restructuring	Credit Restructuring
Accounting provisioning	IBNR	IBNR	IBNR	INSFA/ISFA

Credit quality: ING Bank portfolio, outstandings

	2014	2013
Neither past due nor impaired	706,635	688,834
Consumer lending past due but not impaired (1–90 days)	5,143	6,810
Non-performing ⁽¹⁾	16,889	15,921
Total	728,667	711,565

(1) Based on lending and investment activities.

Despite the deconsolidation of ING Vysya Bank the total ING portfolio increased modestly by 2%. FX movements were the main driver for the increase. The combined non-performing and past due but not impaired portfolio decreased in 2014. However, due to the enforcement of forbearance regulations, there was an increase seen in the non-performing portfolio. More details on this are provided in the Forbearance section.

Non-performing loans

The ING Bank loan portfolio is under constant review. Generally, all loans with past due financial obligations of more than 90 days are automatically reclassified as non-performing. For the commercial lending portfolios there are generally reasons for declaring a loan non-performing prior to being 90 days past due. These include, but are not limited to, ING Bank's assessment of the customer's perceived inability to meet its financial obligations, or the customer filing for bankruptcy or bankruptcy protection. In some cases, a material breach of financial covenants will also trigger a reclassification of a loan to the non-performing category. ING Bank identifies as non-performing loans those loans for which it is probable, based on current information and events that the principal and interest amounts contractually due will not be collected in accordance with the contractual terms of the loan agreements.

The table below represents the economic sector breakdown of credit risk outstandings for loans and positions that have been classified as non-performing loans.

Non-performing Loans: ING Bank portfolio, outstandings by economic sector ⁽¹⁾

	2014*	2013*
Private Individuals	6,308	4,939
Real Estate	3,279	4,302
Builders & Contractors	1,119	1,132
Natural Resources	929	526
Transportation & Logistics	794	912
General Industries	776	730
Food, Beverages & Personal Care	695	800
Services	694	580
Commercial Banks	662	315
Other	1,632	1,685
Total	16,889	15,921

(1) Economic sectors below EUR 500 million in both years are not shown separately but grouped in Other.

Private individuals remained the largest sector, mainly due to the large mortgage portfolio in the Netherlands. Due to the new regulations for forbearance enforcing a one-year probation period before non-performing loans move back to performing, NPL exposure for this exposure class increased more than others.

The decrease in the real estate industry reflects the further improvement in this market and the fact that ING Bank has been able to sell several distressed real estate assets in 2014. The increase in the sector natural resources (77%) is mainly due to the economic deterioration in Ukraine and Russia.

ING Bank has made conservative choices in Retail Banking with respect to curing from default. The majority of units only allow curing from default once there are no more days overdue. If ING Bank would allow curing from default once the client is < 90 days overdue and this, only if there is no forbearance, then the total non-performing loans would reduce to EUR 15.3 billion.

Loan loss provisions

Loan Loss provisions are calculated and accounted for in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS-EU). LLP are reported for financial assets that are measured against amortised costs (Loans and Receivables, Held-to-Maturity Investments). There are three types of LLP:

- › Individually Significant Financial Asset (ISFA) Provisions: when there is objective evidence that a financial asset is defaulted as result of one or more prescribed events that trigger a default. ING assigns a risk rating 20, 21 or 22. Specific provisions are calculated if the exposure to a Borrower exceeds the threshold amount. The threshold amount varies per business unit, but generally is nil in Commercial Banking, and a maximum of EUR 1 million in the Retail 'home markets'. A specific provision is calculated based on several scenarios and assumptions. Provisions level is up to date given the quarterly reviews; Discounted cash flow (DCF) is measured when this is a significant risk driver which can be calculated. The future cash flow is based on best estimate of when/if recoveries will occur. Recoveries can be from any source, such as the sale of collateral, on-going cash flows, sale of a business/subsidiary, etc.
- › Individually Not Significant Financial Asset (INSFA) Provisions: are made for acknowledged non-performing loans (ratings 20-22), if the exposure to a Borrower is below the threshold amount. Due to their small size, the IFRS-EU rules permit a collective approach to measuring these provisions.
- › Incurred But Not Recognised (IBNR) Provisions: are made for the 'performing' loan portfolio as an estimate or proxy for the losses/defaults that may have already occurred in the portfolio, but which ING Bank has not yet determined or recognised. The PD time horizon used in the calculation of IBNR provisions refers to the period during which an asset is impaired (in default), but not yet recognised as such - due to lack of objective evidence - and the moment that objective evidence of impairment occurs and becomes available to ING ("response time"). The primary modification is that the PD time horizon (12 months) is shortened to periods of 3, 6, or 9 months, depending on the type of customer. The decision to differentiate the time horizon per customer segment was based on an assessment of the average response time for specific customer types and at least once a year, the PD time horizon is validated.

All ISFA, INSFA and IBNR provisions are reported and calculated by using a common tool across ING Bank. In case that there is objective evidence that one of the default triggers is applicable, ISFA or INSFA provisions are calculated. An analysis takes place on a quarterly basis in order to determine the appropriate level of LLP and Risk Costs. The ING Bank Provisioning Committee (IPC) discusses and approves the LLP for ING Bank, on the basis of proposals originating from ING Business Units.

At 31 December 2014, ING Bank held specific (ISFA) and collective provisions (INSFA) of EUR 3,519 million and EUR 1,696 million, respectively (2013: EUR 3,729 million and EUR 1,589 million respectively), representing the difference between the amortised cost of the portfolio and the estimated recoverable amount discounted at the effective rate of interest. In addition, there is EUR 780 million (2013: EUR 835 million) in provisions (IBNR) against the performing portfolio.

Provisions: ING Bank portfolio ⁽¹⁾								
	Commercial Banking		Retail Banking Benelux		Retail Banking International		Total ING Bank	
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013
Opening Balance	2,459	2,304	2,264	1,864	1,431	1,337	6,154	5,505
Changes in the composition of the group	0	-2	0	-14	-170	-4	-170	-20
Write-offs	-715	-756	-716	-652	-298	-201	-1,729	-1609
Recoveries	49	58	48	34	8	24	105	116
Increase/(decrease) in loan loss provision	500	867	857	1060	237	362	1,594	2,289
Exchange or other movements	-34	-12	76	-28	-1	-87	41	-127
Closing Balance	2,259	2,459	2,529	2,264	1,207	1,431	5,995	6,154

(1) At the end of 2014, the stock of provisions included provisions for amounts due from banks: EUR 6 million (2013: EUR 19 million)

The total risk costs for the year 2014 were just under EUR 1.6 billion confirming the downward trend since the end of 2013. Where the average quarterly risk costs over the years 2012 and 2013 were EUR 550 million, since the beginning of this year they have trended downwards to stabilise at around EUR 400 million per quarter. The total stock of provisions decreased to EUR 6.0 billion due to the deconsolidation of ING Vysya Bank and slightly higher write-offs due to the sale of non-performing loans.

Risk costs decreased across all business lines. Particularly, Commercial Banking saw a big decrease due to continued lower risk costs in Real Estate Finance (while risk costs for the Business Lending portfolio in Retail Banking Benelux also showed a reduction). The deconsolidation of ING Vysya Bank caused a reduction of EUR 170 million in the stock of provisions for Retail Banking International.

There was a decrease in coverage ratio to 35.5% (2013: 38.6%) mainly due to an increased inflow into the non-performing loan portfolio in Q4 2014 after implementation of the new EBA rules for forbearance which enforce a broader definition of non-performing clients.

Large parts of the Investment portfolio are not accounted for at amortised costs (Loans & Receivables or Held-to-Maturity) and therefore out of scope for LLP. Instead, these assets are evaluated for impairment. The ING Bank Impairment Meeting held together with the IPC is a quarterly process that reviews all assets that are subject to an IFRS-EU impairment test.

Forbearance

In July 2014, EBA has provided a final draft definition on forbearance and non-performing exposures, which was a further refinement of the draft definition published in 2013. ING Bank has followed up on the EBA recommendations, by updating and implementing its forbearance policy in 2014.

The definition of forbearance is: "Forbearance occurs when the client is considered to be unable to meet its financial commitments under the contract due to financial difficulties, and based on these difficulties ING decides to grant concessions towards the client by either loan modification or refinancing". Modification is defined as changing the terms and conditions of the contract to enable the client to service the debt. Refinancing relates to putting in place a new loan contract to ensure the total or partial repayment of an existing loan contract, of which the debtor is unable to comply with. Examples of forbearance measures are: postponement and/or reduction of loan principal and/or interest payments, extended payment terms, debt consolidations and deferral of foreclosures.

As a result of follow up on EBA and updating and implementing the changes in 2014, the forborne assets of 2014 are not comparable with 2013. The incomparability is mainly the result of the following:

- 1) EBA issued more stringent definitions on the type of assets that should classify as forborne and on the non-performing criteria. This resulted in new assets being classified as forborne in 2014 and new forborne assets being classified as non-performing, which ING did not classify as such in 2013.
- 2) The two- and one-year probation periods (the minimum reporting period for performing and non-performing forborne assets) were implemented in 2014. Compared to last year these probation periods will substantially diminish the outflow of the forborne assets, while inflow of new forborne assets will continue.
- 3) New portfolios came into scope for screening, such as clients with 'Early Warning Signals', the Commercial Banking portfolio under EUR 3 million (threshold of EUR 3 million was applicable in 2013) and the investment portfolio.

To identify the notion of forbearance, ING typically assesses clients with Early Warning Signals, Watch List, Restructuring and Recovery status. ING Bank reviews the performance of clients which were granted forbearance measures on at least a quarterly basis.

For corporate customers, ING Bank applies forbearance measures only to support clients that are experiencing temporary difficulties with fundamentally sound business models. The aim is to maximise the repayment opportunities of the clients, while applying a very strict policy with respect to (partial) debt forgiveness.

For retail clients, clear criteria to determine whether a client is eligible for a modification or refinancing have been established for all ING Bank retail unit that apply forbearance activities. Also, specific approval mandates are in place to approve the modifications and refinancing, as well as procedures to manage, monitor and report the forbearance activities. These criteria and mandates vary, based on the legal framework in place and market practices, but are in line with ING Bank policy.

Clients which are granted forbearance measures can have any risk rating (performing or non-performing), depending on their risk profile:

- › Performing - If the contract is considered as performing prior to any forbearance measure, and also after granting the forbearance measure, the forbearance status for this client needs to be reported for a minimum of two years;
- › Non-performing - If the contract is considered as non-performing prior to any forbearance measure, the client will retain its non-performing status for a period of minimum one year.

The rating of clients with forbearance measures can also change during the forbearance reporting period:

- › From performing to non-performing - If the performing client, after forbearance measures have been granted, hits one of the general non-performing triggers defined by ING, becomes more than 30 days past due or receives additional forbearance measures during the reporting period, the client needs to be classified as non-performing.
- › From non-performing to performing - The non-performing client, after forbearance measures have been granted, may be upgraded to a performing rating, only when 1) one year has passed since the forbearance measures were granted, 2) the granting of forbearance does not lead to the recognition of impairment or default, and 3) there is not any past-due amount or no concerns regarding the full repayment of the exposure according to the post-forbearance conditions. The total minimum reporting period of forbearance for any "cured" non-performing client will take three years: one year as non-performing and subsequently the "regular" two years as performing.

The forbearance classification on a client shall be discontinued, when all of the following conditions are met:

- › The contract is considered as performing and has been reported as "performing forbearance" for a minimum of two years;
- › Regular payments of significant aggregate amounts of principal or interest have been made during at least half of the forbearance reporting period;
- › None of the exposure to the client is more than 30 days past-due at the end of the forbearance reporting period.

ING Bank

The total ING Bank forborne assets amounted to EUR 9.9 billion at 31 December 2014.

ING Bank: Summary Forborne assets ⁽¹⁾

	2014				2013			
	Forborne assets	Of which: Performing	Of which: Non-Performing	% of total portfolio	Forborne assets	Of which: Performing	Of which: Non-Performing	% of total portfolio
Commercial Banking	5,839	2,422	3,417	1.6%	4,664	928	3,736	1.1%
Retail Banking	4,097	1,568	2,529	1.4%	810	810		0.3%
Totals	9,936	3,989	5,947	1.5%	5,474	1,738	3,736	0.8%

(1) Commercial Banking includes Lending and Investments outstandings of the business portfolio, while Retail Banking includes Lending outstandings of the consumer portfolio.

In 2014, the forborne assets increased by EUR 4.5 billion, which was mainly driven by Retail Banking. The increase in Retail Banking was mainly visible in the non-performing book, due to a combination of reasons, e.g. more stringent definitions by EBA, implementing forbearance retrospectively in combination with the probation periods and the stricter non-performing criteria. For Commercial Banking the increase was visible in the performing book, mainly due to the extension of the screening scope.

Commercial Banking

As per end 2014, Commercial Banking forborne assets amounted to a total of EUR 5.8 billion, which represents 1.6% of the total Commercial Banking portfolio.

Commercial Banking: Forborne assets by Geographical Region

Country	2014			2013		
	Forborne assets	Of which: Performing	Of which: Non-Performing	Forborne assets	Of which: Performing	Of which: Non-Performing
Netherlands	3,188	1,444	1,744	1,961	336	1,625
Belgium	577	212	365	236	18	218
Germany	62	36	26	85	0	85
Rest of Europe	1,764	698	1,066	1,604	254	1,350
Americas	165	18	147	232	13	219
Asia/Pacific	74	6	68	537	298	239
Rest of World	9	9		9	9	0
Total	5,839	2,422	3,417	4,664	928	3,736

Commercial Banking: Forborne assets by Industry

	2014			2013		
	Forborne assets	Of which: Performing	Of which: Non-Performing	Forborne assets	Of which: Performing	Of which: Non-Performing
Real Estate	1,906	993	913	1,676	343	1,333
Builders & Contractors	650	265	385	400	45	355
General Industries	510	144	366	331	37	293
Transportation & Logistics	508	214	294	547	203	344
Food, Beverages & Personal Care	464	204	260	384	21	363
Natural Resources	429	102	327	239	0	239
Services	388	153	235	281	183	98
Utilities	255	60	195			
Retail	214	72	142	169	8	160
Media	103	60	43	120	4	116
Telecom	64	1	63	146	3	142
Other	348	154	194	372	79	293
Total	5,839	2,422	3,417	4,664	928	3,736

The forborne assets in the performing portfolio increased by EUR 1.5 billion. The increases were visible in almost all regions, but mainly in the Netherlands and Rest of Europe. Also the industries Real Estate and Builders & Contractors were mostly impacted. Performing forborne assets in Asia/Pacific declined during the year.

During 2014, ING screened the lending and investment book on forborne assets. The portfolios that were typically assessed are clients with Early Warning Signals, Watch List, Restructuring and Recovery status and clients rated 18 and 19. These clients are perceived to have the potential trigger for whom forbearance measures could be granted. Last year, exposures below EUR 3 million were left out of scope. This change had a large impact on the performing forborne assets per end of 2014.

In contrast to the above, the non-performing forborne assets showed a decline of EUR 0.3 billion during 2014, which was driven by Real Estate clients in Rest of Europe. This outflow can be explained by write-offs and repayments of and by relatively large Real Estate clients.

Furthermore, the deconsolidation of ING Vysya Bank decreased forborne assets by EUR 0.2 billion.

Retail Banking

As per end 2014, Retail Banking forborne assets amounted to a total of EUR 4.1 billion, which represents 1.4% of the total Retail Banking portfolio.

Retail Banking: Forborne assets by Geographical Region

	2014				2013			
	Clients	Forborne assets	Of which: Performing	Of which: Non-Performing	Clients	Forborne assets	Of which: Performing	Of which: Non-Performing
Netherlands	8,732	2,194	363	1,832	1,955	502	502	
Belgium	5,100	613	301	312	1,616	197	197	
Luxembourg	16	5	2	3	7	2	2	
Germany	8,246	702	480	222				
Spain	438	60	53	7	403	56	56	
Italy	178	21	21	0	107	13	13	
Romania	1,380	20	6	13	845	13	13	
Turkey	11,913	17	14	3	31	0	0	
Poland	822	5	0	5	548	3	3	
France	852	0	0	0				
Ukraine	22	1	1					
Australia	2,210	458	326	131	111	24	24	
Total	39,909	4,097	1,568	2,529	5,623	810	810	–

(1) These regions correspond to the respective ING initiating offices. Region Netherlands includes Netherlands Retail and Westland Utrecht and region Belgium includes Belgium Retail and Record Bank.

The Retail Banking table shows a breakdown of forborne assets on ING Bank's consumer retail lending portfolio, which includes mortgages and consumer loans.

The forborne assets in the performing portfolio increased by EUR 0.8 billion. The increases were mainly visible in Germany, Australia and Belgium. The forborne assets in the non-performing portfolio also increased in these countries. However, the largest increase originates from the Netherlands with EUR 1.8 billion, which is 72% of the total EUR 2.5 billion increase in the non-performing portfolio.

This significant increase of forborne assets, especially in the non-performing portfolio, was not the result of a deteriorating consumer lending portfolio. It is mainly explained by forbearance screening of new portfolios, which took place in 2014. Units were instructed to perform a review on their book based on the updated ING policy on forborne assets, taking new regulations into account. In addition to this, more stringent definitions issued by EBA increased the forborne assets in some countries.

The Netherlands showed the largest increase in forborne assets in 2014. Next to the reasons mentioned above, forborne assets increased also as a result of implementing the policy retrospectively. A shift of forborne assets from performing to non-performing was visible as well, which was the result of clients becoming more than 30 days past due after forbearance measures were granted.

The Turkish government reduced the maximum credit card limit, hence large numbers of credit card accounts were modified.

Credit risk mitigation

ING Bank's lending and investment businesses are subject to credit risk. As such, the creditworthiness of our customers and investments is continually monitored for their ability to meet their financial obligations to ING Bank. In addition to determining the credit quality and creditworthiness of the customer, ING Bank uses various credit risk mitigation techniques and instruments to mitigate the credit risk associated with an exposure and to reduce the losses incurred subsequent to an event of default on an obligation a customer may have towards ING Bank. The most common terminology used in ING Bank for credit risk protection is "a cover".

While a cover can be an important mitigant of credit risk and an alternative source of repayment, generally it is ING Bank's practice to lend on the basis of the customer's creditability rather than exclusively relying on the value of the cover.

Within ING Bank, there are two distinct forms of covers: assets and third party obligations.

Assets

The asset that has been pledged to ING Bank as collateral or security gives ING Bank the right to liquidate it in cases where the customer is unable to fulfil its financial obligation. As such, the proceeds can be applied towards full or partial compensation of the customer's outstanding exposure. An asset can be tangible (such as cash, securities, receivables, inventory, plant & machinery and mortgages on real estate properties) or intangible (such as patents, trademarks, contract rights and licenses).

Third party obligation

Third Party Obligation, indemnification or undertaking (either by contract and/or by law) is a legally binding declaration by a third party that gives ING Bank the right to expect and claim from that third party to pay an amount, if the customer fails on its obligations to ING Bank. The most common examples are guarantees (such as parent guarantees and export credit insurances) and letters of comfort.

General guidelines on cover valuation

General guidelines for cover valuation are established to ensure consistency of the application within ING Bank. These general guidelines also require that the value of the cover needs to be monitored on regular basis, in principle at least annually. Covers shall be revalued accordingly and whenever there is reason to believe that the market is subject to significant changes in conditions. The frequency of monitoring and revaluation depends on the type of covers.

The valuation method also depends on the type of covers. For asset collateral, the valuation sources can be the customer's balance sheet (e.g. inventory, machinery, and equipment), nominal value (e.g. cash, receivables), market value (e.g. securities and commodities), independent valuer (commercial real estate) and market indices (residential real estate). For third party obligations, the valuation is based on the value which is attributed to the contract between ING Bank and that third party.

Cover values by risk category

This section provides insight on the type of covers and to which extent a loan is collateralised. The cover disclosures are presented by risk category: Lending, Investment, Money-Market and Pre-settlement. For each risk category, the cover amounts are presented by the most relevant collateral forms, being mortgages and financial collateral (including cash), and the most relevant third party obligation being guarantees. ING Bank obtains covers which are compliant to the Capital Requirements Directive IV (CRDIV) and the related Capital Requirements Regulation (CRR) requirements, as well as those that are not compliant.

The cover values are presented for the total portfolio of ING Bank. In the last year's disclosure, only the AIRB portfolio was presented with covers in detail while in this year's disclosure, the covers of both AIRB and SA portfolios are presented in detail reflecting the complete ING Bank's portfolio. Next to that, detailed information is provided on the cover coverage for the performing and non-performing portfolio. The non-performing loan definition is explained in detail in the section "Credit Restructuring". To increase the understanding of the reader on the nature of the collateralised loans, insight is given in the industry and geography breakdown of the ING Bank portfolio as well. Another improvement is that in addition to the lending risk category, the cover valuation tables now also give insight in the risk categories of Investment, Money Market and Pre-settlement. For comparability reasons with previous tables, outstandings are used to show the ING Bank's portfolio.

Exposures are categorised into different Value to Loan (VTL) buckets that give insight in the level of collateralisation of ING Bank's portfolio. VTL is calculated as the cover value divided by the outstandings at the balance sheet date. The cover values are pre-haircut and indexed values and exclude any cost of liquidation. Covers can either be valid for all limits, sub-limits or a particular outstanding of a borrower, the latter being the most common. To prevent erroneous inflation of the level of collateralisation, the coverage of all outstanding is capped at 100% if there is over-collateralisation on a certain outstanding. As a result, the coverage levels disclosed are conservative. Each limit is subsequently assigned to one of the six defined VTL buckets: no cover/data not available, >0% - 25%, >25% to 50%, >50% to 75%, >75% to <100%, and \geq 100%. As the nature of the Pre-settlement portfolio determines that collateral is netted, these VTL buckets are not shown for the Pre-settlement portfolio.

The first two tables give a comprehensive overview of the collateralisation of the total portfolio of ING Bank.

Total Bank

Cover values including guarantees received – Total ING Bank – 2014 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾

	Cover type					Value to Loan			
	Outstandings	Mortgages	Eligible Financial Collateral	Other CRR/CRD IV eligible	Guarantees	Non CRR/CRD IV eligible	No Cover/Data not available	Partially covered	Fully covered
Consumer Lending	296,451	445,855	2,976	512	30,240	31,628	5.0%	22.9%	72.1%
Commercial Banking	22	6	0	0	0	77	15.0%	7.6%	77.4%
Retail Banking Benelux	148,299	210,581	2,467	512	22,739	18,492	3.2%	27.1%	69.7%
Retail Banking International	122,568	202,279	27	0	0	9,959	8.2%	15.7%	76.1%
WestlandUtrecht Bank	25,562	32,989	482	0	7,501	3,100	0.0%	32.8%	67.1%
Business Lending	262,415	112,817	17,680	83,916	56,835	110,661	33.7%	30.5%	35.8%
Commercial Banking	180,126	54,483	14,687	61,205	45,399	93,261	34.0%	29.9%	36.1%
Corporate Line Bank	270	0	0	0	0	0	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Retail Banking Benelux	60,297	48,374	2,657	20,725	10,119	12,664	24.7%	35.4%	39.8%
Retail Banking International	20,278	7,684	334	1,986	1,266	4,722	58.5%	19.8%	21.8%
WestlandUtrecht Bank	1,445	2,277	2	0	51	14	1.1%	64.4%	34.4%
Investment and Money Market	118,198	0	16	298	1,476	1,993	97.2%	1.1%	1.7%
Commercial Banking	46,157	0	10	298	80	27	99.2%	0.7%	0.1%
Corporate Line Bank	6,870	0	0	0	0	0	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Retail Banking Benelux	2,656	0	6	0	5	55	97.8%	0.4%	1.8%
Retail Banking International	62,515	0	0	0	1,392	1,911	95.5%	1.6%	2.9%
Total Lending, Investment and Money Market	677,065	558,673	20,673	84,726	88,552	144,282	32.2%	22.0%	45.7%
Pre-settlement (3)	51,602								
Commercial Banking	49,143								
Corporate Line Bank	1,807								
Retail Banking Benelux	134								
Retail Banking International	519								
Total Bank	728,667	558,673	20,673	84,726	88,552	144,282	32.2%	22.0%	45.7%

Cover values including guarantees received – Total ING Bank – 2013 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾

	Cover type					Value to Loan			
	Outstandings	Mortgages	Eligible Financial Collateral	Other CRR/CRD IV eligible	Guarantees	Non CRR/CRD IV eligible	No Cover/Data not available	Partially covered	Fully covered
Consumer Lending	293,714	443,475	2,697	519	30,403	29,566	4.7%	32.1%	63.2%
Commercial Banking	10	6				1	58.4%	20.4%	21.2%
Retail Banking Benelux	147,197	200,879	2,191	519	22,333	17,148	3.2%	33.7%	63.1%
Retail Banking International	118,186	207,017	65			9,859	7.7%	27.5%	64.8%
WestlandUtrecht Bank	28,321	35,573	441	0	8,070	2,558	0.1%	42.9%	57.1%
Business Lending	257,180	107,734	15,466	76,889	52,550	114,076	35.2%	30.7%	34.1%
Commercial Banking	172,060	56,401	11,780	53,935	40,508	97,514	34.1%	30.6%	35.3%
Corporate Line Bank	802				0		100.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Retail Banking Benelux	58,630	45,479	3,124	20,981	10,410	12,703	22.2%	38.0%	39.8%
Retail Banking International	24,081	3,247	560	1,973	1,581	3,849	74.9%	12.2%	12.9%
WestlandUtrecht Bank	1,607	2,607	2		51	10	1.5%	66.3%	32.1%
Investment and Money Market	112,647		6		5,117	135	95.3%	0.2%	4.5%
Commercial Banking	38,936				193	116	99.2%	0.4%	0.4%
Corporate Line Bank	8,513					19	99.7%	0.3%	0.0%
Retail Banking Benelux	3,117		6		5		99.6%	0.0%	0.4%
Retail Banking International	62,081				4,919		92.1%	0.0%	7.9%
Total Lending, Investment and Money Market	663,541	551,209	18,169	77,408	88,070	143,777	31.9%	26.1%	42.0%
Pre-settlement (3)	48,024								
Commercial Banking	44,258								
Corporate Line Bank	1,371								
Retail Banking Benelux	54								
Retail Banking International	2,341								
Total Bank	711,565	551,209	18,169	77,408	88,070	143,777	31.9%	26.1%	42.0%

(1) Including loans to ING Group and NN Group.

(2) Excluding intercompany positions

(3) More information on the credit risk mitigants of the Pre-settlement exposure can be found in the Pre-settlement section.

Over the year, the collateralisation level of the total ING Bank portfolio improved. Excluding the pre-settlement portfolio for which covers are netted to derive the outstandings at risk, 45.7% of the total ING Bank's outstandings (from 42.0% as of 2013) are fully collateralised in 2014.

The lending portfolio grew over the year, partially due to the appreciation of the USD (6.0 billion) and the AUD (2.0 billion) against the Euro. The fully covered ratio showed an improvement over the year, both in the consumer and business portfolios, with the fully covered outstandings increasing from 50.2% to 55.1%. The consumer lending portfolio overall showed an improvement in the fully covered ratio thanks to improved VTL's in the residential mortgages, which are by far the largest constituent of the portfolio. While the Business Lending portfolio benefitted from de-risking activities and growths in sectors which show high levels of collateralisation.

Investment outstandings increased over the year, mainly due to increased placements with European sovereigns due to the new regulatory liquidity regime. However, since investments traditionally have no covers, the no-covers ratio showed a small increase in 2014. This was also due to reduction in covers seen in Investments in the German portfolio where a more conservative method for recognition of government guarantees was implemented (where government support was considered implicit and not explicit). Also, as a part of the ING One Bank initiatives, the investment portfolio in the Spanish market was overhauled, which further led to reductions in the covers for investments.

Consumer lending portfolio

The Consumer Lending portfolio includes Residential Mortgage loans (93.7% in 2014) and Other Consumer Lending loans, which mainly comprise credit cards, term loans and revolvers to consumers. As a result, most of the collateral consists of mortgages. The mortgage values are maintained in the ING Bank's central database (Vortex) and in most cases external data is used to index the market value. On a quarterly or annual basis, the mortgages value is updated in Vortex using the relevant house price index (the NVM Index in the Netherlands, Level Housing Index in Australia, Crif Real Estate Appraisal Company in Italy, Ministerio de Fomento in Spain and Stadim in Belgium).

A significant part (49.3%) of the ING Bank's Residential Mortgage portfolio relates to mortgage loans provided in the Netherlands, followed by other main markets such as Germany (22.5%), and Belgium (10.6%). Given the size of the Dutch mortgages portfolio, below the valuation methodology employed to determine the cover values for the Dutch Residential Mortgages is provided.

Dutch mortgages valuation

When a mortgage loan is granted, the policy maximum loan to market value (LTMV) for an existing property and for construction property financing is 104%. The cover values are captured in the local systems which then are fed into a central data system (Vortex). All valuations are performed by certified valuers that are registered at one of the ING Bank-accepted organisations. In addition, the valuator must be a member of the NVM (Nederlandse Vereniging van Makelaars – Dutch Association of Real Estate Agents), VBO (Vereniging Bemiddeling Onroerend Goed – Association of Real Estate Brokers), VastgoedPRO (Association of Real Estate Professionals) or NVR (Nederlandse Vereniging van Rentmeesters).

The below tables show the values of different covers and the VTL split between performing and non-performing loans.

Consumer Lending

Cover values including guarantees received – Total ING Bank – 2014 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾

	Cover type							Value to Loan				
	Out-standings	Mort-gages	Eligible Financial Collateral	Other CRR/CRD IV eligible	Guaran-tees	Non CRR/CRD IV eligible	No Cover/ Data not available	> 0% – 25%	> 25% – 50%	> 50% – 75%	> 75% – <100%	≥ 100%
Performing												
Residential Mortgages	269,974	430,794	2,593	207	29,266	24,900	0.3%	0.1%	0.2%	1.6%	21.9%	75.9%
Other Consumer Lending	20,282	8,879	337	276	371	6,153	65.4%	0.3%	0.2%	0.5%	2.7%	30.8%
Total Performing	290,256	439,672	2,930	483	29,637	31,054	4.8%	0.1%	0.2%	1.5%	20.6%	72.7%
Non-performing												
Residential Mortgages	5,307	5,849	43	9	583	457	2.9%	0.3%	1.0%	7.8%	40.0%	47.9%
Other Consumer Lending	887	334	3	20	21	118	70.9%	0.3%	0.4%	0.8%	4.8%	22.8%
Total Non-performing	6,195	6,183	46	30	604	574	12.7%	0.3%	0.9%	6.8%	35.0%	44.3%
Total Consumer Lending	296,451	445,855	2,976	512	30,240	31,628	5.0%	0.1%	0.2%	1.6%	20.9%	72.1%

Cover values including guarantees received – Total ING Bank – 2013 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾

	Cover type							Value to Loan				
	Out-standings	Mort-gages	Eligible Financial Collateral	Other CRR/CRD IV eligible	Guaran-tees	Non CRR/CRD IV eligible	No Cover / Data not available	> 0% – 25%	> 25% – 50%	> 50% – 75%	> 75% – <100%	≥ 100%
Performing												
Residential Mortgages	273,150	435,217	2,411	233	29,624	23,490	0.4%	0.1%	2.2%	7.7%	23.6%	66.1%
Other Consumer Lending	15,737	3,347	255	257	382	5,718	78.0%	0.2%	0.2%	0.4%	1.3%	20.0%
Total Performing	288,887	438,564	2,666	490	30,006	29,208	4.6%	0.1%	2.1%	7.3%	22.4%	63.6%
Non-performing												
Residential Mortgages	4,151	4,757	30	8	371	260	1.7%	0.3%	1.7%	11.9%	37.9%	46.5%
Other Consumer Lending	676	154	1	21	26	98	81.7%	0.2%	0.3%	0.7%	1.8%	15.3%
Total Non-performing	4,827	4,911	31	29	397	358	12.9%	0.3%	1.5%	10.3%	32.9%	42.1%
Total Consumer Lending	293,714	443,475	2,697	519	30,403	29,566	4.7%	0.1%	2.1%	7.3%	22.5%	63.2%

(1) including loans to ING Group and NN Group.

(2) excluding intercompany positions

The collateralisation of the consumer lending portfolio showed signs of recovery over the year 2014. A big improvement was seen in the collateralisation of the residential mortgages in DiBa Germany where an improvement was implemented to correctly recognise the last known cover value. In addition to this, the rise in collateralisation levels is due to increased housing prices seen all over ING Bank mortgage markets and due to stringent policies, which reduced mortgages granted with low VTL's.

Reversing the trend observed in the past years, house prices in the Netherlands went up in 2014. This helped to increase the total residential mortgages cover values whilst mortgage outstandings declined by 3.0%. As the Netherlands is the biggest market for mortgages for ING Bank, this had a significant impact on the coverage quality of the portfolio.

Other retail portfolio also showed an improvement, mainly in Belgium and Luxembourg.

The numbers shown are conservative as the savings pledged to the mortgage product, "Spaarhypotheek" (or Mortgage with external Saving account) present in the Dutch mortgage portfolio are not taken into account in the table above.

For the Residential Mortgages portfolio, the guarantees relate to mortgages covered by governmental insurers under the Nationale Hypotheek Garantie (NHG) in the Netherlands. The NHG guarantees the repayment of a loan in case of a forced property sale.

Business Lending portfolio

Business Lending is an important business of ING Bank, accounting for 36.0% of the total ING Bank's outstandings. In line with our objective to give stakeholders insight into the portfolio, we present the Business Lending portfolio per Industry breakdown in accordance with the NAICS definition and per Region and main market. Business Lending presented in this section does not include Pre-settlement and Investment & Money Market exposures, which are separately exhibited in the next sections.

The table below provides the ING Bank's portfolio broken down per NAICS Industry code. This table cannot be directly compared with ING Bank's Real Estate Finance portfolio as the scope and definition are differently determined.

ING Bank aims to be more selective in the financing of Real Estate. As this sector has proven to be significantly impacted during the crisis, the value of collaterals for this portfolio is of specific importance. The REF portfolio, which mostly focuses on the business whereby ING Bank finances or refinances income producing real estate in office, retail, residential and industrial (logistics) segments or a mix of commercial properties, presents approximately 56.4% of the Real Estate sector's outstanding.

Cover valuation for REF portfolio

The cover valuation policy and governance within ING Bank ensures that the cover values reflect the current fair value on the date of the valuation. All commercial properties financed by ING Bank need to be (re)-valued within three years' period or more frequently if market conditions or the risk profile deteriorates. Non-performing loans and high risk Watch-list REF files are re-valued at least annually.

The valuation of financed properties at origination of a REF deal or the revaluation is always performed by a real estate appraiser. For commercial properties located in the Netherlands, an internal real estate appraiser (80% of the assets) or an external real estate appraiser (20% of the assets) performs the (re)valuation while for properties outside the Netherlands, the (re)-valuation is always performed through an external real estate appraiser.

For properties located in the Netherlands, if the risk profile remains stable or improves during this three year cycle, an annual indexation is performed. The indices used are from ROZ/IPD (Vereniging Raad voor Onroerende Zaken – Association of Real Estate Council/ Investment Property Databank). If the risk profile deteriorates, a revaluation is required.

The assessment of risk profile is performed based on certain defined factors, such as external drivers including macro developments (GDP, unemployment rate, Consumer confidence rate, Interest rate) and meso indicators (Real Estate quarterly data from Real Estate institution) and internal drivers including micro deteriorations (vacancy, WALE – weighted average lease expiry, EBITDA) and individual deteriorations (being Watch Listed, Credit event, suspension of payments, bankruptcy of a major tenant, actual or expected increase in vacancy level).

For financing properties outside the Netherlands, the revaluation cycle is also set to three years. In case the agreed LTV covenants are not met, an annual or bi-annual revaluation will take place.

The outcome of the re-valuation or indexed value is updated accordingly in the cover REF database.

Business Lending per economic sector

Industry	Cover type							Value to Loan				
	Out-standings	Mortgages	Eligible Financial Collateral	Other CRR/CRD IV eligible	Guarantees	Non CRR/CRD IV eligible	No Cover/Data not available	>0% – 25%	>25% – 50%	> 50% – 75%	>75% – <100%	≥ 100%
Real Estate	40,592	60,158	1,218	1,084	5,659	6,120	7.0%	1.0%	1.9%	10.3%	19.2%	60.5%
<i>of which Non-performing</i>	3,279	3,194	100	93	894	361	10.6%	1.9%	10.2%	27.5%	18.3%	31.5%
Natural Resources	38,653	3,888	3,266	19,457	15,311	19,963	20.4%	9.1%	14.0%	13.8%	14.2%	28.5%
<i>of which Non-performing</i>	929	56	150	621	642	1,146	21.3%	0.6%	5.2%	7.2%	27.6%	38.0%
Commercial Banks	21,845	66	168	168	637	579	90.0%	3.4%	2.3%	0.8%	0.9%	2.6%
<i>of which Non-performing</i>	662	0	0	0	7	7	98.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.1%	0.0%
Transportation & Logistics	21,431	3,844	647	19,579	5,309	6,687	18.2%	3.4%	3.5%	7.1%	12.1%	55.8%
<i>of which Non-performing</i>	794	317	11	488	187	281	27.7%	1.7%	8.5%	10.4%	24.7%	26.9%
General Industries	15,912	4,611	723	6,481	4,080	10,539	32.6%	4.8%	7.9%	10.2%	10.0%	34.5%
<i>of which Non-performing</i>	776	343	58	375	280	298	22.9%	8.8%	7.7%	5.8%	9.5%	45.3%
Services	15,744	7,851	1,036	4,306	3,941	7,635	30.8%	3.8%	5.5%	7.5%	10.6%	41.9%
<i>of which Non-performing</i>	694	402	10	210	220	166	22.7%	5.4%	6.0%	6.4%	7.8%	51.7%
Food, Beverages & Personal Care	15,376	6,114	954	7,983	3,067	15,524	28.1%	4.5%	7.5%	12.6%	14.7%	32.6%
<i>of which Non-performing</i>	695	347	1	225	128	220	22.4%	7.6%	22.6%	16.7%	7.8%	22.9%
Non-Bank Financial Institutions	13,741	2,064	5,921	2,409	3,415	5,987	34.9%	7.6%	2.6%	12.2%	7.9%	34.8%
<i>of which Non-performing</i>	107	67	1	26	25	35	14.1%	10.9%	5.0%	10.1%	10.7%	49.2%
Builders & Contractors	12,394	6,641	306	4,271	2,878	9,401	29.6%	6.2%	5.6%	9.6%	10.2%	38.8%
<i>of which Non-performing</i>	1,016	711	5	358	390	695	29.6%	2.1%	8.2%	7.2%	12.3%	40.7%
Chemicals, Health & Pharmaceuticals	11,914	6,610	351	4,291	1,892	4,945	32.7%	5.0%	7.5%	10.6%	12.6%	31.7%
<i>of which Non-performing</i>	247	115	2	100	52	129	29.0%	0.8%	5.2%	8.8%	19.4%	36.9%
Others ⁽³⁾	54,815	10,972	3,089	13,886	10,646	23,281	49.9%	3.5%	3.0%	6.5%	9.0%	28.0%
<i>of which Non-performing</i>	1,385	517	107	625	390	514	26.4%	5.6%	3.9%	8.0%	15.4%	40.8%
Total Business Lending	262,415	112,817	17,680	83,916	56,835	110,661	33.7%	4.5%	5.5%	9.0%	11.6%	35.8%
<i>of which Total Non-performing</i>	10,584	6,067	446	3,120	3,216	3,852	25.2%	3.3%	8.2%	13.9%	15.5%	33.9%

Cover values including guarantees received – Business Lending portfolio – 2013 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾

Industry	Cover type						Value to Loan					
	Out-standings	Mort-gages	Eligible Financial Collateral	Other CRR/CRD IV eligible	Guaran-tees	Non CRR/CRD IV eligible	No Cover/ Data not available	>0% – 25%	>25% – 50%	> 50% – 75%	>75% – <100%	≥ 100%
Real Estate	42,541	59,190	1,640	1,222	4,940	6,079	6.7%	1.1%	1.8%	10.2%	23.6%	56.6%
<i>of which Non-performing</i>	4,302	4,076	5	107	703	366	2.2%	2.0%	9.1%	23.0%	29.8%	33.9%
Natural Resources	37,361	2,568	2,973	18,268	12,399	20,090	20.7%	11.4%	11.6%	13.7%	15.8%	26.9%
<i>of which Non-performing</i>	526	59	56	244	100	1,140	34.3%	0.3%	5.9%	5.0%	16.3%	38.2%
Commercial Banks	19,476	70	131	57	873	874	88.1%	3.6%	2.9%	0.9%	0.6%	3.8%
<i>of which Non-performing</i>	315				46	257	52.5%		40.7%		5.5%	1.3%
Transportation & Logistics	18,938	3,821	707	15,220	4,368	5,667	20.2%	3.3%	4.2%	8.6%	15.4%	48.3%
<i>of which Non-performing</i>	912	374	11	669	246	362	27.6%	0.4%	5.8%	18.0%	20.3%	27.9%
Services	16,047	7,174	901	4,323	4,576	9,394	29.9%	4.7%	7.1%	8.0%	9.1%	41.2%
<i>of which Non-performing</i>	580	299	4	160	185	316	31.8%	4.1%	6.7%	8.0%	7.6%	41.8%
Food, Beverages & Personal Care	14,467	5,427	846	7,688	2,901	16,046	30.2%	3.6%	8.2%	10.2%	14.4%	33.4%
<i>of which Non-performing</i>	800	342	1	298	138	113	25.9%	10.1%	17.6%	12.7%	13.7%	20.0%
General Industries	14,431	4,150	550	6,235	3,765	11,990	35.0%	5.4%	4.1%	10.0%	10.7%	34.8%
<i>of which Non-performing</i>	730	280	41	329	244	280	28.1%	7.7%	5.1%	12.4%	4.5%	42.2%
Non-Bank Financial Institutions	13,325	2,538	3,634	2,895	3,953	6,517	40.1%	5.4%	5.0%	6.0%	7.1%	36.3%
<i>of which Non-performing</i>	132	67	4	23	25	11	26.0%	21.9%	2.7%	11.9%	13.9%	23.6%
Central Banks	13,178		3	0	0		100.0%			0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
<i>of which Non-performing</i>												
Builders & Contractors	12,916	6,232	352	4,050	3,136	8,953	35.6%	5.2%	5.4%	8.3%	9.2%	36.3%
<i>of which Non-performing</i>	1,124	633	62	356	358	761	37.7%	2.8%	3.5%	7.4%	9.1%	39.6%
Chemicals, Health & Pharmaceuticals	11,308	5,842	242	4,071	2,159	4,821	34.0%	4.6%	8.8%	11.4%	10.2%	31.0%
<i>of which Non-performing</i>	277	106	2	111	67	75	37.3%	0.4%	3.5%	6.4%	15.3%	37.1%
Others ⁽³⁾	43,191	10,722	3,487	12,860	9,480	23,646	41.2%	3.8%	4.5%	7.5%	10.1%	33.0%
<i>of which Non-performing</i>	1,385	579	100	585	320	600	28.8%	7.2%	1.9%	16.6%	16.6%	28.9%
Total Business Lending	257,179	107,734	15,466	76,889	52,550	114,076	35.2%	4.5%	5.3%	8.5%	12.3%	34.1%
of which Total Non-performing	11,083	6,815	286	2,882	2,432	4,281	20.3%	3.7%	8.1%	15.9%	19.4%	32.5%

(1) Including loans to ING Group and NN Group.

(2) Excluding intercompany positions

(3) "Others" comprises industries with outstandings below EUR 10 billion

Overall, an improvement was seen in the Business Lending portfolio over the year 2014. This reflected not only the improving economy but also a more prudent approach from ING Bank.

In general the amount of covers increased. The percentage of fully collateralised loans increased while the proportion of non-covered loans decreased. This was amongst others driven by a big decline in outstandings (29.0%) to Central Banks for which there is no collateral put aside.

Continued derisking activities in the Real Estate sector caused outstandings to decline by 4.3%. Furthermore, this sector being traditionally the most collateralised, an improvement was seen in the coverage over 2014. New deals in Real Estate were done on more conservative collateral terms, while the coverage was also boosted by some collateral value increases in 2014. The improvement was also caused by an increase in outstandings for sectors such as Transportation & Logistics and Utilities, which have traditionally higher coverage. This improvement was however partially negated by growth seen in outstandings to traditionally low collateralised sectors like Commercial Banks and General Industries.

The coverage of the non-performing part remained relatively stable even though an overall decrease was observed in the non-performing outstandings.

Business Lending per region

Cover values including guarantees received – Business Lending Portfolio – 2014 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾

Region	Cover type							Value to Loan				
	Out-standings	Mort-gages	Eligible Financial Collateral	Other CRR/CRD IV eligible	Guaran-tees	Non CRR/CRD IV eligible	No Cover/ Data not available	>0% – 25%	>25% – 50%	> 50% – 75%	>75% – <100%	≥ 100%
Africa	2,221	24	177	822	1,010	717	21.1%	2.8%	24.7%	6.4%	23.9%	21.0%
<i>of which Non-performing</i>	1	0	0	0	0	0	95.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	4.7%
America	28,163	3,369	6,763	19,588	5,353	19,484	25.8%	3.8%	6.3%	9.2%	16.1%	38.8%
<i>of which Non-performing</i>	296	112	0	129	23	123	4.0%	0.0%	21.0%	4.6%	38.1%	32.2%
Asia	32,416	907	1,381	8,265	9,308	6,553	46.5%	8.1%	4.3%	10.0%	6.8%	24.3%
<i>of which Non-performing</i>	150	0	7	49	29	12	19.3%	11.1%	0.0%	37.9%	19.1%	12.7%
Australia	3,447	2,531	148	1,470	583	546	17.6%	15.6%	1.6%	2.5%	8.7%	54.1%
<i>of which Non-performing</i>	50	6	0	0	0	0	92.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	7.2%
Europe												
Belgium	41,189	28,369	1,249	6,513	10,882	22,251	33.5%	2.2%	3.1%	4.3%	6.5%	50.3%
<i>of which Non-performing</i>	1,289	1,253	16	634	534	808	11.2%	1.7%	2.6%	4.8%	10.4%	69.4%
Germany	8,599	1,766	166	392	597	1,552	66.9%	2.5%	3.5%	2.8%	2.2%	22.1%
<i>of which Non-performing</i>	80	72	4	8	1	0	53.6%	1.8%	7.2%	0.0%	0.3%	37.1%
Netherlands	62,063	46,710	2,681	24,917	6,820	14,695	23.6%	2.9%	5.6%	15.9%	20.7%	31.3%
<i>of which Non-performing</i>	4,377	2,075	140	1,449	321	343	29.5%	4.7%	12.8%	22.4%	14.7%	16.0%
Rest of Europe	84,318	29,143	5,114	21,950	22,283	44,864	36.5%	5.4%	6.5%	6.8%	8.4%	36.4%
<i>of which Non-performing</i>	4,342	2,549	278	850	2,309	2,566	25.4%	2.5%	4.7%	8.3%	16.6%	42.5%
Total Business Lending	262,415	112,817	17,680	83,916	56,835	110,661	33.7%	4.5%	5.5%	9.0%	11.6%	35.8%
<i>of which Non-performing</i>	10,584	6,067	446	3,120	3,216	3,852	25.2%	3.3%	8.2%	13.9%	15.5%	33.9%

Cover values including guarantees received – Business Lending Portfolio – 2013 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾

Region	Cover type							Value to Loan				
	Out-standings	Mort-gages	Eligible Financial Collateral	Other CRR/CDR IV eligible	Guaran-tees	Non CRR/CDR IV eligible	No Cover/ Data not available	>0% – 25%	>25% – 50%	> 50% – 75%	>75% – <100%	≥ 100%
Africa	1,203	26	120	234	627	99	16.0%	11.8%	10.4%	4.3%	23.7%	33.9%
<i>of which Non-performing</i>	1	0	0	0	0	0	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
America	22,887	3,749	4,246	16,659	4,592	19,181	20.8%	3.5%	6.5%	9.5%	15.5%	44.2%
<i>of which Non-performing</i>	489	273	3	169	63	55	9.1%	9.7%	4.2%	13.7%	40.0%	23.3%
Asia	33,949	993	1,574	8,063	8,853	6,381	52.6%	8.1%	4.7%	10.2%	6.3%	18.1%
<i>of which Non-performing</i>	437	0	110	122	61	23	67.8%	4.8%	1.9%	5.9%	3.8%	15.9%
Australia	2,482	220	9	756	171	160	66.6%	7.3%	0.3%	1.4%	12.4%	12.0%
<i>of which Non-performing</i>	104	0	7	30	0	0	74.0%	0.0%	6.8%	0.0%	17.9%	1.3%
Europe												
Belgium	37,364	25,678	1,153	6,285	10,700	20,039	30.0%	2.7%	3.0%	4.3%	6.7%	53.2%
<i>of which Non-performing</i>	1,309	1,193	19	708	485	708	10.1%	3.7%	2.1%	5.3%	9.4%	69.3%
Germany	8,137	1,030	20	361	1,146	2,391	63.3%	2.3%	3.8%	4.9%	5.8%	19.8%
<i>of which Non-performing</i>	206	118	4	4	4	3	25.9%	0.7%	0.3%	30.7%	30.6%	11.8%
Netherlands	63,314	49,846	2,996	25,328	5,989	15,219	20.3%	2.8%	6.3%	15.3%	23.2%	32.1%
<i>of which Non-performing</i>	4,294	2,157	94	1,464	283	817	20.9%	3.6%	15.4%	25.4%	21.3%	13.4%
Rest of Europe	87,843	26,192	5,348	19,203	20,472	50,606	42.0%	5.4%	5.7%	5.1%	8.8%	33.0%
<i>of which Non-performing</i>	4,243	3,074	49	385	1,536	2,675	17.6%	3.3%	4.1%	10.6%	19.3%	45.1%
Total Business Lending	257,179	107,734	15,466	76,889	52,550	114,076	35.2%	4.5%	5.3%	8.5%	12.3%	34.1%
<i>of which Non-performing</i>	11,083	6,815	286	2,882	2,432	4,281	20.3%	3.7%	8.1%	15.9%	19.4%	32.5%

(1) Including loans to ING Group and NN Group.

(2) Excluding intercompany positions

The two tables above provide the collateralisation of the ING Bank's Business Lending portfolio with a breakdown per geographical region or main market, which are defined based on the residence of the borrowers. The total increase in the business lending portfolio is in line with the increase in covers. The increase in collateralisation is observed in most regions and main countries, such as Africa, America, Australia and Netherlands. Exposures and covers in Asia decreased due to the deconsolidation of ING Vysya Bank, although the FX changes impacted adversely the decline in exposures and outstandings in Asia. In the Netherlands the exposures and covers decreased due to the de-risking in the Dutch Real Estate portfolio.

Investment and Money Market portfolio

Investment and Money Market exposure per region

Cover values including guarantees received – Investment and Money Market Portfolio ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾

	2014					2013					
	Out-standings	Mort-gages	Eligible Financial Collateral	Other CRR/CRD IV eligible	Guaran-tees	Out-standings	Mort-gages	Eligible Financial Collateral	Other CRR/CRD IV eligible	Guaran-tees	Non CRR/CRD IV eligible
Investment and Money Market											
Africa	0					0					
America	7,261		10		30	16	4,028			17	19
Asia	6,946						6,481				116
Australia	5,576						5,485				
Europe											
Belgium	8,252						9,843				
Germany	25,730		0	0	614	0	23,472			4,399	0
Netherlands	10,723		6		0	0	16,153	6		249	
Rest of Europe	53,710			298	2,810		47,185			452	
Total Investment and Money Market	118,198		16	298	3,454	16	112,647	6		5,117	135
of which Non-performing	104		6				11	6			

(1) Including loans to ING Group and NN Group.

(2) Excluding intercompany positions

A key characteristic of the Investment and Money Market business is that typically little cover is given to support these exposures. 99.9% of Money Market and 96.9% of Investment exposure receives no covers. During 2014 these percentages increased slightly. The majority of ING's investment positions are of high quality with 94% of the portfolio rated between AAA to A-, based on external ratings.

In the Investment portfolio, the cover mainly relates to government guarantees and supranational institution guarantees.

Pre-settlement portfolio

ING Bank uses various market pricing and measurement techniques to determine the amount of credit risk on pre-settlement activities. These techniques estimate ING Bank's potential future exposure on individual and portfolios of trades. Master agreements and collateral agreements are frequently entered into to reduce these credit risks.

ING Bank matches trades with similar characteristics to determine their eligibility for offsetting. This offsetting effect is called 'compensation'. Subsequently, ING Bank reduces the amount by any legal netting that may be permitted under various types of Master Agreements, such as ISDA Master Agreements, Global Master Repurchase Agreements (GMRA), Global Master Securities Lending Agreements (GMSLA), etc. Lastly, the amount is further reduced by any collateral that is held by ING Bank under Credit Support Annexes (CSAs) or other similar agreements.

The use of Central Clearing Parties (CCPs) is becoming more important for the derivatives business and as a consequence the credit risk is shifting from Counterparties to CCPs. In 2014, the notional Pre-Settlement exposure that was cleared via CCPs increased by 7.4%.

As part of its securities financing business, ING Bank entities actively enter into agreements to sell and buy back marketable securities. These transactions can take many legal forms. Repurchase and reverse repurchase agreements, buy/sell-back and sell/buyback agreements, and securities borrowing and lending agreements are the most common. As a general rule, the marketable securities that have been received under these transactions are eligible to be resold or re-pledged in other (similar) transactions. ING Bank is obliged to return equivalent securities in such cases.

The next table represents the different types of outstandings in 2014 and 2013. The "Gross MtM before netting and collateral" is the exposure calculated in accordance with the Current Exposure Method (CEM, which in the EU regulation is referred to as the Mark-to-Market method) without accounting for any netting or collateral benefit. The "MtM after netting" is the exposure, according to the CEM, taking into account the benefit of legally enforceable netting agreements (e.g. ISDAs), but without considering the benefit of margin collateral (e.g. CSAs). The "MtM after netting and collateral" is the exposure according to the CEM, taking into account both the benefit of netting and marginal collateral. In other words, the gap between the "MtM after netting" and "MtM after netting and collateral" is the liquid collateral (cash and securities). The Outstandings column represents CEM exposure (MtM after netting and collateral) plus the Potential Future Exposure (PFE) at a 97.5% confidence level for derivatives and securities.

Pre-settlement per region

Pre-settlement portfolio ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾

Region	2014				2013			
	Gross MtM before netting and collateral	MtM after netting	MtM after netting and collateral	Outstandings	Gross MtM before netting and collateral	MtM after netting	MtM after netting and collateral	Outstandings
Africa	108	85	85	103	53	37	37	43
America	18,871	10,224	7,350	8,720	15,844	7,069	5,276	6,083
Asia	6,761	3,629	2,782	3,742	5,879	3,377	2,943	4,195
Australia	450	245	232	195	449	293	286	338
Europe								
Belgium	6,955	4,704	4,187	2,572	4,011	2,762	2,406	1,947
Germany	8,589	4,673	2,468	3,639	7,275	3,948	2,045	3,227
Netherlands	12,466	6,767	4,924	5,475	9,848	4,775	3,996	5,180
Rest of Europe	129,451	31,986	26,818	27,146	86,861	27,542	23,430	27,011
Total Pre-settlement	183,651	62,313	48,846	51,593	130,220	49,803	40,419	48,024
<i>of which Non-performing</i>	101	101	101	100	205	205	205	209

(1) Including loans to ING Group and NN Group.

(2) Excluding intercompany positions

The increase in the gross MtM (25.4%) was mainly observed in the UK (Rest of Europe), due to Clearing Houses. After netting the increase for Clearing Houses was only EUR 1.5 billion. Main part of this increase came from the interest rate derivatives (IRD) portfolio which represents 68.7% (2013: 66.1%) of the total pre-settlement gross.

Market risk Introduction

Market risk is the risk that movements in market variables, such as interest rates, equity prices, foreign exchange rates, credit spreads and real estate prices, negatively impact the bank's earnings, capital, market value or liquidity position. Market risk either arises through positions in banking books or trading books. The banking book positions are intended to be held in the long-term (or until maturity) or for the purpose of hedging other banking book positions, while the trading book positions are typically held with a short-term intent.

ING Bank recognises the importance of sound market risk management and follows the approach to identify, assess, control and manage market risks. The approach consists of a cycle of five recurrent activities: risk identification, risk assessment, risk control, risk monitoring and risk reporting.

- › Risk identification is a joint effort of the 1st and 2nd line of defence (the 'three lines of defence governance' model is explained in the risk governance paragraph of the general risk management section). Its goal is to detect potential new risks and changes in known risks.
- › Identified risks are assessed to determine the importance of the risk for ING Bank and subsequently to identify the control measures needed.
- › Control measures used by ING include policies, procedures, limit frameworks, buffers and stress tests.
- › An important element of risk management is to continuously check if the implemented risk controls are executed and complied with and monitor that the controls are effective.
- › Results and findings are reported to the governing departments and approval bodies.

Governance

A governance framework has been established defining specific roles and responsibilities of business management, market risk management and internal approval bodies per activity.

Within ING Bank, market risk falls under the supervision of the ALCO function with ALCO Bank as the highest approval authority. ALCO Bank determines the overall risk appetite for market risk. The ALCO function is regionally organised. The business lines Retail Banking (both Benelux and International), Commercial Banking and Corporate Line are represented within the respective regional and local ALCO's. The ALCO structure within ING Bank facilitates top-down risk management, limit setting and the monitoring and control of market risk. This ensures a correct implementation of the ING Bank risk appetite.

The Market Risk Management department (MRM) is the designated independent department that is responsible for the design and execution of the bank's market risk management functions in support of the ALCO function. The MRM structure recognises that risk taking and risk management to a large extent occurs at the regional/local level. Bottom-up reporting allows each management level to fully assess the market risk relevant at the respective levels.

MRM is responsible for determining adequate policies and procedures for managing market risk and for monitoring the compliance with these guidelines. An important element of the market risk management function is the assessment of market risk in new products and businesses. Furthermore MRM maintains an adequate limit framework in line with ING Bank's risk appetite. The businesses are responsible for adhering to the limits that ultimately are approved by ALCO Bank. Limit breaches are reported to senior management on a timely basis and the business is required to take appropriate actions to reduce the risk position.

This market risk paragraph elaborates on the various elements of the risk management approach for:

- › Market risk economic capital for trading and banking books
- › Market risks in the banking books
- › Market risks in the trading books

Economic capital for market risk

Economic capital for market risk is the economic capital necessary to withstand unexpected value movements due to changes in market variables and model risk.

Model disclosure

Economic Capital for market risk is calculated for exposures both in trading portfolios and banking portfolios and includes interest rate risk, equity price risk, foreign exchange rate risk, real estate risk and model risks. Economic capital for market risk is calculated using internally developed methodologies with a 99.95% confidence interval and a horizon of one year.

For the trading books, the linear interest rate risk in the banking books and equity investments, the Value at Risk (VaR) (measured at a 99% confidence interval, a one day holding period and under the assumption of an expected value of zero) is taken as a starting point for the economic capital calculations for market risk. To arrive at the economic capital for market risk, a simulation based model is used which includes scaling to the required confidence interval and holding period. In determining this scaling factor, several other factors are also taken into account like the occurrence of large market movements (events) and management interventions.

Embedded options, e.g. the prepayment option and offered rate option in mortgages in the banking books, result in non-linear interest rate risk in the banking books. The embedded options are hedged using a delta-hedging methodology, leaving the mortgage portfolio exposed to convexity and volatility risk. For the calculation of economic capital for this non-linear interest rate risk and volatility risk ING Bank performs a Monte Carlo simulation.

Real estate price risk includes the market risks in both the real estate investment and the development portfolio of ING Commercial Banking. The economic capital for real estate price risk is calculated by stressing the underlying market variables.

While aggregating the different economic capital market risk figures for the different portfolios, diversification benefits (based on stressed correlations) are taken into account as it is not expected that all extreme market movements will appear at the same moment.

Risk profile

The market risk Economic Capital is higher than the Regulatory Capital primarily due to the inclusion of the interest rate risk in banking books in Economic Capital. The main drivers of the Market Risk Economic Capital are the linear interest rate risk positions of Capital Investments and the strategic Equity Investments in the banking books.

Economic and Regulatory Capital (Bank diversified only) by risk type

	Economic Capital		Regulatory Capital	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
Trading	318	527	745	667
Interest rate risk in the banking books	2,861	2,629		
Foreign exchange	420	130	113	37
Real Estate	461	563		
Equity Investments ⁽¹⁾	2,246	880		
Market risk	6,306	4,729	858	704

(1) Regulatory capital for equity investments are reported under credit risk regulatory capital.

Year-on-year variance

During 2014, market risk economic capital increased significantly from EUR 4.7 billion to EUR 6.3 billion. The main drivers of the increase are an update of the model parameters and an increase of the equity investment positions, primarily impacting the equity investments risk type. A short explanation for the main items:

- › Trading: the decrease in economic capital is largely driven by an increased diversification with the risk types.
- › Interest rate risk in the banking books: the exposure is mainly driven by the long-term investment of ING Bank's capital (investment of own funds). In this overview the replication of capital is presented in line with the regulatory prudential approach and therefore capital itself is classified as an overnight interest rate position. Overall the economic capital is relatively stable compared to 2013, since a shorter duration of the investment in own funds offsets the extension of the historical period of the risk parameters.
- › Foreign exchange: the increase is mainly resulting from ceasing the hedge of the common equity tier 1 ratio for foreign exchange rates of a selection of emerging market currencies.
- › Real estate: the decrease is mainly resulting from the run-off exposure of Real Estate Development
- › Equity investments: the main drivers of increase of Economic Capital are an update of the model parameters, an extension of the historical period, the inclusion of ING Vysya Bank as an equity investment and the appreciation of Bank of Beijing.

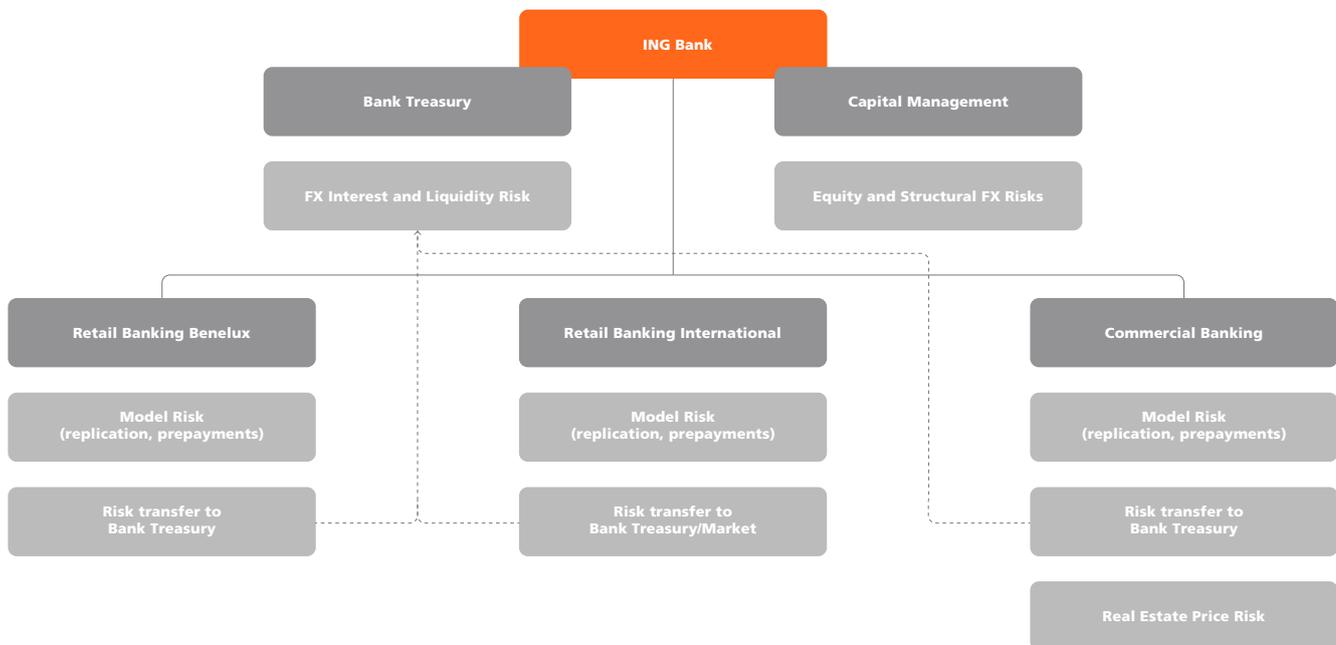
The increase in market risk Regulatory Capital for Trading is due to a combination of position changes and market movements which led to an increase in the VaR and Stressed VaR components of the regulatory capital calculation. The increase in market risk Regulatory Capital for Foreign Exchange relates to the equity stake in ING Vysya Bank.

Market risk in banking books

ING Bank makes a distinction between trading and banking (non-trading) books. Positions in banking books originate from the market risks inherent in commercial products that are sold to clients and from the investment of own funds (core capital). Both the commercial products, and the products used to hedge market risk exposures in these products are intended to be held until maturity, or at least for the long-term. ING Bank distinguishes the following types of market risk in banking books:

- › Interest Rate Risk, including customer behaviour risk;
- › Credit Spread Risk;
- › Foreign Exchange (FX) Risk;
- › Equity Price Risk; and
- › Real Estate Price Risk.

An important element of the management of market risks in the banking books is the process of risk transfer. In this process the interest rate, FX, funding and liquidity risks are transferred from the commercial books through matched funding to Bank Treasury, where it is centrally managed. The scheme below presents the transfer and management process of market risks in the banking books:



Model disclosure of banking risk measures

See Risk model governance and model validation section

Interest rate risk in banking book

Interest rate risk in the banking books is defined as the exposure of a bank’s earnings, capital and market value to adverse movements in interest rates originated from positions in the banking books.

Governance

The management of interest rate risk follows the interest rate risk in the banking book framework as approved by ALCO Bank. This framework describes roles and responsibilities, risk metrics, and it defines the policies and procedures related to interest rate risk management. Furthermore, on an overall level, ALCO Bank sets the risk appetite for interest rate risk, which is translated into limits for interest rate risk metrics.

The ING Bank approach to interest rate risk management, as set forth in this framework, is centralisation of risks from commercial books (that capture the products sold to clients) to central interest rate risk books. This enables a clear demarcation between commercial business results and results on unhedged interest rate positions.

ING Bank distinguishes three types of activities that generate interest rate risk in the banking books:

- › Investment of own funds (by Capital Management);
- › Commercial business (e.g. retail business); and
- › The strategic interest rate position (Bank Treasury).

Below the three activities are described in more detail:

Capital Management is responsible for managing the investment of own funds (core capital), more information can be found in the Capital Management section. Capital is invested for longer periods, targeting to maximise return, while keeping earnings stable.

Commercial activities result in interest rate risk, as for example repricing tenors of assets differ from those of liabilities. Linear interest rate risk is transferred from the commercial business to the treasury books (Bank Treasury), if necessary also based on estimations of customer behaviour. The originating commercial business is ultimately responsible for estimating customer behaviour, leaving convexity risk and (unexpected) customer behaviour risk with the commercial business.

Risk measurement and the risk transfer process take place on a monthly basis, but more often if deemed necessary, for instance in volatile markets. The customer behaviour in relation to mortgages, loans, savings and demand deposits is modelled by MRM, based on extensive research. Model parameters are determined from historical data and expert opinion. Models are periodically validated by Model Validation. Models and parameters are backtested at least semi-annually and updated when deemed necessary. In the modelling of savings and current accounts different elements play a role: pricing strategies, outstanding and expected volumes and the level and shape of the yield curve. The analyses result in an estimated duration and an investment rule for the various portfolios. With respect to mortgages and loans, prepayment behaviour including interest rate dependent prepayment behaviour is modelled, as well as the interest sensitivity of embedded offered rate options.

Customer behaviour risk is defined as the potential future value loss due to uncertainty in the behaviour of clients towards embedded options in commercial products. Customer behaviour risk is reported as part of business risk Economic Capital. General sources of customer behaviour risk include the state of the economy, competition, changes in regulation, legislation and tax regime, and developments in the housing market. Since these risk factors cannot be (fully) mitigated, ING holds capital to be able to absorb possible losses as a result of changed customer behaviour.

Convexity risk is defined as the sensitivity towards interest volatility and second order changes in the interest rate. Convexity risk is a result of products that contain embedded options, like mortgages. In some cases, convexity risk is transferred from the commercial books to treasury books using swaption and cap/floor contracts.

Bank Treasury manages the strategic interest rate position excluding capital investments. The main objective is to maximise the economic value of the book and to generate adequate and stable annual earnings within the risk appetite boundaries set by ALCO Bank.

Risk profile

In the following sections, the interest rate risk exposures in the banking books are presented. ING Bank uses risk measures based on both an earnings and a value perspective. Earnings Sensitivity (ES) is used to provide the earnings perspective and the Net Present Value (NPV)-at-Risk and Basis Point Value (BPV) figures provide the value perspective.

Earnings Sensitivity (ES)

ES measures the impact of changing interest rates on (before tax) net interest income. The ES figures in the tables below reflect an instantaneous shock of 1% and a time horizon of one year. For a downward shock it is assumed that interest rates will not be negative after the shock is applied. Management interventions are not incorporated in these calculations.

Earnings Sensitivity banking book per currency (instantaneous parallel shock)

	2014		2013	
	-100 bps	+100 bps	-100 bps	+100 bps
By currency				
Euro	-107	68	-184	120
US Dollar	-5	5	5	2
Other	-7	16	-9	
Total	-119	89	-188	122

Earnings Sensitivity banking book per business (instantaneous parallel shock)

	2014		2013	
	-100 bps	+100 bps	-100 bps	+100 bps
By business				
Commercial Banking	-19	7	-73	43
Retail Banking Benelux	-39	101	-52	42
Retail Banking International	-27	-86	-52	20
Corporate Line	-34	67	-11	17
Total	-119	89	-188	122

The ES is mainly influenced by the sensitivity of savings to interest rate movements and is partially offset by the sensitivity of mortgages. The investment of own funds only impacts the ES marginally, as only a relative small part has to be (re)invested within the 1-year horizon.

Year-on-year variance analysis

In line with previous year the earnings with a one year horizon as per 2014 year end are relatively insensitive to rate changes, if compared to the net interest income. The earnings sensitivity for an upward shock has a positive impact. Positive earnings sensitivity implies that when rates increase, the positive impact on interest received on assets is larger than the negative impact of interest paid on liabilities.

Net Present Value (NPV) at Risk

NPV-at-Risk measures the impact of changing interest rates on value. As a full valuation approach is applied, the risk figures include convexity risk that results from embedded optionalities like mortgage prepayment options. As for ES calculations, an instantaneous shock of 1% is applied.

The full value impact cannot be directly linked to the balance sheet or profit and loss account, as fair value movements in banking books are generally not reported through the profit and loss account or through equity. The value mutations are expected to materialise over time in the profit and loss account, if interest rates develop according to forward rates throughout the remaining maturity of the portfolio.

NPV-at-Risk banking books per currency (instantaneous parallel shock)

	2014		2013	
	-100 bps	+100 bps	-100 bps	+100 bps
By currency				
Euro	169	-1,749	1,399	-1,503
US Dollar	-4	26	-13	23
Other	1	5	36	-29
Total	166	-1,718	1,422	-1,509

NPV-at-Risk banking books per business (instantaneous parallel shock)

	2014		2013	
	-100 bps	+100 bps	-100 bps	+100 bps
By business				
Commercial Banking	183	-120	57	-30
Retail Banking Benelux	-109	-130	-184	-209
Retail Banking International	-285	-29	30	236
Corporate Line	377	-1,439	1,519	-1,506
Total	166	-1,718	1,422	-1,509

NPV-at-Risk banking books per accounting category (instantaneous parallel shock)

	2014		2013	
	-100 bps	+100 bps	-100 bps	+100 bps
By accounting category				
Amortised Cost	-1,203	1,292	-1,115	923
Fair value through equity	1,234	-2,920	2,459	-2,347
Fair value through profit and loss	135	-90	78	-85
Total	166	-1,718	1,422	-1,509

The NPV-at-Risk is dominated by the interest rate sensitive long-term investments of own funds, as the equity itself is not modelled and hence is not presented as an offset for the investments of own funds. The value of these investments is impacted significantly if interest rates move up by 1%. Convexity risk in retail portfolios also contributes to the overall NPV-at-Risk. The asymmetry between the NPV-at-Risk for a -100 bps and a +100 bps shock is primarily caused by the flooring the interest rates to zero for the -100 bps scenario.

Year-on-year variance analysis

NPV-at-Risk for a +100 bps shock increased during 2014. An overall increase of EUR 209 million is shown. This mainly results from a change in the strategic interest rate position. The sensitivity for a -100 bps shock has mainly changed as a result of lower rates, whereby for fewer positions a -100 bps shock can be applied, as the interest rates are limited to zero in the calculations.

Besides the change of the overall NPV-at-Risk exposure there is change in the exposure per accounting category. This is mainly the result of increased volume and duration of savings and at the same time a decreased duration of mortgages. As a result the exposure at amortised cost showed a larger move for the +100 bps shock. The impact of this move was mitigated by cash flow hedges, which reevaluate through equity.

Basis Point Value (BPV)

BPV measures the impact of a one basis point increase in interest rates on value. To a large extent the BPV and NPV-at-Risk reflect the same risk - the difference being that BPV does not reflect convexity risk, given the small shift in interest rates.

BPV banking books per currency

amounts in thousands of euros	2014	2013
By currency	+100 bps	+100 bps
Euro	-15,890	-13,900
US Dollar	261	214
Other	-21	-339
Total	-15,650	-14,025

BPV banking books per business

amounts in thousands of euros	2014	2013
By business		
Commercial Banking	-1,773	-626
Retail Banking Benelux	-55	-100
Retail Banking International	981	2,757
Corporate Line	-14,803	-16,056
Total	-15,650	-14,025

BPV banking books per accounting category

amounts in thousands of euros	2014	2013
By accounting category		
Amortised Cost	16,311	11,482
Fair value through equity	-30,205	-24,318
Fair value through profit and loss	-1,756	-1,189
Total	-15,650	-14,025

In line with NPV-at-Risk, the bank's overall BPV position is dominated by the long-term investment of own funds, as the present value of this position is significantly impacted if interest rates move up by one basis point.

Year-on-year variance analysis

In line with the increase in NPV-at-Risk, the overall BPV increased in 2014 with EUR 1.6 million. As for NPV-at-Risk this mainly results from a change in the strategic position. Besides the change of the overall BPV exposure there is a change in the exposure per accounting category. This is mainly the result of increased volume and duration of savings and at the same time a decreased duration of mortgages. As a result the BPV exposure at amortised cost showed an upward move. This move was mitigated by cash flow hedges, which reevaluate through equity and an increased duration of investments. The decreased sensitivity of other currencies results from the deconsolidation of ING Vysya Bank.

Foreign exchange (FX) risk in banking books

FX exposures in banking books result from core banking business activities (business units doing business in other currencies than their base currency), foreign currency investments in subsidiaries (including realised net profit and loss) and strategic equity stakes in foreign currencies. The policy regarding these exposures is briefly explained below.

Governance – Core banking business

Every business unit hedges the FX risk resulting from core banking business activities into its base currency. Consequently, assets and liabilities are matched in terms of currency.

Governance – FX translation result

ING Bank's strategy is to protect the target common equity tier 1 ratio against FX rate fluctuations, whilst limiting the volatility in the profit and loss account. Therefore, hedges are only done to the extent that they can be hedge accounted for against equity. Taking this into account, the common equity tier 1 ratio hedge is achieved by deliberately taking foreign currency positions equal to certain target positions, such that the target common equity tier 1 capital and risk-weighted assets are equally sensitive in relative terms to changing FX rates. A selection of emerging market currencies are exempted for the hedge.

Risk profile – FX translation result

The following table presents the currency exposures in the banking books for the most important currencies for FX translation result:

Net banking currency exposures banking books

amounts in thousands of euros	Foreign Investments		Hedges		Net exposures	
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013
US Dollar	2,601	2,191	-189	-134	2,412	2,057
Pound Sterling	635	325	21	19	656	344
Polish Zloty	1,774	1,852	-848	-1,012	926	840
Australian Dollar	3,665	3,478	-3,309	-2,877	356	601
Turkish Lira	2,033	1,861	-3	-572	2,030	1,289
Chinese Yuan	2,289	1,253	-166	-150	2,123	1,103
Korean Won	800	723	-635	-583	165	140
Indian Rupee	701	856			701	856
Brazilian Real	277	270		-195	277	75
Russian Rouble	502	765	-311	-544	191	221
Other currency	2,359	1,872	-1,359	-1,050	1,000	822
Total	17,636	15,446	-6,799	-7,098	10,837	8,348

In order to measure the remaining sensitivity of the target common equity tier 1 ratio against FX rate fluctuations, the common equity tier 1 ratio at Risk (cTaR) measure is used. It measures the drop in the common equity tier 1 ratio from the target when stressing a certain FX rate. The stress scenario for a currency corresponds with that scenario that causes a drop in the common equity tier 1 ratio, so a negative sign means that a depreciation of that corresponding currency will result in a drop of the common equity tier 1 ratio.

Common Equity Tier 1 ratio sensitivity ING Bank

Currency	cTaR		Stress Scenario	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
US Dollar	0.12%	0.09%	15%	15%
Pound Sterling	0.00%	0.01%	15%	15%
Polish Zloty	0.00%	0.00%	-15%	15%
Australian Dollar	0.00%	0.01%	20%	-20%
Turkish Lira	0.06%	0.01%	-25%	-25%
Chinese Yuan	0.08%	0.00%	-15%	15%
Korean Won	0.01%	0.01%	-15%	-15%
Indian Rupee	0.04%	0.02%	-20%	-20%
Brazilian Real	0.02%	0.01%	-25%	-25%
Russian Rouble	0.01%	0.01%	-20%	-20%

The US Dollar is the main currency in terms of Net Exposure as the risk-weighted assets position in US Dollar is most significant besides Euro. In terms of sensitivities, fluctuations in the US Dollar are the main driver of the common equity tier 1 ratio as the US Dollar Net Exposure significantly deviates from the target. This deviation from the target for USD is mainly resulting from the limited capability to hedge the exposure without introducing P&L volatility. In 2014 the hedge of the common equity tier 1 ratio for foreign exchange rates of a selection of emerging market currencies has been ceased. The common equity tier 1 ratio is less sensitive for fluctuations in the other currencies.

Year-on-year variance analysis

The Foreign Investments in Chinese Yuan increased due to an increase in share price of Bank of Beijing. The decrease of the Foreign Investments in Indian Rupee is due to the deconsolidation of ING Vysya Bank, partly offset by the release of the minority interest. The change in Turkish Lira and Brazilian Real hedge position is a result of the decision to terminate the hedge of the common equity tier 1 ratio for foreign exchange rates of a selection of emerging market currencies, resulting in an increase in cTaR. For currencies in the table above, the decision to terminate the hedge was applicable to Turkish Lira, Chinese Yuan, Indian Rupee and Brazilian Real.

Equity price risk in banking books

Governance

ING Bank maintains a strategic portfolio with substantial equity exposure in its banking books. Local offices are responsible for the management of the equity investments positions. Market risk is responsible for monitoring and reporting the regulatory capital for Equity Investments on a monthly basis. Market risk acts independently from the management of the equity investments in monitoring and reporting of the equity investments risk.

Risk Profile

Equity price risk arises from the possibility that equity security prices will fluctuate, affecting the value of equity securities and other instruments whose value reacts similarly to a particular security, a defined basket of securities, or a securities index. This equity exposure mainly consists of the investments in associates and joint ventures of EUR 861 million (2013: EUR 937 million) and equity

securities held in the available-for-sale (AFS) portfolio of EUR 2,718 million (2013: EUR 1,645 million). The value of equity securities held in the available-for-sale portfolio is directly linked to equity security prices with increases/decreases being recognised in the revaluation reserve, except in the case of impairment. Investments in associates and joint ventures are measured in accordance with the equity method of accounting and the balance sheet value and therefore not directly linked to equity security prices.

Equities Unrealised Gains and Losses in the AFS portfolio

	2014	2013
Gross unrealised gains	2,019	1,038
Gross unrealised losses		
Total	2,019	1,038

Year-on-year variance analysis

During the year ended 31 December 2014 the revaluation reserve relating to equity securities held in the available-for-sale portfolio fluctuated between a month-end low amount of EUR 996 million (2013: EUR 1,038 million) and a high amount of EUR 2,019 million (2013: EUR 1,483 million).

Real Estate price risk in banking books

Real estate price risk arises from the possibility that real estate prices fluctuate. This affects both the value of real estate assets and earnings related to real estate activities.

Governance

Real Estate is a run-off business consisting of Real Estate Development and Real Estate Investment Management activities which are being wound down by sale of assets, strict execution of contract maturity or through portfolio sales.

Risk profile

ING Bank has two main different categories of real estate exposure on its banking books: first, the own buildings ING Bank occupies, and second - development assets, which mostly consists of former Real Estate Development and Real Estate Investment Management activities.

ING Bank's real estate exposure in the banking books (i.e. including leverage and committed purchases) is EUR 1.8 billion. For market risk management purposes, the total real estate exposure amounts to EUR 1.7 billion since property from foreclosures (EUR 0.08 billion) and third party interest (EUR 0.02 billion) are excluded.

ING Bank has EUR 0.2 billion recognised at fair value through profit and loss and EUR 1.5 billion is recognised at cost or revalued through equity (with impairments going through profit and loss).

A split on the real estate exposure per continent and sector based on the risk management view is shown below.

Real Estate market risk exposure in banking books (by geographic area and sector type)

	2014	2013		2014	2013
Continent			Sector		
Europe	1,352	1,993	Residential	270	325
Americas	142	145	Office	1,102	1,241
Australia	0	94	Retail	181	661
Asia	101	135	Industrial	22	144
Other	91	115	Other	111	111
Total	1,686	2,482	Total	1,686	2,482

Main exposure arises from office buildings in own use located in Netherlands and Belgium (EUR 0.8 billion), as well as retail and residential exposures in Europe (EUR 0.3 billion).

Year-on-year variance analysis

In total, real estate market risk exposure in the banking books decreased by EUR 0.8 billion mainly as a result of divestments (EUR 0.7 billion). The remainder is due to impairments and negative fair value changes.

Market Risk in trading books

Within the trading portfolios, positions are maintained in the professional financial markets. These positions are often the result of transactions with clients and may serve to benefit from short-term price movements. Market risk arises in the trading portfolios through the exposure to various market risk factors, including interest rates, equity prices, foreign exchange rates and credit spreads.

Governance

The Financial Markets Risk Committee (FMRC) is the market risk committee that, within the risk appetite set by ALCO Bank, sets market risk limits both on an aggregated level and on a desk level, and approves new products. MRM advises both the FMRC and ALCO Bank on the market risk appetite of trading activities.

With respect to the trading portfolios, MRM focuses on the management of market risks of Commercial Banking (mainly Financial Markets) as this is the only business line where trading activities take place. Trading activities include facilitation of client business and market making. MRM is responsible for the development and implementation of trading risk policies and risk measurement methodologies, the reporting and monitoring of risk exposures against approved trading limits and the validation of pricing models. MRM also reviews trading mandates and limits, and performs the gatekeeper role in the product review process. The management of trading market risk is performed at various organisational levels, from MRM overall down to specific business areas and trading offices.

Fair values of financial assets and liabilities

Fair values of financial assets and liabilities that are quoted in active markets are determined by using quoted market prices. Where quoted prices are not available, other pricing sources and valuation techniques are used to determine fair value.

Other pricing sources can be independent market vendors, brokers or market makers, or recent transactions. The range of prices obtained from these pricing sources can diverge. The choice of one or the other pricing source can therefore result in different estimates of fair value. Selecting the most appropriate price within this range requires expertise and judgement. The selection of the pricing sources used is subject to internal approval and review.

Valuation techniques range from discounting of cash flows to valuation models. Such models are based on relevant factors such as the market price of underlying reference instruments, market parameters (volatilities, correlations and credit ratings) and customer behaviour. Some of these price factors require various assumptions which imply that valuation models are subjective by nature. According to what valuation technique is used and what assumptions are made, the obtained fair value can be different, hence the implied downward and/or upward uncertainty of the accounting value may vary. For a classification of fair valued exposure to products in accordance with their degree of valuation uncertainty, refer to the section Financial instruments - Level Disclosure.

All valuation techniques used are subject to a model governance framework. Model governance refers to a set of policies and procedures that have to be strictly followed and that cover the complete lifecycle of a model, i.e. its development, validation, approval, implementation and maintenance. The pillars of model governance are independent validation and periodic review. Such a review aims to determine whether a model still is appropriate for its intended use. Where models are used for valuation, there can be uncertainty on the assumptions of the underlying models and/or parameters. In those cases where significant uncertainty on assumptions arises, a model risk valuation adjustment is applied.

In general, positions are valued taking the bid price for a long position and the offer price for a short position. In cases where positions are marked at mid-market prices, a fair value adjustment is calculated.

As of 2014 year end the valuation of all fair valued positions is aligned with the latest draft regulatory standards for fair valued instruments issued by the European Banking Authority (EBA/RTS/2014/06). These 'Regulatory Technical Standards on Prudent valuation' encompass a range of prescriptive valuation adjustment categories, aiming to reduce inherent valuation uncertainty for fair valued instruments and create more consistency across the banking industry. Where fair valued positions do not meet these higher standards, institutions must subtract the valuation difference from their Core Tier 1 capital.

ING has chosen to align existing fair valuation adjustments with the new requirements, hence support only one valuation process which meets both IFRS and CRR requirements, where allowed. This approach is supported by a new bank-wide valuation policy framework, and by detailed methodologies for fair valued instruments, per product and degree of liquidity. Benefits of the revised framework and chosen approach are a significant increase in consistency, and transparency of the fair valuation of financial instruments across different locations and books. An additional valuation adjustment through capital on the concentrated positions (the Concentration AVA) of EUR 35 million after tax is booked for ING Bank in 2014.

To include credit risk in the fair valuation, ING applies both credit and debit valuation adjustments (hereafter referred to as respectively, CVA and DVA). Own issued debt and structured notes that are valued at fair value are adjusted for credit risk by means of an own credit adjustment. Additionally, derivatives valued at fair value are adjusted for credit risk by a credit valuation adjustment. This credit valuation adjustment is of a bilateral nature; both the credit risks on the counterparty as well as on ING are included in the adjustment. All market data that is used in the determination of the CVA is based on market implied data. Additionally, wrong-way risk (when exposure to a counterparty is increasing and the credit quality of that counterparty decreases) and right way risk (when exposure to a counterparty is decreasing and the credit quality of that counterparty decreases) are included in the adjustment. ING applies CVA also for pricing credit risk into new external trades with counterparties. Risk limits and controls are in place to monitor and anticipate CVA risk on a daily basis. The CVA is managed by global risk governance, where the risk limits and controls for CVA are managed and monitored on a global level. Our approach on CVA risk management is driven by increased control, cost efficiency and the global scope of CVA.

To address the risk associated with the illiquid nature of the derivative portfolio, ING applies an additional 'liquidity valuation adjustment'. The adjustment is based on the market price of funding liquidity and is applied to the uncollateralised derivatives. This additional discounting is taken into account in both the credit and debt valuation adjustments.

Market Risk Management Product Control has the role to identify and challenge market data and pricing sources determine the parameters that will be used in the valuation models, and to calculate necessary value adjustments. When using valuation techniques, identified market data and sources used for the calculations are independently challenged, reviewed and validated on a regular basis, most of it daily. Price testing and valuation results are reviewed and validated by local and global parameter committees.

To secure segregation of duties between Front Office and Market Risk Management Product Control, the systems for pricing and price testing are secured in order to prevent unauthorised access.

Reference is made to Note 43 'Fair value of assets and liabilities' for the basis of the determination of the fair values of the financial instruments and related sensitivities.

Model disclosure of trading risk measures

Value at Risk

MRM uses the historical simulation Value at Risk (VaR) methodology as its primary risk measure. The VaR for market risk quantifies, with a one-sided confidence level of 99%, the maximum overnight loss that could occur due to changes in risk factors (e.g. interest rates, equity prices, foreign exchange rates, credit spreads, implied volatilities) if positions remain unchanged for a time period of one day. Next to general market movements in these risk factors, VaR also takes into account market data movements for specific moves in e.g. the underlying issuer of securities. The impact of historical market movements on today's portfolio is estimated, based on equally weighted observed market movements of the previous year. ING Bank uses VaR with a 1-day horizon for internal risk measurement, control and backtesting, and VaR with a 10-day horizon for determining regulatory capital.

Limitations

VaR has some limitations, such as the following: VaR uses historical data to forecast future price behaviour. Future price behaviour could differ substantially from past behaviour. Moreover, the use of a one-day holding period (or ten days for regulatory capital calculations) assumes that all positions in the portfolio can be liquidated or hedged in one day. In periods of illiquidity or market events, this assumption may not hold. Also, the use of 99% confidence level means that VaR does not take into account any losses that occur beyond this confidence level.

Backtesting

Backtesting is a technique for the on-going monitoring of the plausibility of the VaR model in use. Although VaR models estimate potential future results, estimates are based on historical market data. In a backtest, the actual daily result is compared with the 1-day VaR. In addition to using actual results for backtesting, ING Bank also uses hypothetical results, which measure results excluding the effect of intraday trading, fees and commissions. When the actual or hypothetical loss exceeds the VaR an 'outlier' occurs. Based on ING Bank's one-sided confidence level of 99% an outlier is expected once in every 100 business days. In 2014, three global backtest outliers (one actual and two hypothetical P&L outliers) occurred on two days, which were in line with our expectation based on the 99% confidence level of our VaR model. Details of the outliers are disclosed in the section 'Risk profile'. ING Bank reports the results of this backtesting to DNB on a quarterly basis.

Basel Committee/CRD III

As of 31 December 2011 the Basel requirements on Stressed VaR and the Incremental Risk Charge have come into force in European legislation (CRD III), complementing the use of VaR. ING follows this framework for its regulatory capital calculations since Q4 2011. CRD IV has come into force as of 2014, but it has no impact on the Market Risk Framework. The Basel Committee is performing a Fundamental Review of the Trading Book, which may have a significant impact on the Pillar I calculations. The review is still in consultation and full implementation is not expected before end of 2017.

Stressed VaR

The Stressed VaR (SVaR) is intended to replicate a VaR calculation that would be generated on the bank's current portfolio with inputs calibrated to the historical data from a continuous 12-month period of significant financial stress relevant to the bank's portfolio. To calculate SVaR, ING Bank uses the same model that is used for VaR (historical simulation). The historical data period used includes the height of the credit crisis around the fall of Lehman brothers, and is reviewed regularly.

Incremental Risk Charge

With the Incremental Risk Charge (IRC) ING Bank calculates an estimate of default and migration risk for unsecured credit products in the trading book over a one-year capital horizon at a 99.9% confidence level. For the calculation of IRC ING Bank performs a Monte Carlo simulation based on a Gaussian copula model. For all issuers the rating is simulated over the different liquidity horizons (time required to liquidate the position or hedge all significant risks) within one year. The financial impact is then determined based on the migration to default (based on LGD), or migration to a different rating category (based on credit spread changes).

The liquidity horizon has been set to the regulatory minimum of three months for all positions in scope. Given the types of products in ING Bank's trading portfolio ING considers this horizon to be conservative. We have demonstrated that ING Bank could still actively trade its positions that are significant for IRC under stressed market circumstances, allowing ING Bank to fully redeem its positions within three months.

Event risk

Event risk is a valuable risk management tool. Event risk evaluates the bank's financial stability under severe but plausible stress scenarios and assists in decision-making that assures the bank to remain a financially-healthy on-going concern after a severe event occurs. In addition to the bank-wide stress test framework as described in the ING Bank risk profile section, MRM performs separate stressed scenario tests to monitor market risks under extreme market conditions. Since VaR in general does not produce an estimate of the potential losses that can occur as a result of extreme market movements, ING Bank uses structured stressed scenario tests for monitoring the market risk under these extreme conditions. Event risk is based on historical as well as hypothetical extreme scenarios. The result is an estimate of the profit and loss caused by a potential event and its world-wide impact for ING Commercial Banking. The event risk number for the ING Commercial Banking trading activity is generated on a weekly basis. Like VaR, event risk is limited by ALCO Bank.

ING Bank's event risk policy is based on a large set of possible stress scenarios per risk type (fixed income, equity, foreign exchange, credit and related derivative markets). For example, for equity products we assume both a crisis scenario (prices decreasing) as well as a bull scenario (prices increasing). Stress parameters are set per country. Scenarios are calculated based on events happening independently, jointly by region, or in all countries simultaneously. This way, for each risk type, a large set of scenarios is calculated. The worst scenarios per market are combined across markets by assessing both independent events per market, and worst events happening in all markets at the same time.

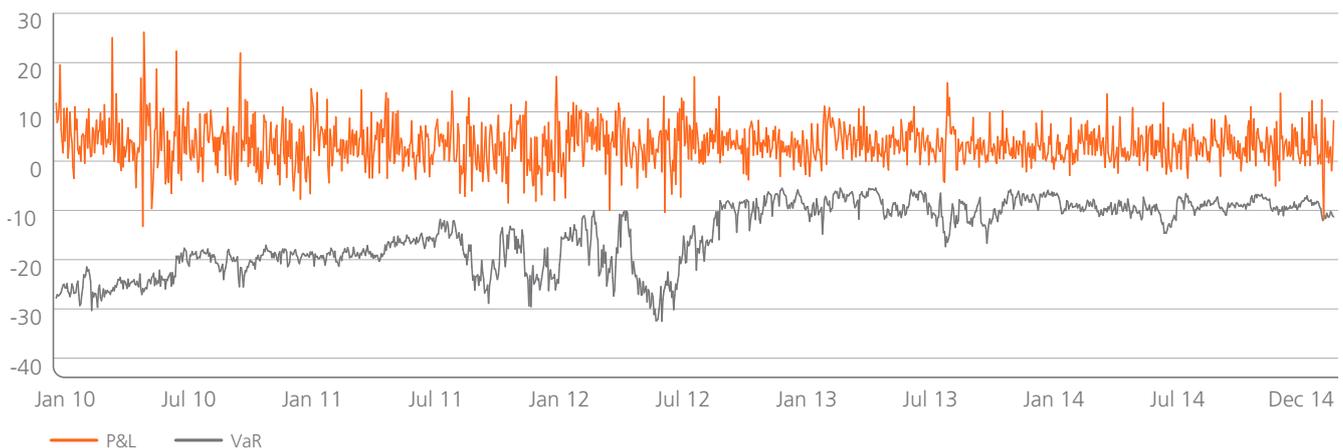
Other trading controls

VaR and Event Risk limits are the most important limits to control the trading portfolios. Additionally, limits have been set on SVaR and IRC. Furthermore, ING Bank uses a variety of other controls to supplement these limits. Position and sensitivity limits are used to prevent large concentrations in specific issuers, sectors or countries. In addition to this, other risk limits are set with respect to the activities in complex derivatives trading. The market risk of these products is controlled by product specific limits and constraints.

Risk profile

The following chart shows the development of the overnight VaR under a 99% confidence interval and a 1-day horizon versus daily trading profits and losses. The overnight VaR is presented for the ING Commercial Banking trading portfolio from 2010 to 2014.

Consolidated trading VaR ING Commercial Banking 2010 – 2014



We observed backtest outliers on two days in 2014: one actual and two hypothetical P&L outliers. On both days, the markets were more volatile than to the history captured in the VaR estimate. The hypothetical outlier in October was due to large moves in both interest rate and equity derivatives markets. This hypothetical outlier however results from being very prudent in taking into account basis risks in the hypothetical P&L calculation, in line with the VaR calculation model. The outlier in December (actual and hypothetical outlier on the same day) was mainly due to increased volatilities in certain credit spreads. Only two outliers in a period of a year – and no outliers in previous years – indicate that the VaR model is prudent.

The risk figures in the table below only relate to the CAD2 trading books for which the internal model approach is applied.

Risk Measures for Internal Model Approach Portfolios ⁽¹⁾								
	Minimum		Maximum		Average		Year end	
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013
Interest rate	3	3	11	13	5	7	6	7
Equity	2	2	7	8	3	5	6	4
Foreign exchange	1	1	6	6	2	3	2	2
Credit spread	3	2	9	4	5	3	9	3
Diversification ⁽²⁾					-6	-9	-12	-7
Total VaR	6	5	15	17	9	9	11	9
Stressed VaR (10-day, 99%)	32	38	111	110	54	66	99	52
Incremental Risk Charge (1-year, 99.9%)	341	280	555	487	462	351	426	438

(1) CVA risk is not included in VaR.

(2) The total VaR for the columns Minimum and Maximum cannot be calculated by taking the sum of the individual components since the observations for both the individual markets as well as total VaR may occur on different dates.

Average VaR was in the same level of the previous year. The increase in average IRC was largely driven by updated LGD model parameters for the Central and Local Government portfolio.

Regulatory capital

According to the Capital Requirements Regulation (CRR/CRD IV), regulatory capital for trading portfolios can be calculated using the standardised approach or an internal model approach. ING Bank received approval from the DNB to use an internal model to determine the regulatory capital for the market risk in most trading books of ING Bank. Market risk capital of CAD2 trading books is calculated according to the Basel 2.5 framework, using an internal VaR, Stressed VaR and Incremental Risk Charge model, where diversification is taken into account. On the other hand, market risk capital of CAD1 books is calculated using standardised fixed risk weights. In 2014, capital on all trading books is performed under the Internal Model Approach. Mismatches in FX risk from the banking books are incorporated under the Standardised Approach.

Regulatory Capital				
			2014	2013
	SVaR	VaR	Total	Total
Interest rate/Credit spread	127	66	193	146
Equity	74	19	93	48
Foreign exchange	24	9	33	35
Incremental Risk Charge			426	438
Total Internal Model Approach	224	94	745	667
Standardised model ⁽¹⁾			113	37
Total Regulatory Capital			858	704
Market Risk Weighted Assets ⁽²⁾			11	9

(1) Standardised model is applied to FX positions in banking books.

(2) Amounts are in EUR billions

The increase in market risk Regulatory Capital for Trading as of 2014 is mainly due to stressed VaR increase driven by position changes in the Equity Derivatives books; and due to 10D VaR increase as a result of increased volatilities in emerging markets.

The increase in market risk Regulatory Capital for Foreign Exchange relates to the FX risk in the equity stake in ING Vysya Bank.

Sensitivities

As part of the risk monitoring framework, Market Risk Management Trading actively monitors the daily changes of sensitivities of our trading portfolios. The following tables show the five largest trading foreign exchange positions and interest rate and credit spread sensitivities. The credit spread sensitivities are furthermore split in different risk classes and sectors. Due to the nature of the trading portfolios, positions change from day to day.

Most important foreign exchange year-end trading positions				
	2014		2013	
Foreign exchange			Foreign exchange	
Chinese Yuan	282		Chinese Yuan	297
US Dollar	-257		US Dollar	-214
Swiss Franc	-65		Romanian Leu	46
Australian Dollar	40		Singapore Dollar	-21
South Korean Won	21		Taiwan Dollar	19

Most important interest rate and credit spread sensitivities at year-end

amounts in thousands of euros		2014		2013
Interest Rate (BPV ⁽¹⁾)			Interest Rate (BPV ⁽¹⁾)	
Euro		231	Euro	-302
Taiwan Dollar		75	Taiwan Dollar	48
Chinese Yuan		-47	Russian Ruble	-48
Polish Zloty		43	Romanian Leu	-27
Japanese Yen		34	South Korean Won	-25
Credit Spread (CSO1 ⁽²⁾)			Credit Spread (CSO1 ⁽²⁾)	
Netherlands		-702	Germany	-454
Germany		552	France	452
United States		115	Netherlands	-384
Russia		97	Austria	-86
Italy		-94	Russia	-79

(1) Basis Point Value (BPV) measures the impact on value of a 1 basis point increase in interest rates.

(2) Credit Spread Sensitivity (CSO1) measures the impact on value of a 1 basis point increase in credit spreads.

Credit spread sensitivities per risk class and sector at year-end

amounts in thousands of euros		2014		2013	
Credit Spread (CSO1⁽¹⁾)		Corporate	Financial Institutions	Corporate	Financial Institutions
Risk classes					
1	(AAA)	62	24	-4	-135
2-4	(AA)	-21	-100	-66	-74
5-7	(A)	21	-76	-58	-105
8-10	(BBB)	-52	-116	-28	-48
11-13	(BB)	-47	-45	-26	-37
14-16	(B)	-14	-18	-17	-9
17-22	(CCC and Problem Grade)	-44	-6	-42	-3
Not rated		-1	-1	-2	0
Total		-96	-338	-243	-411

(1) Credit Spread Sensitivity (CSO1) measures the impact on value of a 1 basis point increase in credit spreads.

Funding and liquidity risk

Introduction

Funding and liquidity risk is the risk that ING Bank or one of its subsidiaries cannot meet its financial liabilities when they come due, at reasonable cost and in a timely manner.

ING Bank incorporates funding and liquidity management in its business strategy. In order to optimise its funding and liquidity risk management ING Bank has developed a funding and liquidity risk framework aimed at maximising liquidity access and minimising funding risks and costs. The main objective of ING's funding and liquidity risk management is to maintain sufficient liquidity to ensure safe and sound operations under normal market circumstances and in times of stress.

Funding and liquidity risk includes three types of risk, two under normal, and one under stress conditions:

1. Business as usual situation:

- › **Structural funding & liquidity risk:** The potential negative impact on an organisation's income or cash position due to mismatches between expected liquidity tenors of assets and liabilities.
- › **Customer behaviour funding & liquidity risk:** The potential negative impact on an organisation's income or cash position due to liquidity options embedded in assets and liabilities that include a client behaviour risk.

2. Stress situation:

- › **Stress funding & liquidity risk:** The risk an organisation may become unable to meet its financial obligations when due, because insufficient cash is available or cannot be generated in time at a reasonable costs by attracting new unsecured funding or rolling over existing funding, or selling / repo-ing assets, potentially resulting in default.

Liquidity risk can materialise both through trading and non-trading positions.

Governance

Within ING Bank, next to the Management Board Bank, staff (Risk and Finance) departments, Capital Management and the Bank Treasury function have oversight of and are responsible for managing funding and liquidity risk.

Liquidity risk management within ING Bank falls under the supervision of the ALCO function, with ALCO Bank as the highest approval authority overseeing the execution of the overall strategy set by the Board.

ALCO Bank determines the liquidity risk (limit) framework and appetite after which this is cascaded down in the organisation under the responsibility of the regional and local ALCOs. ING Bank's liquidity risk framework is based on the three lines of defence concept, whereby risk principles are implemented, monitored and controlled in conjunction with both first and second line functions within the Bank.

The Management Board Bank defines the funding and liquidity strategy, target funding and liquidity position and the risk appetite based on recommendations from Bank Treasury, Capital Management, Market Risk Management and Finance.

The identification of liquidity risks is primarily a responsibility of the 1st line business management function.

Bank Treasury is a 1st line function. Its main funding and liquidity responsibilities are to manage ING's funding gap and ING's regulatory liquidity position. Bank Treasury is ING's primary contact to the market for long and short term funding, with exception of capital transactions which are under the responsibility of the Capital Management function and the execution of some specific structured funding products which are executed by Financial Markets under a mandate that provides strict guidance around pricing, volumes, optionalities and tenors.

The 2nd line Market Risk Management function is responsible for defining the governance with regard to funding and liquidity management. Next to this, Market Risk Management sets the standards for the funding and liquidity risk approach (identify, assess, control, monitor and report) and determines adequate policies and procedures for managing and monitoring liquidity risk in view of compliance with guidelines and limits.

Liquidity risk management framework

ING's liquidity risk management framework incorporates all relevant risk principles with regard to the daily and on-going management of funding and liquidity risk. The framework contains the following key elements:

- › *Liquidity risk appetite:* This is set by Management Board Bank in line with ING's complexity, business mix and liquidity risk profile and is reviewed on an annual basis by ALCO Bank and forms part of the input of business units in their medium term business plans. The defined risk appetite is allocated to the regional ALCO's.
- › *Funding:* The Bank Treasury function will set and update the funding strategy and funding planning, taking into account diversification in sources and tenor of funding.
- › *Intraday Liquidity Management:* Bank Treasury actively manages its short term liquidity positions and risks to meet payment and settlement obligations on a timely basis under both normal and stressed conditions.
- › *Collateral Position Management:* Bank Treasury actively manages the liquidity risk of its collateral positions to meet ING's collateral needs, and resources, under both normal and stressed conditions and in accordance with all internal and regulatory rules.
- › *Liquidity buffers:* ALCO Bank ensures that sufficient liquidity is maintained, in accordance with Bank- and regulatory rules and standards, including a buffer of unencumbered, high quality liquid assets, to withstand stress events, such as those involving the loss or impairment of both unsecured and secured funding sources.
- › *Liquidity risk transfer and pricing:* ALCO Bank sets and maintains a Funds Transfer Pricing (FTP) framework that optimises Bank-wide funding and liquidity risk management, whereby all business units must transfer their structural funding and liquidity risks to Bank Treasury whilst managing their own customer behaviour liquidity risk costs.
- › *Stress testing:* ALCO ensures that liquidity stress tests are planned, designed, conducted and reviewed, to identify sources of potential liquidity strain, to determine how these can and will be addressed and to ensure that current exposures remain within the established liquidity risk tolerance.
- › *Contingency Funding Plan:* ALCO ensures the design, regular test and maintenance of formal Contingency Funding planning, setting out the strategies for addressing liquidity shortfalls in emergency situations, outlining procedures to manage these situations, establishing clear lines of responsibility, and articulating clear implementation and escalation procedures.

Implementation of the framework

Liquidity risk appetite

ING's liquidity risk appetite is expressed in a set of limits to manage the level of liquidity risk ING is willing to take in the pursuit of its strategic objectives. These limits are embedded in risk appetite statements (RAS) which reflect three pillars of addressing risk:

- › Structural sources of risk:
 - › Limits on liquidity mismatches
 - › Limits on exposures to short term professional money markets
 - › Defining target Loan-to-Deposit ratios
- › Levels of liquidity:
 - › Compliance with regulatory requirements
 - › Adequate levels related to defined stress scenarios

- › Funding diversification:
 - › Limiting or reducing dependency on single providers
 - › Concentration limits per funding sources

Based on the above, ING Bank has defined the following funding and liquidity risk management risk appetite statements:

- › The structural mismatch in expected liquidity tenors of ING Bank's assets and liabilities per significant currency is manageable. Also refer to Note 45 in which 'Assets by contractual maturity' are shown.
- › Home/host regulatory liquidity limits must be pro-actively complied with.
- › The time-to-survive in a funding stress situation must extend over defined period, also depending on the level of stress applied.
- › Funding of all longer-term assets and investments must be done by stable and longer-term liabilities.
- › Geographical dependencies with respect to intra-group funding are to be limited.
- › Diversification must be in place of funding profile, across funds providers, instrument types, geographic markets, tenors and currencies.

The risk appetite statements are also directly linked to liquidity stress testing.

Funding

In detailing the activities of the bank regarding utilisation of professional market funding sources, the following key principles apply:

- › Maintaining adequate market access in both normal and stressed but operable market conditions.
- › Managing risk by adhering to internally and externally imposed risk limits and balance sheet ratios.
- › Optimising the cost of funding under the principles above.

With respect to funding sources, ING Bank manages its balance sheet prudently, whereby short-term funding is primarily utilised for funding short-term assets. The bank aims to fund all longer term assets and investments by stable and longer term liabilities. Next to this, ING Bank monitors exposures in major currencies such as the USD. Monitoring and control of this funding is effectuated through a dedicated USD funding and liquidity risk framework.

ING Bank reviews its funding plan on at least a quarterly basis, assessing market developments and funding requirements.

In 2014, ING Bank had readily access to a large variety of funding sources, both short term and long term.

In the table below, the various funding sources are presented in the funding mix:

ING Bank Funding Mix		
	2014	2013
Funding type		
Retail deposits	47%	46%
Corporate & other deposits	22%	23%
Interbank (incl. central bank)	6%	5%
Lending/repurchase agreement	4%	4%
Public debt	19%	20%
Subordinated debt	2%	2%
Total	100%	100%

The funding mix remained well diversified and according to targets set. Retail deposits accounted for 47% of the total funding mix, improved from 46% per 2013 year end. Ultimo 2014 the Loan-to-Deposit ratio (excluding securities at amortised costs) equals 1.04 (2013: 1.04).

Intraday liquidity management

The objective of managing intraday liquidity and its risks at ING is twofold: it is focused on preventing damage to the institution's own liquidity position, and, in light of its role in global financial markets, ING also takes into account the potential damage to other parties which can arise through chain effects in payment and securities transactions. Intraday liquidity management is managed through the risk appetite statement, by setting amongst others monitoring metrics and triggers on daily net negative liquidity positions and levels of payments outflows.

Collateral position management

The objective of the Collateral Management is to ascertain that ING Bank can at all times meet collateral requirements for ING's collateral needs.

Liquidity buffers

The liquidity buffer ING Bank holds can be seen as the short-term part of the counterbalancing capacity, i.e. the total of available sources and measures within ING to generate liquidity, and serves as a cushion for liquidity needs under normal and stressed conditions.

The size and composition of the Liquidity buffer depends on ING Bank's Risk Appetite (risk tolerance) and regulatory liquidity standards.

In the buffer, only assets that are included that are “unencumbered” and freely available for liquidity purposes.

Bank Treasury ensures central management of all liquidity buffers within ING Bank, both buffers at Bank level and buffers at local business unit level.

The liquidity buffer is held as an insurance against a range of stress scenarios, covering the additional need for liquidity that may arise over a defined short period of time under stress conditions. ING’s minimum standards for liquidity buffers are described below:

- › When local regulatory rules require so, local liquidity buffers can be established. Although locally established, these buffers must be centrally functionally managed by the BT function.
- › The buffer must be adequate in relation to the contractual and expected expiry calendars and other expected or planned developments.
- › The size of the buffers is supported by estimates of liquidity needs performed under the Bank’s or business entity’s stress testing and be aligned with the liquidity risk appetite.
- › The liquidity buffer is composed of cash and core assets that are eligible for the Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR) and/or highly marketable, which are not pledged to payment systems or clearing houses. For longer term buffer purposes, a broader set of liquid assets might be appropriate, subject to the Bank’s or entity’s ability to generate liquidity from them under stress, within the specified period of time.
- › The location and size of liquidity buffers reflects the Bank’s or entity’s structure (e.g. legal and geographical) and business activities.
- › The size and status of the buffers are reported to ALCO on a monthly basis.

As part of the liquidity buffer management, ING Bank also monitors the existing asset encumbrance. More information can be found in Pillar III.

Liquidity risk transfer and pricing

Funds Transfer Pricing (FTP) is an internal measurement and allocation system that assigns a profit contribution to funds raised, lent, or invested. FTP is the pricing mechanism used within ING to transfer interest rate risk, basis risk and liquidity risk positions from commercial units to Bank Treasury. The FTP framework enables local ALCOs to set their local FTP levels and manage these risks for all internal transfers at local level. This means that these risks are transferred from the business to a separate Bank Treasury book where they can be monitored and managed more efficiently and effectively. The liquidity costs, benefits and risks are considered in the product pricing, design and offering and in every relevant Product Approval and Review Process (PARP) or deal approval and other related processes for commercial products by the business units.

Stress testing

Stress testing allows a bank to examine the effect of exceptional but plausible future events on the liquidity position of the bank and provides insight into which entities, business lines or portfolios are vulnerable to which type of risks and/or in which type of scenarios. Liquidity stress testing is an important tool in identifying, assessing, measuring and controlling funding and liquidity risks, providing a complementary and forward-looking perspective to other liquidity and funding risk management tools.

In accordance with Dutch Central Bank guidelines, ING Bank’s liquidity positions are stress tested on a monthly basis under a scenario that is a mix between a market event and an ING Bank specific event. The outcome of stress tests is evaluated and provides input to any follow-up and additional contingency measures required.

In addition to the bank-wide stress test framework as described in the ING Bank risk profile section, ING Bank produces several stress test reports with respect to the funding and liquidity position on a regular basis. Some of these stress tests are regulatory driven, and others are based on internal stress scenarios:

- › On a weekly basis ING reports an internal liquidity stress scenario. This report shows the development of the liquidity buffer during a 3-month-stress period, on a consolidated (bank) level and for the main entities, and split in Euro and US Dollar.
- › On a monthly basis ING Bank reports a number of stress scenarios, either based on regulatory requirements:
 - › 1-month DNB liquidity buffer, according to DNB regulation;
 - › Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR), based on CRR/CRD IV or on own defined stress scenarios related to time-to-survive periods.

On ad-hoc basis ING Bank has performed additional stress tests related to the funding and liquidity position. Overall, stress testing is an integral part of the liquidity and funding risk management framework and also serves as input for the contingency funding plan. From a currency perspective, stress tests are applied on Euro and US Dollar whilst other currencies are monitored. This aligns with the Base3 and CRR approach with regard to major currencies.

Contingency funding plan

In the contingency funding plan, contingency liquidity risk is addressed which specifically relates to the organisation and planning of liquidity management in time of stress. Within ING Bank, for contingency purposes, a specific crisis team – consisting of key Board Members, representatives from staff departments (e.g. Finance, Risk and Capital Management) and Bank Treasury – is responsible for liquidity management in times of crisis. Throughout the organisation adequate and up-to-date contingency funding plans are in place to enable senior management to act effectively and efficiently in times of crisis. These contingency plans are tested on a regular basis, both centrally and at business unit level.

Regulatory developments

During 2014 there were many regulatory developments related to funding and liquidity. One of the most important was the finalisation of the Delegated Act by the European Commission, providing detailed guidance on the LCR, taking into account comments from the industry as well as European Union specificities.

Next to this additional guidance has been provided on a broad range of additional regulatory reporting requirements such as asset encumbrance and monitoring metrics. At the end of October, the BCBS published a final version of the Net Stable Funding Ratio, which will be implemented by 2018. In the coming years, both the EBA and the EC will review how the NSFR will be implemented in the EU.

In November 2014, the European Central Bank ('ECB') assumed responsibility for a significant part of the prudential supervision of banks in the Eurozone, including ING Bank, following a year-long preparatory phase, which included an in-depth comprehensive assessment of the resilience and balance sheets of the biggest banks in the Eurozone. ING Bank was among the seven Dutch institutions covered by the assessment (out of 130 institutions overall). While the ECB has assumed the supervisory tasks conferred on it by the Single Supervisory Mechanism ('SSM') Regulation, the DNB will still continue to play a big role in the supervision of ING Bank. The SSM has created a new system of financial supervision for countries within the Eurozone, with the possibility of non-Eurozone Member States participating by means of close cooperation. With the SSM only having been in place since November 2014, it is difficult at this stage to identify what exact impact the SSM will have on ING Bank. The SSM may have a significant impact on the way ING's banking operations are supervised in Europe.

Non-financial risk

Introduction

The Non-Financial Risk (NFR) department encompasses the operational and compliance risk management functions. It ensures appropriate risk controls in these functional areas by implementing clear policies and minimum standards which are embedded in ING Bank business processes in all divisions. The necessary infrastructure is in place to enable management to track events and non-financial risk issues. A comprehensive system of internal controls creates an environment of continuous improvement in managing non-financial risk.

ING Bank believes that fully embedding controls preserves and enhances the trust of its customers, staff and shareholders and so is essential to building sustainable businesses. ING Bank's Business Principles set the foundation for the high ethical standards ING Bank expects of all business activities. ING Bank's Business Principles require all staff to conduct themselves, not only within the spirit and letter of laws and regulations, but also with integrity, whilst being open and clear, respectful, and responsible.

Governance

At all levels in the organisation Non-Financial Risk Committees (NFRCs) are established to appropriately measure, manage and monitor the operational and compliance risks of a business unit or region and to ensure that appropriate management action is taken. NFRCs, chaired by the CEO of the entity, steer the risk management activities of the first and second line of defence in their entities. The Bank NFRC is the primary approval and oversight committee for non-financial risk matters.

The Head of Non-Financial Risk is responsible for developing the framework of non-financial risk policies and standards within ING Bank and for monitoring the quality of non-financial risk management in the divisions. The Non-Financial Risk Dashboard provides management on regional, divisional and Bank level with an overview of key risks within the NFR risk areas including compliance risks, information security risks, continuity risks, governance and control risks, fraud and unauthorised activities risks and personal and physical security risks, enabling management to focus and set priorities.

The Chief Compliance Officer (CCO) is the general manager of the compliance risk management department and the Head of the Compliance function within the Bank. The CCO reports functionally to the Chief Risk Officer and hierarchically to the Head of Non-Financial Risk. This is an independent function responsible for developing and establishing the Bank-wide compliance risk management charter & framework which establishes the policies and minimum standards for managing compliance risks. The CCO assists and supports the Management Board Banking in managing ING Bank's compliance risks and control framework.

The non-financial risk department uses a layered functional approach within divisions to ensure systematic and consistent implementation of the framework of policies and minimum standards within ING Bank. To avoid potential conflicts of interests, it is imperative that the staff working in the department is impartial and objective when advising business management on non-financial risk matters in their business unit or business line. To facilitate this, a strong functional reporting line to the next higher level within ORM and Compliance is in place. The functional reporting line has clear accountabilities with regard to objective setting, remuneration, performance management and appointment of new staff as well as obligations to veto and escalate.

Framework

ING Bank has a comprehensive framework for operational and compliance risks. This supports and governs the process of identifying, measuring, mitigating, monitoring and reporting non-financial risks thus reflecting the stages described in the Enterprise Risk Management model of COSO (Committee of Sponsoring Organisations of the Treadway Commission).

The risk appetite (defined as the acceptable and authorised maximum level of risk) is set by the Bank NFRC. Adherence to this risk appetite is monitored quarterly through the Non-Financial Risk Dashboard which reports the key non-financial risk exposures.

Processes are in place to identify key threats, vulnerabilities and the associated risks which might cause adverse events. Event identification is performed proactively and precedes a risk assessment. Different techniques for event identification exist within ING Bank, e.g. Risk & Control Self-Assessments, scenario analysis, external events inventories, internal incident analyses (e.g. lessons learned based on information from incident reporting), key risk indicators and threat scans.

Business units and departments perform regular Business Environment Assessments (BEAs) and Risk & Control Self-Assessments (RCSAs) to identify and assess risks. These are conducted with involvement of the business and their Operational Risk, Compliance and Legal departments. Based on the results of the risk assessment, response measures must be determined for the identified risks beyond the risk appetite. Risk response actions balance the expected cost for implementing these measures with the expected benefits regarding the risk reduction. Risk response can be achieved through several combinations of mitigation strategies, for example reducing likelihood of occurrence, reducing impact, risk avoidance, risk acceptance or through the transfer of risk. Tracking takes place through ING Bank's central risk management system.

The yearly objective setting process for both business management and NFR professionals aims to keep improving the management of NFR risk throughout ING Bank to ensure that ING Bank stays in control of its current and future NFR risks.

Advanced Measurement Approach (AMA)

ING Bank has an Operational Risk Capital model in place in which the risk profile is closely tailored to the internal profile of ING Bank and its divisions by using scenario data for capturing severe risks and internal loss and Risk & Control Self-Assessment data for capturing day-to-day risks. The business has a strong role in assessing scenario severities and the Operational Risk Management function in validating the results. The internal data based calculation is combined with an external loss data (ORX) based calculation. In April 2013 ING Bank obtained accreditation for use of its enhanced AMA model for regulatory supervision purposes. In 2014, the set of scenarios has been further extended in such areas as cybercrime and compliance risk. ING Bank reports the regulatory capital numbers on a quarterly basis. The AMA capital for the fourth quarter of 2014 amounts to EUR 2,700 million. For the fourth quarter of 2013 the AMA capital amounted to EUR 2,822 million. ING Bank is currently not using any insurance or risk transfer mechanisms for the mitigation of risk in the context of the AMA capital calculation.

Operational risk

Operational risk is defined as the risk of direct or indirect loss resulting from inadequate or failed internal processes, people and systems or from external events. It includes the related risk of reputation loss, as well as legal risk but strategic risks are not included.

Given the heavy reliance on IT systems in financial institutions, controls that monitor the various aspects of IT risk, such as integrity and confidentiality, are embedded in ING Bank's risk and control framework.

Main developments in 2014

Internal and external fraud

ING Bank is continuously working on strengthening its global fraud resilience including enhanced collaboration against cybercrime. Developing applications, or exploring and combining existing data search tools that can be used for behavioural monitoring are becoming more and more important in both internal and external fraud prevention and are being further developed into an effective set of organisational controls.

The risk of clients and ING staff being targeted by fraudsters using social engineering techniques to execute payments has increased. Efforts are undertaken to mitigate the risk such as creating awareness for customer relationship departments about this type of fraud and communication to the customers and staff targeted by these fraudsters. ING Bank continues to strengthen its control environment for manually initiated payments by clients as fraudsters are increasingly shifting their interest to the end-user. ING Bank continues to stringently monitor both this type of fraud and new emerging fraud methodologies.

Cybercrime

Cybercrime is an increasing threat to companies in general and to financial institutions specifically. Both the frequency and the intensity of attacks are increasing at a global scale. In 2014 ING has successfully finished its Cybercrime Resilience Programme to become more mature in being able to protect, detect and respond to e-banking fraud, Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) and targeted attacks (also called Advanced Persistent Threats). The Cybercrime Resilience Programme has handed over the Cybercrime activities to the line organisation to ensure structural embedding.

ING Bank is continuously working on strengthening its global cybercrime resilience including strengthened collaboration against cybercrime with the financial industry, law enforcement authorities, government (e.g. National Cyber Security Center) and Internet Service Providers (ISPs).

Compliance risk

Compliance risk is defined as the risk of impairment of ING Bank's integrity as a result of failure (or perceived failure) to comply with relevant laws, regulations, ING Bank policies and standards and the ING Bank Business Principles. In addition to reputational damage, failure to effectively manage compliance risks could expose ING Bank to fines, civil and criminal penalties, and payment of damages, court orders and suspension or revocation of licenses, which would adversely impact customers, staff, shareholders and other stakeholders of ING Bank.

The compliance risk management function supports management in mitigating the compliance risks and by establishing a compliance control framework derived from laws, regulations and standards. The compliance risk management function actively educates and supports the business in managing compliance risks related, but not limited to, money laundering, terrorist financing, sanction and export control compliance, conflicts of interest, mis-selling, corruption and protection of customer interests.

ING Bank categorises compliance risk into four conduct-related integrity risk areas: client conduct, personal conduct, organisational conduct and financial conduct. ING Bank has a Whistleblower Policy which encourages staff to speak up if they know or suspect a breach of external regulations, internal policies or Business Principles.

Financial Economic Crime ("FEC") policy

The ING Bank FEC Policy provides a clear statement of what is required by all ING Bank entities in order to guard against any involvement in criminal activity, and to participate in international efforts to combat money laundering and the funding of terrorist and criminal activities. The requirements in the ING Bank FEC Policy cover minimum standards and controls related to: money laundering, terrorist financing, export trade controls, proliferation financing, sanctions (economic, financial and trade) and countries designated by ING Bank as Ultra High Risk Countries (UHRC). The effectiveness of those controls is reviewed periodically.

The ING Bank FEC Policy directly reflects relevant national and international laws, regulations and industry standards. The ING Bank FEC Policy is mandatory and applies to all ING banking entities, majority owned ING business, businesses under management control, staff departments, product lines and to all client engagements and transactions.

Management of ING Bank entities maintain appropriate local procedures that enable them to comply with local laws, regulations and the relevant ING Bank FEC Policy. Where local laws and regulations are more stringent, the local laws and regulations are applied. Likewise the FEC Policy prevails when the standards therein are stricter than stipulated in local laws and regulations and if not specifically forbidden (data privacy or bank secrecy).

As a result of frequent evaluation of all businesses from economic, strategic and risk perspectives ING Bank continues to believe that for business reasons doing business involving certain specified countries should be discontinued. In that respect, ING has a policy not to enter into new relationships with clients from these countries and processes remain in place to discontinue existing relationships involving these countries. At present these countries are North Korea, Sudan, Syria, Iran and Cuba. Each of these countries is subject to a variety of EU, US and other sanctions regimes. Cuba, Iran, Sudan, and Syria are identified by the US as state sponsors of terrorism and are subject to U.S. economic sanctions and export controls.

Within ING Bank the so-called Sanctions Risk Assessment (SRA) procedure has been developed and implemented within Lending Services. With this procedure all transactions within Lending Services go through a Transaction Due Diligence process in a standardised manner. The outcome of the SRA determines the level of contractual language that is being included in the deal documentation. The SRA takes into consideration the direct and indirect nexus a customer/deal has towards certain countries and sectors. A further roll-out into other business areas of ING is in progress.

Mid 2014 both the US and the EU announced Ukraine-related sanctions. Those sanctions restrict amongst others the dealing in specific (financial) products with certain named parties. Management of ING Bank entities use their existing control framework to ensure compliance with these sanctions.

Main developments in 2014

Whistleblower Ethics Line

ING has an Ethics Line which makes it possible for all ING staff to report suspected cases of wrongdoing on a fully anonymous basis. This Ethics Line is fully independent of ING and operational since Q1 2014.

Compliance Conduct Risk Monitoring

Compliance developed a new methodology in order to assess the working of soft controls in relation to compliance risks. This methodology will be rolled out through the compliance function in 2015 as part of the existing compliance framework. This new approach supports the ambition of ING to secure an integrity-led culture.

Corruption risk

ING Bank set up a programme to create a statutory framework in respect of sound and ethical operations designed to prevent corruption in the form of conflicts of interest and/or bribery.

Regulator relationships

Bank Compliance Risk Management continued its policy of investing in pro-active relationship building with regulators in the jurisdictions where ING Bank operates, by striving for an open two-way approach to communication and cooperation in identifying and mitigating compliance risks for ING Bank as well as seeking to contribute to the regulatory debate going forwards.

Awareness

Promoting Integrity Programme

The Promoting Integrity Programme was started in 2010 and is an innovative programme consisting of e-modules on key bank-wide topics and follow-up dialogue sessions in which managers discuss the issues raised with their teams. The programme is sponsored by

board members and senior managers and is created to ensure that every employee in every part of ING understands how their actions and behaviour can help earn and retain customer and stakeholder trust. The modules consist of several case studies and real life examples which require staff to think about various aspects of the issue. Each module also includes a statement from a senior manager. The topics covered in 2014 were:

› **Cybercrime**

An introduction to cybercrime, focusing on how cybercriminals operate and the risks that cybercrime creates for employees, ING and our customers. By using practical examples staff are challenged to think about what can be done to minimise cybercrime risks.

› **Personal Responsibility**

In this module several Compliance, Operational Risk and Legal topics are covered. Practical examples are supported by an engaging video whereby staff are challenged to think about the need to identify risks and to take personal responsibility when they see something that is not right.

Learning

Global education and awareness training in the form of e-learning modules was provided on topics such as Financial Economic Crime (FEC), Sanctions and Ultra High Risk Countries, Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA), Gifts, Entertainment and Anti-Bribery (GEAB) and Competition Law. Furthermore, there were end of year campaigns for GEAB and anti-corruption to strengthen awareness.

A compliance curriculum and learning path was developed and rolled out for all compliance staff worldwide, providing information on compliance-related training available in the ING Learning Centre and recommended external trainings. Also a mandatory Compliance Induction e-module was introduced for new staff in ING Bank in the Netherlands.

Classroom sessions were delivered on other specialist topics. This included training in introduction programmes for new staff and talent programmes. A new training was introduced for staff in ING Bank worldwide who are new to the Operational Risk function. Compliance Risk Management continued its mandatory international Compliance Officer Training programme for all new compliance officers in ING Bank worldwide.

In addition, regular global calls were organised on various topical subjects to provide advice and clarification to NFR staff and provide the opportunity to ask questions.

Business risk

Business Risk for ING Bank has been defined as the exposure to value loss due to fluctuations in volumes, margins and costs, as well as customer behaviour risk. It is the risk inherent to strategy decisions and internal efficiency. The calculation of business risk capital is done by calculation of two components,

- 1) Expense risk relates to the (in)flexibility to adjust expenses, when that is needed.
- 2) Customer behaviour risk relates to clients behaving differently than expected and the effect that this behaviour can have on customer deposits and mortgage pre-payments. The customer behaviour risk is calculated by stressing the underlying assumptions in the models for behavioural assets and liabilities.

Each of these components is calculated separately, and combined to one business risk figure via the variance-covariance methodology.

Capital management

Objectives

ING Group Capital Management (Capital Management) is responsible for the adequate capitalisation of ING Group and ING Bank entities at all times in order to manage the risk associated with ING's business activities. This involves not only the management, planning and allocation of capital within ING Group and ING Bank, but also the necessary capital market transactions, term (capital) funding and risk management transactions. ING takes an integrated approach to assessing the adequacy of its capital position in relation to its risk profile and its operating environment. This implies taking into account the interests of its various stakeholders. Capital Management takes into account the metrics and requirements of regulators, rating agencies and internal metrics such as Economic Capital (EC).

ING applies the following main capital definitions

- ▶ Common equity Tier 1 capital, Tier 1 capital and total BIS capital – Tier 1 capital is defined as shareholders' equity plus hybrid capital less regulatory adjustments. Common equity Tier 1, Tier 1 and BIS capital divided by risk-weighted assets equal the Common equity Tier 1, Tier 1 and BIS ratio respectively. Common equity Tier 1 capital is equal to Tier 1 capital excluding hybrid capital;
- ▶ Adjusted Equity (ING Group) – This rating agency concept is defined as shareholders' equity plus core Tier 1 securities, hybrid capital and prudential filters. See 'Capital Base' disclosures in this section. This capital definition is applied in comparing available capital to Group debt for ING Group;
- ▶ EC – ING Bank uses Internal economic capital models to allocate capital for unexpected losses given 99.95% confidence level. These models capture credit risk, market risk, operational risks, business risks as well as diversification.

Developments

In 2014, Capital Management's main focus remained executing the Group restructuring programme while ensuring it has sufficient loss-absorbing capacity to cope with severe unexpected losses without jeopardising our business as usual. In terms of the restructuring programme, ING completed the disentanglement from the Dutch State in 2014 while ensuring an orderly exit from Insurance activities.

In February 2014, ING together with the Dutch State completed the unwinding of the Illiquid Assets Back-Up Facility (IABF). The Dutch State has sold the remaining USD 11.5 billion of securities in the portfolio through three auctions at an average price of 77.3%. The proceeds were used to pay off the remaining loans from ING. Together with the settlement of fees, the unwinding resulted in a cash profit for the Dutch State of EUR 1.4 billion in 2014.

In March 2014, ING Group repaid the penultimate EUR 1.225 billion non-voting equity securities (core Tier 1 securities) to the Dutch State. ING Bank paid a dividend to ING Group to facilitate the payment. ING Group's financial position allowed us to accelerate the final payment of EUR 1.025 billion to November 2014, six months ahead of the schedule as agreed with the European Commission. ING has now completely repaid the EUR 10 billion non-voting equity securities issued in 2008 as well as EUR 3.5 billion in premiums and coupons. The total repayment of EUR 13.5 billion equates to a 12.7% internal rate of return for the Dutch State.

In January 2014 ING has completed, as already announced in 2013, the sale of 37.7 million units in SulAmérica to Swiss Re Group. This transaction further reduced ING's stake in the Brazilian insurance holding to approximately 10%.

The remaining bonds issued under the Credit Guarantee Scheme of the State of the Netherlands were fully repaid in March 2014. ING Group paid a fee of 84 basis points over the issued bonds to the Dutch State to participate in the Credit Guarantee Scheme in 2009.

ING Group executed several transactions to bring down its stake in Voya Financial, Inc (Voya). ING Group sold shares of Voya in March 2014, September 2014 and November 2014 for a total consideration of EUR 2.8 billion. At the end of 2014, ING's stake in Voya was approximately 18.86%. On 4 March 2015, ING completed the divestment of all remaining Voya shares for total proceeds of approximately EUR 1.8 billion.

In June 2014, ING Group sold the last tranche of its stake in SulAmérica for total proceeds of EUR 180 million.

ING Group's successful IPO of NN Group in July 2014 generated approximately EUR 2 billion proceeds and reduced its shareholding to 68.1%. As of the third quarter of 2014, NN Group is accounted for as an investment in associate held for sale. On 17 February, ING announced the sale of 52 million NN Group shares for total proceeds of EUR 1.2 billion. Following this transaction ING Group's stake in NN Group was reduced to 54.6%.

During 2014, all net capital flows related to the sale of insurance related activities as disclosed in Note 57 'Other events' enabled ING Group to reduce Group debt from EUR 4.9 billion at the end of 2013 to EUR 1.5 billion at the end of 2014.

ING executed on other capital transactions as well. Firstly, in February 2014, ING has finalised the agreement in which it is released from all future financial obligations arising out of the closed Defined Benefit (DB) Pension Plan in the Netherlands. The Dutch DB Plan has ceased to be accounted for as a defined benefit plan and the Pension Asset related to this plan has accordingly been removed from ING's balance sheet as of the first quarter 2014. The after-tax P&L impact of the agreement was approximately EUR -1.1 billion. Of this P&L impact, EUR -0.7 billion has been attributed to ING Bank and EUR -0.4 billion to NN Group. For ING Group, the removal of these financial obligations and the subsequent removal of a cross guarantee between ING Bank and NN Group was an important step towards the IPO of NN Group.

In addition, under the IAS 19 accounting rules, 'unrecognised actuarial gains and losses' on defined benefit pension plans are recognised immediately in equity, which increases volatility driven by movements in financial markets. The transfer of the obligations connected to the current Dutch DB Plan removes this source of volatility for both Bank and Insurance. It also removes the potential direct negative impact on capital in the event of a net pension liability. Consequently, the agreement has made the capital position more stable.

Secondly, ING redeemed EUR 1.5 billion 8% ING Group hybrid capital on the call date of 18 April 2014 which has reduced the level of Tier 1 securities in the capital base. It was replaced in ING Bank's capital structure by the EUR 1.5 billion 3.625% CRD-IV eligible Tier 2 security that was successfully issued in February 2014 by ING Bank. NN Group redeemed EUR 1.2 billion of ING Group hybrids in the third quarter of 2014, further disentangling NN Group from ING Group. These hybrids were subsequently on-lent to ING Bank as CRR/CRD IV eligible securities thus improving the Tier 1 capital base.

In 2014, ING participated in the targeted longer-term refinancing operations ('TLTRO') of the European Central Bank for an amount of EUR 5.7 billion. The TLTRO aims to stimulate lending to the real economy in the Eurozone. The interest rate on the TLTRO's is fixed over the life of each operation plus a fixed spread of 10 basis points above the ECB refinancing year rate. Counterparties that have borrowed in the TLTROs but whose eligible net lending in the period from 1 May 2014 to 30 April 2016 is below the benchmark will be required to pay back their borrowings in September 2016. Interest will be paid in arrears when the TLTRO is repaid. Starting 24 months after each TLTRO, ING has the option to repay any part of the amounts allotted in that TLTRO at a six-month frequency.

Policies

The activities of Capital Management are executed on the basis of established policies, guidelines and procedures. For the Capital Treasury there are additional policies and limits that guide the management of the balance sheets and the execution of capital market transactions.

Processes for managing capital

In addition to measuring capital adequacy, Capital Management also ensures that sufficient capital is available through setting targets and limits relevant to the above mentioned metrics for ING Group and ING Bank and ensuring adherence to the set limits and targets through planning and executing capital management transactions. The ongoing assessment and monitoring of capital adequacy is embedded in Capital Management's capital planning process. Following the annual budgeting process, each year a capital plan is prepared for the Group as a whole and each of its material businesses. This plan is updated on a quarterly basis and it is assessed to what extent additional management actions are required. At all times maintaining sufficient financial flexibility should be preserved to meet important financial objectives. At the foundation of the capital plan are ING's risk appetite statements that determine target setting. These constraints are being cascaded to the different businesses in line with our risk management strategy.

Important inputs to the capital planning and management process are provided by stress testing that is performed on a regular basis. These stress tests focus on topical issues and the sensitivity of the Group's capital position to certain risks. These analyses provide input that help to steer strategic direction. Setting policies for recovery planning and resolution are a natural extension of ING's capital management policies and follow ING's risk management framework seamlessly.

Capital adequacy assessment

As at 1 January 2014, the CRR/CRD IV capital rules entered into force. The capital position table on the next page reflects own funds according to the Basel III rules as specified in the CRR/CRD IV. As CRD IV will be phased in gradually until 2019, the table shows the CRD IV positions according to the 2019 end-state rules and the 2014 rules. This makes clear which items phase in directly, which phase in gradually and which not yet in 2014. In addition, ING not only reports these metrics for ING Bank, but as of the fourth quarter of 2014 also introduced this analysis for ING Group. During 2014, ING Group and ING Bank were adequately capitalised.

ING capital position according to CRR/CRD IV

	(fully loaded)		(phased in)	
	Group 2014	Bank 2014	Group 2014	Bank 2014
Shareholders' equity (parent)	50,424	38,064	50,424	38,064
– Deductions of significant investments in financial institutions	-14,103		-4,631	
– Proposed dividend	-470		-470	
– Other adjustments	-4,339	-4,395	-4,780	-4,808
Regulatory adjustments	-18,912	-4,395	-9,881	-4,808
Available common equity Tier 1 capital	31,512	33,668	40,543	33,256
Additional Tier 1 securities ⁽¹⁾	5,727	5,727	5,727	5,727
Regulatory adjustments additional Tier 1	0	0	-5,727	-1,883
Available Tier 1 capital	37,239	39,395	40,543	37,100
Supplementary capital Tier 2 bonds ⁽²⁾	9,371	9,371	9,371	9,371
Regulatory adjustments Tier 2	103	103	-6,081	-456
Available BIS capital	46,713	48,869	43,834	46,015
Risk weighted assets ⁽³⁾	300,758	296,427	300,647	296,319
Common equity Tier 1 ratio	10.48%	11.36%	13.49%	11.22%
Tier 1 ratio	12.38%	13.29%	13.49%	12.52%
BIS ratio	15.53%	16.49%	14.58%	15.53%

(1) For ING Group: of which EUR 5,727 million to be replaced as capital recognition is subject to CRR/CRD IV grandfathering rules. This amount is presented net of positions on-lent to Insurance. For ING Bank: of which EUR 1,988 million is CRR/CRD IV compliant and EUR 3,739 million to be replaced as capital recognition subject to CRR/CRDIV grandfathering rules.

(2) Of which EUR 5,778 million is CRR/CRD IV-compliant and EUR 3,593 million to be replaced as capital recognition is subject to CRR/CRD IV grandfathering rules.

(3) The fully loaded RWA deviated from the phased-in RWA as a result of higher market values, the significant investments in Financial Institutions for the Bank exceeded 10% of CET1 capital. Only the amount up to this limit (which is lower phased-in than fully loaded) is to be 250% risk weighted, while the excess is deducted.

ING Group

Group capital position: Deductions of significant investments in financial institutions

	(fully loaded)		(phased in)	
	Group 2014	Group 2014	Group 2014	Group 2014
Shareholders' equity (parent)	50,424		50,424	
Deductions	-4,809		-5,250	
Group's eligible common equity Tier 1 capital	45,615		45,175	
NN Group equity (carrying value)	13,549		13,549	
Voya equity (market value)	1,591		1,591	
Bank of Beijing (market value)	2,090		2,090	
Other significant investments	1,434		1,434	
Total significant investments in FIs	18,664		18,664	
10% of Group's common equity Tier 1	-4,561		-4,517	
Total deduction	14,103		14,147	
Deduction common equity Tier 1 capital	14,103		4,631	
Deduction Tier 1 capital			3,857	
Deduction BIS capital			5,659	

As per 31 December 2014 the total amount of available distributable items following the CRD IV definition is EUR 36,228 million up from EUR 34,693 million in 2013.

ING Group available distributable items according to the CRR/CRD IV

	2014	2013
Share premium	16,046	16,038
Other reserve	21,597	23,268
Share of associate reserve	11,853	7,144
Non distributable	-13,719	-12,340
Total	35,777	34,110
Interest expenses on own fund instruments	451	583
Distributable items	36,228	34,693

ING Group's Capital base

	2014	2013 ⁽¹⁾
Shareholders' equity (parent)	50,424	45,776
Core Tier 1 securities		1,500
Group hybrid capital ⁽²⁾	6,631	7,493
Group debt ⁽³⁾	1,492	4,910
Total capitalisation	58,547	59,679
Adjustments to equity:		
Revaluation reserve debt securities	-7,755	-4,227
Revaluation reserve crediting to life policyholders	3,765	2,914
Revaluation reserve cash flow hedge	-3,877	-1,878
Goodwill ⁽⁴⁾	-1,060	-1,160
Defined benefit remeasurement	504	2,671
Revaluation reserves fixed income & other	-8,423	-1,680
Group debt	-1,492	-4,910
Total Adjusted Equity for Group	48,632	53,089

(1) Shareholders' equity for 2013 has been restated to reflect the changes in accounting policies as disclosed in the section 'Changes in accounting policies in 2014' on page 108.

(2) Tier 1 instruments issued by ING Group (e.g. perpetual debt securities and preference shares) at nominal value. Group hybrid Tier 1 instruments other than preference shares are provided as hybrid capital to ING Bank or NN Group. Hybrid capital securities are perpetual fixed income securities with an embedded call and coupon deferral feature. All hybrids capital securities rank senior to core tier 1 securities and ordinary shares of ING Group and they are structurally subordinated to the senior debt instruments issued by ING Groep N.V. More details on terms and conditions can be found on www.ing.com.

(3) Investments in subsidiaries less equity (including core Tier 1 securities) of the Group holding company. This net debt position is provided as equity to NN Group and ING Bank.

(4) According to the regulatory definition.

Regulatory requirements

Capital adequacy and the use of regulatory required capital are based on the guidelines developed by the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision (The Basel Committee) and the European Union Directives, as implemented by the Dutch Central Bank (DNB until 3 November 2014, the ECB thereafter) for supervisory purposes. In 2010 the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision issued new solvency and liquidity requirements, which superseded Basel II. The minimum common equity Tier 1 ratio is 4.5%, the minimum Tier 1 requirement is 6% and the total capital ratio (known as the BIS ratio) is 8% of all risk-weighted assets. Basel III requires Banks to hold a capital of at least 80% of the old Basel I requirements, which was 8% of the RWAs as calculated with the Basel I methodology. This Basel I floor has been extended until the end of 2017.

Capital adequacy and ratios

Quantitative disclosure on capital measurements and ratios

	Group		Bank	
	2014 ⁽¹⁾	2013	2014 ⁽¹⁾	2013 ⁽²⁾
Common equity Tier 1 ratio				
Year-end actual CET 1 ratio	13.5%		11.2%	11.7%
Minimum CET 1 ratio	4.5%		4.5%	2.0%
Tier 1 ratio				
Year-end actual Tier 1 ratio	13.5%		12.5%	13.5%
Minimum Tier 1 ratio	6.0%		6.0%	4.0%
BIS ratio				
Year-end actual BIS ratio	14.6%		15.5%	16.5%
Minimum BIS ratio	8.0%		8.0%	8.0%
Debt/Equity ratio (Group)				
Debt/Equity ratio	3.0%	8.5%		

(1) Basel III phased in

(2) Basel II

The common equity Tier 1 ratio, Tier 1 ratio and BIS ratio are regulatory requirements for ING Group NV and ING Bank NV. It is our understanding that the regulatory guidance level for the Group CET1 will be in excess of 10.5% while we have an ambition for ING Bank to have a CET1 of more than 10%. The actual ratios at the end of 2014 were well in excess of these levels.

ING Group reports to the Dutch Central Bank as required under the Dutch implementation of the financial conglomerates directive (FICO). The directive mainly covers risk concentrations in the group, intra-group transactions and an assessment of the capital adequacy of the Group.

In the following table, we show the Group's FICO ratio on the following basis:

- › Insurance required capital from applying European Solvency I rules to all NN Group entities globally (regardless of local capital requirements). The total carrying value of the Voya stake is considered as required capital;
- › Bank required capital based on applying the CRR/CRD IV with the Basel I floor (80% of Basel I Risk Weighted Assets);
- › Group FICO capital using an approach similar to that used for Bank BIS capital and Insurance IGD capital whereby Group leverage is deducted.

Group debt decreased from EUR -4.9 billion at year-end 2013 to EUR -1.5 billion at 31 December 2014.

Regulatory capital adequacy ING Group

	2014	2013 ⁽¹⁾
BIS capital ⁽²⁾	46,015	45,287
IGD capital Insurance operations	15,764	20,783
Group debt	-1,491	-4,910
Regulatory capital	60,287	61,160
Required capital banking operations	27,501	26,913
Required capital insurance operations	6,274	8,146
Total required capital	33,775	35,059
FICO ratio	178%	174%

(1) The 2013 numbers have been restated to reflect the changes made in the IGD computation for NN Group NV and to adjust the ING Bank NV phased in numbers according to 2014 rules.

(2) Based on ING Bank phased in.

ICAAP/SREP process

On a yearly basis ING Bank N.V. submits extensive documentation on the Internal Capital Adequacy Assessment Process (ICAAP) to its regulator as prescribed in the Basel II and Basel III frameworks. This documentation includes a description of ING's internal capital models, its risk appetite framework, an asset quality analysis and a capital planning, both under normal circumstances and in certain stressed scenarios. This documentation is an important input for the regulator's Supervisory Review and Evaluation Process (SREP) resulting in a letter to ING Management. With the change in supervision from the Dutch Central Bank to the European Central Bank in November 2014, the SREP is for the first time conducted by the ECB. The regulatory 2014 guidance indicated that the minimum capital ratios ECB considers adequate for ING Bank consolidated are sufficiently covered by ING's own capital standards. In addition the regulator examines on a regular basis ING's internal models and processes, which resulted in several add-ons on ING's economic capital requirements. Nevertheless ING capital position is more than sufficient to meet these requirements and as such these add-ons do not lead to incremental capital requirements compared to what results from ING's own assessment.

Main credit ratings of ING at 31 December 2014

	Standard & Poor's		Moody's		Fitch	
	rating	outlook	rating	outlook	rating	outlook
ING Groep N.V.						
– long-term	A-	negative	A3	negative	A	negative
– short-term	A-1		P-2		F1	
ING Bank N.V.						
– long-term	A	negative	A2	negative	A+	negative
– short-term	A-1		P-1		F1+	

ING's key credit ratings and outlook are shown in the table above. Each of these ratings reflects only the view of the applicable rating agency at the time the rating was issued, and any explanation of the significance of a rating may be obtained only from the rating agency.

A security rating is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold securities and each rating should be evaluated independently of any other rating. There is no assurance that any credit rating will remain in effect for any given period of time or that a rating will not be lowered, suspended or withdrawn entirely by the rating agency if, in the rating agency's judgment, circumstances so warrant. ING accepts no responsibility for the accuracy or reliability of the ratings.

Authorisation of annual accounts

Amsterdam, 16 March 2015

The Supervisory Board

J. (Jeroen) van der Veer, *chairman*
J.C.L. (Joost) Kuiper, *vice-chairman*
E.F.C.B. (Eric) Boyer de la Giroday
H.W. (Henk) Breukink
I. (Isabel) Martín Castellá
C.W. (Carin) Gorter
H.J. (Hermann-Josef) Lamberti
R.W.P. (Robert) Reibestein

The Executive Board

R.A.J.G. (Ralph) Hamers, *CEO and chairman*
P.G. (Patrick) Flynn, *CFO*
W.F. (Wilfred) Nagel, *CRO*

Parent company balance sheet

as at 31 December before appropriation of result

amounts in millions of euros	2014	2013
Assets		
Investments in group companies 1	51,735	52,495
Other assets 2	13,757	9,637
Total assets	65,492	62,132
Equity 3		
Share capital	925	921
Share premium	16,046	16,038
Non-voting equity securities		1,500
Legal reserves ⁽¹⁾	11,856	5,714
Other reserves	20,346	19,558
Unappropriated result	1,251	3,545
Total equity	50,424	47,276
Liabilities		
Subordinated loans 4	8,096	7,977
Other liabilities 5	6,972	6,879
Total liabilities	15,068	14,856
Total equity and liabilities	65,492	62,132

(1) Legal reserves includes Share of associates and joint ventures reserve of EUR 11,853 million (2013: EUR 7,144 million) and Currency translation reserve of EUR 3 million (2013: EUR -1,430 million).

References relate to the notes starting on page 329. These form an integral part of the parent company annual accounts.

Parent company profit and loss account

for the years ended 31 December

amounts in millions of euros	2014	2013
Result of group companies after taxation	3,380	3,565
Other results after taxation	-2,129	-20
Net result	1,251	3,545

Parent company statement of changes in equity

amounts in millions of euros	Share capital	Share premium	Non-voting equity securities	Share of associates and joint ventures reserves	Currency translation reserve	Other reserves ⁽¹⁾	Total
Balance as at 1 January 2013 (before change in accounting policy)	919	16,034	2,250	12,749	-963	23,038	54,027
Effect of change in accounting policy						-474	-474
Balance as at 1 January 2013 (after change in accounting policy)	919	16,034	2,250	12,749	-963	22,564	53,553
Remeasurement of the net defined benefit asset/liability						-905	-905
Unrealised revaluations property in own use						-8	-8
Unrealised revaluations available-for-sale and other				-5,999		629	-5,370
Realised gains/losses transferred to profit and loss				177			177
Transfer to insurance liabilities/DAC				2,200			2,200
Change in cash flow hedge reserve				-812			-812
Unrealised revaluations from net investment hedges				630			630
Exchange rate differences and other				-2,031	-467	-4	-2,502
Total amount recognised directly in equity				-5,835	-467	-288	-6,590
Net result						3,545	3,545
				-5,835	-467	3,257	-3,045
Transfer to share of associates and joint ventures reserve				119		-119	
Employee stock option and share plans	2	4		111		-195	-78
Repayment of non-voting equity securities			-750				-750
Repurchase premium						-375	-375
Impact of Voya						-2,526	-2,526
Purchases/sales of treasury shares						378	378
Changes in the composition of the group and other changes						119	119
Balance as at 31 December 2013	921	16,038	1,500	7,144	-1,430	23,103	47,276
Remeasurement of the net defined benefit asset/liability						-254	-254
Unrealised revaluations property in own use						-30	-30
Unrealised revaluations available-for-sale and other				5,450		77	5,527
Realised gains/losses transferred to profit and loss				-133			-133
Transfer to insurance liabilities/DAC				-1,428			-1,428
Change in cash flow hedge reserve				1,977		24	2,001
Unrealised revaluations from net investment hedges				-110			-110
Exchange rate differences and other				612	-16	1,897	2,493
Total amount recognised directly in equity				6,368	-16	1,714	8,066
Net result						1,251	1,251
				6,368	-16	2,965	9,317
Transfer to share of associates and joint ventures reserve				-180		180	
Employee stock option and share plans	4	8				10	22
Repayment of non-voting equity securities			-1,500				-1,500
Repurchase premium						-750	-750
Impact of NN Group						-4,263	-4,263
Impact of deconsolidation of Voya				-496	481	102	87
Purchases/sales of treasury shares						-14	-14
Changes in the composition of the group and other changes				-983	968	264	249
Balance as at 31 December 2014	925	16,046		11,853	3	21,597	50,424

(1) Other reserves includes Retained earnings, Treasury shares, Net defined benefit asset/liability remeasurement reserve and Unappropriated result.

Accounting policies for the parent company annual accounts

for the years ended 31 December

Basis of presentation

The parent company accounts of ING Groep N.V. are prepared in accordance with the financial reporting requirements included in Part 9 of Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code. The accounting policies applicable to presentation and disclosures are in accordance with the financial reporting requirements included in Part 9 of Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code. The principles of valuation and determination of results stated in connection with the consolidated balance sheet and profit and loss account are also applicable to the parent company balance sheet and profit and loss account with the exception of Investments in group companies and investments in associates and joint ventures which are recognised at net asset value with goodwill, if any, recorded under intangible assets.

The profit and loss account is drawn up in accordance with Section 402, Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code.

A list containing the information referred to in Section 379 (1), Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code has been filed with the office of the Commercial Register of Amsterdam, in accordance with Section 379 (5), Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code.

In 2014, ING changed the presentation of the components within the Other reserves in equity. The items previously presented in Other within the Other reserves, with the exception of the net defined benefit asset/liability measurement reserve for the defined benefit plans, are now being presented in the component Retained earnings. Furthermore, an additional component has been added to Other reserves: The net defined benefit asset/liability measurement reserve for the defined benefit plans. This remeasurement component was previously included within the Other reserves. The new presentation improves transparency, aligns with the consolidated presentation of equity as well as with the calculations applied for regulatory reporting purposes. The 2013 comparatives were restated accordingly.

Changes in balance sheet values due to changes in the Revaluation reserve of the associates and joint ventures are reflected in the Share of associates and joint ventures reserve, which forms part of Shareholders' equity. Changes in balance sheet values due to the results of these associates and joint ventures, accounted for in accordance with ING Group accounting policies, are included in the profit and loss account. Other changes in the balance sheet value of these associates and joint ventures, other than those due to changes in share capital, are included in Share of associates and joint ventures reserve in Other reserves.

A legal reserve is carried at an amount equal to the share in the results of associates and joint ventures since their first inclusion at net asset value less the amount of profit distributions to which rights have accrued in the interim. Profit distributions which can be repatriated to the Netherlands without restriction are likewise deducted from the Share of associates and joint ventures reserve.

The comparative amounts for 2013 are restated for the change in accounting policy as disclosed in the section 'Change in accounting policies in 2014' in the Note 1 'Accounting policies' of the consolidated annual accounts.

Notes to the parent company annual accounts

amounts in millions of euros, unless stated otherwise

1 Investments in group companies

Investments in group companies

	2014		2013	
	Interest held (%)	Balance sheet value	Interest held (%)	Balance sheet value
ING Bank	100%	38,064	100%	32,805
NN Group	68%	13,549	100%	14,062
Voya Financial Inc.			56%	5,532
Other		122		96
		51,735		52,495

Effective 1 March 2014, ING Topholding N.V. legally merged with its 100% subsidiary ING Verzekeringen N.V.; the merged entity was renamed NN Group N.V.

On 30 September 2013, Voya Financial Inc. ('Voya') was transferred to ING Groep N.V. by way of a dividend in kind. As the transfer was performed at carrying value, the transaction did not impact ING Group's Net result from continuing and discontinued operations nor ING Group's total equity in 2013. As a result, Voya was a direct subsidiary of ING Groep N.V. until the loss of control and deconsolidation in 2014.

Other includes certain intercompany eliminations.

Changes in investments in group companies

	Balance sheet value	
	2014	2013
Opening balance	52,495	61,063
(Partial) Disposals of group companies	-11,163	-1,418
Revaluations	7,714	-8,195
Result of group companies	3,380	3,565
Capital contribution	850	1,330
Dividend	-1,541	-3,837
	51,735	52,508
Changes in ING Groep N.V. shares held by group companies		-13
Closing balance	51,735	52,495

In 2014, Disposal of group companies includes the further divestment in Voya resulting in the loss of control over Voya. The 18.9% remaining interest in Voya is included in 'Other assets' as an available-for-sale equity investment. Reference is made to Note 2 'Other assets'.

In 2013, Disposal of group companies includes the partial divestments of Voya.

2 Other assets

Other assets

	Balance sheet value	
	2014	2013
Receivables from group companies	11,609	9,417
Available-for-sale equity investment in Voya Financial Inc.	1,591	
Other receivables, prepayments and accruals	557	220
	13,757	9,637

In 2014, Voya was deconsolidated following the loss of control. ING's remaining interest of 18.9% is included as an available-for-sale equity investment in Other assets.

As at 31 December 2014 an amount of EUR 7,153 million (2013: EUR 8,378 million) is expected to be settled after more than one year from the balance sheet date.

3 Equity

Equity		
	2014	2013
Share capital	925	921
Share premium	16,046	16,038
Non-voting equity securities		1,500
Share of associates and joint ventures reserve	11,853	7,144
Currency translation reserve	3	-1,430
Other reserves	21,597	23,103
Equity	50,424	47,276

On 7 November 2014, ING Group made the final repayment on the Core Tier 1 securities of EUR 1.025 billion to the Dutch State.

The Share of associates and joint ventures reserve includes the following components: Reserve for non-distributable retained earnings of associates and joint ventures of EUR 1,483 million (2013: EUR 1,644 million) and Revaluation reserve of associates and joint ventures of EUR 10,370 million (2013: EUR 5,500 million).

	Ordinary shares (par value EUR 0.24)			
	Numberx1,000		Amount	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
Authorised share capital	14,500,000	14,500,000	3,480	3,480
Unissued share capital	10,641,138	10,659,106	2,555	2,559
Issued share capital	3,858,862	3,840,894	925	921

	Ordinary shares (par value EUR 0.24)	
	Numberx1,000	Amount
	Issued share capital as at 1 January 2013	3,831,561
Issue of shares	9,333	2
Issued share capital as at 1 January 2014	3,840,894	921
Issue of shares	17,968	4
Issued share capital as at 31 December 2014	3,858,862	925

In 2014, ING Groep N.V. issued 18.0 million (2013: 9.3 million) (depository receipts for) ordinary shares at par value in order to fund obligations arising from share-based employee incentive programmes.

Changes in other reserves and unappropriated result

2014	Retained earnings	Treasury shares	Net defined benefit asset/liability remeasurement reserve	Total Other reserves	Un-appropriated result	Total
Opening balance	23,356	-32	-3,766	19,558	3,545	23,103
Result for the year					1,251	1,251
Unrealised revaluations	71		-254	-183		-183
Changes in treasury shares		-14		-14		-14
Repurchase premium	-750			-750		-750
Transfer to share of associates and joint ventures reserve	180			180		180
Transfer to retained earnings	3,545			3,545	-3,545	
Employee stock option and share plans	10			10		10
Impact of NN Group	-4,263			-4,263		-4,263
Impact of deconsolidation of Voya	20		82	102		102
Changes in the composition of the group and other changes	-1,273		3,434	2,161		2,161
Closing balance	20,896	-46	-504	20,346	1,251	21,597

Changes in other reserves and unappropriated result

2013	Retained earnings	Treasury shares	Net defined benefit asset/liability remeasurement reserve	Total Other reserves	Un-appropriated result	Total
Opening balance	21,473	-410	-2,861	18,202	4,362	22,564
Result for the year					3,545	3,545
Unrealised revaluations	617		-905	-288		-288
Changes in treasury shares		378		378		378
Repurchase premium	-375			-375		-375
Transfer to share of associates and joint ventures reserve	-119			-119		-119
Transfer to retained earnings	4,362			4,362	-4,362	
Employee stock option and share plans	-195			-195		-195
Impact of Voya	-2,526			-2,526		-2,526
Changes in the composition of the group and other changes	119			119		119
Closing balance	23,356	-32	-3,766	19,558	3,545	23,103

As at 31 December 2014, the Share of associates and joint ventures reserve includes an amount of EUR 1,070 million (2013: EUR 987 million) related to the former Stichting Regio Bank and the former Stichting Vakbondsspaarbank SPN that cannot be freely distributed.

Positive components of the Share of associates and joint ventures reserve, Currency translation reserve and the Net defined benefit asset/liability remeasurement reserve that is included in the Other reserves cannot be freely distributed. The reserve for cash flow hedges is included in the Share of associates and joint ventures reserve on a net basis. Retained earnings can be freely distributed, except for an amount equal to the negative balance in each of the components of the Currency translation reserve, Share of associates and joint ventures reserve and the Net defined benefit asset/liability remeasurement reserve that is included in the Other reserves. Unrealised gains and losses on derivatives, other than those used in cash flow hedges, are presented in the profit and loss account and are therefore part of Retained earnings and are not included in Share of associates and joint ventures reserve.

The total amount of Equity in the parent company annual accounts equals Shareholders' equity (parent) in the consolidated annual accounts. Certain components within equity are different, as a result of the following presentation differences between the parent company accounts and consolidated accounts:

- › Unrealised revaluations within consolidated group companies, presented in the Revaluation reserve in the consolidated accounts, are presented in the Share of associates and joint ventures reserve in the parent company accounts;
- › Foreign currency translation on consolidated group companies, presented in the Currency translation reserve in the consolidated accounts, is presented in the Share of associates and joint ventures reserve in the parent company accounts;
- › Revaluations on investment property and certain participations recognised in income and consequently presented in Retained earnings in the consolidated accounts, is presented in the Share of associates and joint ventures reserve in the parent company accounts.

Parent company annual accounts

Notes to the parent company annual accounts continued

The total amount of non-distributable reserves, in accordance with the financial reporting requirements included in Part 9 of Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code, is EUR 13,719 million (2013: EUR 12,340 million). The comparative has been restated as the negative component of the net defined benefit asset/liability remeasurement reserve that was included in the Other reserves was not included.

Furthermore see Note 14 'Equity' and the Capital Management section in the consolidated annual accounts for additional information, including restrictions with respect to dividend and repayment of capital.

Change in treasury shares

	Amount		Number	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
Opening balance	32	410	3,994,055	30,112,671
Purchased/sold	6	14	351,252	976,907
Share-based payments		-100	-43,185	-6,698,947
Other	8	-292		-20,396,576
Closing balance	46	32	4,302,122	3,994,055

4 Subordinated loans

Subordinated loans

Interest rate	Year of issue	Due date	Notional amount in original currency	Balance sheet value	
				2014	2013
4.000%	2014	Anchor investors	EUR 1,125	675	
9.000%	2008	Perpetual	EUR 10	10	10
8.000%	2008	Perpetual	EUR 1,500		1,501
7.375%	2007	Perpetual	USD 1,500	1,232	1,025
6.375%	2007	Perpetual	USD 1,045	860	759
5.140%	2006	Perpetual	GBP 66	85	79
5.775%	2005	Perpetual	USD 364	301	272
6.125%	2005	Perpetual	USD 700	574	486
4.176%	2005	Perpetual	EUR 169	169	168
Variable	2004	Perpetual	EUR 555	559	566
6.200%	2003	Perpetual	USD 500	409	353
Variable	2003	Perpetual	EUR 430	429	433
7.200%	2002	Perpetual	USD 1,100	899	715
7.050%	2002	Perpetual	USD 800	659	522
Variable	2000	31 December 2030	USD 1,500	1,235	1,088
				8,096	7,977

The Subordinated loans rank subordinated to the Other liabilities in a winding-up of ING Group.

5 Other liabilities

Other liabilities by type

	2014	2013
Debenture loans	5,397	5,429
Amounts owed to group companies	72	824
Other amounts owed and accrued liabilities	1,447	335
Derivatives from group companies	56	291
	6,972	6,879

Debenture loans

Interest rate	Year of issue	Due date	Balance sheet value	
			2014	2013
Variable	2013	27 February 2015	999	999
4.125%	2011	23 March 2015	653	659
4.699%	2007	1 June 2035	118	118
4.750%	2007	31 May 2017	1,880	1,906
Variable	2006	11 April 2016	999	999
4.125%	2006	11 April 2016	748	748
			5,397	5,429

The number of debentures held by group companies as at 31 December 2014 is 268,920 with a balance sheet value of EUR 28 million (2013: 84,320 with a balance sheet value of EUR 9 million).

Amounts owed to group companies by remaining term

	2014	2013
Within 1 year	72	824
	72	824

The interest rate on the Amounts owed to group companies as at 31 December 2014 is 0.0% (2013: 0.262%).

Other amounts owed and accrued liabilities are payable within one year.

Derivatives from group companies by remaining term

	2014	2013
Within 1 year		25
More than 1 year but less than 5 years	56	266
	56	291

6 Other

Guarantees

As at 31 December 2014, ING Groep N.V. guarantees various US dollar debentures (that mature between 2023 and 2036) which were issued by a subsidiary of Voya Financial Inc. In the Shareholder's agreement between ING Groep N.V. and Voya Financial Inc. it is agreed that the aggregate outstanding principal amount of the debentures will be reduced from EUR 417 million as at 31 December 2014 to no more than EUR 329 million as at 31 December 2015 and no more than EUR 247 million as at 31 December 2016.

Fiscal unity

ING Groep N.V. forms a fiscal unity with several Dutch banking entities for corporation tax purposes. ING Groep N.V. and its banking subsidiaries that form part of the fiscal unity are jointly and severally liable for taxation payable by the fiscal unity.

Remuneration of Senior Management, Executive Board and Supervisory Board

The information on share-based payment plans and remuneration of the members of the Executive Board and the Supervisory Board is included in the Consolidated annual accounts (page 234 up to and including page 236).

Authorisation of parent company annual accounts

Amsterdam, 16 March 2015

The Supervisory Board

J. (Jeroen) van der Veer, *chairman*
J.C.L. (Joost) Kuiper, *vice-chairman*
E.F.C.B. (Eric) Boyer de la Giroday
H.W. (Henk) Breukink
I. (Isabel) Martín Castellá
C.W. (Carin) Gorter
H.J. (Hermann-Josef) Lamberti
R.W.P. (Robert) Reibestein

The Executive Board

R.A.J.G. (Ralph) Hamers, *CEO and chairman*
P.G. (Patrick) Flynn, *CFO*
W.F. (Wilfred) Nagel, *CRO*

Independent auditor's report

To: the Shareholders of ING Groep N.V.

Report on the audit of the annual accounts

Our opinion

We have audited the accompanying annual accounts 2014 of ING Groep N.V., Amsterdam ('ING Group') as set out on pages 99 to 334.

In our opinion:

- › The consolidated annual accounts give a true and fair view of the financial position of ING Group as at 31 December 2014 and of its result and its cash flows for 2014 in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the European Union and with Part 9 of Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code.
- › The parent company annual accounts give a true and fair view of the financial position of ING Group as at 31 December 2014, and of its result for 2014 in accordance with Part 9 of Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code.

The annual accounts include ING Group's consolidated annual accounts and the parent company annual accounts. The consolidated annual accounts comprise the consolidated balance sheet as at 31 December 2014, the consolidated profit and loss account, the consolidated statement of comprehensive income, the consolidated statement of cash flows, the consolidated statement of changes in equity for 2014 and the notes comprising a summary of the significant accounting policies and other explanatory information. The parent company annual accounts comprise the parent company balance sheet as at 31 December 2014, the parent company profit and loss account, the parent company statement of changes in equity for 2014 and the notes comprising a summary of the significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Basis for our opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Dutch law, including the Dutch Standards on Auditing. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the section 'Our responsibilities for the audit of the annual accounts' of our report.

We are independent of ING Group within the meaning of the relevant Dutch ethical requirements as included in the 'Verordening op de gedrags- en beroepsregels accountants' (VGBA) and the 'Verordening inzake de onafhankelijkheid van accountants' (ViO) and have fulfilled our other responsibilities under those ethical requirements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Materiality

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 annual accounts. Materiality affects the nature, timing and extent of our audit procedures and the evaluation of the effect of identified misstatements on our opinion.

Based on our professional judgement we determined materiality for the annual accounts as a whole at EUR 240 million. Materiality is based on 5% of the result before tax from continuing operations, adjusted for unusual items. We have also taken into account misstatements and/or possible misstatements that in our opinion are material for the users of the annual accounts for qualitative reasons.

We agreed with the Supervisory Board that unadjusted misstatements in excess of EUR 10 million, which are identified during the audit, are reported to them, as well as smaller misstatements that in our view must be reported on qualitative grounds.

Scope of the group audit

ING Group is head of a group of entities. The financial information of this group is included in the consolidated annual accounts of ING Group. ING Group is structured along the segments: Retail Netherlands, Retail Belgium, Retail Germany, Retail Rest of the World, Commercial Banking, Corporate Line Banking and Legacy Insurance, each comprising of multiple entities and covering different countries.

We are responsible for directing, supervising and performing the group audit. In this respect we have determined the nature and extent of the audit procedures to be carried out for the reporting units based on their size and / or the risk profile.

Following our assessment of the risk of material misstatement to ING Group's annual accounts, we have selected 34 reporting units which represent the principal business units within ING Group's reportable segments and account for approximately 94% of ING Group's total assets and approximately 92% of ING Group's profit before tax. 15 reporting units required an audit of the complete financial information, either due to their overall size or risk profile. Specific audit procedures on certain balances and transactions were performed for 19 reporting units. We have used the work of other EY auditors when auditing these reporting units in and outside the Netherlands.

The ING Group audit team executed a programme of planned visits and regular communication that has been designed to ensure that the audit progress and findings for each of the in-scope locations were discussed between the ING Group audit team and the EY component team.

By performing the procedures mentioned above at group entities, together with additional procedures at ING Group level, we have been able to obtain sufficient and appropriate audit evidence regarding ING Group's financial information as a whole to provide a basis for our opinion on the annual accounts.

Our key audit matters

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgement, were of most significance in our audit of the annual accounts. We have communicated the key audit matters to the Supervisory Board. The key audit matters are not a comprehensive reflection of all matters discussed.

These matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the consolidated annual accounts as a whole and in forming our opinion thereon. We do not provide a separate opinion on these matters.

Divestments of VOYA and NN Group

In 2014, ING Group further reduced its stake in Voya Financial Inc. ('VOYA') to 19%. This led to the loss of control and deconsolidation of VOYA in March 2014. The deconsolidation resulted in an after tax loss of EUR 2.0 billion. As at 31 December 2014 the carrying value, after subsequent sales of shares in September and November 2014, was EUR 1.6 billion. The remaining investment is accounted for as an Available For Sale equity investment and Discontinued Operations. See note 57 to the consolidated annual accounts for full details of the VOYA divestments.

ING Group also successfully launched the IPO of NN Group N.V. ('NN Group') in 2014 and thereby reduced its shareholding to 68%. The IPO had a negative effect of approximately EUR 4.3 billion on the shareholders' equity of ING Group, representing the difference between net proceeds and the IFRS book value of the stake sold. Per 30 September 2014, NN Group was classified as Assets and Liabilities Held For Sale and Discontinued Operations, as ING Group expected per that date to lose control and deconsolidate NN Group within 12 months. See note 57 to the consolidated annual accounts for full details of the NN divestments.

The impact of the divestments on the annual accounts of ING Group is significant. In addition, judgement has been applied in determining when control of VOYA and NN Group is lost. We have tested the design and operating effectiveness of the controls over the governance, execution and accounting of the divestments in the year. We have assessed and verified the accounting treatment of each divestment transaction.

Loan Loss Provisions (see page 138)

The appropriateness of loan loss provisions is a key area of judgement for management. The identification of impairment and the determination of the recoverable amount are an inherently uncertain process involving various assumptions and factors including the financial condition of the counterparty, expected future cash flows, observable market prices and expected net selling prices. The use of different modelling techniques and assumptions could produce significantly different estimates of loan loss provisions. Associated risk management disclosure is complex and dependent on high quality data. Specific ING Group portfolios of focus included the residential mortgage portfolio in the Netherlands, the SME lending portfolios in Belgium and the Netherlands and the commercial real estate finance portfolio in the Netherlands.

We assessed and tested the design and operating effectiveness of the controls over impairment calculations including the quality of underlying data and systems. For loan loss provisions calculated on an individual basis we tested the assumptions underlying the impairment identification and quantification including forecasts of future cash flows, valuation of underlying collateral and estimates of recovery on default. This included taking into consideration the impact of forbearance. For loan loss provisions calculated on a collective basis we tested, supported by our specialists, the underlying models including the model approval and validation process. We also tested the appropriateness and accuracy of the inputs to those models, such as recovery and cure rates, and where available, compared data and assumptions made to external benchmarks. Finally we assessed and tested the design and operating effectiveness of the controls over related disclosures including the disclosures for forbearance and cover values.

Fair values of financial assets and liabilities (see page 197)

Fair value measurement and associated valuation adjustments can be a subjective area and more so for areas of the market reliant on model based valuation or with weak liquidity and price discovery. Valuation techniques can be subjective in nature and involve various assumptions regarding pricing factors. The use of different valuation techniques and assumptions could produce significantly different estimates of fair value. Associated risk management disclosure is complex and dependent on high quality data. Specific areas of focus include the valuation of level two, and level three assets where observable market prices or market parameters are not available.

We assessed and tested the design and operating effectiveness of the controls over valuation, independent price verification and model approval. We performed additional procedures for areas of higher risk and estimation with the assistance of our valuation specialists. This included, where relevant, comparison of judgements made to current and emerging market practice and reperformance of valuations on a sample basis. We also assessed the impact of other sources of fair value information including collateral disputes and gains or losses on disposal. Finally we assessed and tested the design and operating effectiveness of the controls over related disclosures including valuation sensitivity and fair value hierarchy.

Employee Benefits (see page 187)

ING Group operated various defined benefit retirement plans with the largest scheme, at the start of the financial year, operating in the Netherlands. In February 2014 the Company reached final agreement to transfer all future funding and indexation obligations of the defined benefit plan in the Netherlands to the Dutch ING Pension Fund. The agreement makes the Dutch ING Pension Fund financially independent from ING Group and released the company from all financial obligations arising out of the Dutch defined benefit plan. As such the Dutch defined benefit plan was derecognised from ING Group's balance sheet. A significant charge was recognised for the settlement with the Dutch ING Pension Fund. Whilst this transaction reduces future accounting complexity its impact on the annual accounts in the year is significant.

We have assessed and tested the design and operating effectiveness of the controls over the governance, execution and accounting of the transaction. This included work by our pension specialists on the mechanics of the transaction and the assessment of any residual risks. We also assessed the appropriateness of the accounting for the transaction including the derecognition of the net pension asset and the timing of the recognition of the resulting loss.

Reliability and continuity of electronic data processing (see page 315)

ING Group is dependent on the IT-infrastructure for the continuity of their business processes. In the last few years, investments were made in the improvement of IT- systems and processes. As part of our audit procedures we tested IT- security, change and application controls embedded in ING Group's key processes. In addition we assessed and tested the impact of changes during the year either from internal restructuring initiatives or from external factors such as the implementation of SEPA.

We assessed the reliability and continuity of electronic data processing only to the extent necessary within the scope of the audit of the annual accounts. Our work consisted of assessing the developments in the IT infrastructure and analysing the impact on the IT-organisation. Additionally, we tested the design and operating effectiveness of relevant internal controls related to IT- systems and processes.

Estimates used in calculation of insurance contract liabilities and Reserve Adequacy Test (see page 147)

ING Group, through its consolidated stake in NN Group, has material insurance liabilities. The measurement of insurance contract liabilities involves judgement over uncertain future outcomes, mainly the ultimate total settlement value of long-term liabilities, including any guarantees provided to policyholders. Various economic and non-economic assumptions are being used to estimate these long-term liabilities, both in the insurance contract liabilities as reported in the balance sheet and in the reserve adequacy test.

The insurance liabilities of NN Group's reporting units are calculated based on a prudent prospective actuarial method. The specific methodologies applied may differ between reporting units. For traditional business, including in the Netherlands, assumptions are initially set at the policy issue date. For other investment type products, assumptions are based on management's best estimate at the reporting date. The Group's IFRS reserve adequacy test is a key test performed in order to ensure that insurance contract liabilities, net of deferred acquisition cost, are adequate in the context of expected future cash outflows.

The reserve adequacy test of the Netherlands' individual life and group pension business requires the application of significant judgement in the setting of the longevity, expense and reinvestment rate assumptions. Further, the valuation of guarantees in the Japan Closed Block Variable Annuity business involves exercising judgement on policyholder behaviour assumptions in response to developments in financial markets.

We involved internal actuarial specialists to assist us in performing the audit procedures in this area, which included among others:

- › Consideration of the appropriateness of assumptions used in the valuation of the Netherlands' individual life and group pension contracts by reference to company and industry data and expectations of investment returns, future longevity and expense developments.
- › Consideration of the appropriateness of the non-economic assumptions used in the valuation of Japan Closed Block variable annuity guarantees in relation to lapse or extension assumptions by reference to company specific and industry data.

Further key audit procedures included assessing the Group's methodology for calculating the insurance liabilities, reserve adequacy tests and an assessment of internal controls in this respect, including the analyses of the movements in insurance contracts liabilities and reserve adequacy surplus per segment during the year. We assessed whether the movements are in line with the changes in assumptions adopted by NN Group, our understanding of developments in the business and our expectations derived from market experience.

Unit linked exposure NN Group (see page 222)

Holders of the Group's unit-linked products sold in the Netherlands where the customer bears all or part of the investment risk, or consumer protection organisations on their behalf, have filed claims or initiated proceedings against the Group and may continue to do so. A negative outcome of such claims and proceedings in respect of unit-linked products, settlements or any other actions for the benefit of customers by other insurers and sector-wide measures could result in substantial losses for the Group relating to compensation. The financial consequences of these legal proceedings cannot be reliably estimated or quantified at this point. Refer to note 51 of the annual accounts.

We involved our specialists to assist us in performing our audit procedures in this area, which included:

- › An assessment of NN Group's governance, processes and internal controls with respect to unit linked exposures within its operating companies, in particular for the NN Life division in the Netherlands.
- › A review of the documentation on the unit linked exposures and a discussion thereon with management and its internal and external legal advisors.
- › A detailed consideration of the recognition and measurement requirements to establish provisions under ING Group's accounting framework.

We also considered whether the ING Group's disclosures in respect of this legal exposure is compliant with the relevant accounting requirements. We focused on the adequacy of disclosure of the related risks and assumptions in note 51 to the annual accounts.

Responsibilities of the Executive Board and Supervisory Board for the annual accounts

The Executive Board is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these annual accounts in accordance with IFRS-EU and with Part 9 of Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code, and for the preparation of the Executive Board's report in accordance with Part 9 of Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code. Furthermore, the Executive Board is responsible for such internal control as it determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the annual accounts that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

As part of the preparation of the annual accounts, the Executive Board is responsible for assessing ING Group's ability to continue its activities. Based on the financial reporting frameworks mentioned, the Executive Board should prepare the annual accounts using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate ING Group or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so. Management should disclose events and circumstances that may cast significant doubt on ING Group's ability to continue as a going concern in the annual accounts.

The Supervisory Board is responsible for overseeing the company's financial reporting process.

Our responsibility for the audit of the annual accounts

Our responsibility is to plan and perform the audit assignment to obtain sufficient and appropriate audit evidence for our opinion. Our audit has been performed with a high, but not absolute, level of assurance, which means we may not have detected all errors and fraud.

We have exercised professional judgement and have maintained professional scepticism throughout the audit, in accordance with Dutch Standards on Auditing, ethical requirements and independence requirements. Our audit included e.g.:

- › Identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated annual accounts, whether due to fraud or error, designing and performing audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtaining 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.
- › Obtaining 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 ING Group's internal control.
- › Evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- › Concluding on the appropriateness of management's 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 ING Group'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 annual accounts 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 ING Group ceasing to continue as a going concern.
- › Evaluating the overall presentation, structure and content of the annual accounts, including the disclosures; and
- › Evaluating whether the annual accounts represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

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

We provide the Supervisory Board with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

From the matters communicated with the Supervisory Board, we determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the annual accounts of the current period and are therefore the key audit matters. We describe these matters in our auditor's report unless law or regulation precludes public disclosure about the matter or when, in extremely rare circumstances, not communicating the matter is in the public interest.

Report on other legal and regulatory requirements

Report on the report of the Executive Board and other information

Pursuant to legal requirements of Part 9 of Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code (concerning our obligation to report about the Executive Board report and other information):

- › We have no deficiencies to report as a result of our examination whether the Executive Board report, to the extent we can assess, has been prepared in accordance with Part 9 of Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code, and whether the Other information as required by Part 9 of Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code has been annexed.
- › We report that the Report of the Executive Board, to the extent we can assess, is consistent with the annual accounts.

Engagement

We have been appointed as auditors for the audit of the 2014 annual accounts of ING Group at the annual meeting held on 13 May 2013 and have been the external auditor for a long time. The most recent rotation of the signing external auditor on the audit of the ING Group annual accounts was in 2012. Rotation of the signing external auditor is one of our safeguards to maintain our auditor independence.

Amsterdam, 16 March 2015

Ernst & Young Accountants LLP

signed by M.A. van Loo

Proposed appropriation of result and subsequent events

Proposed appropriation of result

The result is appropriated pursuant to Article 37 of the Articles of Association of ING Groep N.V., the relevant stipulations of which state that the Executive Board, subject to the approval of the Supervisory Board, determines what part of the result is to be appropriated to reserves and that the remaining part of the result shall be at the disposal of the General Meeting of Shareholders.

For 2014, the Executive Board, with the approval of the Supervisory Board, has proposed a cash dividend of EUR 0.12 per ordinary share of EUR 0.24. The dividend will be paid entirely in cash after ratification of the proposal by the General Meeting of Shareholders.

Proposed appropriation of result	
Net result	1,251
Addition to reserves pursuant to Article 37 (4) of the Articles of Association	781
At the disposal of the General Meeting of Shareholders pursuant to Article 37 (5) of the Articles of Association	470
Dividend of EUR 0.12 per ordinary share	470

Subsequent events

Sale of NN Group shares

In February 2015, ING sold 52 million ordinary shares of NN Group. As part of the transaction, NN Group repurchased 8.3 million ordinary shares. The gross proceeds to ING Group from the offering, including the repurchase by NN Group, amounted to EUR 1.2 billion. The transaction reduced the ownership of ING in NN Group from 68.1% to 54.6%. The transaction did not impact the profit and loss account of ING Group, and has a negative impact of approximately EUR 1.6 billion on the shareholders' equity of ING Group, being the difference between the net proceeds of the transaction and the IFRS carrying value as at 31 December 2014 of the equity stake sold. The actual impact on equity may differ from this estimate due to changes in the IFRS carrying value between 31 December 2014 and the close of the transaction.

Sale of Voya shares

In March 2015, ING sold 45.6 million ordinary shares of Voya. In the public offering ING Group has sold approximately 32 million Voya shares at a price of USD 44.20 per share. In addition ING Group has sold to Voya approximately 13.6 million shares for an aggregate amount of USD 600 million. The gross proceeds to ING Group from the public offering and the concurrent repurchase by Voya amount to approximately EUR 1.8 billion at current exchange rates (USD 2.0 billion).

The sale of the total of 45.6 million shares from the combined transactions reduces ING Group's stake in Voya from 18.9% to zero. These transactions settled on 9 March 2015. After this transaction, ING Group will continue to hold warrants for approximately 26 million shares in Voya at an exercise price of USD 48.75. The transactions are expected to result in a net profit to ING at closing of EUR 308 million. This broadly reflects the difference between the market value of our 18.9% stake in Voya at the date ING lost significant influence, and the current market value of this stake of approximately EUR 1.8 billion. The result of this transaction will be included in the profit and loss account of ING in 2015.

Risk factors

Any of the risks described below could have a material adverse effect on the business activities, financial condition, results of operations and prospects of ING. In the following risk factors, where we discuss risks related to our insurance business, we refer to NN Group's insurance and investment management activities. As further described under Note 57 'Other events' to the consolidated financial statements of ING Group, we still hold a significant stake in NN Group and have, among others, the right to nominate three members to its Supervisory Board. While our investment in NN Group is currently classified as 'held for sale' on our balance sheet and NN Group's activities are reflected as 'discontinued operations' in our profit and loss account, developments in the business and results of NN Group will continue to impact ING's results of operations and changes in the value of our stake in NN Group will affect our shareholders' equity. Accordingly, references to our insurance business in the risks described below should be read in light of the foregoing.

The market price of ING shares could decline due to any of the following risks, and investors could lose all or part of their investments. Additional risks of which the Company is not presently aware could also affect the business operations of ING and have a material adverse effect on ING's business activities, financial condition, results of operations and prospects. In addition, the business of a multinational, broad-based financial services firm such as ING is inherently exposed to risks that only become apparent with the benefit of hindsight. The sequence in which the risk factors are presented below is not indicative of their likelihood of occurrence or the potential magnitude of their financial consequences.

Risks related to financial conditions, market environment and general economic trends

Because we are a financial services company conducting business on a global basis, our revenues and earnings are affected by the volatility and strength of the economic, business, liquidity, funding and capital markets environments specific to the geographic regions in which we conduct business. The ongoing turbulence and volatility of such factors have adversely affected, and may continue to adversely affect, the profitability, solvency and liquidity of our insurance, banking and asset management business.

Factors such as interest rates, securities prices, credit spreads, liquidity spreads, exchange rates, consumer spending, changes in client behaviour, business investment, real estate values and private equity valuations, government spending, inflation or deflation, the volatility and strength of the capital markets, political events and trends, and terrorism all impact the business and economic environment and, ultimately, our solvency, liquidity and the amount and profitability of business we conduct in a specific geographic region. In an economic downturn characterised by higher unemployment, lower family income, lower corporate earnings, higher corporate and private debt defaults, lower business investments and lower consumer spending, the demand for banking and insurance products is usually adversely affected and ING's reserves and provisions typically would increase, resulting in overall lower earnings. Securities prices, real estate values and private equity valuations may also be adversely impacted, and any such losses would be realised through profit and loss and shareholders' equity. Some insurance products contain minimum return or accumulation guarantees. If returns do not meet or exceed the guarantee levels, we may need to set up additional provisions to fund these future guaranteed benefits. In addition, we may experience an elevated incidence of claims and lapses or surrenders of policies. Our policyholders may choose to defer paying insurance premiums or stop paying insurance premiums altogether. Similarly, a downturn in the equity markets causes a reduction in commission income we earn from managing portfolios for third parties, income generated from our own proprietary portfolios, asset-based fee income on certain insurance products, and our capital base. We also offer a number of insurance and financial products that expose us to risks associated with fluctuations in interest rates, securities prices, corporate and private default rates, the value of real estate assets, exchange rates and credit spreads. See also '—Interest rate volatility and other interest rate changes may adversely affect our profitability', '—Continued risk of resurgence of turbulence and ongoing volatility in the financial markets and the economy generally have adversely affected, and may continue to adversely affect, our business, financial condition and results of operations', and '—Market conditions observed over the past few years may increase the risk of loans being impaired. We are exposed to declining property values on the collateral supporting residential and commercial real estate lending' below.

In case one or more of the factors mentioned above adversely affects the profitability of our business, this might also result, among other things, in the following:

- › changes in the treatment of deferred acquisition costs ('DAC');
- › reserve inadequacies, which could ultimately be realised through profit and loss and shareholders' equity;
- › the write-down of tax assets impacting net results and/or equity;
- › impairment expenses related to goodwill and other intangible assets, impacting net results;
- › movements in risk weighted assets for the determination of required capital;
- › changes in credit valuation adjustments and debt valuation adjustments; and/or
- › additional costs related to maintenance of higher liquidity buffers and/or collateral placements.

Shareholders' equity and our net result may be significantly impacted by turmoil and volatility in the worldwide financial markets. Negative developments in financial markets and/or economies may have a material adverse impact on shareholders' equity and net result in future periods, including as a result of the potential consequences listed above. The condition of global and local financial markets and economic conditions generally may further have a direct effect on the regulatory solvency position of NN Group under Solvency II or the Theoretical Solvency Criterion in the Netherlands. See '—Continued risk of resurgence of turbulence and ongoing volatility in the financial markets and the economy generally have adversely affected, and may continue to adversely affect, our business, financial condition and results of operations' and '—We operate in highly regulated industries. Changes in laws and/or regulations governing financial services or financial institutions or the application of such laws and/or regulations governing our business may reduce our profitability' below.

Adverse capital and credit market conditions may impact our ability to access liquidity and capital, as well as the cost of liquidity, credit and capital.

The capital and credit markets have continued to experience substantial volatility and disruption over the past few years. Adverse capital market conditions may affect the availability and cost of borrowed funds, thereby impacting our ability to support and/or grow our businesses.

We need liquidity to pay our operating expenses, insurance claims, interest on our debt and dividends on our capital stock, maintain our securities lending activities and replace certain maturing liabilities. Without sufficient liquidity, we will be forced to curtail our operations and our business will suffer. The principal sources of our funding include a variety of short- and long-term instruments, including deposit funds repurchase agreements, commercial paper, medium- and long-term debt, subordinated debt securities, capital securities and stockholders' equity.

In the event that our current resources do not satisfy our needs, we may need to seek additional financing. The availability of additional financing will depend on a variety of factors, such as market conditions, the general availability of credit, the volume of trading activities, the overall availability of credit to the financial services industry, our credit ratings and credit capacity, as well as the possibility that customers or lenders could develop a negative perception of our long- or short-term financial prospects. Similarly, our access to funds may be limited if regulatory authorities or rating agencies take negative actions against us. If our internal sources of liquidity prove to be insufficient, there is a risk that we may not be able to successfully obtain additional financing on favourable terms, or at all. Any actions we might take to access financing may, in turn, cause rating agencies to re-evaluate our ratings.

Disruptions, uncertainty or volatility in the capital and credit markets, including in relation to the ongoing European sovereign debt crisis, may also limit our access to capital. Such market conditions may in the future limit our ability to raise additional capital to support business growth, or to counterbalance the consequences of losses or increased regulatory capital and rating agency capital requirements. This could force us to (i) delay raising capital, (ii) reduce, cancel or postpone payment of dividends on our shares, (iii) reduce, cancel or postpone interest payments on our other securities, (iv) issue capital of different types or under different terms than we would otherwise, or (v) incur a higher cost of capital than in a more stable market environment. This would have the potential to decrease both our profitability and our financial flexibility. Our results of operations, financial condition, cash flows, regulatory capital and rating agency capital position could be materially adversely affected by disruptions in the financial markets.

In the course of 2008 and 2009, governments around the world, including the Dutch government, implemented unprecedented measures to provide assistance to financial institutions, in certain cases requiring (indirect) influence on or changes to governance and remuneration practices. In certain cases, governments nationalised companies or parts thereof. The measures adopted in the Netherlands include both emergency funding and capital reinforcement, and a Dutch Credit Guarantee Scheme. The liquidity and capital reinforcement measures expired on 10 October 2009, and the Credit Guarantee Scheme of the Netherlands expired on 31 December 2010. Our participation in certain of these measures has resulted in certain material restrictions on us, including those required by the European Commission ('EC') as part of our Restructuring Plan. See 'Risks Related to the Restructuring Plan — The implementation of the Restructuring Plan and the divestments in connection with that plan will alter and have already significantly altered the size and structure of the Group and involve significant costs and uncertainties that could materially impact the Group'. The Restructuring Plan, as well as any potential future transactions with the Dutch State or any other government, if any, or actions by such government regarding ING could adversely impact the position or rights of shareholders, bondholders, customers or creditors and our results, operations, solvency, liquidity and governance.

We are subject to the jurisdiction of a variety of banking and insurance (in the case of NN Group) regulatory bodies, some of which have proposed regulatory changes in recent years that, if implemented, would hinder our ability to manage our liquidity in a centralised manner. Furthermore, regulatory liquidity requirements in certain jurisdictions in which we operate are generally becoming more stringent, including those forming part of the 'Basel III' requirements discussed further below under '—We operate in highly regulated industries. Changes in laws and/or regulations governing financial services or financial institutions or the application of such laws and/or regulations governing our business may reduce our profitability', undermining our efforts to maintain this centralised management of our liquidity. These developments may cause trapped pools of liquidity and capital, resulting in inefficiencies in the cost of managing our liquidity and solvency, and hinder our efforts to integrate our balance sheet, which is an essential element of our Restructuring Plan.

The default of a major market participant could disrupt the markets.

Within the financial services industry, the severe distress or default of any one institution (including sovereigns) could lead to defaults by, or the severe distress of, other market participants. Such distress of, or default by, an influential financial institution could disrupt securities markets or clearance and settlement systems and lead to a chain of defaults by other financial institutions because the commercial and financial soundness of many financial institutions may be closely related as a result of credit, trading, clearing or other relationships. Even the perceived lack of creditworthiness of a sovereign or financial institution (or a default by any such entity) may lead to market-wide liquidity problems and losses or defaults by us or by other institutions. This risk is sometimes referred to as 'systemic risk' and may adversely affect financial intermediaries, such as clearing agencies, clearing houses, banks, securities firms and exchanges with whom we interact on a daily basis and financial instruments of sovereigns in which we invest. Systemic risk could have a material adverse effect on our ability to raise new funding and on our business, financial condition, results of operations, liquidity, solvency position and/or prospects. In addition, such distress or failure could impact future product sales as a potential result of reduced confidence in the financial services industry.

We may incur losses as a result of unforeseen and/or catastrophic events, which are inherently unpredictable, and the actual claim amount in the life and non-life insurance and reinsurance businesses may exceed our established reserves or we may experience an abrupt interruption of activities, each of which could result in lower net results and have an adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

In our life and non-life insurance and reinsurance businesses, we are subject to losses from natural and man-made catastrophic events. Such events include, without limitation, weather and other natural catastrophes such as hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and epidemics that may be more severe or difficult to predict as a result of variable climate conditions, as well as man-made disasters and core infrastructure failures such as acts of terrorism, military actions, power grid and telephone/Internet infrastructure failures and political and social unrest. The frequency and severity of such events, and the losses associated with them, are inherently unpredictable and cannot always be adequately reserved for. The occurrence of such events could create economic and financial disruptions and lead to operational difficulties that could impair our ability to manage our business and may adversely affect our assets under management ('AUM'), results of operations and financial condition. Claims resulting from catastrophic events could also materially harm the financial condition of our reinsurers, which would increase the probability of default on reinsurance recoveries. Our ability to write new business could also be adversely affected.

In addition, we are subject to actuarial and underwriting risks such as mortality, longevity, morbidity, and adverse claims development which result from the pricing and acceptance of insurance contracts. In accordance with industry practices, modelling of natural catastrophes is performed and risk mitigation measures are taken. In case claims occur, reserves are established based on estimates using actuarial projection techniques. The process of estimating is based on information available at the time the reserves are originally established and includes updates when more information becomes available. Although we continually review the adequacy of the established claim reserves, there can be no assurance that our actual claim amount will not exceed our estimated claim reserves. If actual claim amounts exceed the estimated claim reserves, our earnings may be reduced and our financial condition and net results may be adversely affected.

There can be no assurance that our business continuation and crisis management plan or insurance coverage would be effective in mitigating any negative effects on operations or profitability in the event of a disaster, nor can we provide assurance that the business continuation and crisis management plans of the independent distributors and outside vendors on whom we rely for certain services and products would be effective in mitigating any negative effects on the provision of such services and products in the event of a disaster.

See below under 'Risks Related to the Group's Business, Operations, and Regulatory Environment — Operational risks, such as systems disruptions or failures, breaches of security, cyber attacks, human error, changes in operational practices or inadequate controls may adversely impact our business and reputation' for more information on other operations risks we face.

We operate in highly regulated industries. Changes in laws and/or regulations governing financial services or financial institutions or the application of such laws and/or regulations governing our business may reduce our profitability.

We are subject to detailed banking, insurance, asset management and other financial services laws and government regulation in the jurisdictions in which we conduct business. Regulatory agencies have broad administrative power over many aspects of our business, which may include liquidity, capital adequacy, permitted investments, ethical issues, money laundering, anti-terrorism measures, privacy, recordkeeping, product and sale suitability, marketing and sales practices, remuneration policies and our own internal governance practices. Also, regulators and other supervisory authorities in the European Union ('EU'), the United States ('U.S.') and elsewhere continue to scrutinise payment processing and other transactions and activities of the financial services industry through laws and regulations governing such matters as money laundering, prohibited transactions with countries subject to sanctions, and bribery or other anti-corruption measures.

In light of current conditions in the global financial markets and the global economy, regulators around the world have increased their focus on the regulation of the financial services industry. Most of the principal markets where we conduct our business have adopted, or are currently in the implementation phase of, major legislative and/or regulatory initiatives in response to the financial crisis. Governmental and regulatory authorities in the Netherlands, Germany, Belgium, the United Kingdom, the EU, the U.S. and elsewhere have implemented, or are in the process of implementing measures to increase regulatory control in their respective financial markets and financial services sectors, including, among others, in the areas of prudential rules, liquidity and capital requirements, executive compensation, crisis and contingency management, bank levies and financial reporting. Additionally, governmental and regulatory authorities in the Netherlands, in the EU as well as in a multitude of jurisdictions where we conduct our business continue to consider new mechanisms to limit the occurrence and/or severity of future economic crises (including proposals to restrict the size of financial institutions operating in their jurisdictions and/or the scope of operations of such institutions).

Furthermore, we are subject to different tax regulations in each of the jurisdictions where we conduct business. Changes in tax laws could increase our taxes and our effective tax rates. Legislative changes could materially impact our tax receivables and liabilities as well as deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition. One such change relates to the current debate in the U.S. over corporate tax reform for multinational corporations and corporate tax rates. Changes in tax laws could also make certain ING products less attractive, which could have adverse consequences for our businesses and results.

In addition, the International Accounting Standards Board ('IASB') has issued and proposed certain amendments to several International Financial Reporting Standards ('IFRS') standards during the course of 2012 and 2013, whose changes include a package of amendments to the accounting requirements for financial instruments announced in November 2013. These amendments introduced a new hedge

accounting model addressing the so-called 'own credit' issue that was already included in IFRS 9 Financial Instruments. As of July 2014, IFRS 9 replaced IAS 39, the accounting standard heavily criticised in the wake of the financial crisis, for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2018, with early adoption permitted. Such changes could also have a material impact on our reported results and financial condition, as well as on how it manages its business, internal controls and disclosure.

Compliance with applicable laws and regulations is time-consuming and personnel-intensive, and changes in laws and regulations may materially increase the cost of compliance and other expenses of doing business. We expect the scope and extent of regulation in the jurisdictions in which we conduct our business, as well as regulatory oversight and supervision, to generally continue to increase. However, we cannot predict whether or when future legislative or regulatory actions may be taken, or what impact, if any, actions taken to date or in the future could have on our business, results of operations and financial condition. Regulation is becoming increasingly more extensive and complex and the industries in which we operate are increasingly coming under the scrutiny of regulators, and affected companies, including ING, are required to meet the demands, which often necessitate additional resources. These regulations can limit our activities, among others, through stricter net capital, customer protection and market conduct requirements and restrictions on businesses in which we can operate or invest.

Despite our efforts to maintain effective compliance procedures and to comply with applicable laws and regulations, there are a number of risks in areas where applicable regulations may be unclear, subject to multiple interpretations or under development, or where regulations may conflict with one another, or where regulators revise their previous guidance or courts overturn previous rulings, which could result in our failure to meet applicable standards. Regulators and other authorities have the power to bring administrative or judicial proceedings against us, which could result, among other things, in suspension or revocation of our licenses, cease and desist orders, fines, civil penalties, criminal penalties or other disciplinary action, which could materially harm our results of operations and financial condition. If we fail to address, or appear to fail to address, any of these matters appropriately, our reputation could be harmed and we could be subject to additional legal risk, which could, in turn, increase the size and number of claims and damages brought against us or subject us to enforcement actions, fines and penalties.

Basel III and CRD IV

In December 2010, the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision ('Basel Committee') announced higher global minimum capital standards for banks and introduced a new global liquidity standard and a new leverage ratio. The Basel Committee's package of reforms, collectively referred to as the 'Basel III' rules, will, among other requirements, increase the amount of common equity required to be held by subject banking institutions, prescribe the amount of liquid assets and the long-term funding a subject banking institution must hold at any given moment and limit leverage. Banks will be required to hold a 'capital conservation buffer' to withstand future periods of stress such that the total Tier 1 common equity ratio, when fully phased in on 1 January 2019, will rise to 7%. Basel III also introduced a 'countercyclical buffer' as an extension of the capital conservation buffer, which would allow national regulators to require banks to hold more capital during periods of high credit growth (to strengthen capital reserves and moderate the debt markets). Further, Basel III has strengthened the definition of capital that will have the effect of disqualifying many hybrid securities, including those issued by the Group, from inclusion in regulatory capital, as well as the higher capital requirements for trading, derivative and securitisation activities as part of a number of reforms to the Basel II framework. In addition, the Basel Committee and the Financial Stability Board ('FSB') published measures in October 2011 that would have the effect of requiring higher loss absorbency capacity, liquidity surcharges, exposure limits and special resolution regimes for, and instituting more intensive and effective supervision of, 'systemically important financial institutions' ('SIFIs') and so-called 'Global' SIFIs ('G-SIFIs'), in addition to the Basel III requirements otherwise applicable to most financial institutions. The implementation of these measures began in 2012, and full implementation is targeted for 2019. ING Bank was designated by the Basel Committee and the FSB as one of the global systemically important banks ('G-SIBs'), forming part of the G-SIFIs, in 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014, and by the Dutch Central Bank (De Nederlandsche Bank N.V., 'DNB') and the Dutch Ministry of Finance as a domestic SIFI in November 2011. The Basel III proposals and their potential impact are monitored via semi-annual monitoring exercises in which ING Bank participates. As a result of such monitoring exercises and ongoing discussions within the regulatory environment, revisions have been made to the original Basel III proposals as was the case with the revised Liquidity Coverage Ratio in January 2013 and the revised Net Stable Funding Ratio and Leverage Ratio in January 2014. It remains to be seen whether further amendments to the 2010 framework and standards will be made by the Basel Committee in the coming years.

For European banks, the Basel III requirements were implemented through the so-called Capital Requirements Regulation and Capital Requirements Directive IV ('CRD IV Regulation' and 'CRD IV Directive', respectively), which were adopted by the EC in June 2013 following approval by the European Parliament in April 2013. The CRD IV Regulation entered into force on 28 June 2013 and the CRD IV Directive on 17 July 2013, and all banks and investment firms in the EU (as opposed to the scope of the Basel III requirements, which apply to 'internationally active banks') are required to apply the new rules from 1 January 2014 in phases, with full implementation by 1 January 2019. While the full impact of these rules, and any additional requirements for SIFIs or G-SIFIs, if and as applicable to the Group, will depend on how the CRD IV Directive will be transposed into national laws in each Member State, including the extent to which national regulators and supervisors can set more stringent limits and additional capital requirements or surcharges, as well as on the economic and financial environment at the time of implementation and beyond, we expect these rules to have a material impact on ING's operations and financial condition and they may require the Group to seek additional capital.

Solvency II

The EU is adopting a full scale revision of the solvency framework and prudential regime applicable to insurance and reinsurance companies known as "Solvency II". The EC is currently in the process of preparing implementing technical standards.

The framework for Solvency II is set out in the Solvency II Directive, which was adopted by the European Council on 10 November 2009 (Directive 2009/138/EC). The Solvency II Directive is scheduled to come into force on 1 January 2016.

On 19 January 2011, the European Commission (the "EC") presented a draft of a directive to amend the Solvency II Directive, the Omnibus II directive. On 13 November 2013, the EU Council and the European Parliament achieved a provisional political agreement on the Omnibus II Directive. This agreement was confirmed by the European Parliament on 12 March 2014 and was approved by the European Council on 14 April 2014.

Solvency II is aimed at creating a new solvency framework in which the financial requirements that apply to an insurance, reinsurance company and insurance group better reflect such company's specific risk profile. Solvency II will introduce economic risk-based solvency requirements across all Member States for the first time. While Solvency I includes a relatively simple solvency formula based on technical provisions and insurance premiums, Solvency II introduces a new "total balance sheet" type regime where insurers' material risks and their interactions are considered. In addition to these quantitative requirements (Pillar 1), Solvency II also sets requirements for governance, risk management and effective supervision (Pillar 2), and disclosure and transparency requirements (Pillar 3).

Under Pillar 1 of Solvency II, insurers are required to hold own funds equal to or in excess of a solvency capital requirement ("SCR"). Solvency II will categorise own funds into three tiers with differing qualifications as eligible available regulatory capital. Under Solvency II, own funds will use IFRS balance sheet items where these are at fair value and replace other balance sheet items using market consistent valuations. The determination of the technical provisions and the discount rate to be applied in determining the technical provisions is still under debate and the outcome of discussions regarding these matters is uncertain as key parameters will only be established in the implementing technical standards. However, it is certain that the determination of the technical provisions and the discount rate to be applied will have a material impact on the amount of own funds and the volatility of the level of own funds. The SCR is a risk-based capital requirement which will be determined using either the standard formula (set out in level 2 implementing measures), or, where approved by the relevant supervisory authority, an internal model. The internal model can be used in combination with, or as an alternative to, the standard formula as a basis for the calculation of an insurer's SCR. In the Netherlands, such a model (which would include an internal model of NN) must be approved by DNB.

With the approval of the Omnibus II Directive, the definitive text of the framework directive is available. On 10 October 2014, the EC adopted a Delegated Act containing implementing rules for Solvency II. This Delegated Act entered into force on 17 January 2015. However, it is not certain what the final form of the implementing technical standards will contain. Given previous changes to the effective date of Solvency II and the possibility of further changes to the regime. Accordingly, the future effect of Solvency II on NN's business, solvency margins and capital requirements is uncertain.

While the aim of Solvency II is to introduce a harmonised, risk-based approach to solvency capital, there is a risk of differences in interpretation and a risk of a failure by financial services regulators to align Solvency II approaches across Europe, resulting in an unequal competitive landscape. This risk may be exacerbated by discretionary powers afforded to financial services regulators in Member States.

Should NN not be able to adequately comply with the Solvency II requirements in relation to capital, risk management, documentation and reporting processes, this could have a material adverse effect on its business, solvency, results of operations and financial condition.

EU Insurance Guarantee Scheme

Certain jurisdictions in which NN Group's insurance subsidiaries operate require that life insurers doing business within the jurisdiction participate in guarantee associations, which raise funds to pay contractual benefits owed pursuant to insurance policies issued by impaired, insolvent or failed insurers. The occurrence of such a guarantee event may give rise to an obligation on the relevant insurance subsidiary to pay significant amounts under the guarantee. Insurance guarantee schemes may also oblige insurers to make annual payments to the guarantee association. An insurance guarantee scheme has been in place in Japan since 1999, and NN Group is obliged to make annual contributions to the guarantee scheme. The EC has been discussing EU-wide insurance guarantee schemes for several years and intends to introduce an EU directive on insurance guarantee schemes. As at the date of the publication of this Report, no proposals for this directive have yet been published. Any introduction of insurance guarantee schemes to which NN is subject may impact our results of operations.

Single Supervisory Mechanism

In November 2014 the European Central Bank ('ECB') assumed responsibility for a significant part of the prudential supervision of banks in the Eurozone, including ING Bank, following a year-long preparatory phase which included an in-depth comprehensive assessment of the resilience and balance sheets of the biggest banks in the Eurozone. ING Bank was among the seven Dutch institutions covered by the assessment (out of 130 institutions overall). While the ECB has assumed the supervisory tasks conferred on it by the Single Supervisory Mechanism ('SSM') Regulation, the DNB will still continue to play a big role in the supervision of ING Group and ING Bank. The SSM has created a new system of financial supervision for countries within the Eurozone, with the possibility of non-Eurozone Member States participating by means of close cooperation. With the SSM only having been in place since November 2014, it is difficult at this stage to identify what exact impact the SSM will have on ING Bank and ING Group. The SSM may have a significant impact on the way ING's banking operations are supervised in Europe.

Dodd-Frank Act

On 21 July 2010, the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act ('Dodd-Frank' or 'Dodd-Frank Act') was signed into law in the U.S. The Dodd-Frank Act effects comprehensive changes to the regulation of financial services in the U.S. and has implications for non-U.S. financial institutions with a U.S. presence or that transact with U.S. counterparties, such as ING. Dodd-Frank

directs existing and newly created government agencies and bodies to perform studies and promulgate a multitude of regulations implementing the law, many of which are in place. Due to the extended period over which regulations are being implemented, we cannot predict with certainty how Dodd-Frank and such regulations will affect the financial markets generally and impact the Group's business, credit or financial strength ratings, results of operations, cash flows or financial condition or liquidity. Key aspects of Dodd-Frank that we have identified to date as possibly having an impact on the Group include:

Title VII of Dodd-Frank creates a new framework for regulation of the over-the-counter derivatives markets and certain market participants which could affect various activities of the Group and its subsidiaries. ING Capital Markets LLC, a wholly-owned indirect subsidiary of ING Bank N.V., has registered with the .S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission ('CFTC') as a swap dealer. New margin and capital requirements for market participants that will be contained in final regulations to be adopted by the SEC and the CFTC, and the Prudential Regulators, could substantially increase the cost of hedging and related operations, affect the profitability of our products or their attractiveness to our customers, or cause us to alter our hedging strategy or change the composition of risks that we do not hedge. Other regulatory requirements, including business conduct rules imposed on swap dealers, will also increase the costs of operating derivatives businesses, which could increase the costs of hedging and other activities and could cause certain dealers to limit or cease their business activities. In addition, new position limits requirements for market participants that may be contained in final regulations to be adopted by the CFTC could limit the scope of hedging activity that is permitted for commercial end users, as well as the trading activity of speculators, limiting their ability to utilize certain of our products, and could also limit the scope of our ability to provide derivatives products for our non-end user customers. The imposition of position limits, and other regulatory restrictions and requirements, could also result in reduced market liquidity, which could in turn increase market volatility and the risks and costs of hedging and other trading activities.

Pursuant to requirements of the Dodd-Frank Act, the SEC and CFTC are currently considering whether stable value contracts should be regulated as 'swap' derivative contracts. In the event that stable value contracts become subject to such regulation, certain aspects of our business could be adversely impacted, including issuance of stable value contracts and management of assets pursuant to stable value mandates.

Dodd-Frank established the Federal Insurance Office ('FIO') within the U.S. Department of the Treasury ('Treasury Department') to be headed by a director appointed by the Secretary of the Treasury Department. While not having a general supervisory or regulatory authority over the business of insurance, the director of this office would perform various functions with respect to insurance, including participating in the FSOC's decisions regarding insurers (potentially including the Group and its subsidiaries) to be designated for stricter regulation by the Federal Reserve. The FIO may recommend enhanced regulations to states.

Dodd-Frank also established the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau ('CFPB') as an independent agency within the Federal Reserve to regulate consumer financial products and services offered primarily for personal, family or household purposes. The CFPB has significant authority to implement and enforce federal consumer financial laws, including the new protections established under Dodd-Frank, as well as the authority to identify and prohibit unfair, deceptive and abusive acts and practices. In addition, the CFPB has broad supervisory, examination and enforcement authority over certain consumer products, such as mortgage lending. Insurance products and services are not within the CFPB's general jurisdiction, and broker-dealers and investment advisers are not subject to the CFPB's jurisdiction when acting in their registered capacity.

On 10 December 2013, various federal agencies approved a final rule implementing Section 619 of Dodd-Frank, commonly referred to as the 'Volcker Rule' and which places limitations and restrictions on the ability of U.S. FDIC insured depository institutions and non-U.S. banks with branches or agencies in the U.S. that become subject to the U.S. Bank Holding Company Act, as well as their affiliates, to engage in certain proprietary trading or sponsor and invest in private equity and hedge funds. As a general matter, such organisations have until July of 2017 to comply with the prohibition on certain fund activities and until July of 2015 to comply with the proprietary trading prohibitions. In the event that we or one of our affiliates becomes subject to the Volcker Rule, our investment activities could be so restricted. It is expected that we will experience significant additional compliance and operational costs and may be prohibited from engaging in certain activities we currently conduct if the Volcker Rule becomes applicable to us and our affiliates.

For instance, ING Group's wholly owned subsidiary, ING Bank, may from time to time consider whether to establish a branch office in the U.S. If ING Bank were to establish a U.S. branch, we would be subject to supervision and regulation by the Federal Reserve under various laws and various restrictions on our activities under those laws, including the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956, as amended, and the International Banking Act of 1978, and, as a consequence, such supervision and regulation, including such restrictions on activities could materially impact our operations. These would include, among others, the Volcker Rule and heightened supervisory requirements and prudential standards.

Dodd-Frank also includes various securities law reforms that may affect the Group's business practices and the liabilities and/or exposures associated therewith, including a provision intended to authorise the SEC to impose on broker-dealers' fiduciary duties to their customers, as applied to investment advisers under existing law, which new standard could potentially expose certain of ING's U.S. broker-dealers to increased risk of SEC enforcement actions and liability. In 2011, the SEC staff released a study on this issue, and members of the SEC's Investor Advisory Committee voted in November 2013 to recommend the proposal implementing a uniform fiduciary standard for most brokers and registered investment advisers to the SEC.

Although the full impact of Dodd-Frank and its implementing regulations cannot be determined at this time, many of their requirements could have profound and/or adverse consequences for the financial services industry, including for us. Dodd-Frank could make it more expensive for us to conduct business, require us to make changes to our business model or satisfy increased capital requirements, subject us to greater regulatory scrutiny or to potential increases in whistleblower claims in light of the increased awards available to whistleblowers under Dodd-Frank and have a material effect on our results of operations or financial condition.

Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act

Under the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act ('FATCA'), U.S. federal tax legislation passed in 2010, a 30% withholding tax will be imposed on 'withholdable payments' made to non-U.S. financial institutions (including non-U.S. investment funds and certain other non-U.S. financial entities) that fail (or, in some cases, that have 50% affiliates which are also non-U.S. financial institutions that fail) to provide certain information regarding their U.S. accountholders and/or certain U.S. investors (such as U.S. accountholders and U.S. investors, 'U.S. accountholders') to the U.S. Internal Revenue Service ('IRS'). For non-U.S. financial institutions that fail to comply, this withholding will generally apply without regard to whether the beneficial owner of a withholdable payment is a U.S. person or would otherwise be entitled to an exemption from U.S. federal withholding tax. 'Withholdable payments' generally include, among other items, payments of U.S.-source interest and dividends and the gross proceeds from the sale or other disposition of property that may produce U.S.-source interest and dividends. Furthermore, FATCA may also impose withholding on non-U.S. source payments by non-U.S. financial institutions that comply with FATCA to non-U.S. financial institutions that fail to comply with FATCA. Withholding pursuant to FATCA will take effect on a 'phased' schedule, which started in July 2014 with respect to U.S.-source payments and will start no earlier than January 2017 with respect to non-U.S. source payments by non-U.S. financial institutions. In general, non-publicly traded debt and equity interests in investment vehicles will be treated as 'accounts' and subject to these reporting requirements. In addition, certain insurance policies and annuities are considered accounts for these purposes.

Some countries, including the Netherlands, have entered into, and other countries are expected to enter into, agreements ('intergovernmental agreements' or 'IGAs') with the United States to facilitate the type of information reporting required under FATCA. While the existence of IGAs will not eliminate the risk of the withholding described above, these agreements are expected to reduce that risk for financial institutions and investors in countries that have entered into IGAs. IGAs will often require financial institutions in those countries to report some information on their U.S. accountholders to the taxing authorities of those countries, who will then pass the information to the IRS.

The Group closely monitors all present and new legislation that is or will be applicable for its organisation, and is currently investigating all implications of FATCA and legislation of countries that have entered into IGAs. While investigating these implications, the Group is and will be in close contact with all of its stakeholders, including its peers and financial industry representative organisations.

The Group intends to take all necessary steps to comply with FATCA (including entering into such agreements with the U.S. tax authorities as may be required), in accordance with the time frame set by the U.S. tax authorities. However, if the Group cannot enter into such agreements or satisfy the requirements thereunder (including as a result of local laws in non-IGA countries prohibiting information-sharing with the IRS, as a result of contracts or local laws prohibiting withholding on certain payments to accountholders, policyholders, annuitants or other investors, or as a result of the failure of accountholders, policyholders, annuitants or other investors to provide requested information), certain payments to the Group may be subject to withholding under FATCA. The possibility of such withholding and the need for accountholders, policyholders, annuitants and investors to provide certain information may adversely affect the sales of certain of the Group's products. In addition, entering into agreements with the IRS and compliance with the terms of such agreements and with FATCA any regulations or other guidance promulgated thereunder or any legislation promulgated under an IGA may substantially increase the Group's compliance costs. Because legislation and regulations implementing FATCA and the IGAs remain under development, the future impact of this law on the Group is uncertain.

Common Reporting Standard

Similarly, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development ('OECD') has developed a Common Reporting Standard ('CRS') and model competent authority agreement to enable the multilateral and automatic exchange of financial account information. The CRS will require financial institutions to identify and report the tax residency and account details of nonresident customers to the relevant authorities in jurisdictions adhering to the CRS. In October 2014, 51 jurisdictions, including the Netherlands, signed a multilateral competent authority agreement to automatically exchange information pursuant to the CRS. The first information exchange by the Netherlands (as for most of the signatories) is intended by September 2017.

Bank Recovery and Resolution Regimes

In June 2012, the 'Intervention Act' (Wet bijzondere maatregelen financiële ondernemingen) came into force in the Netherlands, with retroactive effect from 20 January 2012. The Intervention Act mainly amends the Dutch Financial Supervision Act and the Dutch Insolvency Act and allows Dutch authorities to take certain actions when banks and insurers fail and cannot be wound up under ordinary insolvency rules due to concerns regarding the stability of the overall financial system. It is composed of two categories of measures. The first category of measures can be applied if a bank or insurer experiences serious financial problems and includes measures related to the timely and efficient liquidation of failing banks and insurers. This set gives the DNB the power to transfer customer deposits (only in the case of banks), assets and/or liabilities other than deposits and issued shares of an entity to third parties or to a bridge bank if the DNB deems that, in respect of the relevant bank or insurance company, there are signs of an adverse development with respect to its funds, solvency, liquidity or technical provisions and it can be reasonably foreseen that such development will not be sufficiently or timely reversed. The DNB was also granted the power to influence the internal decision-making of failing institutions through the appointment of an 'undisclosed administrator'. The second category of measures can be applied if the stability of the financial system is in serious and immediate danger as a result of the situation of a Dutch financial institution and includes measures intended to safeguard the stability of the financial system as a whole. This set of measures grants the authority to the Minister of Finance to take immediate measures or proceed to expropriation of assets of or shares in the capital of failing financial institutions. For example, on 1 February 2013, the Dutch State nationalised the SNS Reaal bank and insurance group ('SNS Reaal') by expropriating shares, Core Tier 1 securities and other subordinated debts issued by SNS Reaal. The Dutch Ministry of Finance has stated that it will impose in 2014 an aggregate EUR 1 billion one-time levy on Dutch banks, including ING Bank, to share the costs of the SNS Reaal nationalisation. This resulted in a charge of EUR 303 million for ING Bank, which was paid in the first three quarters of 2014.

The Intervention Act also includes measures that limit the ability of counterparties to exercise their rights after any of the measures mentioned above has been put into place, with certain exceptions. Within the context of the resolution tools provided in the Intervention Act, holders of debt securities of a bank subject to resolution could also be affected by issuer substitution or replacement, transfer of debt, expropriation, modification of terms and/or suspension or termination of listings.

The Intervention Act will need to be amended following the implementation of the 'Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive'. The Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive was adopted by the European Parliament in April 2014 and by the European Council in June 2014. On 12 June 2014, the Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive was published in the Official Journal of the EU and came into effect on 2 July 2014. The Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive includes, among other things, the obligation for institutions to draw up a recovery plan and the obligation for resolution authorities in the Member States to draw up a resolution plan, the resolution authorities' power to take early intervention measures and the establishment of a European system of financing arrangements. The Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive confers extensive resolution powers to the resolution authorities, including the power to require the sale of (part of a) business, to establish a bridge institution, to separate assets and to take bail-in measures. The stated aim of the Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive is to provide supervisory authorities, including the relevant Dutch resolution authority, with common tools and powers to address banking crises pre-emptively in order to safeguard financial stability and minimise taxpayers' exposure to losses.

Among the powers proposed to be granted to supervisory authorities under the Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive include, among others, the introduction of a statutory 'write-down and conversion' power and a 'bail-in' power, which would give the relevant Dutch resolution authority the power to (i) cancel existing shares and/or dilute existing shareholders by converting relevant capital instruments or eligible liabilities into shares of the surviving entity and (ii) cancel all or a portion of the principal amount of, or interest on, certain unsecured liabilities (which could include certain securities that have been or will be issued by ING) of a failing financial institution and/or to convert certain debt claims (which could include certain securities that have been or will be issued by ING) into another security, including ordinary shares of the surviving group entity, if any. It is currently contemplated that the majority of measures (including the write-down and conversion powers relating to Tier 1 capital instruments and Tier 2 capital instruments) set out in the Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive will be implemented with effect from the autumn of 2015, with the bail-in power for other eligible liabilities (which could include any securities that have been issued or will be issued by ING, that are not Tier 1 or Tier 2 capital instruments) expected to be introduced by 1 January 2016.

In addition to a 'write-down and conversion' power and a 'bail-in' power, the powers currently proposed to be granted to the relevant Dutch resolution authority under the Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive include the two categories of measures introduced by the Intervention Act, as described above. In addition, the Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive stipulates, among the broader powers to be granted to the relevant resolution authority, that it will confer powers to the relevant resolution authority to amend the maturity date and/or any interest payment date of debt instruments or other eligible liabilities of the relevant financial institution and/or impose a temporary suspension of payments.

Many of the rules implementing the Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive will be contained in detailed technical and implementing rules, the exact text of which is subject to agreement and adoption by the relevant EU legislative institutions. There remains, therefore, uncertainty regarding the ultimate nature and scope of these resolution powers and, when implemented, how they would affect us and the securities that have been issued or will be issued by us. Accordingly, it is not yet possible to assess the full impact of the Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive on ING and on holders of any securities issued or to be issued by ING, and there can be no assurance that, once it is fully implemented, the manner in which it is applied or the taking of any actions by the relevant Dutch resolution authority contemplated in the Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive would not adversely affect the rights of holders of the securities issued or to be issued by ING, the price or value of an investment in such securities and/or ING's ability to satisfy its obligations under such securities.

Finally, as part of the road towards a full banking union, on 10 July 2013, the EC published a draft Regulation for a Single Resolution Mechanism ('SRM') with the aim to have a Single Resolution Board to be responsible for key decisions on how a bank subject to SSM supervision is to be resolved if a bank has irreversible financial difficulties and cannot be wound up under normal insolvency proceedings without destabilizing the financial system. The SRM was adopted by the European Parliament in April 2014 and by the European Council in July 2014 and was published in the Official Journal of the EU on 30 July 2014 and came into effect on 19 August 2014. The SRM will apply from 1 January 2016, with the exception of certain provisions relating to the establishment of the SRM and the making of delegated and implementing acts, which will apply at earlier dates.

There are certain differences between the provisions of the Intervention Act, the Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive and the SRM Regulation, which may further bring future changes to the law. We are unable to predict what specific effects the Intervention Act and the implementation of the Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive and the entry into force of the SRM Regulation may have on the financial system generally, our counterparties, holders of securities issued by or to be issued by us, or on us, our operations or our financial position.

ING Bank has set up an all-encompassing recovery planning process to enhance its readiness and decisiveness to tackle financial crises on its own strength. ING Bank's recovery plan has been submitted to and approved by the DNB in November 2012 and is updated at least annually. Furthermore during 2013, ING Bank submitted information on the basis of which the Dutch Resolution Authorities will be able to develop a Resolution Plan.

Financial Stability Board

In addition to the adoption of the foregoing measures, regulators and lawmakers around the world are actively reviewing the causes of the financial crisis and exploring steps to avoid similar problems in the future. In many respects, this work is being led by the FSB, consisting of representatives of national financial authorities of the G20 nations. The G20 and the FSB have issued a series of papers

and recommendations intended to produce significant changes in how financial companies, particularly companies that are members of large and complex financial groups, should be regulated. These proposals address such issues as financial group supervision, capital and solvency standards, systemic economic risk, corporate governance, including executive compensation, and a host of related issues associated with responses to the financial crisis. One of the proposals is a common international standard on Total Loss-Absorbing Capacity ('TLAC') for global systemically important banks ('G-SIBs'). The policy proposal consists of a set of principles and a detailed term sheet on the adequacy of loss-absorbing and recapitalisation capacity of G-SIBs. This proposal will be finalised in 2015 taking into account a consultation and impact assessment studies. It is currently expected that the TLAC will not apply until 1 January 2019. The lawmakers and regulatory authorities in a number of jurisdictions in which the Group's subsidiaries conduct business have already begun introducing legislative and regulatory changes consistent with G20 and FSB recommendations, and the potential impact of such changes on our business, results of operations and financial condition remains unclear.

Additional Governmental Measures

Governments in the Netherlands and abroad have also intervened over the past few years on an unprecedented scale, responding to stresses experienced in the global financial markets. Some of the measures adopted subject us and other institutions for which they were designed to additional restrictions, oversight or costs. Restrictions related to the Core Tier 1 Securities and the Illiquid Asset Back-up Facility ('IABF') (together, the 'Dutch State Transactions') and the Restructuring Plan are further described in Note 56 'Transactions with the Dutch State and the European Commission Restructuring Plan' to the consolidated financial statements of ING Group.

Sections 382 and 383 of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, as amended, operate as anti-abuse rules, the general purpose of which is to prevent trafficking in tax losses and credits, but which can apply without regard to whether a 'loss trafficking' transaction occurs or is intended. These rules are triggered when an 'ownership change' — generally defined as when the ownership of a company, or its parent, changes by more than 50% (measured by value) on a cumulative basis in any three-year period — occurs. If triggered, the amount of the taxable income for any post-change year which may be offset by a pre-change loss is subject to an annual limitation. In March 2014, our U.S. subsidiaries had an 'ownership change' for purposes of Sections 382 and 383. Future increases of capital or other changes in ownership may adversely affect our cumulative ownership, and could trigger an 'ownership change', which could further limit the ability of our U.S. subsidiaries to use tax attributes, and could correspondingly decrease the value of these attributes. The risk going forward, however, is significantly less.

In February 2013, the EC adopted a proposal setting out the details of the financial transaction tax, which mirrors the scope of its original proposal of September 2011, to be levied on transactions in financial instruments by financial institutions if at least one of the parties to the transaction is located in the financial transaction tax zone ('FTT-zone'), currently limited to 11 participating Member States (Austria, Belgium, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia and Spain). The initial proposal foresaw the financial transaction tax for the 11 participating Member States entering into effect on 1 January 2014, which would have then required us to pay a tax on transactions in financial instruments with parties (including Group affiliates) located in such FTT-zone. On 6 May 2014, the Economic and Financial Affairs Council noted that 10 out of the 11 original participating Member States had proposed implementation of the FTT in two stages, the earliest stage being implemented from 1 January 2016. However, on 31 October 2014, the Italian Presidency of the Council of the EU announced that negotiations between participating Member States had yet to agree on key issues. The actual implementation date will thus depend on the future approval by the European Council and consultation of other EU institutions, and the subsequent transposition into local law. Depending on its final form, the introduction of an FTT in the Netherlands or outside the Netherlands could have substantial adverse effect on ING's business and results.

As of 1 October 2012, banks that are active in the Netherlands are subject to bank tax pursuant to a tax regulation that also includes measures to moderate bonuses awarded to executives at such banks. This tax results in increased taxes on ING's banking operations, which could negatively impact our operations, financial condition and liquidity.

In May 2012, the International Association of Insurance Supervisors ('IAIS'), of which the DNB is a member, published a proposed assessment methodology for designating global systemically important insurers ('G-SIIs'), as part of the global initiative to identify G-SIFIs. Insurers identified as G-SIIs would be subject to additional policy measures. The FSB published an initial list of G-SIIs in July 2013 and an updated list in November 2014, neither of which included NN Group. However, the group of G-SIIs is expected to be updated annually and published by the FSB each November based on new data, and there can be no assurance that we will be excluded from it in the future. By November 2015, the IAIS is expected to further develop the G-SII assessment methodology as needed to ensure, among other things, that it appropriately addresses all types of insurance and reinsurance, and other financial activities of global insurers. The revised G-SII assessment methodology will be applied from 2016. The proposed policy measures, which are still under development and discussion and which would need to be implemented by legislation or regulation in relevant jurisdictions, include higher capital requirements (both for non-traditional and non-insurance activities and for G-SIIs overall), enhanced supervision (including more detailed and frequent reporting, removal of barriers to orderly resolution of the G-SII and reduction of the G-SII's systemic risk over time), as well as additional measures to improve the degree of self-sufficiency of a G-SII's different business segments (including separate legal structures for traditional insurance and non-traditional or non-insurance activities, and restrictions on intercompany subsidies). If NN Group were identified as a G-SII in the future, compliance costs will increase and its competitive position relative to other insurers that were not designated as G-SIIs may be adversely affected.

Continued risk of resurgence of turbulence and ongoing volatility in the financial markets and the economy generally have adversely affected, and may continue to adversely affect, our business, financial condition and results of operations.

General

Our business and results of operations are materially affected by conditions in the global capital markets and the economy generally. Concerns over the slow economic recovery, the European sovereign debt crisis, the potential exit of certain countries from the Eurozone, unemployment, the availability and cost of credit, credit spreads, quantitative easing within the Eurozone through bond repurchases, the ECB's targeted longer-term refinancing operation ('TLTRO'), the level of U.S. national debt and the U.S. housing market, inflation/deflation levels, energy costs and heightened geopolitical issues, such as those in connection with Ukraine and Russia and subsequent economic sanctions on certain of Russian individuals and business entities imposed by the U.S. and European governments, all have contributed to increased volatility and diminished expectations for the economy and the markets in recent years.

While certain of such conditions have improved during the period between 2011 and 2014, these conditions have generally resulted in greater volatility, widening of credit spreads and overall shortage of liquidity and tightening of financial markets throughout the world. In addition, prices for many types of asset-backed securities and other structured products have significantly deteriorated. These concerns have since expanded to include a broad range of fixed income securities, including those rated investment grade and especially the sovereign debt of some EEA countries and the U.S., the international credit and interbank money markets generally, and a wide range of financial institutions and markets, asset classes, such as public and private equity, and real estate sectors. As a result of these and other factors, sovereign governments across the globe, including in regions where the Group operates, have also experienced budgetary and other financial difficulties, which have resulted in austerity measures, downgrades in credit rating by credit agencies, planned or implemented bail-out measures and, on occasion, civil unrest (for further details regarding sovereign debt concerns, see '—U.S. Sovereign Credit Rating' and '—European Sovereign Debt Crisis' below). As a result, the market for fixed income instruments has experienced decreased liquidity, increased price volatility, credit downgrade events, and increased probability of default. In addition, the confluence of these and other factors has resulted in volatile foreign exchange markets. Securities that are less liquid are more difficult to value and may be hard to dispose of. International equity markets have also continued to experience heightened volatility and turmoil, with issuers, including ourselves, that have exposure to the real estate, mortgage, private equity and credit markets particularly affected. These events and market upheavals, including high levels of volatility, have had and may continue to have an adverse effect on our revenues and results of operations, in part because we have a large investment portfolio and extensive real estate activities around the world.

In addition, the confidence of customers in financial institutions is being tested. Consumer confidence in financial institutions may, for example, decrease due to our or our competitors' failure to communicate to customers the terms of, and the benefits to customers of, complex or high-fee financial products. Reduced confidence could have an adverse effect on our revenues and results of operations, including through an increase of lapses or surrenders of policies and withdrawal of deposits. Because a significant percentage of our customer deposit base is originated via Internet banking, a loss of customer confidence may result in a rapid withdrawal of deposits over the Internet.

As a result of the ongoing and unprecedented volatility in the global financial markets since 2007, we incurred in past years substantial negative revaluations and impairments on our investment portfolio, which have impacted our shareholders' equity and earnings. During the period between 2011 and 2014, the revaluation reserve position improved substantially, positively impacting shareholders' equity. Although we believe that, as of 31 December 2014, reserves for insurance liabilities were generally adequate at the Group, inadequacies in certain product areas have developed. The aforementioned developments in the global financial markets and, in particular, decreasing interest rates resulted in a decrease in our overall reserves adequacy and may further continue to produce reserves inadequacies in the future, potentially leading to reserve strengthening.

The aforementioned impacts have arisen primarily as a result of valuation and impairment issues arising in connection with our investments in real estate (both in and outside the U.S.) and private equity, exposures to European sovereign debt and to U.S. mortgage-related structured investment products, including sub-prime and 'Alt-A' residential and commercial mortgage-backed securities, collateralised debt obligations and collateralised loan obligations, monoline insurer guarantees, private equity and other investments. In many cases, the markets for investments and instruments have been and remain highly illiquid, and issues relating to counterparty credit ratings and other factors have exacerbated pricing and valuation uncertainties. Valuation of such investments and instruments is a complex process involving the consideration of market transactions, pricing models, management judgment and other factors, and is also impacted by external factors, such as underlying mortgage default rates, interest rates, rating agency actions and property valuations. Although we continue to monitor our exposures, there can be no assurance that we will not experience further negative impacts to our shareholders' equity, solvency position, liquidity financial condition or profit and loss accounts in future periods.

U.S. Sovereign Credit Rating

In 2011, Standard & Poor's Ratings Services ('S&P') lowered its long-term sovereign credit rating on the U.S. from AAA to AA+. Although other ratings agencies have not similarly lowered the long-term sovereign credit rating of the U.S., they have put that credit rating on review. Amid the lingering uncertainty over the long-term outlook for the fiscal position and the future economic performance of the U.S. within the global economy and potential future budgetary restrictions in the U.S., as illustrated by the recent budget negotiations and partial shutdown of the U.S. government in October 2013, there continues to be a perceived risk of a future sovereign credit ratings downgrade of the U.S. government, including the rating of U.S. Treasury securities. On 15 October 2013, Fitch Ratings placed the U.S.'s AAA credit rating under 'rating watch negative' in response to the crisis, a step that would precede an actual downgrade, which was however upgraded again to 'stable' in March 2014. It is foreseeable that the ratings and perceived

creditworthiness of instruments issued, insured or guaranteed by institutions, agencies or instrumentalities directly linked to the U.S. government could also be correspondingly affected by any such downgrade. Instruments of this nature are key assets on the balance sheets of financial institutions and are widely used as collateral by financial institutions to meet their day-to-day cash flows in the short-term debt market. The impact of any further downgrades to the sovereign credit rating of the U.S. government or a default by the U.S. government to satisfy its debt obligations likely would create broader financial turmoil and uncertainty, which would weigh heavily on the global financial system and could consequently result in a significant adverse impact to the Group.

European Sovereign Debt Crisis

In 2010, a financial crisis emerged in Europe, triggered by high budget deficits and rising direct and contingent sovereign debt in Greece, Ireland, Italy, Portugal and Spain, which created concerns about the ability of these EU 'peripheral' Member States to continue to service their sovereign debt obligations. Significant concerns regarding the sovereign debt of these countries, as well as certain other countries of the 'core' EU Member States are ongoing and, in some cases, have required countries to obtain emergency financing. These concerns impacted financial markets and resulted in high and volatile bond yields on the sovereign debt of many EU nations. If these or other countries require additional financial support or if sovereign credit ratings continue to decline, yields on the sovereign debt of certain countries may continue to increase, the cost of borrowing may increase and credit may become more limited. Despite assistance packages to Greece, Ireland, Portugal and Cyprus, the creation of a European Financial Stability Facility as a temporary rescue mechanism in May 2010, the approval of a further bail-out of Greece by the relevant government and monetary bodies of the Eurozone and the International Monetary Fund in March 2012, and the establishment of the European Stability Mechanism in October 2012 (which provided its first financial assistance in February 2013 for the recapitalisation of Spain's banking sector), uncertainty over the outcome of the EU governments' financial support programs and concerns regarding sovereign finances persisted during the course of 2014. Market concerns over the direct and indirect exposure of European banks and insurers to the EU sovereign debt further resulted in a widening of credit spreads and increased costs of funding for some European financial institutions. In December 2011, European leaders agreed to implement steps (and continue to meet regularly to review, amend and supplement such steps) to encourage greater long-term fiscal responsibility on the part of the individual Member States and bolster market confidence in the Euro and European sovereign debt, and the Treaty on Stability, Coordination and Governance ('Fiscal Treaty') was signed by 25 EU Member States in March 2012 and entered into force on 1 January 2014 and ratified by and entered into force for all signatory Member States in April 2014. However, the Fiscal Treaty needs to be implemented into national law of the relevant Member States within one year of the Fiscal Treaty entering into force and incorporated into the existing EU treaties, which is expected to take many years, and, even if such steps are implemented, there is no guarantee that they will ultimately and finally resolve uncertainties regarding the ability of Eurozone states to continue to service their sovereign debt obligations. Further, despite such long-term structural adjustments and improvements being proposed and implemented, the future of the Euro in its current form, and with its current membership, remains uncertain. The financial turmoil in Europe continues to be a threat to global capital markets and remains a challenge to global financial stability.

Risks and ongoing concerns about the debt crisis in Europe, as well as the possible default by, or exit from, the Eurozone of one or more Member States and/or the replacement of the Euro by one or more successor currencies, could have a detrimental impact on the global economic recovery, sovereign and non-sovereign debt in these European countries and the financial condition of European and other financial institutions, including us. For example, concerns regarding Greece's potential exit from the Eurozone have created unease in the global economy in late 2014 leading to early 2015. Additionally, the possibility of capital market volatility spreading through a highly integrated and interdependent banking system remains elevated. In the event of any default or similar event with respect to a sovereign issuer, some financial institutions may suffer significant losses, following which they would require additional capital, and such capital may not be available. Market and economic disruptions stemming from the crisis in Europe have affected, and may continue to affect, consumer confidence levels and spending, bankruptcy rates, levels of incurrence of, and default on, consumer debt and home prices, among other factors. There can be no assurance that the market disruptions in Europe, including the increased cost of funding for certain government and financial institutions, will not spread, nor can there be any assurance that future assistance packages will be available or, even if provided, will be sufficient to stabilise the affected countries and markets in Europe or elsewhere. To the extent uncertainty regarding the economic recovery continues to negatively impact consumer confidence and consumer credit factors, our business and results of operations could be significantly and adversely impacted. In addition, the possible exit from the Eurozone of one or more European states and/or the replacement of the Euro by one or more successor currencies could create significant uncertainties regarding the enforceability and valuation of Euro-denominated contracts to which we (or our counterparties) are a party and thereby materially and adversely affect our and/or our counterparties' liquidity, financial condition and operations. Such uncertainties may include the risk that (i) an obligation that was expected to be paid in Euros is redenominated into a new currency (which may not be easily converted into other currencies without incurring significant cost), (ii) currencies in some Member States may depreciate relative to others, (iii) former Eurozone Member States may impose capital controls that would make it complicated or illegal to move capital out of such countries, and/or (iv) some courts (in particular, courts in countries that have left the Eurozone) may not recognise and/or enforce claims denominated in Euros (and/or in any replacement currency). The possible exit from the Eurozone of one or more Member States and/or the replacement of the Euro by one or more successor currencies could also cause other significant market dislocations and lead to other adverse economic and operational impacts that are inherently difficult to predict or evaluate, and otherwise have potentially materially adverse impacts on us and our counterparties, including our depositors, lenders, borrowers and other customers. These factors, combined with volatile oil prices, reduced business and consumer confidence and/or continued high unemployment, have negatively affected the economy of main geographic regions where we conduct our business. Our results of operations, liquidity position, capital position, investment portfolio and AUM are exposed to these risks and may be adversely affected as a result. In addition, in the event of extreme prolonged market events, such as the recent global credit crisis, we could incur significant losses and may lead to USD funding shortage for EU Banks.

On 13 January 2012, S&P proceeded to downgrade the credit ratings of France, Austria, Italy, Spain, Portugal and a handful of other EEA states (while reaffirming the credit ratings of Germany, the Netherlands, Ireland and other EEA states and changed the outlook to 'negative' for 15 Eurozone countries). Further related downgrades of European sovereign ratings and of corporate ratings have occurred since that date, including the downgrade of the Netherlands' sovereign debt rating from AAA to AA+ by S&P on 29 November 2013. These announcements, as well as any future changes are of high importance to the Group, because they affect our financing costs and, as a result, our profitability.

Because we operate in highly competitive markets, including our home market, we may not be able to increase or maintain our market share, which may have an adverse effect on our results of operations.

There is substantial competition in the Netherlands and the other countries in which we do business for the types of insurance, commercial banking, investment banking, asset management and other products and services we provide. Customer loyalty and retention can be influenced by a number of factors, including brand recognition, reputation, relative service levels, investment performance of our products, the prices and attributes of products and services, scope of distribution, perceived financial strength, credit ratings and actions taken by competitors. A decline in our competitive position as to one or more of these factors could adversely impact our ability to maintain or further increase our market share, which would adversely affect our results of operations. Such competition is most pronounced in our more mature markets of the Netherlands, Belgium, the rest of Western Europe and Australia. In recent years, however, competition in emerging markets, such as Latin America, Asia and Central and Eastern Europe, has also increased as large financial services companies from more developed countries have sought to establish themselves in markets which are perceived to offer higher growth potential, and as local institutions have become more sophisticated and competitive and proceeded to form alliances, mergers or strategic relationships with our competitors. The Netherlands is our largest market. Our main competitors in the banking sector in the Netherlands are ABN AMRO Bank and Rabobank. Our main competitors in the insurance sector in the Netherlands are Achmea, ASR, Delta Lloyd and Aegon. Competition could also increase due to new entrants in the markets that may have new operating models that are not burdened by potentially costly legacy operations. Increasing competition in these or any of our other markets may significantly impact our results if we are unable to match the products and services offered by our competitors. Future economic turmoil may accelerate additional consolidation activity. Over time, certain sectors of the financial services industry have become more concentrated, as institutions involved in a broad range of financial services have been acquired by or merged into other firms or have declared bankruptcy. These developments could result in our competitors gaining greater access to capital and liquidity, expanding their ranges of products and services, or gaining geographic diversity. We may experience pricing pressures as a result of these factors in the event that some of our competitors seek to increase market share by reducing prices. In addition, under the Restructuring Plan, we were required to agree to certain restrictions imposed by the EC, including with respect to our price leadership in EU banking markets and our ability to make acquisitions of financial institutions. See 'Risks related to the Restructuring Plan — The limitations required by the EC on our ability to compete and to make acquisitions could materially impact the Group'. Furthermore, if our financial strength and credit ratings are lower than those of our competitors, we may experience increased surrenders and/or a significant decline in sales of insurance and annuities products. Failure to effectively compete within the industry may thus have a material adverse impact on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

The inability of counterparties to meet their financial obligations could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations.

General

Third parties that owe us money, securities or other assets may not pay or perform under their obligations. These parties include the issuers and guarantors (including sovereigns) of securities we hold, borrowers under loans originated, reinsurers, customers, trading counterparties, securities lending and repurchase counterparties, counterparties under swaps, credit default and other derivative contracts, clearing agents, exchanges, clearing houses and other financial intermediaries. Defaults by one or more of these parties on their obligations to us due to bankruptcy, lack of liquidity, downturns in the economy or real estate values, operational failure or other factors, or even rumours about potential defaults by one or more of these parties or regarding a severe distress of the financial services industry generally, could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations, financial condition and liquidity. In light of experiences with significant constraints on liquidity and the high cost of funds in the interbank lending market, and given the high level of interdependence between financial institutions, we are and will continue to be subject to the risk of deterioration of the commercial and financial soundness, or perceived soundness, of sovereigns and other financial services institutions. This is particularly relevant to our franchise as an important and large counterparty in equity, fixed income and foreign exchange markets, including related derivatives, which would be then exposed to concentration risk.

We routinely execute a high volume of transactions, such as unsecured debt instruments, derivative transactions and equity investments with counterparties and customers in the financial services industry, including brokers and dealers, commercial and investment banks, mutual and hedge funds, insurance companies, institutional clients, futures clearing merchants, swap dealers, and other institutions, resulting in large periodic settlement amounts, which may result in our having significant credit exposure to one or more of such counterparties or customers. As a result, we face concentration risk with respect to liabilities or amounts we expect to collect from specific counterparties and customers. We are exposed to increased counterparty risk as a result of recent financial institution failures and weakness and will continue to be exposed to the risk of loss if counterparty financial institutions fail or are otherwise unable to meet their obligations. A default by, or even concerns about the creditworthiness of, one or more of these counterparties or customers or other financial services institutions could therefore have an adverse effect on our results of operations or liquidity.

With respect to secured transactions, our credit risk may be exacerbated when the collateral held by us cannot be realised, or is liquidated at prices not sufficient to recover the full amount of the loan or derivative exposure due us. We also have exposure to a

number of financial institutions in the form of unsecured debt instruments, derivative transactions and equity investments. For example, we hold certain hybrid regulatory capital instruments issued by financial institutions which permit the issuer to defer coupon payments on the occurrence of certain events or at their option. The EC has indicated that, in certain circumstances, it may require these financial institutions to defer payment. If this were to happen, we expect that such instruments may experience ratings downgrades and/or a drop in value and we may have to treat them as impaired, which could result in significant losses. There is no assurance that losses on, or impairments to the carrying value of, these assets would not materially and adversely affect our business, results of operations or financial condition.

In addition, we are subject to the risk that our rights against third parties may not be enforceable in all circumstances. The deterioration or perceived deterioration in the credit quality of third parties whose securities or obligations we hold could result in losses and/or adversely affect our ability to rehypothecate or otherwise use those securities or obligations for liquidity purposes. A significant downgrade in the credit ratings of our counterparties could also have a negative impact on our income and risk weighting, leading to increased capital requirements. While in many cases we are permitted to require additional collateral from counterparties that experience financial difficulty, disputes may arise as to the amount of collateral we are entitled to receive and the value of pledged assets. Our credit risk may also be exacerbated when the collateral we hold cannot be realised or is liquidated at prices not sufficient to recover the full amount of the loan or derivative exposure that is due to us, which is most likely to occur during periods of illiquidity and depressed asset valuations, such as those experienced during the recent financial crisis of 2008. The termination of contracts and the foreclosure on collateral may subject us to claims for the improper exercise of our rights under such contracts. Bankruptcies, downgrades and disputes with counterparties as to the valuation of collateral tend to increase in times of market stress and illiquidity. Any of these developments or losses could materially and adversely affect our business, financial condition, results of operations, liquidity and/or prospects.

Reinsurers

Our insurance operations have bought protection for risks that exceed certain risk tolerance levels set for both our life and non-life businesses. This protection is bought through reinsurance arrangements in order to reduce possible losses. However, we remain liable to the underlying policyholders, even if the reinsurer defaults on its obligations. Because in most cases we must pay policyholders first before collecting the amount from the reinsurer, we are subject to credit risk with respect to each reinsurer for all such amounts. The inability or unwillingness of any one of these reinsurers to meet its financial obligations to us, or the insolvency of our reinsurers, could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

Market conditions observed over the past few years may increase the risk of loans being impaired. We are exposed to declining property values on the collateral supporting residential and commercial real estate lending.

We are exposed to the risk that our borrowers (including sovereigns) may not repay their loans according to their contractual terms and that the collateral securing the payment of these loans may be insufficient. We may continue to see adverse changes in the credit quality of our borrowers and counterparties, for example, as a result of their inability to refinance their indebtedness, with increasing delinquencies, defaults and insolvencies across a range of sectors. This may lead to impairment charges on loans and other assets, higher costs and additions to loan loss provisions. A significant increase in the size of our provision for loan losses could have a material adverse effect on our financial position and results of operations.

Economic and other factors could lead to further contraction in the residential mortgage and commercial lending market and to further decreases in residential and commercial property prices, which could generate substantial increases in impairment losses.

Interest rate volatility and other interest rate changes may adversely affect our profitability.

Changes in prevailing interest rates may negatively affect our business, including the level of net interest revenue we earn, and for our banking business, the levels of deposits and the demand for loans. In a period of changing interest rates, interest expense may increase and interest credited to policyholders may change at different rates than the interest earned on assets. Accordingly, changes in interest rates could decrease net interest revenue. Changes in the interest rates may negatively affect the value of our assets and our ability to realise gains or avoid losses from the sale of those assets, all of which also ultimately affect earnings and capital, as well as our regulatory solvency position. In addition, our insurance and annuity products and certain of our retirement and investment products are sensitive to inflation rate fluctuations. A sustained increase in the inflation rate in our principal markets may also negatively affect our business, financial condition and results of operations. For example, a sustained increase in the inflation rate may result in an increase in nominal market interest rates. A failure to accurately anticipate higher inflation and factor it into our product pricing assumptions may result in mispricing of our products, which could materially and adversely impact our results of operations. On the other hand, recent concerns regarding negative interest rates and the low level of interest rates generally may negatively impact our net interest income and the profitability of our life and disability insurance products, which may have an adverse impact on our profitability.

Declining interest rates or a prolonged period of low interest rates may result in:

- › lower earnings over time on investments, as reinvestments will earn lower rates;
- › increased prepayment or redemption of mortgages and fixed maturity securities in our investment portfolios, as well as increased prepayments of corporate loans. This as borrowers seek to borrow at lower interest rates potentially combined with lower credit spreads. Consequently, we may be required to reinvest the proceeds into assets at lower interest rates;
- › lower profitability as the result of a decrease in the spread between client rates earned on assets and client rates paid on savings, current account and other liabilities;

- › higher costs for certain derivative instruments that may be used to hedge certain of our product risks; and/or
- › lower profitability, since we may not be able to fully track the decline in interest rates in our savings rates;
- › lower interest rates may cause asset margins to decrease thereby lowering our results of operations. This may for example be the consequence of increased competition for investments as result of the low rates, thereby driving margins down;
- › outflow of liabilities for example due to low rates paid on them;
- › life insurance and annuity products being relatively more attractive to consumers due to minimum guarantees with respect to such products that are frequently mandated by regulators;
- › increased premium payments on products with flexible premium features;
- › a higher percentage of insurance and annuity contracts remaining in force from year to year than we anticipated in our pricing, potentially resulting in greater claims costs than we expected and creating asset-liability cash flow mismatches;
- › additional provisions for guarantees included in life insurance and annuity contracts, as the guarantees become more valuable to policyholders;
- › reserve strengthening by affecting the results of our reserve adequacy testing in extreme cases of low interest rates;
- › potential impact on the solvency level under Solvency II;
- › higher costs for certain derivative instruments that may be used to hedge certain of our product risks; and/or
- › (depending on the position) a significant collateral posting requirement associated with our interest rate hedge programs, which could materially and adversely affect liquidity and our profitability.
- › All these effects may be amplified in a (prolonged) negative rate environment. In such environment there may also be the risk that a rate is to be paid on assets, while there is no (partial) compensation on the liabilities. This will reduce our results of operations then
- › Rapidly increasing interest rates may result in:
 - › a decrease in the demand for loans;
 - › outflow of liabilities for example due to increased competition;
 - › a material adverse effect on the value of our investment portfolio by, for example, decreasing the estimated fair values of the fixed income securities within our investment portfolio;
 - › higher interest rates to be paid on debt securities that we have issued or may issue on the financial markets from time to time to finance our operations and on savings/other liabilities, which would increase our interest expenses and reduce our results of operations;
 - › in case liability outflow is experienced this may result in realised investment losses, in case investments are to be sold when prices became depressed due to the higher interest rates and/or higher credit spreads. Regardless of whether an investment loss is realised, these outflows would result in a decrease in total invested assets, and may decrease our net income.
 - › higher interest rates can lead to lower investments prices reduce the revaluation reserves, thereby lowering IFRS equity and the capital ratios. Also the lower securities value leads to a loss of liquidity generating capacity which needs to be compensated by attracting new liquidity generating capacity which reduces our results of operations;
 - › prepayment losses if prepayment rates are lower than expected or if interest rates increase too rapidly to adjust the accompanying hedges;
 - › (depending on the position) a significant collateral posting requirement associated with our interest rate hedge programs, which could materially and adversely affect liquidity; and/or
 - › decreased fee income associated with balances invested in fixed income funds.
- › an increase in policy loans, and withdrawals from and/or surrenders of life insurance policies and fixed annuity contracts as policyholders choose to forego insurance protection and seek higher investment returns. Obtaining cash to satisfy these obligations may require us to liquidate fixed maturity investments at a time when market prices for those assets are depressed because of increases in interest rates. This may result in realised investment losses. Regardless of whether we realise an investment loss, these cash payments would result in a decrease in total invested assets, and may decrease our net income. Premature withdrawals may also cause us to accelerate amortisation of deferred policy acquisition costs, which would also reduce our net income;
- › (depending on the position) a significant collateral posting requirement associated with our interest rate hedge programs, which could materially and adversely affect liquidity and our profitability; and/or
- › decreased fee income associated with a decline in the value of variable annuity account balances invested in fixed income funds.

We may incur losses due to failures of banks falling under the scope of state compensation schemes.

In the Netherlands and other jurisdictions, deposit guarantee schemes and similar funds ('Compensation Schemes') have been implemented from which compensation may become payable to customers of financial services firms in the event the financial service firm is unable to pay, or unlikely to pay, claims against it. In many jurisdictions in which we operate, these Compensation Schemes are funded, directly or indirectly, by financial services firms which operate and/or are licensed in the relevant jurisdiction. ING Bank is a participant in the Dutch Deposit Guarantee Scheme, which guarantees an amount of EUR 100,000 per person per bank (regardless of the number of accounts held). The costs involved with making compensation payments under the Dutch Deposit Guarantee Scheme are allocated among the participating banks by the DNB, based on an allocation key related to their market shares with respect to the deposits protected by the Dutch Deposit Guarantee Scheme. Given our size, we may incur significant compensation payments to be made under the Dutch Deposit Guarantee Scheme, which we may be unable to recover from the bankrupt estate. Such costs and the associated costs to be borne by us may have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition. As of 1 July 2015, the Dutch Deposit Guarantee Scheme is to change from an ex-post scheme, where we would have contributed after the failure of a firm, to an ex-ante scheme where we will pay quarterly risk-weighted contributions into a fund for the Dutch Deposit Guarantee Scheme. The fund is to grow to a target size of 1% of all deposits guaranteed under the Dutch Deposit Guarantee Scheme. The target size would have to be reached in 15 years. However, in December 2013, EU Member States and the European Parliament agreed on reforms to the EU Directive on Deposit Guarantee Scheme, which were adopted by the European parliament in April 2014 and published in the Official Journal of the EU in June 2014. Main characteristics include an ex-ante funding of up to 0.8% of the banking

sector's insured deposits for payouts, to be built up in 10 years, but ultimate contributions will be risk-based. It is yet unclear what this proposal will mean for the proposed Dutch changes.

The costs associated with potential future ex-ante contributions are today unknown and will depend on the methodology used to calculate risk-weighting, but, given our size, may be significant. See also '—We operate in highly regulated industries. Changes in laws and/or regulations governing financial services or financial institutions or the application of such laws and/or regulations governing our business may reduce our profitability — Bank Recovery and Resolution Regimes'.

Inflation and deflation may negatively affect our business.

A sustained increase in the inflation rate in our principal markets would have multiple impacts on us and may negatively affect our business, solvency position and results of operations. For example, a sustained increase in the inflation rate may result in an increase in market interest rates, which may:

- 1) decrease the estimated fair value of certain fixed income securities that we hold in our investment portfolios, resulting in:
 - › reduced levels of unrealised capital gains available to us, which could negatively impact our solvency position and net income, and/or
 - › a decrease in collateral values,
- 2) result in increased surrenders of certain life and savings products, particularly those with fixed rates below market rates,
- 3) result in insufficient level of reserves to cover actual expenses, due to an increased level of expenses in our existing life insurance book,
- 4) actual claims payments significantly exceeding associated insurance reserves in the context of certain non-life risks, due to:
 - › claims inflation (which is an increase in the amount ultimately paid to settle claims several years after the policy coverage period or event giving rise to the claim), together with
 - › an underestimation of corresponding claims reserves at the time of establishment due to a failure to fully anticipate increased inflation and its effect on the amounts ultimately payable to policyholders, and, consequently,
 - › actual claims payments significantly exceeding associated insurance reserves,
- 5) require us, as an issuer of securities, to pay higher interest rates on debt securities that we issue in the financial markets from time to time to finance our operations, which would increase our interest expenses and reduce our results of operations, and/or
- 6) result in decreased fee income associated with a decline in the variable annuity balances invested in fixed income funds.

A significant and sustained increase in inflation has historically also been associated with decreased prices for equity securities and sluggish performance of equity markets generally. A sustained decline in equity markets may:

- 1) result in impairment charges to equity securities that we hold in our investment portfolios and reduced levels of unrealised capital gains available to us which would reduce our net income and negatively impact our solvency position,
- 2) negatively impact performance, future sales and surrenders of certain products where underlying investments are often allocated to equity funds,
- 3) negatively impact the ability of our asset management subsidiaries to retain and attract AUM, as well as the value of assets they do manage, which may negatively impact their results of operations, and/or
- 4) result in decreased fee income associated with a decline in the variable annuity balances invested in fixed income funds.
- 5) lower the value of our equity investments impacting our capital position.

In addition, a failure to accurately anticipate higher inflation and factor it into our product pricing and reserves assumptions may result in a systemic mispricing of our products, resulting in underwriting losses, which would negatively impact our results of operations.

On the other hand, deflation experienced in our principal markets may also adversely affect our financial performance. In recent years, the risk of low inflation (inflation continued to be positive for the major part of 2014 but well below the 2% growth rate of harmonised indices of consumer prices. In December 2014, however, prices were 0.2% lower than the same month a year earlier) and even deflation (i.e., a continued period with negative rates of inflation) in the Eurozone has materialized. Deflation may erode collateral values and diminish the quality of loans and cause a decrease in borrowing levels, which would negatively affect our business and results of operations.

Risks related to the group's business, operations and regulatory environment

We may be unable to manage our risks successfully through derivatives.

We employ various economic hedging strategies with the objective of mitigating the market risks that are inherent in our business and operations. These risks include currency fluctuations, changes in the fair value of our investments, the impact of interest rates, equity markets and credit spread changes, the occurrence of credit defaults, changes in client behaviour and changes in mortality and longevity. We seek to control these risks by, among other things, entering into a number of derivative instruments, such as swaps, options, futures and forward contracts, including, from time to time, macro hedges for parts of our business, either directly as a counterparty or as a credit support provider to affiliate counterparties.

Developing an effective strategy for dealing with these risks is complex, and no strategy can completely insulate us from risks associated with those fluctuations. Our hedging strategies also rely on assumptions and projections regarding our assets, liabilities, general market factors and the creditworthiness of our counterparties that may prove to be incorrect or prove to be inadequate. Accordingly, our hedging activities may not have the desired beneficial impact on our results of operations or financial condition. Poorly designed strategies or improperly executed transactions could actually increase our risks and losses. Hedging strategies involve transaction costs and other costs, and if we terminate a hedging arrangement, we may also be required to pay additional costs, such

as transaction fees or breakage costs. There have been periods in the past, and it is likely that there will be periods in the future, during which we have incurred or may incur losses on transactions, possibly significant, after taking into account our hedging strategies. Further, the nature and timing of our hedging transactions could actually increase our risk and losses. Hedging instruments we use to manage product and other risks might not perform as intended or expected, which could result in higher (un)realised losses, such as credit value adjustment risks or unexpected P&L effects, and unanticipated cash needs to collateralise or settle such transactions. Adverse market conditions can limit the availability and increase the costs of hedging instruments, and such costs may not be recovered in the pricing of the underlying products being hedged. In addition, hedging counterparties may fail to perform their obligations, resulting in unhedged exposures and losses on positions that are not collateralised. As such, our hedging strategies and the derivatives that we use or may use may not adequately mitigate or offset the risk of interest rate volatility, and our hedging transactions may result in losses.

Our hedging strategy additionally relies on the assumption that hedging counterparties remain able and willing to provide the hedges required by our strategy. Increased regulation, market shocks, worsening market conditions (whether due to the ongoing Euro crisis or otherwise), and/or other factors that affect or are perceived to affect the financial condition, liquidity and creditworthiness of ING may reduce the ability and/or willingness of such counterparties to engage in hedging contracts with us and/or other parties, affecting our overall ability to hedge our risks and adversely affecting our business, operations, financial condition and liquidity.

ING Group may be unable to retain key personnel.

As a financial services enterprise with a decentralised management structure, ING Group relies to a considerable extent on the quality of local management in the various countries in which it operates. The success of ING Group's operations is dependent, among other things, on its ability to attract and retain highly qualified professional personnel. Competition for key personnel in most countries in which ING Group operates is intense. ING Group's ability to attract and retain key personnel, in particular senior officers, experienced portfolio managers, mutual fund managers and sales executives, is dependent on a number of factors, including prevailing market conditions and compensation packages offered by companies competing for the same talent.

As a part of their responses to the financial crisis of 2008, the EC and national governments throughout Europe have introduced and are expected to continue introducing various legislative initiatives that aim to ensure that financial institutions' remuneration policies and practices are consistent with and promote sound and effective risk management, and that impose restrictions on the remuneration of personnel, with a focus on risk alignment of performance-related remuneration. Such initiatives include, among others, measures set out in Directive 2010/76/EU (CRD III) and Directive 2013/36/EU (CRD IV), the Guidelines on Remuneration Policies and Practices published by (the predecessor of) the European Banking Authority, the Regulation of the DNB on Sound Remuneration Policies (Regeling beheerst belongingsbeleid Wft 2014), the Dutch law with respect to the limitation of liability of the DNB and AFM and the prohibition of the payment of variable remuneration to board members and day-to-day policy makers of financial institutions that receive state aid (Wet aansprakelijkheidsbeperking DNB en AFM en bonusverbod staatsgesteunde ondernemingen) and the Dutch Law on Remuneration Policies of Financial Undertakings (Wet belongingsbeleid financiële ondernemingen, Wbfo) effective as of 7 February 2015. The Wbfo introduces a variable remuneration cap at 20% of base salary for all persons working in the financial sector in the Netherlands. Persons fully covered by a collective labour agreement in the Netherlands are subject to an individual cap of 20%. Persons that are not (solely) remunerated on the basis of a CLA in the Netherlands are subject to the 20% cap based on an aggregate level. For this group, as well as for persons working outside the Netherlands, exceptions are possible, in line with CRD IV, but only under strict conditions. In addition, the proposal limits exit compensation and retention compensation and prohibits guaranteed variable remuneration. The introduction of the Wbfo will result in a unlevel playing field in the Netherlands for ING due to the fact that branch offices (in the Netherlands) of financial institutions that fall under CRD IV (EER countries) are not limited to the 20% cap but are limited to the CRD IV caps.

Since the financial crisis, ING has adapted its remuneration policies to the new national and international standards. For ING Group's Executive Board members no increase in base salary took place in 2014. This resulted in that, as of 2009, the remuneration package of ING Group's Executive Board members remained on the same level and is significantly below the median of our EURO Stoxx 50 benchmark, which is made up of similar European financial and non-financial institutions.

The (increasing) restrictions on remuneration will continue to have an impact on existing ING Group remuneration policies and individual remuneration packages for personnel. This may restrict our ability to offer competitive compensation compared with companies (financial and/or not financial) that are not subject to such restrictions and it could adversely affect ING Group's ability to retain or attract qualified employees.

We may not be able to protect our intellectual property and may be subject to infringement claims by third parties, which may have a material adverse effect on our business and results of operations.

In the conduct of our business, we rely on a combination of contractual rights with third parties and copyright, trademark, trade name, patent and trade secret laws to establish and protect our intellectual property. Although we endeavour to protect our rights, third parties may infringe or misappropriate our intellectual property. We may have to litigate to enforce and protect our copyrights, trademarks, trade names, patents, trade secrets and know-how or to determine their scope, validity or enforceability. In that event, we may be required to incur significant costs, and our efforts may not prove successful. The inability to secure or protect our intellectual property assets could have a material adverse effect on our business and our ability to compete.

We may also be subject to claims made by third parties for (i) patent, trademark or copyright infringement, (ii) breach of copyright, trademark or licence usage rights, or (iii) misappropriation of trade secrets. Any such claims and any resulting litigation could result in significant expense and liability for damages. If we were found to have infringed or misappropriated a third-party patent or other intellectual property right, we could in some circumstances be enjoined from providing certain products or services to our customers or

from utilizing and benefiting from certain methods, processes, copyrights, trademarks, trade secrets or licences. Alternatively, we could be required to enter into costly licensing arrangements with third parties or to implement a costly workaround. Any of these scenarios could have a material adverse effect on our business and results of operations.

Because we use assumptions about factors to calculate the amount of certain items, the use of different assumptions about these factors may have an adverse impact on our results of operations as well as solvency position.

The establishment of insurance provisions, including the impact of minimum guarantees which are contained within certain variable annuity products, the adequacy test performed on the provisions for life policies and the establishment of DAC and value of business acquired are inherently uncertain processes involving assumptions about factors such as court decisions, changes in laws, social, economic and demographic trends, inflation, investment returns, policyholder behaviour (e.g., lapses, persistency, etc.) and other factors, and, in the insurance business, assumptions concerning mortality, longevity and morbidity trends. The use of different assumptions about these factors could have a material effect on insurance provisions and underwriting expense as well as on our solvency position more generally. Changes in assumptions may lead to changes in the insurance provisions over time. Furthermore, some of these assumptions can be volatile.

Because we use assumptions to model client behaviour for the purpose of our market risk calculations, the difference between the realisation and the assumptions may have an adverse impact on the risk figures and future results.

We use assumptions in order to model client behaviour for the risk calculations in our banking and insurance books. Assumptions are used to determine insurance liabilities, the interest rate risk profile of savings and current accounts and to estimate the embedded option risk in the mortgage and investment portfolios. The realisation or use of different assumptions to determine client behaviour could have material adverse effect on the calculated risk figures and, ultimately, future results.

NN Group has a significant exposure to the take-up of policy options by policyholders. The exposure is greatest for variable annuity business with guarantees deeply in-the-money, policyholder behaviour is difficult to predict and small changes in the proportion of policyholders taking up an option can have a significant financial impact. Furthermore, assumptions about policyholder behaviour are sometimes made for new insurance business without a substantial amount of experiential data. These assumptions may prove imperfect, which may have a material impact on results. See '—Because we use assumptions about factors to calculate the amount of certain items, the use of different assumptions about these factors may have an adverse impact on our results of operations'.

We may incur further liabilities in respect of our defined benefit retirement plans if the value of plan assets is not sufficient to cover potential obligations, including as a result of differences between results and underlying actuarial assumptions and models.

ING Group companies operate various defined benefit retirement plans covering a number of our employees. The liability recognised in our consolidated balance sheet in respect of our defined benefit plans is the present value of the defined benefit obligations at the balance sheet date, less the fair value of each plan's assets, together with adjustments for unrecognised actuarial gains and losses and unrecognised past service costs. We determine our defined benefit plan obligations based on internal and external actuarial models and calculations using the projected unit credit method. Inherent in these actuarial models are assumptions, including discount rates, rates of increase in future salary and benefit levels, mortality rates, trend rates in health care costs, consumer price index, and the expected return on plan assets. These assumptions are based on available market data and the historical performance of plan assets, and are updated annually. Nevertheless, the actuarial assumptions may differ significantly from actual results due to changes in market conditions, economic and mortality trends and other assumptions. Any changes in these assumptions could have a significant impact on our present and future liabilities to and costs associated with our defined benefit retirement plans.

Our risk management policies and guidelines may prove inadequate for the risks we face.

We have developed risk management policies and procedures and will continue to review and develop these in the future. Nonetheless, our policies and procedures to identify, monitor and manage risks may not be fully effective, particularly during extremely turbulent times. The methods we use to manage, estimate and measure risk are partly based on historic market behaviour. The methods may, therefore, prove to be inadequate for predicting future risk exposure, which may be significantly greater than suggested by historical experience. For instance, these methods may not predict the losses seen in the stressed conditions in recent periods, and may also not adequately allow prediction of circumstances arising due to government interventions and stimulus packages, which increase the difficulty of evaluating risks. Other methods for risk management are based on evaluation of information regarding markets, customers, catastrophic occurrence or other information that is publicly known or otherwise available to us. Such information may not always be accurate, complete, updated or properly evaluated. Management of operational, legal and regulatory risks requires, among other things, policies and procedures to record and verify large numbers of transactions and events. These policies and procedures may not be fully effective.

We are subject to a variety of regulatory risks as a result of our operations in certain countries.

In certain countries in which we operate, judiciary and dispute resolution systems may be less developed. As a result, in case of a breach of contract, we may have difficulties in making and enforcing claims against contractual counterparties and, if claims are made against us, we might encounter difficulties in mounting a defence against such allegations. If we become party to legal proceedings in a market with an insufficiently developed judicial system, it could have an adverse effect on our operations and net results.

In addition, as a result of our operations in certain countries, we are subject to risks of possible nationalisation, expropriation, price controls, exchange controls and other restrictive government actions, as well as the outbreak of hostilities, in these markets. In addition, the current economic environment in certain countries in which we operate may increase the likelihood for regulatory initiatives to enhance consumer protection or to protect homeowners from foreclosures. Any such regulatory initiative could have an adverse impact on our ability to protect our economic interest, for instance in the event of defaults on residential mortgages.

Holders of NN Group's products where the customer bears all or part of the investment risk, or consumer protection organisations on their behalf, have filed claims or proceedings against NN Group and may continue to do so. A negative outcome of such claims and proceedings brought by customers or organisations acting on their behalf, actions taken by regulators and/or governmental authorities against NN Group or other insurers in respect of unit-linked products, settlements or any other actions for the benefit of customers by other insurers and sector-wide measures could substantially affect NN Group's insurance business and, as a result, may have a material adverse effect on NN Group's and ING's business, reputation, revenues, results of operations, solvency and financial condition and prospects. In addition, claims and proceedings may be brought against NN Group in respect of other products with one or more similar product characteristics sold, issued or advised on by NN Group in and outside the Netherlands. In this risk factor NN Group means NN Group N.V. and its subsidiaries.

Since the end of 2006, unit-linked products (commonly referred to in Dutch as 'beleggingsverzekeringen') have received negative attention in the Dutch media, from the Dutch Parliament, the AFM and consumer protection organisations. Costs of unit-linked products sold in the past are perceived as too high and Dutch insurers are in general being accused of being less transparent in their offering of such unit-linked products. The criticism on unit-linked products led to the introduction of compensation schemes by Dutch insurance companies that have offered unit-linked products. In 2008 ING's Dutch insurance subsidiaries reached an outline agreement with two main consumer protection organisations to offer compensation to their unit-linked policyholders where individual unit-linked policies had a cost charge in excess of an agreed maximum and to offer similar compensation for certain hybrid insurance products. At 31 December 2008 costs of the settlements were valued at EUR 365 million for which adequate provisions have been established and of which a substantial portion has been paid out. The remaining unpaid part of the provision as per 31 December 2013 is solely available to cover costs relating to the settlements agreed in 2008. A full agreement on implementation was reached in 2010 with one of the two main consumer protection organisations with the second main consumer protection organisation signing its agreement in June 2012. In addition, ING's Dutch insurance subsidiaries announced additional measures ("flankerend beleid") that comply with the 'Best in Class' criteria as formulated on 24 November 2011 by the Dutch Minister of Finance. In December 2011 this resulted in an additional agreement on these measures with the two main consumer protection organisations. In 2012 almost all unit-linked policyholders were informed about the compensation. The agreements with the two consumer protection organisations are not binding on policyholders. Consequently, neither the implementation of the compensation schemes nor the additional measures offered by NN Group prevent individual policyholders from initiating legal proceedings against ING's Dutch insurance subsidiaries and making claims for damages.

ING's Dutch insurance subsidiaries have issued, sold or advised on approximately one million individual unit-linked policies. As noted above, there has been for some time and there continues to be political, regulatory and public attention focused on the unit-linked issue in general. Elements of unit-linked policies are being challenged or may be challenged on multiple legal grounds in current and future legal proceedings and there is a risk that one or more of these legal challenges will succeed. Customers of ING's Dutch insurance subsidiaries have claimed, among others, that (i) the investment risk, costs charged or the risk premium was not, or not sufficiently, made clear to the customer, (ii) the product costs charged on initial sale and on an on-going basis were so high that the expected return on investment was not realistically achievable, (iii) the product sold to the customer contained specific risks that were not, or not sufficiently, made clear to the customer (such as the leverage capital consumption risk) or was not suited to the customer's personal circumstances, (iv) NN Group owed the customer a duty of care which NN Group has breached, or (v) the insurer failed to warn of the risk of not realising the projected policy values. These claims may be based on general standards of contract or securities law, such as reasonableness and fairness, error, duty of care, or standards for proper customer treatment or due diligence and may be made by customers, or on behalf of customers, holding active policies or whose policies have lapsed, matured or been surrendered. NN Group is currently subject to legal proceedings initiated by individual policyholders and is subject of a number of claims initiatives brought on behalf of policyholders by consumer protection organisations in which claims as set forth above or similar claims are being made. While to date less than 100 complaints are pending before the Dispute Committee of the Financial Services Complaints Board (the 'KiFiD'), and less than 300 individual settlements were made, there is no assurance that further proceedings for damages will not be brought. As the current proceedings are only in early stages the timing of reaching any finality on these legal claims and proceedings is uncertain and such uncertainty is likely to continue for some time. As a result, although the financial consequences of any of these factors or a combination thereof could be substantial for the Dutch insurance business of ING and, as a result, may have a material adverse effect on NN Group's and ING's reputation, revenues, results of operations, solvency, financial condition and prospects, it is not possible to reliably estimate or quantify NN Group's and ING's exposures at this time. See 'Note 54 Legal Proceedings'.

Rulings or announcements made by courts, including the European Court of Justice and advisory opinions issued by the Attorney General to such Court on questions being considered by such Court, or decision-making bodies or actions taken by regulators or governmental authorities against NN Group or other Dutch insurance companies in respect of unit-linked products, or settlements or any other actions to the benefit of customers (including product improvements or repairs) by other Dutch insurance companies towards consumers, consumer protection organisations, regulatory or governmental authorities or other decision making bodies in

respect of the unit-linked products may affect the (legal) position of NN Group and may force NN Group to take (financial) measures that could have a substantial impact on the financial condition, results of operations, solvency or reputation of NN Group and ING. As a result of the public and political attention the unit-linked issue has received, it is also possible that sector-wide measures may be imposed by governmental authorities or regulators in relation to unit-linked products in the Netherlands. The impact on NN Group of rulings made by courts or decision-making bodies, actions taken by regulators or governmental bodies against other Dutch insurance companies in respect of unit-linked products, or settlements or any other actions to the benefit of customers (including product improvements or repairs) may be determined not only by market share but also by product features, portfolio composition and other factors. Adverse decisions or the occurrence of any of the developments as described above could result in outcomes materially different than if NN Group or its products had been judged or negotiated solely on their own merits.

NN Group has in the past sold, issued or advised on unit-linked products in and outside the Netherlands, and in certain jurisdictions continues to do so. Moreover, NN Group has in the past, in the Netherlands and other countries, sold, issued or advised on large numbers of insurance or investment products of its own or of third parties (and in some jurisdictions continues to do so) that have one or more product characteristics similar to those unit-linked products that have been the subject of the scrutiny, adverse publicity and claims in the Netherlands. Given the continuous political, regulatory and public attention on the unit-linked issue in the Netherlands, the increase in legal proceedings and claim initiatives in the Netherlands and/or the legislative and regulatory developments in Europe to further increase and strengthen consumer protection in general, there is a risk that unit-linked products and other insurance and investment products sold, issued or advised on by NN Group, may become subject to the same or similar levels of regulatory or political scrutiny, publicity and claims or actions by consumers, consumer protection organisations, regulators or governmental authorities.

NN Group's book of policies dates back many years, and in some cases several decades. Over time, the regulatory requirements and expectations of various stakeholders, including customers, regulators and the public at large, as well as standards and market practice, have developed and changed, increasing customer protection. As a result policyholders and consumer protection organisations have initiated and may in the future initiate proceedings against NN Group alleging that products sold in the past fail to meet current requirements and expectations. In any such proceedings, it cannot be excluded that the relevant court, regulator, governmental authority or other decision-making body will apply current norms, requirements, expectations, standards and market practices on laws and regulations to products sold, issued or advised on by NN Group.

Any of the developments described above could be substantial for NN Group and ING and as a result may have a material adverse effect on ING's business, reputation, revenues, results of operations, solvency, financial condition and prospects.

ING is exposed to the risk of claims from customers who feel misled or treated unfairly because of advice or information received.

Our life insurance, non-life insurance, banking, investment and pension products and advice services for third-party products are exposed to claims from customers who allege that they have received misleading advice or other information from advisers (both internal and external) as to which products were most appropriate for them, or that the terms and conditions of the products, the nature of the products or the circumstances under which the products were sold, were misrepresented to them. When new financial products are brought to the market, ING engages in a product approval process in connection with the development of such products, including production of appropriate marketing and communication materials. Notwithstanding these processes, customers may make claims against ING if the products do not meet their expectations. Customer protection regulations, as well as changes in interpretation and perception by both the public at large and governmental authorities of acceptable market practices, influence customer expectations.

Products distributed through person-to-person sales forces have a higher exposure to such claims as the sales forces provide face-to-face financial planning and advisory services. Complaints may also arise if customers feel that they have not been treated reasonably or fairly, or that the duty of care has not been complied with. While a considerable amount of time and resources have been invested in reviewing and assessing historical sales practices and products that were sold in the past, and in the maintenance of effective risk management, legal and compliance procedures to monitor current sales practices, there can be no assurance that all of the issues associated with current and historical sales practices have been or will be identified, nor that any issues already identified will not be more widespread than presently estimated.

The negative publicity associated with any sales practices, any compensation payable in respect of any such issues and regulatory changes resulting from such issues, has had and could have a material adverse effect on our business, reputation, revenues, results of operations, financial condition and prospects.

Ratings are important to our business for a number of reasons. A downgrade or a potential downgrade in our financial strength or our credit ratings could have an adverse impact on our operations and net results.

Credit ratings represent the opinions of rating agencies regarding an entity's ability to repay its indebtedness. Our credit ratings are important to our ability to raise capital and funding through the issuance of debt and to the cost of such financing. In the event of a downgrade, the cost of issuing debt will increase, having an adverse effect on net results. Certain institutional investors may also be obliged to withdraw their deposits from ING following a downgrade, which could have an adverse effect on our liquidity. We have credit ratings from S&P, Moody's Investor Service and Fitch Ratings. Each of the rating agencies reviews its ratings and rating methodologies on a recurring basis and may decide on a downgrade at any time. For example, on 30 April 2014, S&P affirmed the long-term debt ratings of ING Groep N.V. to A- but revised the outlook from stable to negative.

Claims-paying ability, at the Group or subsidiary level, and financial strength ratings are factors in establishing the competitive position of insurers. A rating downgrade could elevate lapses or surrenders of policies requiring cash payments by current customers seeking companies with higher financial strength ratings, which might force us to sell assets at a price that may result in realised investment losses. Among others, total invested assets decreases and deferred acquisition costs might need to be accelerated, adversely impacting earnings. Furthermore, sales of assets to meet customer withdrawal demands could also result in losses, depending on market conditions. In addition, a downgrade in either our financial strength or credit ratings could potentially, among other things, increase our borrowing costs and make it more difficult to access financing; adversely affect access to the commercial paper market or the availability of letters of credit and other financial guarantees; result in additional collateral requirements, or other required payments or termination rights under derivative contracts or other agreements; and/or impair, or cause the termination of, our relationships with creditors, broker-dealers, distributors of our products and services and customers, reinsurers or trading counterparties, which could potentially negatively affect our profitability, new sales, liquidity, capital and/or our competitive position.

Furthermore, ING Bank's assets are risk-weighted. Downgrades of these assets could result in a higher risk-weighting, which may result in higher capital requirements. This may impact net earnings and the return on capital, and may have an adverse impact on our competitive position. For ING's insurance businesses in a number of jurisdictions, downgrades of assets will similarly affect the capital requirements for NN Group in those jurisdictions.

As rating agencies continue to evaluate the financial services industry, it is possible that rating agencies will heighten the level of scrutiny that they apply to financial institutions, increase the frequency and scope of their credit reviews, request additional information from the companies that they rate and potentially adjust upward the capital and other requirements employed in the rating agency models for maintenance of certain ratings levels. It is possible that the outcome of any such review of us would have additional adverse ratings consequences, which could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations, financial condition and liquidity. We may need to take actions in response to changing standards or capital requirements set by any of the rating agencies, which could cause our business and operations to suffer. We cannot predict what additional actions rating agencies may take, or what actions we may take in response to the actions of rating agencies.

Operational risks, such as systems disruptions or failures, breaches of security, cyber attacks, human error, changes in operational practices or inadequate controls may adversely impact our business, results of operation and reputation.

Operational risks are inherent in our business. Our businesses depend on the ability to process a large number of transactions efficiently and accurately. Although we endeavour to safeguard our systems and processes, losses can result from inadequately trained or skilled personnel, IT failures (including failure to anticipate or prevent cyber attacks, which are deliberate attempts to gain unauthorised access to digital systems for purposes of misappropriating assets or sensitive information, corrupting data, or impairing operational performance, or security breaks by third parties), inadequate or failed internal control processes and systems, regulatory breaches, human errors, employee misconduct, including fraud, or from external events that interrupt normal business operations. We depend on the secure processing, storage and transmission of confidential and other information in our computer systems and networks. The equipment and software used in our computer systems and networks may not always be capable of processing, storing or transmitting information as expected. Despite our business continuity plans and procedures, certain of our computer systems and networks may have insufficient recovery capabilities in the event of a malfunction or loss of data. In addition, whilst we have policies and processes to protect our systems and networks, they may be vulnerable to unauthorised access, computer viruses or other malicious code, cyber attacks and other external attacks or internal breaches that could have a security impact and jeopardise our confidential information or that of our clients or our counterparties. These events can potentially result in financial loss and harm to our reputation, and hinder our operational effectiveness.

We also face the risk that the design and operating effectiveness of our controls and procedures may prove to be inadequate. Widespread outbreaks of communicable diseases, such as the outbreak of the Ebola virus, may impact the health of our employees, increasing absenteeism, or may cause a significant increase in the utilisation of health benefits offered to our employees, either or both of which could adversely impact our business. Unforeseeable and/or catastrophic events can lead to an abrupt interruption of activities, and our operations may be subject to losses resulting from such disruptions. Losses can result from destruction or impairment of property, financial assets, trading positions, and the loss of key personnel. If our business continuity plans are not able to be implemented or do not sufficiently take such events into account, losses may increase further. We have suffered losses from operational risk in the past and there can be no assurance that we will not suffer material losses from operational risk in the future.

Reinsurance may not be available, affordable or adequate to protect us against losses. We may also decide to reduce, eliminate or decline primary insurance or reinsurance coverage.

As part of our overall risk and capacity management strategy, we purchase reinsurance for certain risks underwritten by our various insurance business segments. Market conditions beyond our control determine the availability and cost of the reinsurance protection we purchase. Accordingly, we may be forced to incur additional expenses for reinsurance or may not be able to obtain sufficient reinsurance on acceptable terms, which could adversely affect our ability to write future business.

In addition, we determine the appropriate level of primary insurance and reinsurance coverage based on a number of factors and from time to time decide to reduce, eliminate or decline coverage based on our assessment of the costs and benefits involved. In such cases, the uninsured risk remains with us.

Adverse publicity, claims and allegations, litigation and regulatory investigations and sanctions may have a material adverse effect on our business, revenues, results of operations, financial condition and/or prospects.

We are subject to litigation, arbitration and other claims and allegations in the ordinary course of business, including in connection with our activities as financial services provider, insurer, employer, investor and taxpayer. Adverse publicity and damage to our reputation arising from our failure or perceived failure to comply with legal and regulatory requirements, financial reporting irregularities involving other large and well-known companies, possible findings of government authorities in various jurisdictions which are investigating several rate-setting processes, notifications made by whistleblowers, increasing regulatory and law enforcement scrutiny of 'know your customer' anti-money laundering, prohibited transactions with countries subject to sanctions, and bribery or other anti-corruption measures and anti-terrorist-financing procedures and their effectiveness, regulatory investigations of the mutual fund, banking and insurance industries, and litigation that arises from the failure or perceived failure by us to comply with legal, regulatory and compliance requirements could result in adverse publicity and reputational harm, lead to increased regulatory supervision, affect our ability to attract and retain customers and maintain access to the capital markets, result in cease and desist orders, claims, enforcement actions, fines and civil and criminal penalties, other disciplinary action or have other material adverse effects on us in ways that are not predictable. Some claims and allegations may be brought by or on behalf of a class and claimants may seek large or indeterminate amounts of damages, including compensatory, liquidated, treble and punitive damages. See '— Holders of NN Group's products where the customer bears all or part of the investment risk, or consumer protection organisations on their behalf, have filed claims or proceedings against NN Group and may continue to do so. A negative outcome of such claims and proceedings brought by customers or organisations acting on their behalf, actions taken by regulators and/or governmental authorities against NN Group or other insurers in respect of unit-linked products, settlements or any other actions for the benefit of customers by other insurers and sector-wide measures could substantially affect NN Group's insurance business and, as a result, may have a material adverse effect on NN Group's and ING's reputation, results of operations, solvency and financial condition. In addition, claims and proceedings may be brought against NN Group in respect of other products with one or more similar product characteristics sold, issued or advised on by NN Group in and outside the Netherlands. In this risk factor NN Group means NN Group N.V. and its subsidiaries' and '— ING is exposed to the risk of claims from customers who feel misled or treated unfairly because of advice or information received'. Our reserves for litigation liabilities may prove to be inadequate. Claims and allegations, should they become public, need not be well founded, true or successful to have a negative impact on our reputation. In addition, press reports and other public statements that assert some form of wrongdoing could result in inquiries or investigations by regulators, legislators and law enforcement officials, and responding to these inquiries and investigations, regardless of their ultimate outcome, is time-consuming and expensive. Adverse publicity, claims and allegations, litigation and regulatory investigations and sanctions may have a material adverse effect on our business, revenues, results of operations, financial condition and/or prospects in any given period. For additional information with respect to specific proceedings, see Note 51 'Legal proceedings' to the consolidated financial statements of ING Group.

Risks related to the restructuring plan

The implementation of the Restructuring Plan and the divestments in connection with that plan will alter and have already significantly altered the size and structure of the Group and involve significant costs and uncertainties that could materially impact the Group.

As described further under Note 56 'Transactions with the Dutch State and the European Commission Restructuring Plan' to the consolidated financial statements of ING Group, as a result of having received state aid through the Dutch State Transactions, we were required to submit a restructuring plan to the EC in connection with obtaining final approval for the Dutch State Transactions under the EC state aid rules (as amended, the 'Restructuring Plan'). While the IABF was terminated in December 2013, and on 7 November 2014, ING Group made the final repayment on the Core Tier 1 securities, the continuing restrictions imposed by the Restructuring Plan could adversely affect our ability to maintain or grow market share in key markets as well as our results of operations. See Note 56 to the consolidated financial statements of ING Group for more information on the implications of and the remaining obligations arising from the Restructuring Plan and '—The limitations required by the EC on our ability to compete and to make acquisitions or call certain debt instruments could materially impact the Group'.

There can be no assurance that we will be able to implement complete the remaining elements of the Restructuring Plan successfully or complete the remaining planned divestments on favourable terms or at all, particularly in light of market developments in general as well as the fact that other financial institutions may place similar assets for sale during the same time period and may seek to dispose of assets in the same manner. Any failure to successfully implement. Not completing the remaining elements of the Restructuring Plan may result in EC enforcement actions or EC procedures and may have a material adverse impact on the assets, profitability, capital adequacy and business operations of the Group. Moreover, in connection with the implementation completion of the remaining elements of the Restructuring Plan, including any proposed divestments, we or potential buyers may need to obtain various approvals, including of shareholders, works councils and regulatory and competition authorities, and we and potential buyers may face difficulties in obtaining these approvals in a timely manner or at all. In addition, the implementation of the remaining elements of the Restructuring Plan may strain relations with our employees, and specific proposals in connection with the implementation may be opposed by labour unions or works councils.

Factors that may impede our ability to implement the remaining elements of the Restructuring Plan successfully include an inability of prospective purchasers to obtain funding due to the deterioration of the credit markets, insufficient access to equity capital markets, a general unwillingness of prospective purchasers to commit capital in the current market environment, antitrust concerns, any adverse changes in market interest rates or other borrowing costs and any declines in the value of the assets to be further divested. Similarly, it may also be difficult to divest the remaining part of our insurance and investment management business through one or more follow-on transaction(s) and/or spin-off transaction(s). There can also be no assurance that we could obtain favourable pricing for a sale of the

remaining part of our insurance and investment management business in the public markets. A further divestment may also release less regulatory capital than we would otherwise expect. Any failure to complete the divestments on favourable terms could have a material adverse impact on our assets, profitability, capital adequacy and business operations. If we are unable to complete the announced divestments in a timely manner, we would be required to find alternative ways to reduce our leverage, and we could be subject to enforcement actions or proceedings by the EC.

The limitations required by the EC on our ability to compete and to make acquisitions could materially impact the Group.

As part of our Restructuring Plan, we have undertaken with the EC to accept certain limitations on our ability to compete in certain retail, private and direct banking markets in the EU and on our ability to acquire financial institutions. These restrictions in principle apply until the earlier of (1) 18 November 2015, and (2) the date upon which more than 50% of ING's interest in its insurance and investment management businesses has been divested. ING is furthermore restricted to a maximum ratio for mortgage production at ING Retail Banking Netherlands in relation to the mortgage production of Nationale-Nederlanden Bank until ING has divested more than 50% of its interest in NN Group c.q. Nationale-Nederlanden Bank or until year-end 2015. A divestment of more than 50% of ING's interest as mentioned in this paragraph also means that ING Group (a) no longer has a majority of representatives on the boards of these businesses and (b) has deconsolidated these businesses from ING Group's financial statements in line with IFRS accounting rules. The limitations described above will impose significant restrictions on our banking business operations and on our ability to take advantage of market conditions and growth opportunities. Such restrictions could adversely affect our ability to maintain or grow market share in key markets, as well as our results of operations.

Upon the implementation of the Restructuring Plan, we will be less diversified and may experience competitive and other disadvantages.

As a result of divestments effected to date and following completion of the planned divestments under the Restructuring Plan, we expect to become a significantly smaller, regional financial institution focused on retail, direct and commercial banking in the Benelux region and certain other parts of Europe, as well as selected markets outside Europe. Although we will remain focused on banking operations, we may become a smaller bank than that represented by our current banking operations. In the highly competitive Benelux market and the other markets in which we operate, our competitors may be larger, more diversified and better capitalised and have greater geographical reach than us, which could have a material adverse effect on our ability to compete, as well as on our profitability. The divested businesses may also compete with the retained businesses, on their own or as part of the purchasers' enlarged businesses. For example, Nationale-Nederlanden Bank is already competing before its planned divestment with our retail banking business in the Netherlands, as Nationale-Nederlanden Bank has been ring-fenced from ING Bank's operations for this purpose. In addition, the restrictions on our ability to be a price leader and make certain acquisitions could further hinder our capacity to compete with competitors not burdened with such restrictions, which could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations. There can be no assurance that the implementation of the Restructuring Plan will not have a material adverse effect on the market share, business and growth opportunities and results of operations for our remaining core banking businesses.

Our restructuring programs may not yield intended reductions in costs, risk and leverage.

Projected cost savings and impact on our risk profile and capital associated with the Restructuring Plan are subject to a variety of risks, including:

- › actual costs to effect these initiatives may exceed estimates;
- › divestments planned in connection with the Restructuring Plan may not yield the level of net proceeds expected, as described under 'Risks Related to the Restructuring Plan — The implementation of the Restructuring Plan and the divestments in connection with that plan will alter and have already significantly altered the size and structure of the Group and involve significant costs and uncertainties that could materially impact the Group';
- › initiatives that we are contemplating may require consultation with various regulators as well as employees and labour representatives, and such consultations may influence the timing, costs and extent of expected savings;
- › the loss of skilled employees in connection with the initiatives; and
- › projected savings may fall short of targets.

While we continue to implement these strategies, there can be no assurance that we will be able to do so successfully or that we will realise the projected benefits of these and other restructuring and cost-saving initiatives. If we are unable to realise these anticipated cost reductions, our business may be adversely affected. Moreover, our continued implementation of restructuring and cost saving initiatives may have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

Additional risks relating to ownership of ing shares

Because we are a Dutch company and because Stichting ING Aandelen holds more than 99.9% of our Ordinary Shares, the rights of our depositary receipt holders may differ from the rights of shareholders in other jurisdictions or companies that do not use a similar trust structure, which could affect your rights as an equity investor.

While holders of our bearer depositary receipts are entitled to attend and speak at our General Meeting of Shareholders ('General Meeting'), voting rights are not attached to the bearer depositary receipts. Stichting ING Aandelen ('Trust') holds more than 99.9% of our Ordinary Shares, and exercises the voting rights attached to the Ordinary Shares (for which bearer depositary receipts have been issued). Holders of bearer depositary receipts who attend — in person or by proxy — the General Meeting must obtain and are entitled to voting rights by proxy from the Trust. Holders of bearer depositary receipts and holders of the American Depositary Shares ('ADSs') representing the bearer depositary receipts who do not attend the General Meeting may give binding voting instructions to the Trust.

The Trust is entitled to vote on any Ordinary Shares underlying the bearer depositary receipts for which the Trust has not granted voting proxies, or voting instructions have not been given to the Trust. In exercising its voting discretion, the Trust is required to be guided primarily by the interests of the holders of bearer depositary receipts, while also taking into account:

- › our interests, and
- › the interests of our affiliates.

The Trust may, but has no obligation to, consult with the holders of bearer depositary receipts in exercising its voting rights in respect of any Ordinary Shares for which it is entitled to vote. These arrangements differ from practices in other jurisdictions, and accordingly may affect the rights of the holders of bearer depositary receipts and their power to affect ING's business and operations.

The share price of ING shares has been, and may continue to be, volatile.

The share price of our bearer depositary receipts has experienced periods of volatility in the past, and the share price and trading volume of our bearer depositary receipts may be subject to significant fluctuations in the future, due, in part, to changes in our actual or forecast operating results and the inability to fulfil the profit expectations of securities analysts, as well as to the high volatility in the securities markets generally and more particularly in shares of financial institutions. Other factors, besides our financial results, that may impact our share price include, but are not limited to:

- › market expectations of the performance and capital adequacy of financial institutions in general;
- › investor perception of the success and impact of our strategies;
- › investor perception of our positions and risks;
- › a downgrade or review of our credit ratings;
- › the implementation and outcome of our Restructuring Plan;
- › potential litigation or regulatory action involving ING or sectors that we have exposure to through our insurance and banking activities;
- › announcements concerning financial problems or any investigations into the accounting practices of other financial institutions; and
- › general market circumstances.

There can be no assurance that we will pay dividends on our Ordinary Shares in the future.

It is ING's policy to pay dividends in relation to the long-term underlying development of cash earnings. Dividends can only be declared by shareholders when the Executive Board considers such dividends appropriate, taking into consideration the financial conditions then prevailing and the longer-term outlook. It is ING's intention to pay a minimum of 40% of ING Group's annual net profits to shareholders effective from 2015. The Executive Board proposes to pay a final 2014 dividend of EUR 470 million, or EUR 0.12 per (depository receipt for an) ordinary share, subject to the approval of shareholders at the Annual General Meeting in May 2015. However, there can be no assurance that we will pay dividends in the future.

Holders of ING shares may experience dilution of their holdings.

The issuance of equity securities resulting from the conversion of some or all of such instruments would dilute the ownership interests of existing holders of ING shares and such dilution could be substantial. Additionally, any conversion, or the anticipation of the possibility of a conversion, could depress the market price of ING shares.

Furthermore, we may undertake future equity offerings with or without subscription rights. In case of equity offerings with subscription rights, holders of ING shares in certain jurisdictions, however, may not be entitled to exercise such rights unless the rights and the related shares are registered or qualified for sale under the relevant legislation or regulatory framework. Holders of ING shares in these jurisdictions may suffer dilution of their shareholding should they not be permitted to, or otherwise chose not to, participate in future equity offerings with subscription rights.

Additional Pillar III information

Introduction

This section relates to Pillar III, market discipline, and as such provides information on several topics. Since 1 January, these disclosure requirements are based on CRR and CRD IV and required by the supervisor authority. The purpose of this report is to meet the regulatory disclosure requirements in accordance with Part Eight of the CRR. Some of the required information has already been provided elsewhere in the Annual Report, e.g. in the Risk Management section and/or in the Capital Management paragraph. For the other CRR/CRD IV disclosure requirements such as remuneration disclosures please refer to the corporate website ing.com. This section provides additional information, as well as references to the relevant sections.

The ING Group's Pillar III report contains Regulatory Capital requirements, Credit Risk, including securitisations and Other Non-Credit Obligation Assets (ONCOA), Market Risk and Liquidity Risk disclosures. The regulatory requirements provided in the first section of the report for credit risk, market risk and operational risk relates primarily to the first pillar, the minimum capital requirement. The second pillar concerns Economic Capital (EC) and the underlying models used internally by banks and reviewed by supervisors. Economic Capital, and consequently Pillar II, is disclosed extensively in the Risk Management section. Further in the report you will find additional information on regulatory exposures and risk weighted assets which are not in the risk management section. As such, the text of this Pillar III section should be read in conjunction with statements made in the Risk Management section and Capital Management section of the annual accounts, where there is a comprehensive discussion of Risk Management and Capital Management.

The information in this report relates to ING Group N.V. and all of its subsidiaries (hereafter ING Group). The scope of consolidation for prudential purposes is different of the accounting scope of consolidation as reported in the annual report in the note 'Principal subsidiaries'. The difference is mainly due to the insurance businesses which are not included in the prudential scope of consolidation. The information in this section has not been audited by ING Group's external auditors. The operational separation of the bank and insurance businesses as well as the classification of ING Group's stakes in NN Group NV as 'assets held for sale' also has consequences for the treatment under Pillar III. For both Regulatory Capital and Asset Encumbrance, the information in this Pillar III report has been provided on ING Group level. The information on Credit Risk, Market Risk, Securitisations and Operational Risk focuses on ING Bank.

Enhanced Disclosure Task Force recommendations on financial disclosure

ING is a member of the 'Enhanced Disclosure Task Force' (EDTF), a private sector group established by the Financial Stability Board ('FSB') and composed of members representing both the users and preparers of financial reports, that published in the course of 2012 recommends for more comprehensive and consistent disclosures. For 2014, ING Group reaffirms its commitment to the EDTF report and implemented additional recommendations, next to the CRR/CRD IV disclosure requirements. Below an overview is given on where ING Group has implemented the EDTF recommendations.

Reference guide EDTF recommendations

Type	No	Brief description	Pages
General	1	Index to aid navigation through risk related information	246 – 247
	2	Risk terminology, risk measures and key parameters	399 – 410
	3	Describe and discuss top and emerging risks	262 – 263
	4	Discuss regulatory developments, Once the applicable rules are finalised, outline plans to meet each new key regulatory ratio	260 – 261 Leverage Ratio, LCR and NSFR will be disclosed when applicable standards are finalised.
Risk governance, risk management and business model	5	Summarise the risk management organisation, processes and key functions	248 – 251
	6	Risk culture, related procedures and strategies	252 – 254
	7	Key risks arising from business model, risk appetite and how risks are managed	251 – 252; 254 – 256
	8	Use of stress testing within the risk governance and capital frameworks	256 – 260
Capital adequacy and risk-weighted assets	9	Minimum Pillar I capital requirements, including buffers, or minimum internal ratio	318 - 323; 365
	10	Summarise composition of capital based on Basel Committee templates	366
	11	Flow statement of regulatory capital movements since the prior reporting, including changes in common equity tier 1, tier 1 and tier 2 capital	366
	12	Qualitatively and quantitatively discuss capital planning within a more general discussion of management's strategic planning	260 - 261; 318 - 319
	13	Analyse how risk-weighted assets relate to business activities	252
	14	Capital requirements for credit risk per Basel asset class and major portfolios	370
	15	Tabulate credit risk in the banking book per Basel asset classes and major portfolios	395
	16	Flow statement to display movements in RWAs for the reporting period	368; 396
	17	Basel Pillar III back-testing, including model performance and validation	273 – 274; 276; 379 - 380
Liquidity & Funding	18	Manages of liquidity risk and quantitative analysis of the liquidity buffer	310 – 314; 397
	19	Summarise encumbered assets in a tabular format	397 - 398
	20	Tabulate assets, liabilities and off-balance sheet commitments by maturity.	213 - 215
	21	Discuss funding strategy, including key sources and any funding concentrations	310 – 314
Market risk	22	Link balance sheet items with positions in traded and non-traded market risk	301 – 305; 309 – 310 Link with balance sheet items will be addressed in future disclosures
	23	Provide breakdowns of significant trading and non-trading market risk factors	298 - 310
	24	Qualitative and quantitative disclosures on market risk model limitations	299; 308
	25	Describe other market risk techniques applied	298 – 310; 397
Credit risk	26	Understanding the credit risk profile, including significant risk concentration	370 - 374
	27	Policies for identifying impaired or non-performing loans and forbearance	119 -120; 283 - 288
	28	Flow statements of non-performing or impaired loans and stock of loan losses	283 – 288; 382 - 385
	29	Quantitative and qualitative analysis of counterparty credit risk	386 – 388
	30	Qualitative and quantitative information on credit risk mitigation, including collateral	288 – 297; 388 – 390
Other risk	31	Describe how 'other risk' types are identified, governed, measured and managed	313 – 317
	32	Discuss publicly known risk events related to other risks	313 – 317

Regulatory capital

Capital Adequacy Rules – Basel III Accord

The rules for required Regulatory Capital and Capital adequacy are based on the guidelines developed by the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision (The Basel Committee) and the European Union Regulation and Directives, as implemented by the Dutch Central Bank (and the ECB as of 3 November 2014) for supervisory purposes.

The rules express the regulators' and legislators' opinions of how much capital a bank and other regulated credit institutions must retain in relation to the size and the type of risk taking expressed in the form of risk-weighted assets. The most important part of the capital base is the shareholders' equity. In addition to equity, the institution may issue certain liabilities such as hybrid instruments to be included in the capital base. The legal minimum requirement stipulates that the capital base must correspond to at least 8% of the Risk-Weighted Assets (RWA).

In 2010, the Basel III Accord was adopted and consequently translated into regulation by the EU in the Capital Requirement Regulation (CRR) and a Capital Requirement Directive IV. The CRR is binding for all EU member states and became effective per 1 January 2014. For more information, please refer to the chapter "Ongoing changes in the regulatory environment" in the Risk Management Paragraph.

Regulatory capital requirements

	2014	2014
	Regulatory Capital CRR/CRD IV phased in – 2014 rules	Risk-Weighted Assets CRR/CRD IV phased in – 2014 rules
Credit risk		
Portfolios subject to standardised approach	1,565	19,564
Portfolios subject to AIRB approach		
– Sovereigns	493	6,166
– Institutions	2,481	31,015
– Corporate	8,139	101,738
– Residential mortgages	3,939	49,233
– Other retail	1,347	16,839
Total portfolios subject to AIRB approach	16,399	204,990
Securitisation exposures	168	2,101
Equity portfolios in the banking book under the simple risk weight approach	1,006	12,575
Other Non-Credit Obligation Assets	1,356	16,947
Total Credit Risk	20,494	256,176
Market risk		
Standardised approach	113	1,412
Internal models approach - trading book	745	9,311
Total Market risk	858	10,723
Operational risk		
Advanced measurement approach	2,700	33,749
Total Basel III required Regulatory Capital	24,052	300,647
Basel I floor ⁽¹⁾	27,590	344,869
Additional capital requirement	3,538	44,222

(1) The floor is 80% of Basel I required Regulatory Capital.

Basel III requires Banks to hold a capital of at least 80% of the old Basel I requirements, which was 8% of the RWAs as calculated using the Basel I methodology. This Basel I floor has been extended until the end of 2017. For 2014, the additional capital requirements resulting from this Basel I floor are EUR 3,538 million for 2014. The increase in Basel III required regulatory capital can be explained by the introduction of the CVA RWA following the implementation of the CRR/CRD IV and the increase of the market value of the equity portfolio. ONCOA represents assets of non-credit obligation character that are not included in the SA or AIRB calculations. At 31 December 2014, the capital requirement for ONCOA was EUR 1,356 million.

Capital adequacy assessment

As at 1 January 2014, the CRR/CRD IV capital rules entered into force. According to Basel III capital adequacy rules, the minimum Common Equity Tier 1 ratio has to be 4.5%, the minimum Tier 1 requirement 6% and the total capital ratio (known as the BIS ratio) 8% of all risk-weighted assets.

The capital position table reflects own funds according to the Basel III rules as specified in the CRR/CRD IV. As CRD IV will be phased in gradually until 2019, the table shows the CRD IV positions according to the 2019 end-state rules and the 2014 rules. This makes clear which items phase in directly, which phase in gradually, some of which as of 2014 and others as of 2015.

ING Group's capital consists of Tier 1 capital and Tier 2 capital net after deductions. Tier 1 capital consists of both Common Equity Tier 1 capital and other Tier 1 capital, also referred to as hybrid capital. Tier 2 capital consists mostly of subordinated loans.

ING Group continues to maintain strong and high quality capital levels. With a Common Equity Tier 1 ratio of 13.36% at end of 2014, ING Group is already meeting the Basel III solvency requirements. This percentage is calculated on the basis of immediate and full implementation and disregarding the possible impact of future management actions.

ING Group Capital position

	2014 rules (CRR/CRD IV phased in)	2015 rules (CRR/CRD IV phased in)	2019 rules (CRR/CRD IV fully loaded)
	2014	2014	2014
Shareholders' equity (parent)	50,424	50,424	50,424
Regulatory adjustments:			
Minority interests, counting as Common equity Tier 1	265	265	265
Goodwill and intangibles deducted from Tier 1 ⁽¹⁾	-336	-673	-1,682
Provision shortfall ⁽²⁾	-263	-525	-1,313
Revaluation reserve debt securities	-1,597	-958	-
Revaluation reserve equity securities	-2,095	-1,257	-
Revaluation reserve real estate	-291	-175	-
Revaluation reserve cash flow hedge	-832	-832	-832
Position in own shares	-	-	-
Prudent valuation adjustment	-83	-83	-83
Investments >10% FI, exceeding 10% threshold	-2,829	-5,629	-14,103
Excess AT1 deductions over AT1	-1,802	-	-
Prudential filters:			
Own credit risk	212	212	212
Defined benefit remeasurement (IAS19R)	422	338	-
Net defined benefit pension fund assets	-118	-236	-589
Deferred tax assets	-54	-108	-271
Own credit risk adjustments to derivatives (DVA)	-9	-19	-47
Foreseeable dividend	-470	-470	-470
Other (rounding)	-	-	-
Available capital - Common equity Tier 1	40,543	40,273	31,512
Subordinated loans qualifying as Tier 1 capital ⁽³⁾	5,727	5,727	5,727
Deduction of goodwill and other intangibles ⁽¹⁾	-1,346	-1,009	-
Provision shortfall ⁽²⁾	-525	-394	-
Investments >10% FI, exceeding 10% threshold	-5,659	-4,222	-
Excess deductions allocated to CET1 capital	1,802	-	-
Minority interests, counting as Additional Tier 1 capital	-	-	-
Available capital - Tier 1	40,543	40,375	37,239
Supplementary capital - Tier 2 ⁽³⁾	9,371	9,371	9,371
Provision shortfall ⁽²⁾	-525	-394	-
Investments >10% FIs, exceeding 10% threshold	-5,659	-4,222	-
Minority interests, counting as Tier 2 capital	103	103	103
Available Tier 3 funds	0	0	0
BIS capital	43,834	45,233	46,713
Risk-weighted assets	300,647	300,830	300,758
Common Equity Tier 1 ratio	13.49%	13.39%	10.48%
Tier 1 ratio	13.49%	13.42%	12.38%
Total capital ratio	14.58%	15.04%	15.53%

(1) Intangibles: mainly capitalised software.

(2) In Basel III the provision shortfall is deducted fully from Common Equity Tier 1, while the significant investments in financial institutions, conditionally to certain thresholds, are 250% risk weighted. During the phase-in period (2014-2017) they are gradually shifting from 50% deduction from Additional Tier 1 capital and 50% from Tier 2 capital towards full deduction from Common Equity Tier 1.

(3) Assuming that non Basel III eligible Tier 1 and Tier 2 capital will be replaced by Basel III eligible equivalents before they stop to meet the Basel III grandfathering conditions.

(4) After publication of the 2013 Annual Report, the 2013 end-of-year goodwill has been restated from EUR 1,035 million to EUR 1,057 million.

(5) During the AQR in 2014 we learned that the CRR/CRD IV phases in differently from the phase-in we showed in the Pillar III section of the 2013 Annual Report. Main differences are: (a) Goodwill, intangibles and provision shortfall start being deducted from Additional Tier 1 capital and only gradually phase in to a Common Equity Tier 1 deduction, (b) revaluation reserves equity and real estate as well as the deduction of the Bank of Beijing participation do not phase out of Tier 2 capital gradually, but immediately, and (c) The CRR/CRD IV calculation of the minority interests phases in immediately instead of gradually.

Own funds

The CRR requires ING Group to disclose information on own funds in a specific format that was provided in the EBA Implementation Technical Standards. The EBA templates Annex I, II and Annex VI are disclosed on the corporate website ing.com.

Credit risk

Basis and scope of credit risk presentation

In the credit risk section of the Pillar III, data included in tables are related to ING Bank's core credit risk activities in the areas of: Lending (both on- and off-balance); Securities Financing, Derivatives (collectively Pre-Settlement Risk, Money Market) activities (including reserve deposits at Central Banks) and Investment Risks. Credit Risk in the trading book is excluded and covered in the Market Risk section of the Annual Accounts.

The amounts presented in this section relate to amounts used for Credit Risk Management purposes, which follow ING Bank's interpretation of the definitions as prescribed under the CRR/CRD IV accords. Therefore, the numbers can be different from the accounting numbers as reported in the annual accounts under IFRS-EU. An example is the treatment of ONCOA items – while the accounting numbers include ONCOA, they are excluded from Pillar III overviews.

Unless stated otherwise, the tables included in this section focus on the measurement of Regulatory Exposure at Default (READ) and Credit Risk Weighted Assets (RWA) under the CRR/CRD IV definitions. READ is generally the sum of the on-balance and off-balance sheet: Lending, Investment, Money Market and Pre-Settlement activities plus an estimated portion of the unused credit facilities extended to the obligor. The amounts associated with Investment and Lending activities are based on the original amount invested less repayments. Additionally, the risk weighting amounts (plus add-ons) are included. Multiplying RWA by 8% will result in the level of Regulatory Capital (RC) that is required to be held against these portfolios (for the Credit Risk portion of the activities).

Figures for Derivatives and Securities Financing are based on 'risk weighted amounts', which generally is equal to the marked-to-market value of the underlying trades plus a (regulatory defined) 'add-on' which represents estimated potential future exposure. The amounts are then further modified by an adjustment that is related to the underlying collateral (market) values (after a haircut is applied) and any legal netting or compensation that may be permitted under various master agreement arrangements such as ISDA master agreements and Credit Support Annexes (CSAs).

Off-balance sheet exposures include the letters of credits and guarantees, which are associated with the Lending Risk category. Additionally, off-balance sheet exposures include a portion of the unused limits, associated with the expected use of the unused portion of the limit between the moment of measurement and the theoretical moment of statistical default. Collectively, these amounts are called 'Credit Risk outstandings'.

Exposures associated with Securitisations (Asset Backed Financing, Commercial / Residential Mortgage Backed Securities) are shown separately. These amounts also relate to the amount invested prior to any impairment activity or mark-to-market adjustments. These amounts are also considered to be 'Credit Risk outstandings'.

Approaches applied by ING Bank

On 1 January 2008, ING Bank adopted the Advanced Internal Ratings Based (AIRB) approach for the majority of its significant portfolios that contain credit risk in accordance with the approvals granted by DNB (Dutch Central Bank), and various local regulators, as required. However, there remains a small portion of the portfolio that is subject to the Standardised Approach (SA). Unlike many regulators, DNB requires institutions to aim for at least 85% (RWA weighted) of their portfolio on AIRB to qualify for the AIRB status. The majority of SA portfolios at ING Bank relate to subsidiaries where the home regulator does not have a robust AIRB framework or requirement. Depending on the regulatory landscape, ING will continue to explore opportunities to transition additional portfolios from SA to AIRB. ING Bank does not have any portfolios that use the Foundation Internal Ratings Based (FIRB) Approach.

The AIRB and SA approaches are explained in more detail in the Credit Risk Measurement section of the Risk Management paragraph. An analysis on the AIRB and SA portfolios with their accompanying tables is provided in the SA and AIRB Approach sections of Pillar III.

ING Bank uses the AIRB and the Internal Assessment Approach (IAA) for liquidity lines provided to Asset Backed Commercial Paper programmes and this is explained in more detail in the securitisation section.

Risk weighted assets migration analysis

The table below explains the changes in RWA during the reporting period and provides additional information by linking the impact on RWA of changes in portfolio composition, model changes and shifts in the risk environment. The table reconciles movements in RWA for the period for each RWA risk type of ING Bank for the SA and AIRB portfolio including securitisations.

Flow statement for RWA		
amounts in billions of euros	2014	2013
Opening amount	222.2	209.7
Book size ⁽¹⁾	5.9	-0.3
Divestments / De-consolidations	-7.0	-6.0
Book quality ⁽²⁾	0.8	13.6
De-risking		-0.5
Model updates ⁽³⁾	-2.2	9.7
Methodology and policy ⁽⁴⁾	3.4	-0.6
Foreign exchange movements	5.1	-4.1
Other	-1.6	0.6
Total movement	4.5	12.4
Closing amount	226.7	222.2

Excluding equities and ONCOA.

(1) Book size: organic changes in book size and composition (including new business and maturing loans).

(2) Book quality: quality of book changes caused by experience such as underlying customer behaviour or demographics including changes to credit quality of portfolios.

(3) Model updates: model implementation, change in model scope or any change to address model malfunctions including changes through model calibrations / realignments.

(4) Methodology and policy: methodology changes to the calculations driven by internal changes in policy and regulatory policy changes.

Key changes

Over the year, RWA increased by EUR 4.5 billion to EUR 226.7 billion. A part of the increase in RWA resulted in a shift from ONCOA which does not impact capital ratio. In order to quickly implement complex, material capital changes, occasionally a top of the house adjustment is made via ONCOA before allocation to businesses and facilities. At a later stage, the ONCOA positions are incorporated into capital calculations done by credit risk systems (Vortex).

- Book size: The increasing book size, excluding divestments and de-consolidations, led to EUR 5.9 billion higher RWA, mainly driven by the Commercial Banking and Retail Banking International portfolios. Growth was seen in the Corporates and Structured Finance book, as well as in the mortgage portfolios in Belgium and DiBa Germany. Several smaller movements, both increases and decreases occurred in various portfolios throughout the year.
- Divestments / De-consolidations: Following a request of the Indian regulator and because ING Bank no longer has a controlling stake, ING Vysya Bank was deconsolidated. The deconsolidation decreased ING Bank's portfolio by EUR 7.0 billion in RWA.
- Book quality: Book quality remained relatively stable compared to last year. The increasing RWA by EUR 0.8 billion is the reflection of the deteriorated market circumstances through past years which was visible in the applied regulatory capital models. The downturn factors have been adjusted accordingly for the impacted portfolios, which were mainly the Belgian and Dutch mortgage portfolios and the Small and Medium sized businesses. On the other hand, market circumstances started to improve in 2014 as well, for example, by an upward trend of the Dutch NVM house price index reflecting an increase in house prices in the Netherlands towards the end of 2014.
- Model updates: The Sovereign LGD model was redeveloped in 2014. The key changes were related to replacing the flat 45% unsecured LGD level by different unsecured LGD percentage levels using plausible risk indicators and updating the cover type haircuts. This model redevelopment and multiple other less significant model changes resulted in an RWA decrease of EUR 2.2 billion.
- Methodology and policy: In January 2014 the CRR/CRD IV changes were implemented resulting in an RWA increase of EUR 9.7 billion. The main impact was caused by the implementing of a capital charge against extreme volatility in CVA, increased correlation for Counterparties, increased capital for Central Counterparties and an increased haircut for collateral. This large CRR/CRD IV impact was partly offset by an update to the ING Masterscale to reflect a more accurate risk measurement of the PD values of the low default portfolios and a methodology change to internal guarantees and an SME supporting factor to stimulate lending to SMEs. All in all, these changes and multiple smaller changes resulted in an RWA increase of EUR 3.4 billion.
- Foreign exchange movements: Over year, FX movements increased RWA by EUR 5.1 billion which was mainly due to the appreciation of the US Dollar (13.87%) against the Euro which contributed to the increase by EUR 5.0 billion.
- The remaining RWA decrease of EUR 1.6 billion was the result of multiple smaller changes. Towards the end of 2013, the Retail portfolio showed a modest increase in the past due portfolio, mainly driven by the troublesome implementation of the SEPA payment system in Belgium and the Netherlands. This was repaired in 2014, resulting in an RWA decrease. Furthermore, DNB requires ING to impose a penalty on the PDs of customers which have not been rated using a Basel approved model, were unrated or were not reviewed in time. Compared to last year, the impact of the penalties on RWA decreased, resulting in an RWA reduction of EUR 0.7 billion.

Overall, RWA management has a very high priority throughout ING in all aspects of our business. From product design, to pricing, to divestment decisions, RWA management is extensively monitored, reported, and managed at all levels of the organisation.

Advanced IRB and standardised approach

ING uses two methods to calculate Regulatory Capital for Credit Risk within its portfolio: the Advanced Internal Rating Based (AIRB) approach and the Standardised Approach (SA). The AIRB approach is permitted by the Regulator if there are regulatory approved rating models (PD, EAD and LGD) in place, if the Legal Entity is AIRB compliant and if the (local) management understands and uses these rating models (Basel Use Test) in their credit decision making processes. ING Bank does not use the Basel Foundation IRB Approach (FIRB) for any of its portfolios. This section is to be read in conjunction with the Risk Management paragraph.

Exposure classes

The Basel Accord has developed the concept of 'Exposure Classes'. These are essentially groupings of credit risks associated with a common obligor type or product type. For the AIRB and Standardised Approach, most of the exposure classes have subcategories. ING Bank has applied the following definitions to determine Exposure Classes:

- › **Central Governments & Central Banks** (hereafter **Sovereigns**) include Sovereign Government entities, Central Banks, CRR/CRD IV recognized Local / Regional Authorities and Public Sector entities as well as Supranational Organisations;
- › **Institutions** include all Commercial Banks, non-Bank Financial Institutions, such as Leasing Companies, Funds and Fund Managers, and Insurance Companies, as well as local and regional government entities not classified as governments;
- › **Corporates** include all legal entities, that are not considered to be Governments, Institutions or Retail as well as Specialised lending;
- › **Retail** includes the following classes:
 - › **Residential Mortgages** include all mortgage loans for residential properties that are not part of a securitisation; and
 - › **Retail Other** includes all other credit obligations related to Retail SMEs, such as partnerships, one-man businesses and private individuals, such as consumer loans, car loans and credit cards. Under these exposure class definitions, it is possible for a private individual to be included under both Residential Mortgages and Retail Other.

In the tables below, the official Basel subcategories for the AIRB and SA approach are given, together with their mappings to the ING Bank exposure classes.

Basel AIRB exposure classes	ING Bank exposure class
Central governments and central banks	Sovereigns
Institutions	Institutions
Corporates – Specialised lending	Corporates
Corporates – SME	Corporates
Corporates – Other	Corporates
Retail – Secured by immovable property SME	Retail (Other)
Retail – Secured by immovable property non-SME	Retail (Residential mortgages)
Retail – Qualifying revolving	Retail (Other)
Retail – Other SME	Retail (Other)
Retail – Other non-SME	Retail (Other)
Securitisations	Securitisations

Basel SA exposure classes	ING Bank exposure class
Central governments or central banks	Sovereigns
Regional governments or local authorities	Sovereigns
Public sector entities	Sovereigns
Multilateral development banks	Sovereigns
International organisations	Sovereigns
Institutions	Institutions
Corporates	Corporates
Retail	Retail (Other)
Secured by mortgages on immovable property	Retail (Residential mortgages)
Exposures in default	All
High risk items	Not applicable
Covered bonds	Not applicable
Claims to institutions and corporates with a short-term credit assessment	Not applicable
Claims in collective investment undertaking	Not applicable
Equity exposures	Not applicable
Other items	Not applicable

The SA exposure class "Exposure in default" is mapped to the ING exposure class in which the exposure would have been if it was performing.

Additional information

Additional Pillar III information continued

In the tables below an overall picture is given of the ING Bank portfolio per exposure class, after which a breakdown per exposure class is given segmented by relevant factors. Securitisations segmentation is given in the Securitisation chapter.

Credit risk per exposure type and exposure class

The table below shows the total READ and RWA for ING Bank by Basel defined exposure types for both the SA and AIRB portfolio per exposure class.

Model approaches per exposure class

	Sovereigns		Institutions		Corporate		Residential Mortgages		Other Retail		Total 2014		Total 2013	
	READ	RWA	READ	RWA	READ	RWA	READ	RWA	READ	RWA	READ	RWA	READ	RWA
SA approach														
On-balance	2,369	1,897	1,709	719	6,624	5,747	5,748	2,627	8,441	5,844	24,891	16,833	28,682	21,051
Off-balance	0	0	122	48	1,012	963	88	63	1,989	1,454	3,210	2,528	4,669	3,856
Securities Financing	5	5	0	0							5	5	57	57
Derivatives			287	141	14	14			1	1	302	155	553	329
CVA		0		42								42		
Total SA	2,374	1,902	2,118	950	7,649	6,725	5,835	2,690	10,430	7,298	28,408	19,564	33,961	25,294
AIRB approach														
On-balance	91,591	5,588	50,956	12,651	158,429	75,439	270,036	48,948	30,758	14,411	601,769	157,036	582,264	156,282
Off-balance	5,317	145	12,886	4,082	58,148	21,162	5,456	285	8,917	2,404	90,725	28,078	86,305	27,066
Securities Financing	1,160	4	12,982	1,956	1,448	125			0	0	15,590	2,085	10,923	1,436
Derivatives	2,695	288	34,465	6,146	8,818	4,963			63	24	46,041	11,421	27,028	9,347
CVA		141		6,179		49						6,369		
Total AIRB	100,763	6,166	111,288	31,015	226,843	101,738	275,492	49,233	39,738	16,839	754,125	204,990	706,520	194,131
SEC AIRB														
On-balance											6,756	1,991	7,920	2,541
Off balance											1,059	110	1,938	187
Total Sec IRB											7,815	2,101	9,858	2,728
Total Bank	103,137	8,068	113,407	31,964	234,493	108,462	281,328	51,922	50,168	24,137	790,348	226,655	750,339	222,152

Includes both AIRB and SA portfolios; excludes equities and ONCOA.

Default Fund Contribution to CCP's is included under exposure class Institutions.

The ING Bank portfolio falls for 91.1% under the AIRB approach and for 8.9% under SA in terms of RWA. The total portfolio increased in 2014 by EUR 40.0 billion in READ to EUR 790.3 billion and by EUR 4.5 billion to 226.7 billion in RWA. The increase in RWA is mainly a result of updates of key risk factors related to CRR/CRD IV changes, next to the FX movements. Excluding the regulatory impact of the new CRR/CRD IV requirements, READ increased due to targeted increase of the book size in Structured Finance and Corporate & FI Lending, growth of the mortgages portfolios in Belgium and Germany, and an increase in the investment portfolio in anticipation of the new Liquidity Coverage Ratio regime. This increase was partially compensated by the deconsolidation of ING Vysya Bank, and the downsizing of the Real Estate Finance and Securitizations portfolios.

Sovereign credit risk disclosure

The table below presents the READ, segmented by relevant factors, and the analysis for the exposure class 'Sovereigns'.

The figures per geography for each exposure class are based on the country of residence of the obligor. As such, these figures do not represent the risk associated with a country transfer risk event, such as a restriction on the convertibility of local currency into internationally tradable currencies, as local and foreign currencies are combined and converted into Euro equivalent for presentation. The definitions associated with ING Bank's transfer risk positions and economic country risk exposure can be found in the Risk Management paragraph.

Sovereigns – credit risk disclosure in READ		2014	2013	Delta %
Sovereigns	Total per rating	103,137	92,164	12%
	Performing	103,132	92,135	12%
	Impaired/Non-performing	6	29	-80%
Sovereigns	Geography/business units	103,137	92,164	12%
	Africa	229	262	-13%
	America	3,254	308	956%
	Asia	3,818	5,112	-25%
	Australia	4,433	3,338	33%
	Europe	91,402	83,145	10%
Sovereigns	Europe	91,402	83,145	10%
	Netherlands	15,308	19,419	-21%
	Belgium	13,775	13,529	2%
	Germany	26,661	18,881	41%
	Other Europe	35,658	31,316	14%
Sovereigns	Product Type	103,137	92,164	12%
	Bond Investments	73,108	57,219	28%
	Revolving	12,255	14,726	-17%
	Money Market	9,066	10,277	-12%
	Term Loans	4,558	6,133	-26%
	Derivatives	2,695	1,758	53%
	Other	1,455	2,052	-29%
Sovereigns	PD Bands	103,137	92,164	12%
	<0.05%	82,105	73,738	11%
	0.05% to 0.5%	20,584	15,424	33%
	0.5% to 5%	251	2,591	-90%
	5% to 10%	77	161	-52%
	10% to 20%	111	198	-44%
	20% to 50%	3	23	-85%
>50%	6	29	-80%	

Includes both AIRB and SA portfolios; excludes equities and ONCOA.

Due to the CRR/CRD IV liquidity requirements, increased customer deposits require additional high quality liquid assets. The primary source of high quality liquid assets is sovereign bonds which showed the most significant increase.

As a result of constant review of customer types, certain institutions have been reclassified from exposure class Institutions to Sovereigns, resulting in an increase in READ, mainly in the Bond Investments in Germany.

Given that a major purpose of sovereign credit exposure is to support high quality liquid assets, it is consistent that most exposure is in the best quality risk bands.

Financial institutions credit risk disclosure

This table presents the READ, segmented by relevant factors and the analysis for the exposure class 'Institutions'.

Institutions – credit risk disclosure in READ		2014	2013	Delta %
Institutions	Total per rating	113,407	101,311	12%
	Performing	112,683	100,520	12%
	Impaired/Non-performing	724	791	-9%
Institutions	Geography/business units	113,407	101,311	12%
	Africa	634	305	108%
	America	16,562	11,801	40%
	Asia	14,418	14,375	0%
	Australia	1,789	2,684	-33%
	Europe	80,003	72,146	11%
Institutions	Europe	80,003	72,146	11%
	Netherlands	8,214	8,018	2%
	Belgium	8,907	7,496	19%
	Germany	8,737	12,918	-32%
	Other Europe	54,144	43,713	24%
Institutions	Product Type	113,407	101,311	12%
	Bond Investments	32,851	19,258	71%
	Derivatives	20,165	26,372	-24%
	Revolving	14,953	13,273	13%
	Money Market	12,637	11,927	6%
	Term Loans	12,476	11,763	6%
	Other	20,325	18,718	9%
Institutions	PD Bands	113,407	101,311	12%
	<0.05%	19,681	34,101	-42%
	0.05% to 0.5%	86,446	51,568	68%
	0.5% to 5%	6,236	14,267	-56%
	5% to 10%	69	382	-82%
	10% to 20%	222	52	327%
	20% to 50%	30	150	-80%
	>50%	724	791	-9%

Includes both AIRB and SA portfolios; excludes equities and ONCOA.

The growth in the Institutions portfolio was driven by the CRR/CRD IV change related to implementation of higher haircut for illiquid collateral which led to the increase in READ for Derivatives (EUR 12.0 billion). Increase in Revolving facilities to Central Banks also contributed to a rise in the exposure (EUR 1.7 billion) over the year. The deterioration of the average risk profile of the Institutions portfolio was partially caused by the shift of the low risk German Bond Investments to exposure class Sovereigns and partially by the Masterscale update, resulting in a shift from lowest to higher PD buckets.

Corporate credit risk disclosure

This table presents READ, segmented by relevant factors, and the analysis for the exposure class 'Corporates'. The Industry breakdown for this table is based on the NAICS system (North American Industry Classification System).

Corporate – credit risk disclosure in READ		2014	2013	Delta %
Corporate	Total per rating	234,493	216,408	8%
	Performing	225,600	206,452	9%
	Impaired/Non-performing	8,893	9,956	-11%
Corporate	Geography/business units	234,493	216,408	8%
	Africa	1,675	727	130%
	America	31,679	23,626	34%
	Asia	22,046	20,464	8%
	Australia	3,511	2,722	29%
	Europe	175,581	168,870	4%
Corporate	Europe	175,581	168,870	4%
	Netherlands	54,426	56,425	-4%
	Belgium	33,457	29,840	12%
	Germany	6,601	5,154	28%
	Rest of Europe	81,098	77,450	5%
Corporate	Industry	234,493	216,408	8%
	Real Estate	44,128	37,046	19%
	Natural Resources	40,512	42,279	-4%
	Transportation & Logistics	25,996	21,434	21%
	Food, Beverages & Personal Care	18,349	15,717	17%
	Services	16,381	15,109	8%
	Other	89,126	84,823	5%
Corporate	PD Bands	234,493	216,408	8%
	<0.05%	7,198	9,106	-21%
	0.05% to 0.5%	132,793	92,315	44%
	0.5% to 5%	74,172	84,089	-12%
	5% to 10%	3,425	7,235	-53%
	10% to 20%	4,131	5,531	-25%
	20% to 50%	3,880	8,170	-53%
	more than >50%	8,893	9,961	-11%

Includes both AIRB and SA portfolios; excludes equities and ONCOA.

The growth in the Corporates portfolio was supported by higher limits granted in Structured Finance and Corporate and FI Lending leading to increased READ. The appreciation of the USD versus the Euro contributed to the increase in READ as well. Next to that, the reduction in the Real Estate Finance portfolio continued, mostly in the Netherlands.

The previously mentioned Masterscale update resulted in a shift between PD bands for this exposure class. Further improvement in the book also supported the reduction in the higher PD bands. The reduction in non-performing READ was mainly due to sale of several distressed real estate assets achieved in 2014.

Retail credit risk disclosure

This table presents the READ, segmented by relevant factors, and the analysis for the exposure class 'Retail'.

Corporate – credit risk disclosure in READ				
		2014	2013	Delta %
Retail	Total per rating	331,496	330,598	0.3%
	Performing	323,866	324,411	-0.2%
	Impaired/Non-performing	7,630	6,187	23.3%
Retail	Customer Segment	331,496	330,598	0.3%
	Private Persons	304,760	302,437	0.8%
	Small Mid-sized Enterprises	19,584	20,372	-3.9%
	Private Banking	3,651	3,536	-3.3%
	Other	3,501	4,253	-17.7%
Retail	Geography/business units	331,496	330,598	0.3%
	Africa	67	58	15.8%
	America	187	177	5.8%
	Asia	161	1,728	-90.7%
	Australia	29,494	28,451	3.7%
	Other	0	0	0.0%
	Europe	301,587	300,184	0.5%
Retail	Europe	301,587	300,184	0.5%
	Netherlands	147,940	152,254	-2.8%
	Belgium	41,961	40,278	4.2%
	Germany	72,806	71,358	2.0%
	Rest of Europe	38,880	36,294	7.1%
Retail	PD Bands	331,496	330,598	0.3%
	<0.05%	24,534	23,185	5.8%
	0.05% to 0.5%	192,765	184,925	4.2%
	0.5% to 5%	93,642	100,495	-6.8%
	5% to 10%	4,431	5,804	-23.7%
	10% to 20%	4,759	5,529	-13.9%
	20% to 50%	3,052	3,571	-14.5%
	more than >50%	8,313	7,088	17.3%

Includes both AIRB and SA portfolios; excludes equities and ONCOA.

The increase in the Retail exposure class was driven mainly by Residential Mortgages in Belgium, Germany and Turkey in Rest of Europe. The increase in Asia was driven by FX movements, due to the appreciation of the Australian dollar against the Euro.

In contrast to these increases, similar to 2013, Residential Mortgages were transferred from WestlandUtrecht Bank to NN Bank, causing a decline of approximately EUR 1.3 billion READ. The transfer consisted of performing loans only. Additionally, the de-consolidation of ING Vysya Bank which decreased the READ by EUR 1.6 billion (mainly Residential Mortgages and Overdrafts) also impacted the Retail portfolio.

The non-performing loans increased by EUR 1.4 billion, which is primarily the result of the implementation of the new forbearance policy together with its 1-year probation period. For more information see Risk Management Paragraph Forbearance section.

LTV Residential Mortgages per country

The table below shows the weighted average Loan-to-Value (LTV) ratio of the ING Bank Residential Mortgage portfolio per country. All LTV figures are based on market values. In most portfolios, ING uses house price development to index these market values. In several markets, customers provide additional collateral or (government sponsored) mortgage insurance programs are used. None of these additional covers are included in the LTV figures.

Loan-to-Value Residential Mortgages per country

	2014		2013	
	LTV	READ	LTV	READ
Netherlands ⁽¹⁾	87%	134,526	91%	138,364
Germany	71%	64,530	71%	63,821
Australia	61%	29,577	66%	28,516
Belgium, Luxembourg	74%	29,509	75%	31,575
Spain	65%	9,653	66%	9,137
Italy	57%	7,747	55%	7,713
Poland	59%	3,828	59%	3,310
Turkey	54%	1,264	50%	955
Romania	67%	693	54%	632
India	n.a.	n.a.	53%	646
Total	77%	281,328	83%	284,668

Includes both AIRB and SA portfolios.

CRR/CRDIV introduced a new IRB exposure class "Retail secured by immovable property SME" as of 2014. From 2014, this exposure class is not included under residential mortgages anymore, while it was included in the 2013 figures.

(1) Netherlands includes Domestic Bank NL and WestlandUtrecht Bank.

While in 2013 the LTV for the Dutch mortgage portfolio deteriorated, it improved from 91% in 2013 to 87% during 2014. The downward trend in the Dutch housing industry seems to have bottomed out in 2014. As a result an increase in the Dutch house price index for the first and third quarter of 2014 improved the LTV ratio.

While in the Netherlands the house price index improved, for Italy the opposite occurred. The decrease in the house price index during the first quarter resulted in an increase of the LTV from 55% to 58%, after which it remained fairly stable.

Also for Australia the upward trend in the house prices translated to an improvement of the Australian LTV from 66% in 2013 to 61% in 2014. Additionally, the ING Bank wide strategy to limit concentration in the residential mortgage portfolio and the ING Australia objective to only take on new mortgages which have a low LTV, resulted in an improved LTV.

Although the LTV increased over 2014, Turkey still has a relatively low LTV. In Turkey the house prices increased more than income over the past two years. This combined with the willingness of customers to take up higher loan amounts while the house prices are still increasing causes a higher LTV of newly issued mortgages and translates into an increased total average LTV.

During the third quarter, a large increase of the Romanian LTV ratio is reported. This is due to the newly implemented property price index model with more conservative numbers which resulted in a decrease of the underlying collateral value of the mortgages. The implementation of the index model is in line with the strategy of ING to value property in accordance with local house price indices.

The ING policy is to index property values on a quarterly basis. In some markets only annual figures are available while for others it is more practical to index on an annual basis. Quarterly or annual indexing is done for the Netherlands, Belgium, Australia, Italy, Romania and Spain covering 75% of the portfolio.

The advanced internal rating based approach (airb)

The AIRB approach has five elements that drive the CRR/CRD IV 'risk-based approach' for the determination of RWA. RWA times the BIS ratio of 8% leads to Regulatory Capital. The elements are: the CRR/CRD IV exposure class, Probability of Default (PD), Exposure at Default (EAD), Loss Given Default (LGD) and Maturity (M).

Probability of Default (PD): The first element is the counterparty's probability of default, which measures a counterparty's creditworthiness in terms of likelihood to go into default. The result of this calculation attempts to measure the senior, unsecured standalone creditworthiness of an organisation without consideration of structural elements of the underlying transactions, such as collateral, pricing or maturity. Each borrower should have a rating which translates into a PD.

Exposure at Default (EAD): The second element is the counterparty's exposure at default. These models are intended to estimate the outstanding amount or obligation at the moment of default in the future. Since the fact that a counterparty will go into default is not known, and the level of outstanding that may occur on that date is also not known, ING Bank uses a combination of statistical, expert and hybrid models to estimate the Exposure at Default. With the exception of guarantees and letters of credit, the EAD is always equal to or higher than the associated credit risk outstanding, under the assumption that counterparties tend to absorb liquidity from available credit resources before financial problems become apparent to the counterparty's creditors. The EAD is largely a function of the type of credit facility (revolving, overdraft, term) offered to the borrower.

Loss Given Default (LGD): The third element is the loss given default. These models are intended to estimate the amount ING Bank will lose when liquidating collateral pledged in association with a given loan or financial obligation, or alternatively, liquidating the company as a whole, as part of a workout process. LGD models are based on cover types, estimated recovery rates given orderly liquidation, and (in) direct cost of liquidation.

Additional information

Additional Pillar III information continued

Maturity (M): The fourth element is the time to the maturity of the underlying financial obligation. Regulations (CRR/CRD IV) cap the maturity element at five years, despite the fact that many obligations extend their facilities for longer than five years.

Expected Loss (EL): The expected loss provides a measure of the value of the credit losses that ING Bank may reasonably expect to incur on its portfolio. ING Bank must hold a reserve (as part of its capital base) to cover the expected losses in its credit portfolio. In its basic form, the expected loss can be represented as:

$$EL = PD * EAD * LGD$$

Additionally, ING Bank must also maintain a capital buffer against unexpected losses in order to protect itself against credit losses associated with unusual market events outside of the statistical norms.

AIRB models per exposure class

Within ING Bank internal Basel models are used to determine the PD, EAD and LGD for regulatory and economic capital. Bank wide, ING Bank has implemented around 80 models, including various sub models for specific portfolios. A model may be applicable for a various exposure classes. In the table below, the number of PD, EAD, and LGD models per exposure class are shown.

Number of AIRB rating models per exposure class			
	PD models	EAD models	LGD models
Sovereigns	2	2	2
Institutions	8	4	3
Corporate	11	7	9
Residential mortgages	8	8	8
Other retail	12	9	10
Securitisation	1	1	1
Total	31	23	25

The main differences among the models within the same asset class are explained below.

- › **Sovereigns:** The Government Central PD model is developed statistically based upon risk driver information fed from external sources. The Government Local PD model is developed expert based and is a combination of financial and qualitative information. There is one main EAD model applied to all portfolios in this exposure class. There is one main LGD model for Sovereigns and other governments. The model for multilateral banks is based upon the Financial Institutions LGD model with a separate parameter for the unsecured recovery.
- › **Institutions:** The main PD model applied is Bank Commercial based upon financial, qualitative and country information. Other PD models for different types of financial institutions are built using a similar framework, but are more specialised for the specific characteristics of the type of financial institution. Banks and Financial Institutions use the same EAD model, which is also used for sovereigns and corporates. The main differences between the financial institutions and other governments LGD models are difference in the recoveries on unsecured exposure.
- › **Corporate:** The SME PD models are estimated statistically and directly predict a PD. The Corporate Large and Commercial Property Finance Models are both expert based scorecards and predict a rating. The risk drivers and adjustment factors are specialised to the type of clients in the portfolios. The EAD models all follow the same structure and are based upon the current exposure and current limit. Main differences are types of products involved and behaviour of the unutilised amount of the limit that is expected to be utilised at the time of default. The LGD models all follow the same structure, but have different parameters.
- › **Residential mortgages and other retail:** The PD mortgages models are all developed statistically and include borrower specific information, payment behaviour and product related information. The EAD and LGD models all follow the same structure. The differences in parameters, risk drivers or segmentation are due to differences in portfolio characteristics and underwriting criteria.
- › **Securitisation:** The LGD estimates depend on the type of securitisation. ING Bank does not use internally developed models for securitisation PD's. They are based on external ratings.

AIRB credit exposures by rating model

The table below shows the AIRB portfolio per exposure class and the underlying rating models.

Exposures (READ) per AIRB rating model ⁽¹⁾		2014	2013
Sovereigns	Government Central	51,954	44,154
	Government Implied	25,149	24,884
	Government Local	19,466	16,430
	Other	4,194	2,907
Institutions	Bank Commercial	44,341	46,189
	Bank Implied	20,028	17,173
	Government Local	12,963	11,472
	Other	33,956	23,696
Corporate	Corporates Large	69,293	60,352
	Commercial Property Finance	27,822	28,267
	SME Belgium	21,363	20,814
	Other	108,365	96,142
Residential mortgages	Mortgages (Residential) Holland	134,202	137,396
	Mortgages (Residential) Germany	64,530	63,821
	Mortgages (Residential) Australia	29,577	28,516
	Other	47,184	48,999
Other retail	SB NL Client - Credit Risk Products	6,322	6,441
	Retail NL Unsecured	4,362	4,452
	SME Belgium	3,908	4,068
	Other	25,146	20,348
Total		754,125	706,520

(1) Implied ratings are Risk Ratings derived from another organisation (usually from the same Legal or Economic One Obligor Group, but not always, for which the appropriate Rating Model has been used) but not directly given.

AIRB credit exposures by exposure class

The next table gives an overview of the relevant parameters for determining the capital requirements for AIRB models.

	On balance sheet (pre-CCF**)	Off balance sheet (pre-CCF**)	Counterparties*	Average CCF	READ	Average PD	No. obligors	Average LGD	Average Maturity	RWA	RWA density	RECAP	REL	Provisions
Sovereigns	91,591	51,621	3,855	10.3%	100,763	0.1%	1,207	30.4%	39	6,166	6.1%	493	28	11
Institutions	50,977	80,051	47,446	16.1%	111,288	0.9%	9,712	27.8%	29	31,015	27.9%	2,481	75	22
Corporates	98,171	106,079	7,224	38.4%	146,076	5.4%	133,466	28.2%	36	71,705	49.1%	5,736	2,468	2,185
Specialised Lending	60,259	46,005	3,043	38.0%	80,768	5.3%	6,650	21.2%	35	30,033	37.2%	2,403	1,336	1,258
Retail – Residential mortgages	269,506	8,188		66.6%	275,492	2.9%	1,661,674	18.8%		49,233	17.9%	3,939	1,244	1,011
Retail – SME	16,910	5,479	41	61.2%	20,350	11.7%	372,838	31.2%		7,373	36.2%	590	741	595
Retail other	13,522	11,464	23	48.5%	19,388	4.9%	6,097,401	60.5%		9,466	48.8%	757	467	405
Total 2014	600,937	308,886	61,631	29.4%	754,125	3.3%	8,133,472	25.2%	35	204,990	27.2%	16,399	6,359	5,487
Total 2013	581,118	295,337	37,951	29.2%	706,520	3.6%	8,019,923	26.6%	43	194,131	27.5%	15,530	6,962	5,550

Note that the Bank of International Settlements (BIS) requires an exposure class breakdown in this table which differs from the ING Bank exposure classes shown in previous tables.

* Counterparties consists of Securities Financing and Derivative exposures

** CCF – Credit Conversion Factor

The READ increase is mainly the result of volume increases to Corporates and Sovereigns, FX movements and the CRR/CRD IV implementation. Not only READ, but also RWA was influenced by these changes. The RWA density showed a reduction mainly driven by the Masterscale implementation and the update of the Sovereign LGD model.

AIRB credit exposures by internal rating grade

The table below shows the AIRB portfolio per internal rating grade. Under CRR/CRD IV rules, the nominal exposures are weighted to determine the RWA (and regulatory capital) of a portfolio, under a 'risk-based approach'. This approach dictates that less capital is required for credit exposures which are well-rated, while progressively more capital is required as an obligor's risk (rating) deteriorates. This effect can cause RWA to increase or decrease together with risk rating migration without a significant change in the size of the underlying financial assets, in terms of financial accounting. As such, rating migrations are closely monitored within ING Bank.

Exposures (READ) per internal rating grade and corresponding RPD, RLGD and RWA 2014

	Internal rating grade	PD range for each grade	READ in each grade	Average RPD	Average RLGD	RWAs in each grade (or band)	Risk Weight	External Rating Equivalent
Performing								
	1	0.00–0.01	46,182	0.01	31.82	810	0.01	AAA
	2	0.01–0.02	28,883	0.02	28.34	802	0.02	AA+
	3	0.02–0.04	30,130	0.03	27.52	795	0.03	AA
	4	0.04–0.05	23,275	0.04	26.58	2,665	0.10	AA-
	5	0.05–0.06	29,284	0.05	31.34	5,840	0.16	A+
	6	0.06–0.08	46,244	0.06	24.44	7,375	0.12	A
	7	0.08–0.11	40,535	0.09	29.73	7,843	0.18	A-
	8	0.11–0.17	50,175	0.14	22.26	7,224	0.14	BBB+
	9	0.17–0.29	86,256	0.22	25.73	17,895	0.20	BBB
	10	0.29–0.51	85,669	0.36	23.30	19,932	0.23	BBB-
	11	0.51–0.89	90,526	0.51	20.69	22,138	0.24	BB+
	12	0.89–1.54	78,006	0.75	21.75	23,435	0.30	BB
	13	1.54–2.67	43,992	1.31	24.35	20,040	0.45	BB-
	14	2.67–4.62	21,964	2.50	27.47	14,726	0.67	B+
	15	4.62–8.01	15,431	4.60	25.20	10,196	0.66	B
	16	8.01–13.88	6,772	8.84	27.89	6,415	0.95	B-
	17	13.88–20.00	7,143	16.85	27.96	8,924	1.22	CCC
	18	20.00–30.00	3,590	24.86	24.50	4,735	1.32	CC
	19	>30	3,118	43.51	24.78	3,372	1.08	C
Non-performing								
	20	100	9,310	100.00	29.57	12,452	1.34	Default
	21	100	4,450	100.00	21.61	5,164	1.16	Default
	22	100	3,191	100.00	30.65	2,210	0.69	Default
	Total		754,125	3.26	25.17	204,990	0.27	

Includes the AIRB portfolio only; excludes securitisations, equities and ONCOA.

ING Bank's Probability of Default (PD) rating models are based on a 1-22 scale, which corresponds to the same rating grades that are assigned by external rating agencies. Risk Ratings (PD) for performing loans (1-19) are calculated in ING Bank with regulatory approved models. Risk Ratings for non-performing loans (20-22) are set on the basis of an approved discretionary methodology by the Global or Regional Restructuring unit. For securitisation portfolios, the external ratings of the tranche in which ING Bank has invested are leading. Overall the risk weights of the ING portfolio are a mixture of low risk weights for Sovereigns and Residential Mortgages combined with higher risk weights for Corporates and Securitisations. Many central governments exposure receive a zero risk weight due to the high quality rating (permanent partial use of the SA rules). Mortgages generally benefit from large levels of (over) collateralisation.

ING has been working on a project to map the 1-19 rating grades to internal data instead of external rating agency scales. In March 2014, the Dutch National Bank approved the implementation of the new Masterscale (ING Bank internal rating methodology). As of June 2014, PD values of the ING Bank Masterscale are adjusted using internal observed default data history from 2005 until 2012 where previously Standard & Poor's data was used. These adjustments are performed to reflect internal default experience, which is better compared to the predominantly US based Standard & Poor's data. This has made the Masterscale better fit to the risk profile of ING Bank and has led to a net decrease in RWA. The planning is, within a year, to gradually move to only internal data in place of the external S&P data to arrive at the Masterscale.

Disclosures of model outcomes

The table next, shows the PD, LGD, READ, RWA and RWA density per exposure class. This should be read in conjunction with the table in the following paragraph 'changes in risk parameters since last reporting date'.

Model approaches per exposure class for the AIRB portfolio

	Sovereigns	Institutions	Corporate	Residential mortgages	Other retail	Total	Total
	2014						2013
Average PD	0.08%	0.87%	5.40%	2.89%	8.38%	3.26%	3.62%
Average LGD	30.40%	27.77%	25.71%	18.82%	45.49%	25.17%	26.59%
READ	100,763	111,288	226,843	275,492	39,738	754,125	706,520
RWA	6,166	31,015	101,738	49,233	16,839	204,990	194,131
RWA density (RWA/READ)	6.12%	27.87%	44.85%	17.87%	42.38%	27.18%	27.48%

Includes the AIRB portfolio only and non-performing loans; excludes securitisations, equities and ONCOA.

The relatively low RWA density for Sovereigns and central banks is because of sovereign entities, which are rated between 1-4 and whose exposures receive a regulatory risk weight of 0%.

Changes in risk parameters since last reporting date

The table below shows the changes in risk parameters since last reporting date in percentages. This should be read in conjunction with the table in the paragraph 'Disclosure of model outcomes', above.

Changes in AIRB risk parameters 2014 compared to 2013 in %

	Sovereigns	Institutions	Corporate	Residential mortgages	Other retail	Total	Total
	2014						2013
Average PD	-33%	-20%	-21%	9%	3%	-10%	10%
Average LGD	-31%	-1%	2%	-1%	-4%	-5%	22%
READ	14%	13%	10%	-1%	13%	7%	-6%
RWA	-9%	65%	1%	-4%	1%	6%	12%
RWA density	-20%	46%	-8%	-3%	-10%	-1%	19%

Includes the AIRB portfolio only; excludes securitisations, equities and ONCOA.

Over the course of 2014, average PD and average LGD decreased with 10% and 5% respectively.

The PD decrease observed in the Sovereigns, Institutions and Corporates exposure classes and was mainly caused by the redevelopment of the Masterscale. Furthermore, a refinement was made to the classification of German government guaranteed entities to better reflect their risk weight, which caused a shift of several entities from Institutions to Sovereigns. This improved the average Sovereign PD. Additionally, the sale and write-offs of large defaulted real estate clients resulted in an average PD decrease for Corporates. The PD increase in Residential Mortgages is explained by a shift of forborne assets from performing to non-performing and the 1-year probation period put in place as a result of the implementation of the updated forbearance policy in 2014.

The average LGD decrease was driven by Sovereigns and was the result of a redevelopment of the Sovereign LGD model. The impact of the introduction of CRR/CRD IV was mainly seen in the RWA increase for exposure class Institutions.

The CRR/CRD IV implementation impacted READ and RWA density. This is visible in Institutions, where an opposite movement is seen for RWA density, compared with PD and LGD. The addition of a factor in the risk weight calculation for qualified CCPs for Default Fund Contribution increased RWA density significantly.

Disclosure of estimated and actual loss parameters

ING has dedicated AIRB credit risk models per business unit, segment and country. An independent Model Validation department periodically reviews all AIRB models for compliance including back testing when possible. If a model is considered not to be robust or the back-testing indicates insufficient performance, then the model is either re-calibrated or re-developed. All model recommendations from Model Validation department are tracked via iRisk, the same internal database that management uses to track issues detected by the Internal Audit department, incidents and non-financial risk issues. All significant model changes are submitted to the Home Regulator (DNB) and implemented after regulatory approval. On average, 91% of the AIRB credit risk models in the validation cycle have had 'No to Remote' (51%) and 'Minor' (40%) model deficiencies.

The table below provides a back-testing of the PD models per exposure class. In order to better quantify the back-testing, ING has analysed the 31 December 2014 portfolio. The average PD of 31 December 2013 per portfolio is split per exposure class. The 31 December 2013 portfolio is followed through 2014 to determine the observed default rate. The models are based on long series of historical data. In the back-test the model based PD values are compared against the defaults observed in 2014. This back-test is only representative of the year end 2013 portfolio and can be influenced by small sample sizes or incidents. Nonetheless, the back-test gives a comparison of the predicted PD versus the observed default rate. In the table, the default rate is based on the weighted average READ of the defaulted portfolio whereas the models are developed on an obligor basis.

Average estimated PD under the Advanced AIRB approach versus the actual default rate per exposure class

	Sovereigns	Institutions	Corporate	Residential mortgages	Other retail	Total
						2014
Average PD 2013*	0.09%	0.30%	2.25%	1.19%	3.13%	1.32%
Observed Default Rate 2014	0.00%	0.00%	1.72%	1.35%	3.07%	1.17%

Includes the AIRB portfolio only; excludes securitisations, equities and ONCOA.

* Average PD 2013 includes performing loans only.

The table below gives insight in the Expected Loss rate and the Observed Loss rate per exposure class. The expected loss as of 31 December 2013 for the performing portfolio is split per exposure class. The 31 December 2013 portfolio is followed through 2014 to determine the defaulted exposures. The models are based on long series of historical data. In the comparison, the expected loss rate is calculated by dividing the expected loss of the performing portfolio as of 31 December 2013 by the READ of the performing portfolio of the same period. The Observed Loss rate is a result of multiplying the observed defaulted exposures by its LGD. This back-test is only representative of the year end 2013 portfolio and can be influenced by small sample sizes or incidents. Nonetheless, the back-test gives a comparison of the Expected Loss rate PD versus the observed Loss rate.

Expected loss rate under the Advanced IRB approach versus the observed loss rate per exposure class

	Sovereigns	Institutions	Corporate	Residential mortgages	Other retail	Total
						2014
Expected loss rate 2013*	0.0248%	0.0680%	0.5651%	0.2267%	1.2681%	0.3247%
Observed Loss Rate 2014	0.0000%	0.0011%	0.4650%	0.2622%	1.1537%	0.2922%

Includes the AIRB portfolio only; excludes securitisations, equities and ONCOA.

* Expected loss rate 2013 includes performing loans only.

Both of the back-tests show that the expectations are quite in line with the observed default rate and the observed loss rate. For the Residential mortgages portfolio, the default rates and the loss rates exceed the predicted values as a result of shift of forborne assets from performing to non-performing, and the 1-year probation period put in place as a result of the implementation of the updated forbearance policy in 2014.

Standardised approach

A subset of the ING portfolio is treated with the Standardised Approach. The SA approach applies fixed risk weights to each exposure class, split into credit quality steps (based on external ratings) as dictated by the Capital Requirement Directive (CRD). Because the underlying obligors are relatively small, the underlying obligors tend not to have external ratings. As such, the SA Approach is the least sophisticated of the CRR/CRD IV methodologies and is not as risk sensitive as the risk-based AIRB Approach.

In order to calculate the regulatory capital requirements under the SA approach, ING Bank uses eligible external ratings from Standard & Poor's, Moody's, Fitch Ratings and in some cases from DBRS. Ratings are applied to all relevant exposure classes in the Standardised Approach.

Exposures before and after risk mitigation for the SA portfolio

The table below shows how credit risk mitigation (CRM) in the SA portfolio is distributed over the exposure classes. ING Bank's exposure value is shown before and after credit risk mitigation. There are two principal methods for reducing or mitigating Credit Risk: i) by reduction of Credit Risk through the acceptance of pledged financial assets as collateral or ii) mitigation or shifting of credit risks to a lower risk weighting group by accepting guarantees from unrelated third parties. ING Bank uses both methods to take CRM effects into account. For financial collateral, ING Bank uses the Financial Collateral Comprehensive Method to allow for mitigation effects.

Exposures and RWA before and after credit risk mitigation (CRM) and credit conversion factors (CCF)

	Exposures before CCF and CRM		CRM and CCF effects on exposures		RWA and RWA density	
	On balance sheet amount	Off balance sheet amount	Counter-parties	Credit exposure post CCF and post-CRM (a)	RWA (b)	RWA density (b/a)
Sovereigns and their central banks	2,369	244	5	2,374	1,902	80.1%
Non-central government public sector entities	173	118		173	85	48.9%
Banks	1,536	540	287	1,979	871	41.9%
Corporates	4,429	8,133	14	5,255	5,092	96.9%
Regulatory retail portfolios	7,296	7,319	1	9,184	6,502	70.8%
Secured by residential property	5,705	120		5,764	2,621	45.5%
Secured by commercial real estate	3,261	1,240		3,378	2,168	64.2%
Past due loans	631	40		299	323	108.0%
Total 2014	25,400	17,755	307	28,408	19,564	68.7%
Total 2013	29,411	21,342	610	33,961	25,294	74.5%

Note that the Bank of International Settlements (BIS) requires an exposure class breakdown in this table which differs from the ING Bank exposure classes shown in previous tables.

Overall, the table shows a decrease of the total SA portfolio from EUR 34.0 billion to EUR 28.0 billion. Due to new regulations in India, ING Vysya Bank is no longer part of ING Bank. The de-consolidation resulted in an exposure decrease of EUR 7.8 billion. This decrease was offset throughout the year mainly due to growth in the Turkey and Poland retail portfolios which enlarged the SA portfolio with EUR 1.3 billion and EUR 0.7 billion, respectively.

ING Bank, as an AIRB Bank, implicitly strives to facilitate the possibility for clients and portfolios to be transferred from the SA portfolio to the AIRB portfolio. In line with this strategy/goal, a shift of the Dutch Private Banking portfolio occurred in the first quarter of 2014 from the SA portfolio to the AIRB portfolio. This reduced the exposure of the SA portfolio with EUR 300 million mainly seen in the regulatory retail portfolios.

In spite of the portfolio growth, the RWA density decreased from 74.4% to 68.7%. This improvement is mainly due to the revision of the definition for "secured by immovable property" as the previous definition did not capture all covers correctly. The improvement is mainly seen for the exposure class "secured by commercial real estate" in the Australia retail portfolio.

Risk weights per exposure class

The table below gives more insight in how the SA portfolio per exposure class is broken down into the regulatory risk weight buckets.

Exposure per risk weight bucket per exposure class

	0%	10%	20%	35%	50%	75%	100%	150%	Others	Total
Sovereigns and their central banks	1				943		1,430			2,374
Non-central government public sector entities			6		167					173
Banks			1,062		601		314	2		1,979
Corporates					0		5,230	25		5,255
Regulatory retail portfolios						9,184				9,184
Secured by residential property				4,832			932			5,764
Secured by commercial real estate					2,074		1,304			3,378
Past due loans					19		213	67		299
Total 2014	1		1,069	4,832	3,805	9,184	9,424	93		28,408
Total 2013	2		204	5,177	5,226	10,447	12,603	302		33,961

Note that the Bank of International Settlements (BIS) requires an exposure class breakdown in this table which differs from the ING Bank exposure classes shown in previous tables.

Excluding the impact of the de-consolidation of ING Vysya Bank, which was mainly seen in the 50% and the 100% risk weight buckets, there is an increase in the SA portfolio. The increase was mainly due to growth in Turkey and Poland Retail and was seen mainly in the 50% risk weight bucket. A decline in the 75% bucket was seen due to a transfer of the Dutch Private Banking portfolio from SA to AIRB approach.

Credit quality

This section focusses on non-performing loans, which are loans where there is a reasonable probability that ING Bank may end up with a loss, unless ING Bank intervenes with specific and significant actions. In other words, in this category, an account or portfolio requires a more intensified approach, which may include renegotiations of terms and conditions and/or business/financial restructuring. This section should be read in conjunction with the Risk Management paragraph sections on: Risk Appetite Framework and Credit Quality.

Reconciliation of non-performing loans disclosures

The table below shows the reconciliation of non-performing loans segmented by the lines of businesses used internally by ING Bank. A narrative explanation on these business lines is given in the Risk Management paragraph.

Reconciliation of non-performing loans disclosures ⁽⁴⁾				
	Commercial Banking	Retail Banking Benelux	Retail Banking International	Total ING Bank
Impaired loan book movements				
Impaired loans at 1 January 2014 ⁽¹⁾	6,417	7,233	2,271	15,921
Classified as impaired during the year ⁽²⁾	2,277	3,351	930	6,558
Outflow from impaired excluding write-offs	-1,856	-1,277	-587	-3,720
Amounts written off	-715	-716	-298	-1,729
Changes in composition of the bank			-272	-272
Exchange rate and other movements ⁽³⁾	122	1	7	130
At 31 December 2014	6,245	8,593	2,051	16,889
Impairment allowances - movements				
Impairment allowances at 1 January 2014 ⁽¹⁾	2,459	2,264	1,431	6,154
Changes in the composition of the Bank	0	0	-170	-170
Amounts written off	-715	-716	-298	-1,729
Recoveries of amounts written off in previous years	49	48	8	105
Addition to loan loss provisions (from income statement)	500	857	237	1,594
Exchange rate and other movements	-34	76	-1	41
At 31 December 2014	2,259	2,529	1,207	5,995

(1) Equals the amount as of 31 December 2013.

(2) Unadjusted for exchange rate fluctuations.

(3) Based on start and end date of the outstanding positions, unadjusted for inflow and outflow.

(4) At the end of 2014, the stock of provisions included provisions for amounts due from banks: EUR 6 million (2013: 19 million)

The total risk costs for the year 2014 were just under EUR 1.6 billion confirming the downward trend since the end of 2013. Where the average quarterly risk costs over the years 2012 and 2013 were at EUR 550 million, since the beginning of this year they have trended downwards to stabilise at around EUR 400 million per quarter. The total stock of provisions decreased to EUR 6.0 billion due to the deconsolidation of ING Vysya Bank and slightly higher write-offs due to the sale of non-performing loans.

As of 31 December 2014, ING Bank holds specific (ISFA) and collective (INSFA) provisions of EUR 3,722 million and EUR 1,507 million, respectively (2013: EUR 3,729 million and EUR 1,589 million respectively), representing the difference between the amortized cost of the portfolio and the estimated recoverable amount discounted at the effective rate of interest. In addition, there is EUR 766 million (2013: EUR 835 million) in provisions (IBNR) against the performing portfolio.

Risk costs decreased across all business lines. Particularly, Commercial Banking saw a big decrease due to continued lower risk costs in Real Estate Finance (while risk costs for the Business Lending portfolio in Retail Banking Benelux also showed a reduction). The deconsolidation of ING Vysya Bank caused a reduction of EUR 170 million in the stock of provisions for Retail Banking International.

There was a decrease in coverage ratio to 35.5% (2013: 38.6%) mainly due to an increased inflow into the non-performing loan portfolio in Q4 2014 after implementation of the new EBA rules for forbearance which enforce a broader definition of non-performing clients.

Large parts of the Investment portfolio are not accounted at amortised costs (Loans & Receivables or Held-to-Maturity) and therefore out of scope for Loan Loss Provisions. Instead, these assets are evaluated for impairment. The ING Bank Impairment Meeting is a quarterly process held with the ING Provisioning Committee (IPC) that reviews all assets that are subject to an IFRS impairment test.

Credit quality by industry

ING Bank uses a common industry classification methodology based on the NAICS system (North American Industry Classification System). This methodology has over 1,500 detailed industry descriptions, which are aggregated into 22 industry classes at the highest level. Certain countries require ING Bank to report locally based on other industry classification methodologies, which are generally

derived from the NAICS classifications presented here. Residential mortgages are generally only extended to private individuals. The tables below show the non-performing exposure and provisions per NAICS industry and should be read in conjunction with the information and statements made in the Risk Management section.

Non-performing exposure (READ) by industry

	Sovereigns	Institutions	Corporate	Residential mortgages	Other retail	Total	Total
						2014	2013
Private Individuals			3	5,290	851	6,143	4,779
Real Estate			2,935	13	345	3,294	4,475
Commercial Banks		674	579			1,253	1,023
Builders & Contractors			719		245	964	1,036
Natural Resources			935		17	952	528
Transportation & Logistics			679		111	790	939
General Industries			648		117	764	688
Services		1	478		237	716	623
Food, Beverages & Personal Care			585		100	686	805
Retail			268		102	370	421
Utilities			338		5	343	125
Chemicals, Health & Pharmaceuticals			218		33	250	272
Automotive			157		48	205	207
Media			138		42	179	282
Other	6	49	153		73	281	393
Total	6	724	8,831	5,303	2,326	17,190	16,596

Includes both AIRB and SA portfolios; only Lending and Investments are included; excludes securitisations, equities and ONCOA.

Non-performing exposure increased mainly in Private Individuals. This was the result of the implementation of the updated ING Bank forbearance policy based on the EBA recommendations issued in July 2014. More stringent definitions issued by EBA, inclusion of the required history and implementation of the probation periods increased the amount of forbore assets. Also the implementation of the stricter default triggers on forbore assets led to a shift from the performing to non-performing book. Increases were also seen in Natural Resources and Other and were driven by Ukrainian and Russian corporates. These increases were offset by sales of large distressed real estate exposures resulting in several write offs.

ING Bank has made conservative choices in Retail Banking for what concerns curing from default. The majority of units only allow curing from default once there are no more days overdue. If ING Bank would allow curing from default once the client is < 90 days overdue and this, only if there is no forbearance, then the total non-performing loans READ would reduce to EUR 15.6 billion.

Cumulative provisions by industry ⁽²⁾

	Sovereigns	Institutions	Corporate	Residential mortgages	Other retail	Total	Total
						2014	2013
Private Individuals			1	870	463	1,335	1,224
Real Estate	5	0	1,173	5	133	1,316	1,547
Builders & Contractors		0	363	2	114	479	575
Services	0	0	279	21	167	468	421
Food, Beverages & Personal Care		0	362	2	67	430	430
General Industries		0	314	13	71	399	410
Transportation & Logistics	0	0	282	2	54	338	345
Natural Resources		0	293	0	11	304	215
Retail			133	3	74	211	222
Chemicals, Health & Pharmaceuticals	0	0	134	1	20	155	158
Utilities	0	0	115	0	3	118	69
Automotive			91	0	25	117	104
Media	0		88	0	23	111	128
Non-Bank Financial Institutions		7	37	0	21	65	85
Other ⁽¹⁾	6	14	37	32	60	149	220
Total	11	22	3,703	953	1,307	5,995	6,154

Includes both AIRB and SA portfolios; excludes securitisations, equities and ONCOA.

Excludes revaluations made directly through the equity account.

(1) Sectors with cumulative provisions of less than EUR 50 million are grouped under 'Other'.

(2) At the end of 2014, the stock of provisions included provisions for amounts due from banks: EUR 6 million (2013: 19 million)

Additional information

Additional Pillar III information continued

The Real Estate sector saw a big reduction in provisions due to improved risk profile over the year and sale of non-performing assets. This improvement was however dampened due to the increased flow to non-performing loans in the private individuals sector which was due to the enforcement of the new Forbearance regulations. An increase in provisions set aside for Structured Finance business in Ukraine and Russia has caused the rise seen in the Natural Resources sector.

Past due loans by economic sector

ING Bank considers past due loans to be those loans where any payment of interest of principal is more than one day past due. The methodology is principally applied to loans to private individuals, such as residential mortgage loans, car loans and other consumer loans. For business loans (Sovereigns, Institutions, Corporates), ING Bank has adopted a policy to classify the obligor as a non-performing loan as quickly as possible upon the occurrence of a payment default. Therefore, the concept of past due loans does not exist for these types of obligors and hence the reason why the business exposure classes are not included.

Past due but not non-performing consumer loans (based on outstandings)

	Residential mortgages	Other retail	Total	Total
			2014	2013
Private Individuals	3,939	382	4,321	6,067
Other ⁽¹⁾		822	822	744
Total	3,939	1,204	5,143	6,810

Includes both AIRB and SA portfolios; excludes securitisations, equities and ONCOA.

(1) Economic sectors not shown specifically in the table have past due loans of less than EUR 150 million, and are grouped under 'Other'.

Overall past due outstandings decreased over the year mainly due to new forbearance policy resulting in a shift from performing loans to non-performing loans, due to better collection of arrears and due to an overall improvement seen in the economic conditions. The de-consolidation of ING Vysya Bank decreased the past due loans with EUR 0.5 billion mainly in the Private Individuals portfolio.

Credit quality by geographic area

The tables below are based on the country of residence of the obligor. The Non-performing exposure table should be read in conjunction with the information and statements made in the Risk Management Paragraph.

Non-performing exposure (READ) by geographic area

	Sovereigns	Institutions	Corporate	Residential mortgages	Other retail	Total	Total
						2014	2013
Netherlands	5	686	3,659	3,374	734	8,458	7,761
Belgium	0	0	1,150	747	574	2,472	2,292
Germany			63	746	164	973	938
Other Europe		30	3,456	242	850	4,577	4,719
Americas	0	0	335	5	1	341	491
Asia / Pacific		8	169	189	1	366	392
ROW ⁽¹⁾	1		0	1	1	3	3
Total	6	724	8,831	5,303	2,326	17,190	16,596

Includes both AIRB and SA portfolios; excludes securitisations, equities and ONCOA.

(1) Rest of the World

Non-performing exposure increased mainly in the Netherlands and Belgium, especially the Residential mortgages exposure class. This was the result of the implementation of the updated ING Bank forbearance policy based on the EBA recommendations issued in July 2014. More stringent definitions issued by EBA, inclusion of the required history and implementation of the probation periods increased the amount of forborne assets. Also the implementation of the stricter default triggers on forborne assets led to a shift from the performing to non-performing book. Write-offs on large real estate clients led to decreases in non-performing exposures in Other Europe and Americas.

ING Bank has made conservative choices in Retail Banking with respect to curing from default. The majority of units only allow curing from default once there are no more days overdue. If ING Bank would allow curing from default once the client is < 90 days overdue and this, only if there is no forbearance, then the total non-performing loans READ would reduce to EUR 15.6 billion.

Cumulative provisions by geographic area ⁽¹⁾

	Sovereigns	Institutions	Corporate	Residential mortgages	Other retail	Total	
						2014	2013
Netherlands	5	3	1,573	388	359	2,328	2,287
Belgium	0	1	415	60	215	691	673
Germany	0	0	45	389	174	609	606
Other Europe	4	11	1,469	109	558	2,151	2,154
Americas	0	1	114	1	1	116	173
Asia / Pacific	0	6	85	6	0	97	258
ROW ⁽²⁾	1	1	1	0	0	3	3
Total	11	22	3,703	953	1,307	5,995	6,154

Includes both AIRB and SA portfolios; excludes securitisations, equities and ONCOA.

Excludes revaluations made directly through the equity account.

(1) At the end of 2014, the stock of provisions included provisions for amounts due from banks: EUR 6 million (2013: 19 million)

(2) Rest of the World

The relatively high level of provisions compared to the non-performing exposure in Germany is due to the level of collateral and the enforcement regime which has an impact on the recovery rate which drives LGD higher. The decline in the stock of provisions in Asia is due to the deconsolidation of ING Vysya Bank.

Past due loans by geographic area

The table below is based on the country of residence of the obligor and on credit risk outstandings. Credit Risk outstandings include amounts associated with both on- and off- balance sheet products, but exclude amounts related to unused limits.

Past due but not non-performing consumer loans by geographic area (based on outstandings)

	Residential mortgages	Other retail	Total	
			2014	2013
Netherlands	1,592	2	1,594	2,700
Belgium	1,323	758	2,081	2,207
Germany	169	13	182	227
Other Europe	295	430	725	587
Americas	3	0	3	5
Asia / Pacific	556	0	556	1,084
ROW ⁽¹⁾	1	0	1	1
Total	3,939	1,204	5,143	6,810

Includes both AIRB and SA portfolios; excludes securitisations, equities and ONCOA.

(1) Rest of the World

The decrease in past due loans is driven by the movements in the Dutch Residential Mortgages portfolio and the deconsolidation of ING Vysya Bank. In the Netherlands, past due outstandings decreased over the year mainly due to new forbearance policy resulting in a shift from performing loans to non-performing loans, due to better collection of arrears and due to an overall improvement seen in the economic conditions.

Off-balance items

Undrawn commitments

The figures below represent the potential exposure that may be drawn by ING Bank's obligors under committed facilities. In most cases, the obligors have the right to make use of these facilities unless an event of default has occurred, or another defined event within the associated credit risk agreement has occurred. In most cases, the obligor pays a commitment fee to ING Bank on the unused portion of these facilities. Pre-Settlement, Money Market and Investment limits are generally not committed.

	Sovereigns	Institutions	Corporate	Residential mortgages	Other retail	Total	
						2014	2013
Under SA approach	0	0	384	176	3,677	4,237	4,872
Under AIRB Approach	292	5,732	63,753	8,188	13,219	91,184	80,904
0% risk weight	162	1,818	9,528	7,076	7,597	26,182	25,873
10% risk weight	51	1,400	10,173	711	1,648	13,983	14,374
20% risk weight	75	979	17,020	258	1,371	19,702	16,922
35% risk weight	0	913	11,908	80	858	13,758	10,272
50% risk weight	0	228	9,112	42	759	10,141	6,772
75% risk weight	1	183	2,912	9	541	3,646	3,706
100% risk weight	2	108	2,297	9	367	2,784	2,145
150% risk weight	0	70	371	2	54	497	358
200% risk weight	0	33	432	2	22	490	481
1250% risk weight							
Total	292	5,732	64,137	8,364	16,896	95,421	85,776

Includes both AIRB and SA portfolios; excludes securitisations, equities and ONCOA.

ING Bank has seen many of its Large Corporate customers obtain funding from capital markets in the course of 2014. This often leads to large undrawn commitments with ING Bank. These stand-by commitments are usually for top rated Corporates which have historically shown a reluctance to draw these facilities. In 2014, an increase in the undrawn commitments is mainly seen for Large Corporates in the Natural Resource industry of Structured Finance and Corporate and FI Lending as new limits were granted in these specific departments.

If all of the unused commitments were called upon at the same time, ING Bank's credit risks (in terms of outstandings) would increase by 13.6%. As part of its Regulatory EAD models, ING Bank makes an estimate of how much of these unused commitments would be drawn under normal circumstances. The effect is included in the calculation of RWA, together with a similar effect applied to uncommitted facilities, albeit at a lower rate.

Counterparty credit risk

The main activities that qualify under counterparty credit risk are derivatives trading activities and securities financing. As part of these activities, ING Bank enters into master agreements such as ISDA master agreements and Global Master Repurchase Agreements (GMRAs). Under the terms contained in sections related to Minimum Threshold Amounts and Minimum Transfer Amounts of Credit Support Annexes (CSA) or other similar clauses, both ING Bank and its counterparties may agree to pledge additional collateral to each other in the event that either party is downgraded by one of the established rating agencies. ING Bank has determined that under prevailing market conditions, a one notch downgrade would only have a limited effect on the amount of additional collateral that ING Bank would be required to pledge under these agreements. However, the actual amount that ING Bank may be required to pledge in the future may vary based on ING Bank's portfolio composition of both derivatives and securities pledged in securities financing transactions, market circumstances, the number of downgrade notches as well as the terms and conditions of future CSAs or other similar agreements entered into.

Derivatives by product type

The table below is based on the marked-to-market (MtM) plus (regulatory) add-on methodology used for calculating CRR/CRD IV RWA for determining the gross exposures. This means that the READ figure listed hereunder is significantly below the notional amount. The mark-to-market plus (regulatory) add-on is recalculated daily to reflect both changes in the markets as well as portfolio composition. The Current Exposure Method (the methodology to calculate the READ) together with the other building blocks (PD, LGD and Maturity), allow ING Bank to classify a large part of its derivatives exposures under the AIRB approach.

Derivatives by product type in READ

	Sovereigns	Institutions	Corporate	Residential mortgages	Other retail	Total	Total
	2014						2013
Interest Rate Derivatives	2,410	25,962	5,586	0	34	33,993	19,381
Foreign Exchange Derivatives	269	3,615	1,744	0	21	5,649	3,400
Equity Derivatives	0	2,555	104	0	9	2,668	2,239
Exchange Traded Products		1,901				1,901	1,440
Credit Derivatives	0	428	2	0	0	430	484
Commodity Derivatives	15	68	1,243	0	0	1,327	321
Derivatives	0	222	153	0	0	375	315
Total	2,695	34,752	8,832	0	64	46,343	27,581

Includes both AIRB and SA portfolios; excludes securitisations, equities and ONCOA.

The derivative portfolio of ING Bank primarily facilitates client related business including hedging of mortgage portfolios. Majority of the counterparties in this derivative portfolio are based in the UK, Netherlands, Belgium, Germany and France. Exposure (READ) for the derivatives portfolio showed a significant jump in the first quarter of 2014 due to the introduction of CRR/CRD IV regulations. READ for derivatives grew by EUR 12.0 billion due to the introduction of an increased holding period and a 'haircut' (reduction of the collateral value to reflect potential adverse price changes) in risk-weighted assets calculations for OTC Derivatives. Excluding from this regulatory requirement, the portfolio showed an increase mainly driven by the interest rates business. Increased fluctuations seen in the FX and commodity markets have caused a rise in FX and Commodity derivatives.

Over-the-counter and exchange traded derivatives

This section provides a quantitative and qualitative analysis of ING's Credit Risk that arises from its derivatives transactions. This quantifies notional derivatives exposure, including whether derivatives are traded over-the-counter (OTC) or traded on recognised exchanges (ETD). Where the derivatives are OTC, the table shows how much is settled by central counterparties and how much is not, and provides a description of the collateral agreements in place.

Credit risk derivatives

	Notional	MtM	Notional	MtM
	2014		2013	
OTC derivatives				
CCP	1,824,940	-3,608	1,728,308	-5,444
Non-CCP	1,723,101	-2,555	1,717,477	-1,446
ETD derivatives	53,800	-3	36,200	-3
Total	3,601,841	-6,166	3,481,985	-6,894

Includes both AIRB and SA portfolios; excludes securitisations, equities and ONCOA.
ETD Derivatives settle price movements daily. Therefore there is no MtM build-up that generates exposure.

From the total notional value of OTC derivatives transactions that are not cleared by a CCP, 85% has been documented under bilateral (92%) and unilateral (8%) Collateral Support Annex (CSA) agreement.

- › The notional value of transactions that are done under bilateral CSA agreements relates for 74% to Interest Rate derivatives, for 20% to FX derivatives and for 6% to Credit, Equity and Commodity Derivatives.
- › Unilateral CSA agreements relate mainly to agreements that are unilateral against ING and mainly consist of Interest Rate Derivatives.

The remaining 15% of the total notional value of OTC derivatives transactions that are not cleared by a CCP is not supported by a CSA agreement or a Clearing Agreement and mainly relates to Corporates with small credit limits and mainly consists of Interest Rate Derivatives (51%) and FX Derivatives (44%).

Securities financing by product type

The table below is based on the marked-to-market plus (regulatory) add-on methodology used for calculating CRR/CRD IV RWA for determining the gross exposures. The methodology to calculate the READ is called the Current Exposure Method (CEM) and together with the other building blocks (PD, LGD and Maturity) it allows ING Bank to classify virtually all of its Securities Financing exposures under the AIRB approach.

Securities financing by product type in READ

	Sovereigns	Institutions	Corporate	Residential mortgages	Other retail	Total	Total
						2014	2013
Bond Financing Given	1,111	4,207	17	0	0	5,335	3,412
Equity Financing Given	0	5,217	1,366	0	0	6,583	5,208
Bond Financing Taken	53	2,020	6	0	0	2,079	1234
Equity Financing Taken	0	1,538	59	0	0	1,597	1,127
Total	1,165	12,982	1,448	0	0	15,595	10,981

Includes both AIRB and SA portfolios; excludes securitisations, equities and ONCOA.

Like the derivatives portfolio, there was a big impact of CRR/CRD IV regulations on the READ of the Securities Financing portfolio. Of the total increase seen in this portfolio, READ of this portfolio grew by EUR 3.9 billion due to the enforcement of these new regulations. In terms of READ, the Equity Financing portfolio seems larger (52.5%), however, in terms of notional the Equity Financing portfolio is relatively small (14.2%). Excluding the regulatory impact, growth in the portfolio was seen in Bond and Equities Financing Given and was mainly concentrated in US and UK institutions, while Bond and Equities Financing taken saw a decline in volume. Compared to 2013, a decline was seen in Bond Financing Given to Sovereigns and was mainly due to reductions implemented in Russia.

Credit risk mitigation

For the determination of the Credit Risk applicable amount for Pre-Settlement deals, ING Bank first matches the trades with similar characteristics to determine their eligibility for offsetting. This offsetting effect is called 'compensation'. Subsequently, ING Bank reduces the amount by any legal netting that may be permitted under various types of Master Agreements (such as ISDAs and GMRA). Lastly, the amount is further reduced by any collateral that is held by ING Bank under CSAs or other similar agreements.

For the other risk types and especially lending, covers are received which is intended to reduce the losses incurred subsequent to an event of default on an obligation a customer may have towards ING Bank. These are subdivided into four groups called collateral values mortgages, cover values cash, cover value guarantees and other physical covers.

Maximum exposure to credit risk

The following table present our maximum exposure to Credit Risk in the AIRB and SA portfolios and associated collateral held and other credit enhancements (netting and collateral) that do not qualify for offsetting in our financial statements for the periods specified. The netting credit enhancement component includes the effects of legally enforceable netting agreement as well as the offset of negative mark-to-markets from derivatives against pledged cash collateral. The collateral credit enhancement component which is referred to as Cover Values mainly includes real estate, guarantees and collateral in the form of cash. ING records collateral value per facility. Those figures are based on original cover values although some business units attempt to update to current market values. This is inherently difficult in volatile markets. Some facilities will have multiple levels of collateral while others have no collateral. The total figures may not reflect the collateral value per facility.

Maximum Exposure to Credit Risk per 31 December 2014

	Gross MtM before netting and collateral	MtM after netting	MtM after netting and collateral	Outstanding	Cover Values Mortgages	Cover Values Eligible Financial Collateral	Cover Values Guarantees	Cover Values Other CRR/CRD IV eligible
AIRB								
Sovereigns				94,067	836	29	2,175	312
of which Pre Settlement	8,426	3,890	3,403	2,375				
Institutions				98,854	1,349	5,110	4,379	1,578
of which Pre Settlement	162,348	47,381	34,779	36,840				
Corporates				196,612	90,032	11,519	44,865	77,284
of which Pre Settlement	12,254	10,568	10,367	11,904				
Residential Mortgages				269,832	424,231	2,636	29,867	217
of which Pre Settlement				0				
Other Retail				31,199	24,006	1,016	7,048	5,313
of which Pre Settlement	136	65	63	149				
Securitisations				6,927	0	0	0	0
of which Pre Settlement	112	112	112	158				
SA								
Sovereigns				2,380				0
of which Pre Settlement	5	5	5	10				
Institutions				2,069		0	86	1
of which Pre Settlement	361	287	113	117				
Corporates				8,279	3,422	128	128	6
of which Pre Settlement	19	14	14	47				
Residential Mortgages				5,780	12,868	1		
of which Pre Settlement	0	0	0	0				
Other Retail				9,160	1,929	235	4	15
of which Pre Settlement	1	1	1	2				
Securitisations				0	0	0	0	0
of which Pre Settlement	0	0	0	0				
Total Bank				725,159	558,673	20,673	88,552	84,726
of which Pre Settlement	183,662	62,324	48,857	51,602				

Include both AIRB and SA portfolios; excludes equities and ONCOA.

AIRB collateral values are before haircut, SA collateral values used are values after haircut.

The ING Bank portfolio is characterised by significant amounts of secured lending especially in the key areas of residential and commercial mortgages, structured finance and leasing. Amount of collateral often has a significant impact on provisioning and LGD which directly affects risk density. The cover values are pre-haircut but indexed values and exclude any cost of liquidation. Covers can either be valid for all limits, sub-limits or a particular outstanding of a borrower, the latter being the most common.

The guarantees for the same portfolio relate to mortgages covered by governmental insurers under the Nationale Hypotheek Garantie (NHG) in the Netherlands.

The Risk Management Paragraph of the Annual Report includes an extensive cover section where exposures are categorised into different Loan-to-Value (LTV) buckets which gives insight in the level of collateralisation of ING Bank's portfolio.

Credit default swaps

ING Bank participates in the credit risk derivative trading market, as a net purchaser of credit risk protection from other counterparties. ING Bank has purchased a small amount of credit risk protection for hedging purposes, usually in order to reduce concentration on certain 'legal one obligor groups' without having to reduce ING Bank's relationship banking activities. ING Bank does not actively sell Credit Default Swaps (CDS) for hedging or investment purposes. Although CRR/CRD IV rules permit a reduction of credit risk capital under certain circumstances where ING Bank has purchased CDS protection, ING Bank does not currently make use of this provision in determining its CRR/CRD IV capital base.

Credit risks from credit risk derivatives

	2014	2013
Credit derivatives used for hedging purposes		
– credit protection bought	70	238
– credit protection sold		

Includes both AIRB and SA portfolios; excludes securitisations, equities and ONCOA.

CDS positions which were held in Amsterdam no longer exist. Hence the decline in the credit protection bought.

The figures above represent the notional amount of credit risk default swaps that ING Bank has entered into for the purpose of hedging. The credit risk on the counterparties associated with credit default swap protection bought is included in the Pre-Settlement risk calculations for the given counterparty, and not in the figures above. In addition, ING engages in CDS trading both in credit protection bought and credit protection sold. These figures essentially cancel each other. However as they are part of the trading book, these figures are provided in the Market Risk section. For credit default protection sold, ING Bank incurs synthetic issuer risk, on which capital is calculated, depending on its purpose, either hedging under the banking book or trading.

Exposures secured by guarantees received

From time to time, ING Bank extends loans for which it receives a specific financial guarantee from a non-related counterparty or obligor. The figures in the table below represent the READ that has been guaranteed by these non-related parties. It does not include non-guaranteed amounts. For example, if a given credit risk is only partially guaranteed by a third party then only the portion of the amount which is guaranteed is included in the figures below. For the Residential Mortgages portfolio the guarantees relate to mortgages covered by governmental insurers under the Nationale Hypotheek Garantie (NHG) in the Netherlands. The NHG guarantees the repayment of a loan in case of a forced property sale.

Exposures secured by third party guarantees received

	Sovereigns	Institutions	Corporate	Residential mortgages	Other retail	Total	Total
	2014						2013
Under AIRB Approach	2,086	4,187	42,508	29,867	6,975	85,622	96,334
Total	2.4%	4.9%	49.6%	34.9%	8.1%	100.0%	100.0%

Includes AIRB portfolio only; excludes securitisations, equities and ONCOA.

These figures exclude any guarantees which are received from a party related to the obligor, such as a parent or sister company. The figures also exclude any guarantees that may be implied as a result of credit default swap activities. The figures below do include amounts that are guaranteed through an unfunded risk participation construction.

Maturity profile

Outstandings by tenor bucket

The table below shows the outstanding of ING Bank by runoff profile. The figures assume that no new credit risks are introduced into the portfolio and that there are no delays in repayments associated with non-performing loans, nor are there write offs associated with provisions. The portfolio tenor is implied by the difference in the figures between two periods.

The assumption is that loans, money market and investments in fixed income securities are fully repaid at their maturity dates and that limits are reduced in conjunction with repayment schedules contained in the associated loan documentation, without regard for potential renewal or extension, or portfolio sales or acquisitions. Pre-Settlement risks are assumed to reduce over the legal maturity of the underlying transactions. However, under mark-to-market plus add-on methodology, it is possible for exposures to increase in time, rather than decrease. This is a function of ING Bank's estimates of future interest rates and foreign exchange rates, as well as potential changes in future obligations that may be triggered by such events. Generally, credit risk outstandings are lower than READ.

Outstandings by tenor bucket (credit risk outstandings)

	Sovereigns	Institutions	Corporate	Residential mortgages	Other retail	Total	
						2014	2013
Current Outstandings	96,441	100,876	196,040	270,285	37,843	701,484	685,745
1 month	90,021	77,007	187,770	269,562	37,257	661,616	643,551
3 month	83,774	69,271	178,406	268,821	36,682	636,955	617,819
6 month	82,092	64,314	165,640	267,767	35,725	615,537	594,712
1 year	76,072	55,030	132,966	264,763	29,518	558,349	531,475
2 years	71,765	46,041	105,553	260,051	25,260	508,671	484,241
3 years	64,885	39,175	85,244	255,194	21,644	466,142	445,632
5 years	53,771	25,076	47,101	243,778	15,731	385,457	369,501
7 years	41,465	15,985	27,930	225,336	11,380	322,096	321,876
10 years	19,333	6,641	16,315	199,788	8,119	250,196	251,212

Includes AIRB portfolio only; excludes securitisations, equities and ONCOA.
Non-performing loans (rating 20-22) are excluded in the figures above.

The large increase in outstandings is mainly related to growth. Investment exposure to Sovereigns and lending exposure to Corporates increased during the year which is mainly visible in the long term tenor buckets.

Securitisations

The following information is prepared taking into account the 'Industry Good Practice Guidelines on Pillar III disclosure requirements for securitisations' (the Guidelines) issued by the European Banking Federation and other industry associations on 31 January 2010 and the CRR/CRD IV disclosure requirements. It includes qualitative and quantitative disclosures addressing both the exposure securitised as well as securitisations positions held. While quantitative disclosures are limited to those securitisations that are used for the purpose of calculating the regulatory capital requirements under the CRR/CRD IV, qualitative information have a broader scope and give a view on ING Bank's entire securitisation activity.

Depending on ING Bank's role as investor, originator, or sponsor the objectives, the involvement and the rules applied may be different. ING Bank is primarily engaged in securitisation transactions in the role of investor (in securitisations arranged by others). To a lesser extent, ING Bank is also an originator or sponsor of securitisations that are usually traded in the public markets. ING does not re-securitise its securitisations exposure and even though ING bank hedges its securitisation positions, such instruments are not recognized as credit risk mitigants for regulatory capital purposes.

Valuation and accounting policies

ING Bank's activities regarding securitisations are described in Note 54 'Structured entities' in the annual accounts. The applicable accounting policies are included in the section 'Accounting policies for the consolidated annual accounts of ING Bank' in the annual accounts. The most relevant accounting policies for ING Bank's own originated securitisation programmes are 'Derecognition of financial assets' and 'Consolidation'. Where ING Bank acts as investor in securitisation positions, the most relevant accounting policy is 'Classification of financial instruments'.

Regulatory capital method used and Rating Agencies

ING Bank has implemented the AIRB approach for credit risk. As a consequence, ING Bank uses the Rating Based Approach (RBA) for investments in tranches of asset-backed securities (ABS) and mortgage-backed securities (MBS) which have been rated by external rating agencies. Rating agencies which are used by ING Bank under the RBA include Standard & Poor's, Fitch, Moody's and DBRS. The securitisation exposure for which each rating agency is used is given in the following table.

Securitisation exposure per rating agency (READ)

	S&P	Fitch	Moody's	IAA approach	Total	
					2014	2013
Residential Mortgage Backed Securities	1,133	1,349	1,542		4,025	5,273
Asset Backed Securities	620	1,588	10		2,218	2,088
Securitisation Liquidity				947	947	1,618
Revolvers					0	378
Interest Rate Derivatives				106	106	177
Other	54	12	48	405	519	325
Total	1,807	2,949	1,601	1,458	7,815	9,858

Includes both AIRB and SA portfolios; excludes securitisations, equities and ONCOA.

Additional information

Additional Pillar III information continued

Under the RBA, the risk-weighted assets (RWA) are determined by multiplying the amount of the exposure by the appropriate regulatory risk weights, which depend on: the external rating or an available inferred rating, the seniority of the position and the granularity of the position.

ING Bank uses the Internal Assessment Approach (IAA) for the support facilities it provides to Asset Backed Commercial Paper (ABCP) conduit Mont Blanc Capital Corp., based on externally published rating agency methodologies. Under the IAA approach, the unrated position is assigned by the institution to an internal rating grade, which is estimated using an ING developed model. The position is then attributed a derived rating by mapping the internal rating grade to an externally published credit assessments corresponding to that rating grade.

Securitisations – credit risk disclosure

		2014	2013	Delta %
Securitisations	Geography			
	America	3,483	4,285	-18.7%
	Asia	53	112	-52.7%
	Australia	32	85	-61.9%
	Europe	4,247	5,376	-21.0%
		7,815	9,858	-20.7%
	Europe			
	Spain	1,692	2,176	-22.2%
	United Kingdom	862	1,294	-33.4%
	Netherlands	758	553	37.0%
	Italy	417	827	-49.6%
	Rest of Europe	518	525	-1.4%
		4,247	5,376	-21.0%
Securitisations	Product Type			
	Residential Mortgage Backed Securities	4,025	5,273	-23.7%
	Asset Backed Securities	2,218	2,088	6.2%
	Securitisation Liquidity ⁽¹⁾	947	1,618	-41.5%
	Interest Rate Derivatives	106	177	-39.9%
	Revolvers	0	378	-100.0%
	Other	519	325	59.7%
		7,815	9,858	-20.7%
Securitisations	Exposure Class ⁽²⁾			
	Securitisation Investor	6,357	7,544	-15.7%
	Securitisation Sponsor	1,458	2,314	-37.0%
	Total	7,815	9,858	-20.7%

Excludes equities and ONCOA.

(1) These are structured financing transactions by ING for clients by assisting them in obtaining sources of liquidity by selling the clients' receivables or other financial assets to an SPV.

(2) Securitisation benefits are excluded. Own originated securitisations are explained in a separate section.

ING exposure to securitisations has continued to decline in all regions and asset classes due to targeted efforts to decrease impairment risk, credit migration and concentration risk on ING's non-trading books. Reduced liquidity facilities provided to the Mont Blanc conduit are reflected in the reduction in Sponsor securitisations. Decrease in Spain and United Kingdom was observed due to reduced investments in RMBS's.

There are two notable exceptions mainly: 1) an increase in the Netherlands driven by an NN Bank Originated RMBS position where ING Bank participated in the primary offering; and 2) an increase in Asset Backed Securities as explained in the section below on Investor securitisations.

Investor securitisations

ING Bank's goal is to maintain a portfolio of high quality liquid assets that meets the regulatory requirements of CRR/CRD IV and final Delegated Act of October 2014 regarding liquidity. In line with ING's internal rating policy, securitisation exposures are rated using the worst external rating provided by either Fitch, Moody's or S&P. ING keeps close track of the securitisation investment positions via monthly monitoring reports. During 2014 and as a result of the inclusion of high quality Residential Mortgage Backed Securities (RMBS) and Asset Backed Securities (ABS) in Level 2B of the EU liquidity framework, ING has invested in a limited amount of high quality Auto-ABS's.

In the table below, the investor securitisations are given, broken down by underlying exposure.

Investor securitisation activities			
	Traditional	Synthetic	Total
			2014
Retail			
Of which residential mortgage	4,025		4,025
Of which credit card			
Of which other retail exposures	2,287		2,287
Of which re-securitisation			
Commercial Banking			
Of which loans to corporates			
Of which commercial mortgage	45		45
Of which lease and receivables			
Of which re-securitisation			

The following table provides the breakdown of current exposures by risk weight bands. The amount of securitisation positions is based on the regulatory exposure values calculated according to the CRR/CRD IV after consideration of credit conversion factors (CCFs) where applicable as used for the purpose of Pillar I, but prior to the application of credit risk mitigants on securitisation positions.

Purchased exposures per risk weight band				
	READ	RWA	READ	RWA
	2014		2013	
Risk weight band 1 <= 10%	4,037	325	4,628	359
Risk weight band 2 >10% and <= 18%	625	79	249	33
Risk weight band 3 >18% and <= 35%	992	216	1,515	445
Risk weight band 4 >35% and <= 75%	255	157	602	376
Risk weight band 5 >75% and <1250%	400	483	505	646
Risk weight 1250%	47	593	45	567
Total	6,357	1,853	7,544	2,427

Excludes equities and ONCOA.

Capital requirements for investment positions in securitisations

	Exposure values (by RW bands)					Exposure values (by regulatory approach)			RWA (by regulatory approach)			Capital charge after cap		
	<= 20% RW	>20% to 50% RW	>50% to 100% RW	>100% to <1250% RW	1250% RW	IRB RBA (incl. IAA)	1250%	Total Exposure 2014	IRB RBA (incl. IAA)	12.50% Risk Weight	Total RWA 2014	IRB RBA (incl. IAA)	12.50% Risk Weight	Total Capital 2014
Traditional securitisation	5,605	72	604	29	47	6,310	47	6,357	1,259	593	1,853	101	47	148
Of Which securitisation	5,605	72	604	29	47	6,310	47	6,357	1,259	593	1,853	101	47	148
Of which retail underlying	5,580	52	604	29	46	6,265	46	6,311	1,245	579	1,824	100	46	146
Of which non-retail underlying	25	20	0	0	1	45	1	46	14	14	28	1	1	2
Of which re-securitisation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Synthetic Securitisation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total exposure 2014	5,605	72	604	29	47	6,310	47	6,357	1,259	593	1,853	101	47	148
Total exposure 2013	5,541	878	985	94	45	7,498	45	7,544	1,860	567	2,427	149	45	194

In the table above an overview of Investor Securitization exposures and their respective capital requirements are shown. In line with ING's policy and Risk Appetite the vast majority of positions are rated AA- and above, and almost the entire portfolio remains within the investment grade. Positions that have deteriorated in credit quality have been adequately provisioned and have been reduced significantly. Capital consumption remains relatively low given the risk profile of this asset class, with an average risk weight of 29%.

Sponsor securitisations

In the normal course of business, ING Bank structures financing transactions for its clients by assisting them in obtaining sources of liquidity by selling the clients' receivables or other financial assets to an ING originated Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV). The transactions are funded by the ING administered multi seller Asset Backed Commercial Paper (ABCP) conduit Mont Blanc Capital Corp. (rated A-1/P-1). Despite the conditions in the international money markets Mont Blanc Capital Corp. continues to fund itself externally in the ABCP markets.

In its role as administrative agent, ING Bank facilitates these transactions by acting as administrative agent, swap counterparty and liquidity provider to Mont Blanc. ING Bank also provides support facilities (liquidity and program wide enhancement) backing the transactions funded by the conduit.

The types of asset currently in the Mont Blanc Conduit include trade receivables, consumer finance receivables, credit card receivables, auto loans and RMBS.

ING Bank supports the commercial paper programmes by providing the Special Purpose Entity (SPE) with short-term liquidity facilities. These liquidity facilities primarily cover temporary disruptions in the commercial paper market. Once drawn these facilities bear normal credit risk. A number of programmes are supported by granting structured liquidity facilities to the SPE, in which ING Bank covers at least some of the credit risk incorporated in these programmes itself (in addition to normal liquidity facilities), and might suffer credit losses as a consequence. Furthermore, under a Programme Wide Credit Enhancement ING Bank guarantees to a limited amount all remaining losses incorporated in the SPE to the commercial paper investors.

The liquidity facilities, provided to Mont Blanc are EUR 896.2 million. The drawn liquidity amount as at 31 December 2014 is EUR 0 million.

Mont Blanc has no investments in securitisation positions that ING Bank has securitised. Nor are there entities either managed or advised by ING Bank that invest in Mont Blanc.

The normal non-structured standby liquidity facilities and the structured facilities are reported under irrevocable facilities. All facilities, which vary in risk profile, are granted to the SPE subject to normal ING Bank credit and liquidity risk analysis procedures. The fees received for services provided and for facilities are charged subject to market conditions. Mont Blanc is consolidated by ING Bank. These transactions are therefore on-balance sheet arrangements.

Originator securitisations

ING Bank originates own securitisation transactions for economic and regulatory capital purposes, as well as liquidity and funding purposes.

Economic and regulatory capital

Seven synthetic securitisations of mortgages, small and medium enterprise (SME) and corporate exposures have been issued since ING Bank began actively undertaking the securitisation of its own assets in 2003. Upon the closer alignment of transfer and regulatory capital solvency rules at year end 2007, the most senior tranches of ING Bank's own securitisations have been called and are now retained by ING Bank. Except for Memphis 2005, ING Bank has also hedged the first loss tranches in 2009 (Flipper transaction). The mezzanine tranches are still transferred to third parties.

The first transactions (Moon and Memphis 2003) were repaid in 2008 with no loss for the investors. The following transactions were also repaid, still with no loss for the investors: Mars 2004 in 2009, Memphis 2005 and Mars 2006 in 2012, Flipper in January 2013 and Memphis 2006 in April 2013 and BEL SME 2006 in March 2014 meaning that, as of 31 December 2014, there were no synthetic transactions left.

Securitisations originated by a company may only be considered for balance sheet de-recognition when the requirements for significant credit risk transfer have been fulfilled. However, for a securitisation transaction to be recognised for RWA reduction, risk transfer alone may be insufficient due to the increasing impact of the maturity mismatch formula. As a consequence, the RWA of the retained tranches for one of the transactions would be higher than the total RWA of the underlying pool before securitisation, and therefore that transaction is treated for RWA purposes as if it was not securitised.

On 31 December 2014 ING Bank had no originator exposure left. The last securitisation for which ING Bank acted as originator was BEL SME 2006 and it ran-off in March 2014.

Liquidity and funding

Although the most senior tranches in securitisations are no longer efficient to release regulatory capital under CRR/CRD IV, they are used to obtain funding and improve liquidity. To be eligible as collateral for central banks securitised exposures must be sold to a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) which, in turn, issues securitisation notes ('traditional securitisations') in two tranches, one subordinated tranche and one senior tranche, rated AAA by a rating agency. The AAA tranche can then be used by ING Bank as (stand-by) collateral in the money market for secured borrowings.

ING Bank has created a number of these securitisations with a 31 December 2014 position of approximately EUR 82 billion of AAA rated notes and unrated subordinated notes. The underlying exposures are residential mortgages in the Netherlands, Germany, Belgium, Spain, Italy and Australia and SME Loans in the Netherlands and Belgium.

As long as the securitisation exposures created are not transferred to third parties, the regulatory capital remains unchanged. These are not detailed hereunder. Apart from the structuring and administration costs of these securitisations, these securitisations are profit / loss neutral.

Securitisation in the trading book

Per 31 December 2013, securitisation positions in trading books are reported under the Standardised Capital Framework in the Market Risk section.

Simple risk weight method

ING Bank N.V. does not use the simple risk weight method for specialised lending. It uses the PD, LGD and EAD approach instead. A small part of ING's portfolio – some of the equity exposure – is subject to the simple risk weight method for calculating the regulatory capital. The table below shows more details on the equity exposure for which this method is used.

	On balance sheet amount		Off balance sheet amount		RW	Exposure amount		RWA		Capital requirements	
	2014	2013	2014	2013		2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013
Private equity exposures	479	376			190%	479	376	910	714	73	57
Exchange traded equity exposures	128	49			290%	128	49	371	143	30	11
Other equity exposures					370%						
Total	607	425	–	–		607	425	1,281	857	102	69

Compared to 2013, the increase in exchange traded equity exposures is mainly due to a new investment of EUR 73 million under ING Corporate Investment. As a result of IFRS 11 being effective as per 1 January 2014, joint ventures are now reported by means of equity accounting instead of proportionate consolidation. The increase in private equity exposures is mainly due to the inclusion of joint ventures of Real Estate Development (exposure of EUR 100 million).

Market risk

Introduction

After the turmoil in the financial markets and the consequent need for governments to provide aid to financial institutions, financial institutions have been under more scrutiny from the public, supervisors and regulators. This has resulted in more stringent regulations intended to avoid future crises in the financial system and taxpayers' aid in the future. Reference is made to the section 'Ongoing changes in the regulatory environment' in the Risk Management Paragraph.

Market Risk Weighted Assets movement by key driver

amounts in millions of euros	VaR	Stressed VaR	IRC	Standardised Model	Total RWA
Opening amount	732	2,126	5,476	463	8,797
Movement in risk levels and market movement	478	694	1,105	284	2,561
Model updates/changes	–	–	-1,250	–	-1,250
Acquisitions and disposals	-32	-18	–	665	616
Total movement	446	676	-145	949	1,926
Closing amount	1,178	2,802	5,331	1,412	10,723

Key changes

Over the year, the ING Bank Market Risk Weighted Assets (MRWA) increased by EUR 1.9 billion to EUR 10.7 billion. The key changes are the following:

- › MRWA increased by EUR 2.6 billion as a result of a combination of position changes and market movements.
- › The LGD parameter update for the Central and Local Government portfolios led to a decreased IRC in Q4 2014, which subsequently resulted in a EUR 1.3 billion decrease in MRWA.
- › The deconsolidation of ING Vysya Bank led to an increase in MRWA of EUR 0.6 billion mainly related to the Foreign Exchange risk of the equity stake in ING Vysya Bank.

Capital at Risk

Capital at Risk measures the impact of predefined instant shocks of market risk factors such as interest rates, credit spreads, foreign exchange rates, equity prices and real estate prices on the volatility of IFRS-EU and common equity tier 1.

Main Drivers

The main market risk sensitivities of capital are interest rate and credit spread driven, resulting from cash flow hedges and available for sale debt securities. Furthermore the sensitivity of the currency translation reserve is an intended open position to stabilise the common equity tier1 ratio for foreign exchange movements, as the RWA are impacted as well by these market movements.

Risk profile

Capital Elements & Market Risk Impact on Capital

Market Risk Sensitivity (before tax), excluding pension fund	IFRS-EU	Basel III*	Interest Rate +100bp	Credit Spread +40bp	Equity Prices -10%	Real Estate -10%	Foreign Exchange +10%
Capital elements							
Reserve							
Property revaluation reserve	•	•				-102	
Cash flow hedge reserve	•		-2,204				
Available-for-sale reserve							
<i>Debt securities</i>	•	•	-977	-1,680			
<i>Equity securities</i>	•	•			-253		-225
Currency translations reserve	•	•					-847
P&L							
All items impacting P&L, excluding DVA	•	•	-99	-174	-179	-39	-145
DVA own issued debt/structured notes	•			194			
DVA derivatives	•		5	32			-9
Impact on capital							
IFRS-EU Equity			-3,276	-1,628	-432	-141	-1,227
Core Tier 1 Equity (Basel III, fully loaded)			-1,076	-1,854	-432	-141	-1,218

* Basel III on a fully loaded basis, no phase in assumed.

- Indicates the item has an impact on the capital as indicated in that column.

Revaluation Reserve Impact

The revaluation reserve for real estate, debt securities, equity securities and for currency translations will be part of Basel III equity. The revaluation reserve for cash flow hedges will not be part of Basel III equity. The interest rate sensitivity shown for debt securities is the unhedged interest rate sensitivity, i.e. debt securities in hedge accounting relations are excluded.

P&L Impact

Items on fair value which revalue through P&L, excluding debit valuation adjustments, impact IFRS-EU equity as well as Basel III equity. Debit valuation adjustments of own issued debt only impacts IFRS-EU equity and not Basel III equity. Debit valuation adjustments of derivatives will not be part of Basel III equity.

Liquidity risk

Funding and liquidity risk is the risk that ING Group or one of its subsidiaries cannot meet its financial liabilities when they come due, at reasonable cost and in a timely manner.

To protect ING Bank and its depositors against liquidity risks, ING Bank maintains a liquidity buffer, which is based on the liquidity needs across all entities under stressed conditions. ALCO Bank ensures that sufficient liquidity is maintained, in accordance with Bank and regulatory rules and standards, including a buffer of unencumbered, high quality liquid assets.

Liquidity Buffer ING Bank

in EUR millions	2014	2013
Cash and holdings at central bank	4,499	6,099
Securities issued or guaranteed by sovereigns, central banks and multilateral development bank	86,863	74,334
Liquid assets eligible at central banks (not included in above)	88,199	92,871
Other liquid assets	3,320	6,700
Total	182,880	180,004

The presented distribution of liquid assets over different classes represents the liquid assets across the whole bank. This includes also entities where restrictions may apply on transferability and convertibility due to regulatory constraints or other measures. The slight increase of the buffer in 2014 in comparison with 2013 is due to an overall increase in liquid securities.

As part of the liquidity buffer management, ING Group also monitors the existing asset encumbrance. Encumbered assets represent the on-balance sheet assets that are pledged or used as collateral for ING Group's liabilities. The presented templates of ING Group's encumbered and unencumbered assets are based on the CRR (Part Eight) and the related guidance from the European Banking Authority (EBA). The data is as per 31 December 2014 and as this is the first data set based on these requirements, comparison with previous periods is not available. However, based on internal metrics it can be stated that the level of encumbrance has only slightly increased in 2014. Within the Pillar III section of the ING Bank N.V. Annual Report, the ING Bank encumbered and unencumbered assets are disclosed based on the same CRR requirements and EBA guidance.

Asset encumbrance ING Group

in EUR millions	Carrying amount of encumbered assets	Fair value of encumbered assets	Carrying amount of unencumbered assets	Fair value of unencumbered assets
10 Assets of the reporting institution (1)	99,648	040	060	090
30 Equity instruments	8,666	8,666	745,199	–
40 Debt securities	7,620	7,511	11,254	11,254
120 Other assets	2,200	–	123,172	123,380
			91,642	–

(1) The total is based on prudential scope of consolidation that differs from the accounting scope of consolidation. The difference is mainly NN Group, which is held for sale and accounted for EUR 13.5 billion Net Asset Value in the above table

Collateral received ING Group

in EUR millions	Fair value of encumbered collateral received or own debt securities issued	Fair value of collateral received or own debt securities issued available for encumbrance
130 Collateral received by the reporting institution	61,805	40,506
150 Equity instruments	3,721	15,787
160 Debt securities	57,876	24,432
230 Other collateral received	–	114
240 Own debt securities issued other than own covered bonds or ABSs	–	–

Additional information

Additional Pillar III information continued

Encumbered assets/collateral received and associated liabilities ING Group

		Matching liabilities, contingent liabilities or securities lent	Assets, collateral received and own debt securities issued other than covered bonds and ABSs encumbered
in EUR millions		010	040
010	Carrying amount of selected financial liabilities	100,935	141,156

Information on importance of encumbrance ING Group

ING Group manages its balance sheet prudently whereby a variety of funding sources is readily available. Given this situation, the level of encumbrance of ING Group's balance sheet is relatively low.

Encumbered assets on ING Group's balance sheet comprise to a large extent mortgages and other loans which are used as cover pool for covered bond programs issued by subsidiaries in the Netherlands, Belgium and Germany, as well as external securitisations and other types of collateralised deposits. Of the total encumbered assets of the Group, EUR 69 billion are loans and advances, mostly mortgages, that serve as collateral for these type of liabilities. The issued securitisations and especially the covered bonds have overcollateralisation, meaning that the assets in the cover pool are higher than the issuance.

Furthermore, assets are encumbered as a result of the repo- and securities lending business and cash and securities collateral posted for derivative and clearing transactions in which pledging collateral is a requirement. As part of its normal securities financing and derivatives trading activities ING enters into standard master agreements such as ISDA and Global Master Repurchase Agreements (GMRA), which contain Credit Support Annexes (CSA) or other similar clauses. The main part of ING Group's repo- and reverse repo activities are short-term dated. Repo transactions are mostly conducted with securities which have been obtained as collateral in reverse repo transactions, which are not recognised on the balance sheet. Where securities recognised on the balance sheet have been used in a repo transaction, these remain recognised on the balance sheet and are reported as encumbered.

Of the unencumbered other assets included in the table 'Assets', the vast majority of the assets is not available for encumbrance.

Glossary

Accident (calendar) year

All claims relating to events (insured losses) that occurred in a certain calendar year are grouped together, irrespective of when they are actually reported or paid and regardless of the year in which the insurance cover commenced. Accident year information matches claims incurred in a year with the premium earned in that year.

Actuarial and underwriting risks

These risks (mortality, longevity, morbidity, adverse motor or home claims, etc.) result from the pricing and acceptance of insurance contracts. Actuarial risk is the risk that premium levels and provisions in respect of insurance risk turn out to be incorrect or no longer correct. An underwriting risk is the risk that an issuer will receive a claim under an insurance policy it issues/underwrites. Maximum underwriting exposures are limited through exclusions, cover limits and reinsurance.

Alt-A Residential Mortgage Backed Security (Alt-A RMBS)

A type of United States residential mortgage, which is considered riskier than a 'prime' and less risky than a 'sub-prime' mortgage. Parameters generally taken into account are borrower credit scores, residential property values and loan-to-value ratios. Alt-A mortgages are further characterised by a limited degree of income and/or asset verification.

Amortised costs

The amount at which the financial asset or liability is measured at initial recognition less principal repayments, plus or minus the cumulative amortisation using the effective interest method of any difference between that initial amount and the maturity amount, and minus any reduction for impairment or uncollectability.

Annuity

A financial product that is designed to accept and grow funds from an individual and then, upon annuitisation, pay out a stream of payments to the individual at a later point in time.

Asset-backed security (ABS)

A type of bond or note that is based on pools of assets, or collateralised by the cash flows from a specified pool of underlying assets.

Asset Liability Committee (ALCO)

ALCO manages the balance sheet of ING, especially with regard to the strategic non-trading risk. These are interest rate risk, equity risk, real estate risk, liquidity, solvency and foreign exchange risk and fluctuations.

Asset & Liability Management (ALM)

The practice of managing a business such that decisions on assets and liabilities are coordinated. It involves the ongoing process of formulating, implementing, monitoring and revising strategies related to assets and liabilities.

Assets under Management (AuM)

Refers to the total market value of assets a financial company invests on behalf of its customers.

Associate

An entity over which the Group has significant influence but not

control. Significant influence generally results from a shareholding of between 20% and 50% of the voting rights, but also is the ability to participate in the financial and operating policies through situations including, but not limited to one or more of the following:

- › Representation on the board of directors
- › Participation in the policymaking process
- › Interchange of managerial personnel.

Audit Committee

The Audit Committee, consisting of members of the Supervisory Boards, assists the Supervisory Board in monitoring the integrity of the financial statements of ING Group N.V., NN Group N.V. and ING Bank N.V., in monitoring the compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, and in monitoring the independence and performance of ING's internal and external auditors.

Authorised capital

The maximum amount of share capital that a public limited company or a private limited company can issue according to its Articles of Association. Part of the authorised capital can remain unissued.

Available Financial Resources (AFR)

The available financial resources equal the market value of assets minus the market value of liabilities, excluding hybrids issued by ING Group, which count as capital. ING's policy is that the available financial resources should exceed economic capital for Bank, Insurance and Group.

Available-for-sale financial assets

Those non-derivative financial assets that are designated as available-for-sale or are not classified as:

- › loans and receivables
- › held-to-maturity investments
- › financial assets at fair value through profit and loss.

Bank for International Settlements (BIS)

The Bank for International Settlements is an international organisation, fostering the cooperation of central banks and international monetary policy makers.

Basel I

Regulatory requirements issued by the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision for the solvency calculation, which were superseded by Basel II, and apply to ING from 2008 onwards.

Basel II

Regulatory requirements issued by the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision for the solvency calculation, which apply to ING from 2008 onwards. Basel II is an international standard for calculating the required capital based on internal models that take into account the financial and operational risks.

Basel III

Regulatory requirements issued by the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision for the solvency calculation and liquidity requirements, which superseded Basel II. Basel III was adopted in 2010 and consequently translated by the EU into the Capital Requirement Regulation (CRR) and the Capital Requirement

Directive IV (CRD IV). The CRR is binding for all EU Member States and became effective as at 1 January 2014, with the full requirements to take effect from 1 January 2018. The CRD IV directs all EU Member States to implement certain components of Basel III in their own law, in the Netherlands in the *Wet Financieel Toezicht* (Act on Financial Supervision). Although not all definitions and parameters of the CRR/CRD IV have been finalised, the key principles of Basel III have been included in both the solvency and liquidity risk appetite framework that are continuously monitored by senior management.

Basis Point Value (BPV)

The change in the Net Present Value of a cash flow or a pool of cash flows due to a one basis point change of the yield curve.

Business risk

The exposure to value loss due to fluctuations in volumes, margins and costs. These fluctuations can occur because of internal, industry, or wider market factors. It is the risk inherent to strategy decisions and internal efficiency.

Capital base

Capital plus minority interests plus subordinated loans.

Capital coverage ratio

Available capital divided by required capital.

Capital Requirements Directive (CRD IV)

For European banks, the Basel III requirements are implemented through the Capital Requirement Regulation (CRR) and the Capital Requirement Directive IV (CRD IV). The CRD IV directs all EU Member States to implement certain components of Basel III in their own law, taking into account transitional arrangements, in the Netherlands through amendments to the *Wet Financieel Toezicht* (Act on Financial Supervision).

Capital Requirements Regulation (CRR)

For European banks, the Basel III requirements are implemented through the Capital Requirement Regulation (CRR) and the Capital Requirement Directive IV (CRD IV). The CRR is binding for all EU Member States and came into effect on 1 January 2014, taking into account transitional arrangements, with the full requirements to take effect on 1 January 2018.

Central Clearing Parties or Central Counterparties (CCP)

A legal entity that interposes itself between two trade counterparties in a bilateral transaction. The parties legally assign their trades to the CCP (usually through novation), and the CCP becomes the counterparty to each, assuming all rights and responsibilities. Thus, from the point of view of the original counterparties, the counterparty credit risk exposure is shifted from the other, original counterparty to the CCP.

Claim

A demand for payment of a policy benefit because of the occurrence of an insured event, such as the death or disability of the insured or the maturity of an endowment, the incurrance of hospital or medical bills, the destruction or damage of property and related deaths or injuries, defects in, liens on, or challenges to the title to real estate, or the occurrence of a surety loss.

Claims ratio

Claims, including claims handling expenses, expressed as a percentage of net earned premiums.

Collateralised Debt Obligation (CDO)

A type of asset-backed security that provides investors with exposure to the credit risk of a pool of fixed income assets.

Collateralised Loan Obligation (CLO)

A type of CDO that is backed primarily by leveraged bank loans.

Combined ratio

The sum of the claims ratio and the cost ratio for a non-life insurance company or a reinsurance company. A combined ratio of more than 100% does not necessarily mean that there is a loss on non-life insurance policies, because the result also includes the allocated investment income.

Commercial paper

Promissory note (issued by financial institutions or large firms) with very short to short maturity period (usually 2 to 30 days, and not more than 270 days), and unsecured.

Common Equity Tier 1 capital

Capital definition specified in article 26 of the CRR. Common Equity Tier 1 items of institutions consist of the following:

- (a) capital instruments
- (b) share premium accounts related to the instruments referred to in point (a)
- (c) retained earnings
- (d) accumulated other comprehensive income
- (e) other reserves
- (f) funds for general banking risk.

Compliance risk

Compliance risk is defined as the risk of impairment of ING Bank's integrity as a result of failure or perceived failure to comply with relevant laws, regulations, ING Bank policies and standards and the ING Bank Business Principles (replaced by ING Bank Values as from 1 January 2015).

Concentrations of credit risk

Concentrations of credit risk exist when changes in economic, industry or geographical factors similarly affect groups of counterparties whose aggregate exposure is significant in relation to ING Group's total exposure.

Contingent liabilities

Possible obligations that arises from past events and whose existence will be confirmed only by the occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the entity; or a present obligation that arises from past events, but is not recognised because:

- › It is not probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation.
- › The amount of the obligation cannot be measured with sufficient reliability.

Control

Situations in which ING owns, directly or indirectly, more than half of the voting power or over which ING has control of their operating and financial policies through situations including, but not limited to:

- › Ability to appoint or remove the majority of the board of directors.
- › Power to govern such policies under statute or agreement.
- › Power over more than half of the voting rights through an agreement with other investors.

Convexity

The non-linear relationship between changes in interest rates and changes in bond prices and their Net Present Value. It is a very important market risk measure for portfolios containing embedded options.

Group debt

Investments in ING Group subsidiaries minus the equity of the holding company, including hybrids.

Corporate governance

The way in which a company is governed and how it deals with the various interests of its customers, shareholders, employees, business partners and society at large.

Corporate Governance Committee

The Corporate Governance Committee, consisting of members of the Supervisory Board, assists the Supervisory Board in monitoring and evaluating the corporate governance of ING as a whole and the reporting thereon in the Annual Report and to the General Meeting, and advises the Supervisory Board on improvements.

Cost of capital

The costs related to owning capital. These can be split into the cost of equity, hybrids and debt, taking a target leverage into account.

Cost ratio

Underwriting costs expressed as a percentage of premiums written.

Country of residence

From the perspective of a given country, a resident is an individual or legal entity that has its major operations in the given country. All of ING's customers and entities are said to be residents in only one country.

Country risk

The risk that a government will not fulfil its obligations or that it obstructs the remittance of funds by debtors, either for financial reasons (transfer risk) or for other reasons (e.g. political risk).

Credit Default Swap (CDS)

A CDS is a financial derivative instrument that synthetically transfers the credit risk of a specific reference entity between two counterparties. The protection buyer pays a fixed periodic fee, usually expressed in basis points per annum, on the notional amount. The protection seller makes no payment unless some specified credit event relating to the reference entity occurs, in which case he/she is obliged to make a payment to compensate the loss incurred by the protection buyer.

Credit Guarantee Scheme (CGS) in the Netherlands

As part of the measures adopted to protect the financial sector, the Dutch State introduced a EUR 200 billion credit guarantee scheme for the issuance of medium term debt instruments by banks (the Credit Guarantee Scheme). ING Bank N.V. issued government guaranteed debt instruments under this Credit Guarantee Scheme ('Government Guaranteed Bonds') as part of its regular medium-term funding operations. The relevant Rules of the Credit Guarantee Scheme set forth the rules applicable to any issues under the Credit Guarantee Scheme and include information such as scope, denomination, tenor and fees payable by the banks.

Credit institutions

All institutions that are subject to banking supervision by public authorities, including mortgage banks, capital market institutions, multilateral development banks and the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Credit rating

Credit ratings, as assigned by rating agencies (such as Standard & Poor's and Moody's), are indicators of the likelihood of timely and complete repayment (by ING) of interest and instalments of fixed-income securities.

Credit risk

The risk of loss from default by borrowers (including bond issuers) or counterparties. Credit risks arise in ING's lending, pre-settlement and investment activities, as well as in its trading activities. Credit risk management is supported by dedicated credit risk information systems and internal rating methodologies for debtors and counterparties.

Credit risk exposure

Total amount of committed facilities to a designated borrower or an obligor group or, if higher, their outstanding balances, together with the outstanding balances of any related uncommitted facilities.

Credit Support Annex (CSA)

Supporting documentation for a collateral arrangement that accompanies a master agreement used in the execution of an over-the-counter derivative swap. The document clearly delineates the rules and procedures for the use of the collateral in the backing of the traded securities. A CSA may be executed as a separate document, or can be part of the master agreement.

Credit Valuation Adjustment (CVA)

An adjustment to the valuation of OTC derivative contracts to reflect the creditworthiness of OTC derivative counterparties.

Cumulative preference shares

Shares that entitle the holder to a fixed annual dividend. In the case of a profit distribution, these shares take precedence over ordinary shares. If and to the extent that the profit available for distribution is not sufficient to pay the dividend referred to above in full, the shortfall will be made up from the reserves insofar as possible. If, and to the extent that, the dividend distribution cannot be made from the reserves, the profits earned in subsequent years shall first be used to make up the shortfall before any distribution may be made on shares of any other category.

Debit Valuation Adjustment (DVA)

An adjustment made by ING to the valuation of OTC derivative liabilities to reflect within fair value ING's own credit risk.

Deferred Acquisition Costs (DAC)

The costs an insurer spends to acquire a customer when it issues a policy, costs such as commissions paid to sales agents. These costs are put on the balance sheet as an asset ('capitalised') and then paid off ('amortised') over the life of the policy as the premium is earned. The amount that is set to be paid off each year is pre-determined by the company based on estimated future returns.

Deferred tax assets arising from carryforward of tax losses

The amount of income tax receivable in future periods arising from the utilisation of carryforward tax losses against future taxable profits.

Deferred tax assets/liabilities arising from temporary differences

The amounts of income tax receivable/payable in future periods in respect of taxable temporary differences between carrying amounts of assets or liabilities in the balance sheet and tax base, based on tax rates that are expected to apply in the period when the assets are realised or the liabilities are settled.

Defined benefit plan

Post-employment benefit plans other than defined contribution plans.

Defined contribution plan

Post-employment benefit plans under which ING pays fixed contributions into a separate entity (a fund) and will have no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employee benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods.

Depository receipt of ordinary shares

More than 99.9% of the ordinary shares issued by ING Groep N.V. is held by Stichting ING Aandelen (ING Trust Office). In exchange for these shares, ING Trust Office has issued depository receipts in bearer form for these shares.

Derivatives

A derivative is a financial instrument or other contract with all three of the following characteristics:

- (a) Its value changes in response to the change in a specified interest rate, financial instrument price, commodity price, foreign exchange rate, index of prices or rates, credit rating or credit index, or other variable, provided in the case of a non-financial variable that the variable is not specific to a party to the contract (sometimes called the 'underlying').
- (b) It requires no initial net investment or an initial net investment that is smaller than would be required for other types of contracts that would be expected to have a similar response to changes in market factor.
- (c) It is settled at a future date.

Discontinued operations

When a group of assets that is classified as held for sale represents a major line of business or geographical area, which the disposal group classifies as discontinued operations.

Discount rate

A rate used to place a current value on future cash flows. It is needed to reflect the fact that money has a time value. In the embedded value calculated for ING's insurance operations, the discount rate is equal to the weighted cost of capital after taxation of the insurance operations.

Discounted bills

Bills that are sold, less interest, giving the owner the right to receive an amount of money on a given date.

Discretionary participation feature

A contractual right to receive, as a supplement to guaranteed benefits, additional benefits that are likely to be a significant portion of the total contractual benefits, whose amount or timing is contractually at the discretion of the insurer, that are contractually based on the performance of a specified pool or type of contract, unrealised/realised investment returns on a specified pool of assets held by the insurer, or the profit of the company, fund, or other entity that issues the contract.

Earnings Sensitivity (ES)

Measures the impact on earnings resulting from changes in economic and financial conditions over a one-year horizon.

Economic Capital (EC)

EC is defined as the amount of capital that a transaction or business unit requires in order to support the economic risks it takes. In general, EC is measured as the unexpected loss above the expected loss at a given confidence level. This economic capital definition is in line with the net market value (or surplus) definition.

Economic exposure

Total of outstandings plus undrawn committed portions calculated on the basis of economic risk principles.

Effective interest method

The effective interest method is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a financial asset or a financial liability (or group of financial assets or financial liabilities) 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.

Elimination

A process by which intercompany transactions are matched with each other and deducted, so that the assets, liabilities, income and expenses are not inflated.

Employee benefits

All forms of consideration given by a company in exchange for service rendered by employees or for the termination of employment.

ESR Framework

The ESR Framework is a set of policies and structured governance to identify, assess and manage ING's engagement with companies that operate in sectors that are more vulnerable to environmental and social risks and impacts.

ESR Policies

Our financing and investment policies, as well as our broader business ambitions are structured around strongly embedded social, ethical and environmental criteria. An extensive ESR policy framework is to guide our decisions for customer engagement and assessing finance proposals.

Expected Loss (EL)

The expected loss provides a measure of the value of the credit losses that ING Bank may reasonably expect to incur on its portfolio. ING Bank must hold a reserve (as part of its capital base) to cover the expected losses in its credit portfolio. EL is calculated as Probability of Default x Loss Given Default x Exposure at Default. Collective provisions are taken to cover for Expected Losses.

Exposure at Default (EaD)

The exposure at default intends to estimate with the use of models the outstanding amount or obligation at the moment of default in the future. Since the fact that a counterparty will go into default is not known, and the level of outstanding that may occur on that date is also not known, ING Bank uses a combination of statistical, expert and hybrid models to estimate the Exposure at Default.

Fair value

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 balance sheet date ('exit price').

FiCo ratio

Financial Conglomerate ratio. The quotient of (a) the sum of the available capitals of the underlying entities, adjusted for double leverage and (b) the sum of the required capitals of the underlying entities.

Final dividend

The final dividend is the total dividend for the year as approved by the shareholders in the annual General Meeting of Shareholders less any interim dividend paid during the year.

Finance lease

A lease that transfers substantially all the risks and rewards associated with ownership of an asset to the lessee. Title may or may not eventually be transferred.

Financial asset

Any asset that is:

- › cash
- › an equity instrument of another company
- › a contractual right to:
 - › receive cash or another financial asset from another company
 - › exchange financial instruments with another company under conditions that are potentially favourable
 - › a certain contract that will or may be settled in ING's own equity instruments.

Financial instruments

Contracts that give rise to both a financial asset for one company and a financial liability or equity instrument for another company.

Financial liability

Any liability that is a contractual obligation:

- › To deliver cash or another financial asset to another company.
- › To exchange financial instruments with another company under conditions that are potentially unfavourable.
- › Certain contracts that will or may be settled in ING's own equity instruments.

First call date

Perpetual subordinated loans have no set maturity. The first call date is the date on which ING has the option to repay and cancel the particular subordinated loan.

Forbearance activities

Forbearance occurs when the client is considered to be unable to meet its financial commitments under the contract due to financial difficulties, and based on these difficulties ING decides to grant concessions towards the client by either loan modification or refinancing. Modifying the terms and conditions of the contract to enable the client to service the debt is defined as modification. Refinancing relates to putting in place a new loan contract to ensure the total or partial repayment of an existing loan contract, of which the debtor is unable to comply with. Examples of forbearance measures are: postponement and/or reduction of loan principal and/or interest payments, extended payment terms, debt consolidations and deferral of foreclosures.

Foreign exchange rate risk (FX risk)

Probability of loss occurring from an adverse movement in foreign exchange rates.

Forward contracts

Commitments to exchange currencies or to buy or sell other financial instruments at specified future dates.

Fully loaded CET 1 ratio

The CRR/CRD IV Common Equity Tier 1 ratio calculated according to the 2019 end-state rule.

Future contracts

Commitments to exchange currencies or to buy or sell other financial instruments at specified future dates. Exchanges act as intermediaries and require daily cash settlement and collateral deposits.

Gross premiums written

Total premiums (whether or not earned) for insurance contracts written or assumed during a specific period, without deduction of premiums ceded.

Held for sale

A business or group of assets for which the carrying amount will be recovered principally through a sale transaction rather than through continuing use. When a business or a group of assets are to be sold together in a single transaction, and the sale is considered to be highly probable, these are classified separately in the balance sheet as Assets held for sale. A sale is highly probable when management is demonstrably committed to the

sale, which is expected to occur within one year from the date of classification as held for sale. Liabilities directly associated with those assets, and that are included in the transaction, are included in the balance sheet as 'liabilities held for sale'.

Held-to-maturity investments

Non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments and fixed maturity that ING Group has the positive intention and ability to hold to maturity other than:

- a. Those that ING Group upon initial recognition designates as at fair value through profit and loss.
- b. Those that ING Group designates as available-for-sale.
- c. Those that meet the definition of loans and receivables.

Historical simulation

A model to calculate Value at Risk, assuming that future changes in risk factors will have the same distribution as they had in the past, taking into account the non-linear behaviour of financial products.

Hybrid capital

Tier 1 instruments issued by ING Group (e.g. perpetual debt securities and preference shares). Hybrid capital securities are perpetual fixed income securities with an embedded call and coupon deferral feature. All hybrids capital securities rank senior to core tier 1 securities and ordinary shares of ING Group and they are structurally subordinated to the senior debt instruments issued by ING Groep N.V.

IGD Solvency ratio

NN Group's solvency position on a consolidated basis is calculated under the IGD and is calculated as the difference between (i) the consolidated assets eligible for inclusion in the calculation of the solvency margin based on the consolidated data; and (ii) the minimum amount of the solvency margin calculated on the basis of the consolidated data. The IGD capital is defined as shareholder's equity plus hybrid capital, prudential filters and certain adjustments and is calculated in accordance with method three "method based on accounting consolidation" of the Dutch Financial Supervision Act. Required capital is based on the EU required capital base. In applying this method, a solvency deficit of an insurance subsidiary, if any, is taken into account, as well as regulatory adjustments of the Dutch insurance subsidiaries based on the Dutch Financial Supervision Act. The IGD Solvency I ratio is calculated by dividing the IGD capital by the EU required capital base.

Impairment loss

The amount by which the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its recoverable amount.

ING Trust Office

The purpose of the ING Trust Office is to:

- (i) Acquire and administer, for the purposes of management, registered shares in the capital of ING Groep N.V. and to issue depository receipts for these shares.
- (ii) To promote the exchange of information between ING Group on one hand and the holders of depository receipts and shareholders in ING Group on the other.
- (iii) To promote the solicitation of proxies.

ING Continuity Foundation

The role of the ING Continuity Foundation is to ensure ING's continuity. Should a hostile takeover attempt be made, this foundation can exercise its call option right for as many cumulative preference shares as are necessary in order to hold up to one-third of the issued share capital.

Integrated reporting

A process founded on integrated thinking that results in a periodic integrated report by an organisation about value creation over time and related communications regarding aspects of value creation. An integrated report is a concise communication about how an organisation's strategy, governance, performance and prospects, in the context of its external environment, lead to the creation of value in the short, medium and long term. The report should tell the overall story of an organisation in a manner that allows all stakeholders to assess its ability to create value.

Interest-bearing instrument

A financial asset or liability for which a time-proportionate compensation is paid or received, in relation to a notional amount.

Interest margin

Difference between the average interest received on funds lent and the interest paid by the bank on capital raised.

Internal Rate of Return (IRR)

Internal rate of return is the discount rate at which the present value of distributable earnings from new business equals the investment in new business (i.e. the projected return on the investment in new business) is calculated.

Interest-rate rebate

Profit-sharing for group life insurance business. A rebate granted to policyholders based on the discounted value of the difference between the interest rate used for calculating the premiums and the expected yield on investment. The profit-sharing is granted by means of a premium discount related to the yield on government bonds.

Interest rate risk

Probability that the market interest rates will rise significantly higher than the interest rate earned on investments such as bonds, resulting in their lower market value.

Interim dividend

The interim dividend is an advance on the total dividend and distributed before the year-end closing.

Internal Assessment Approach (IAA)

Method used to calculate credit risk capital requirements for securitisation exposures (including liquidity lines provided to asset-backed commercial paper programmes and sponsored securitisations).

In the money

A call option is said to be in the money if the exercise price is lower than the price of the underlying value; a put option is said to be in the money if the exercise price is higher than the price of the underlying value.

Investment portfolio

Comprises assets that are intended for use on a continuing basis, and have been identified as such. These investments are held in order to cover the insurance provisions and to manage interest rate, capital and liquidity risks.

Investment risk

Investment risk is the credit default and risk rating migration risk that is associated with ING Bank's investments in bonds, commercial paper, securitisations, and other similar publicly traded securities. This can be viewed as the worst-case loss that ING Bank may incur as a result of holding a position in underlying securities whose Issuer's credit quality deteriorates or defaults.

Initial Public Offering (IPO)

When a company publicly offers its shares for sale for the first time on a stock exchange, this is called an Initial Public Offering (IPO). The most important goal of an IPO is to raise capital that the company can use to invest and expand.

Irrevocable facilities

Mainly constitute unused portions of irrevocable credit facilities granted to corporate customers and commitments made to purchase securities to be issued by governments and private issuers.

Irrevocable letters of credit

Concerns an obligation on behalf of a customer to pay an amount of money under submission of a specific document, or to accept a bill of exchange, subject to certain conditions. An irrevocable letter of credit cannot be cancelled or adjusted by the bank that has granted it for the duration of the agreement unless all those concerned agree.

Issued share capital

The share capital that is issued by a public limited company or a private limited company.

Joint venture

A joint venture is an entity over which the Group has joint control. Joint control is the contractually agreed sharing of control over an arrangement or entity, which exists only when decisions about the relevant activities require the unanimous consent of the parties sharing control. Joint control means that no party to the agreement is able to act unilaterally to control the activity of the entity. The parties to the agreement must act together to control the entity and therefore exercise the joint control.

Legal risk

Legal risk is the risk related to:

- › A failure (or perceived failure) to adhere to applicable laws, regulations and standards.
- › Contractual liabilities or contractual obligations that are defaulted or cannot be enforced as intended, or are enforced in an unexpected or adverse way.
- › Liability (tort) towards third parties due to an act or omission attributable to ING (potentially) resulting in impairment of ING's integrity, leading to damage to ING's reputation, legal or regulatory sanctions, or financial loss.

Lending risk

Lending risk arises when ING Bank grants a loan to a counterparty, or issues guarantees on behalf of a counterparty. This includes term loans, mortgages, revolving credits, overdrafts, guarantees, letters of credit, etc. The risk is measured as the notional amount of the financial obligation that the counterparty has to repay to ING Bank, excluding any accrued and unpaid interest, discount/premium amortisations or impairments.

Leverage ratio

The Basel III leverage ratio is defined as the capital measure (the numerator) divided by the exposure measure (the denominator expressed as a percentage).

Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR)

Regulatory measure for the liquidity of banks, which compares the amount of high quality liquid assets with a potential outflow over a one-month period. The measure is introduced under Basel III. LCR is defined as: stock of high quality liquid assets / assumed 30-day cash outflow.

Liquidity premium

In order to correct the value of the liabilities for their illiquidity, a premium is added to the risk-free liability valuation curve. This premium reflects the price of illiquid long-term funding, which increases in stressed markets.

Liquidity risk

The risk that ING Group, or one of its subsidiaries, cannot meet its financial liabilities when they fall due, at reasonable costs and in a timely manner.

Loan to Deposit ratio (LtD ratio)

Measure for the liquidity of banks. The LtD ratio is defined as: own originated loans / own originated deposits.

Loss Given Default (LGD)

Anticipated percentage loss in the event of a default of a customer or counterpart.

Management Board Banking

The Management Board Banking (MBB) consists of:

- › the CEO, CFO and CRO of ING Group
- › the vice-chairman and head of Market Leaders of ING Bank
- › the head of Challengers & Growth Markets of ING Bank
- › the head of Commercial Banking of ING Bank
- › the chief operations officer of ING Bank.

The MBB reports to the Executive Board of ING Group.

Marked-to-market (MTM)

Valuing a security, portfolio or account against its market value instead of its carrying value.

Market risk

Market risk is the risk that movements in market variables, such as interest rates, equity prices, foreign exchange rates, credit spreads and real estate prices, negatively impact the bank's earnings, capital, market value or liquidity position.

Master agreement

Contract between parties in which agreements are reached for most of the terms and conditions of future transactions such that negotiations only focus on deal-specific terms. Well-known master agreements include ISDA (for over-the-counter derivative transactions), GMRA (for repo or repurchase transactions) and GMSLA (for securities-lending transactions).

Minimum Capital Requirement (MCR)

Is defined in the Solvency II legislation and represents the absolute minimum regulatory required capital for insurance companies.

Minority interest

That part of the profit or loss and net assets of a subsidiary attributable to an interest that is not owned, directly or indirectly, by the parent company.

Monetary assets and liabilities

Assets and liabilities that are fixed in terms of units of currency by contract or otherwise. Examples are cash, short or long-term accounts, notes receivable in cash and notes payable in cash.

Money market risk

Money market risk arises when ING Bank places short-term deposits with a counterparty in order to manage excess liquidity. As such, money market deposits tend to be short-term in nature. In the event of a counterparty default, ING Bank may lose the deposit placed. Money market risk is measured as the notional value of the deposit, excluding any accrued and unpaid interest or the effect of any impairment

Monte Carlo simulation

A model to calculate Value at Risk, assuming that changes in risk factors are normally distributed together, taking into account non-linear behaviour of financial products.

Mortgage-backed Securities (MBS)

A security whose cash flows are backed by typically the principal and/or the interest payments of a pool of mortgages.

Net asset value

Used in the equity method of accounting. The initial net asset value of the investment is determined by the fair value of the assets and liabilities of the investee. After the initial valuation of assets and liabilities of the investee at fair value, the assets and liabilities of the investee are valued in accordance with the accounting policies of the investor.

The profit and loss account reflects the investor's share in the results of operations of the investee.

Net operating ROE

The Net operating ROE of the ongoing business (or a segment) is defined as the net operating result of the ongoing business (or a segment) divided by the average adjusted allocated equity of the ongoing business (or a segment) expressed as a percentage. The allocated equity is adjusted to include minority interests and exclude the revaluation reserves for debt securities, equity securities and properties in own use, the cash flow hedge reserve and the related crediting to life policyholders, to arrive at adjusted allocated equity. Net Operating ROE measures the Company's profitability by comparing how much net operating result is generated with the money shareholders have invested. The

higher the Net operating ROE, the more efficient the Company is in using its net assets and the better the investment return is to shareholders.

Net premiums written

Gross premiums written for a given period less premiums ceded to retrocessionaires during the given period.

Net Present Value at Risk (NPV-at-Risk)

NPV-at-Risk measures the impact of changing interest rates on value. As a full valuation approach is applied, the risk figures include convexity risk that results from embedded optionalities like mortgage prepayment options.

Net Promoter Score

Net Promoter Score (NPS) is a way of measuring customer loyalty and satisfaction. NPS is based on a direct question: 'How likely is it that you would recommend our company/product/service to a friend or colleague?' Promoters are those who respond with a score of 9 or 10 (out of 10) and are thus considered loyal enthusiasts. Detractors are those who respond with a score of 0 to 6 (unhappy customers). Scores of 7 and 8 are passives, and they will only count towards the total number of respondents, but not directly affect the formula.

NPS is calculated by subtracting the percentage of customers who are detractors from the percentage of customers who are promoters.

New sales

New sales of life insurance, measured as Annual Premium Equivalent (APE), have been defined as the total of annual premiums and 10% of single premiums received on production in a given period.

NN Group

Abbreviation of NN Group N.V.

Nominal value of share

Dutch shares have a nominal value, which is mentioned on all issued share certificates. Shares must be issued against at least the nominal value. The nominal value remains fixed, as opposed to the market value, which fluctuates.

Nomination Committee

The Nomination Committee, consisting of members of the Supervisory Board, advises the Supervisory Board on aspects such as the composition of the Supervisory Board and Executive Board.

Non-voting equity securities

Core Tier 1 securities issued to the Dutch State in November 2008 for a total consideration of EUR 10 billion. In December 2009, EUR 5 billion, in May 2011, EUR 2 billion, in November 2012, EUR 750 million and in November 2013 EUR 750 million was repaid to the Dutch State. In November 2014, the last tranche was repaid to the Dutch State. This capital injection qualified as core Tier 1 capital for regulatory purposes.

Notional amounts

Represent units of account, which in respect of derivatives, reflect the relationship with the underlying assets. They do not reflect, however, the credit risks assumed by entering into derivative transactions.

Obligor

Corporate borrower, counterparty or individual to which ING has recourse for repayment of the obligation.

Operating lease

A lease other than a finance lease.

Operating result

Operating result is a measure to analyse the Insurance underlying result. It is the underlying result before tax, excluding realised gains/losses and impairments on debt and equity securities, revaluations and market and other impacts.

Operating result ongoing business

Operating result (before tax) is used by NN to evaluate the core financial performance of the business segments of the ongoing operations.

Operational risk

The risk of direct and indirect loss resulting from inadequate or failed internal processes, people and systems or from external events.

Ordinary share

An equity instrument that is subordinated to all other classes of equity instruments. Ordinary shares participate in the net profit for the financial year after other types of shares such as preference shares.

Outstandings

Total amount of all drawn portions of a facility and thus the sum of all transactions of a specific facility.

Over-the-counter instrument

A non-standardised financial instrument not traded on a stock exchange, but directly between market participants.

Performing loans

Loans for which customers currently meet and are expected to meet their financial obligations in full and on time.

Phased-in CET 1 ratio

The CRR/CRD IV Common Equity Tier 1 ratio calculated according to the rules applicable at the reporting date taking the transitional rules into account

Plan assets

Comprise assets held by a long-term employee benefit fund and qualifying insurance policies. Assets held by a long-term employee benefit fund are assets (other than non-transferable financial instruments issued by the reporting enterprise) that:

- › Are held by an entity (a fund) that is legally separate from the reporting enterprise and exists solely to pay or fund employee benefits.
- › Are available to be used only to pay or fund employee benefits, are not available to the reporting enterprise's own creditors (even in bankruptcy), and cannot be returned to the reporting enterprise, unless either the remaining assets of the fund are sufficient to meet all the related employee benefit obligations of the plan or the reporting enterprise, or the assets are returned to the reporting enterprise to reimburse it for employee benefits already paid.

A qualifying insurance policy is an insurance policy issued by an insurer that is not a related party of the reporting enterprise, if the proceeds of the policy:

- › Can be used only to pay or fund employee benefits under a defined benefit plan.
- › Are not available to the reporting enterprise's own creditors (even in bankruptcy) and cannot be paid to the reporting enterprise, unless either the proceeds represent surplus assets that are not needed for the policy to meet all the related employee benefit obligations, or the proceeds are returned to the reporting enterprise to reimburse it for employee benefits already paid.

Post-employment benefit plans

Formal or informal arrangements under which a company provides post-employment benefits for one or more employees. Post-employment benefits are employee benefits other than termination benefits and equity compensation benefits, which are payable after the completion of employment.

Preference share

A preference share is similar to an ordinary share but carries certain preferential rights. These rights usually concern the guarantee of a fixed (cumulative) return to the shareholder or a guaranteed return on the investment.

Premium income

The amount paid by the purchaser of an insurance contract less any commission or brokerage fees payable to an insurance agent. This represents the gross income of an insurance company.

Premiums earned

The portion of net premiums written in current and past periods, which applies to the expired portion of the policy period, calculated by subtracting movements in unearned premium reserves from net premiums.

Pre-settlement risk

Pre-settlement risk arises when a counterparty defaults on a transaction before settlement and ING Group has to replace the contract by a trade with another counterparty at the then prevailing (possibly unfavourable) market price. The pre-settlement risk (potential or expected risk) is the cost of ING Group replacing a trade in the market.

This credit risk category is associated with dealing room products, such as options, swaps, and securities financing transactions. Where there is a mutual exchange of value, the outstanding amount is generally based on the replacement value (mark-to-market) plus potential future volatility concept, using an historical seven-year time horizon and a 99% confidence level.

Private placement

A placement in which newly issued shares or debentures come into possession of a limited group of subscribers who are prepared to buy the new securities.

Projected unit credit method

An actuarial valuation method that considers each period of service as giving rise to an additional unit of benefit entitlement and measures each unit separately to build up the final obligation.

Probability of default (PD)

The likelihood that a customer or counterparty will default.

Problem loans

In line with the IFRS, after a payment default of an obligor of more than 90 days, or the likelihood of a payment default of the customer, the particular loan and all other positions will be regarded as problem or non-performing loans.

Qualifying asset (within the meaning of borrowing costs)

An asset that necessarily takes a substantial period of time to get ready for its intended use or sale.

Recognition

The process of incorporating in the balance sheet, or profit and loss account, an item that meets the definition of an element and satisfies the following criteria for recognition:

- › It is probable that any future economic benefit associated with the item will flow to or from the enterprise.
- › The item has a cost or value that can be measured reliably.

Recoverable amount

The higher of an asset's net selling price and its value in use.

Recovery plan

As a consequence of the global financial crisis, ING Bank has set up an all-encompassing recovery planning process to enhance the bank's readiness and decisiveness to tackle financial crises on its own strength.

Redemption value

With respect to investments in fixed-interest securities, the amount payable on the maturity date.

Regulatory capital (RC)

The minimum amount of capital that a bank is required to hold in order to absorb unexpected losses. RC is calculated using regulatory approved internal models.

Reinsurance

The practice whereby one party, called the reinsurer, in consideration for a premium paid to him/her, agrees to indemnify another party, called the reinsured or ceded party, for part or all of the liability assumed by the reinsured under a contract or contracts of insurance which the reinsured has issued. The reinsured may also be referred to as the original or primary insurer, the direct writing company, or the ceding company.

Remuneration Committee

The Remuneration Committee, consisting of members of the Supervisory Board, advises the Supervisory Board on aspects such as the terms and conditions of employment (including their remuneration) of Executive Board members and the policies and general principles on which the terms and conditions of employment of Executive Board members and of senior managers of ING and its subsidiaries are based.

Reserve adequacy test

To ensure reserves remain adequate over time, the insurance liabilities (future claims and premium income) are tested against the projected investment yields. For many insurance portfolios,

stochastic testing is performed, taking the 90th percentile of the results as the required level at which adequacy should be ensured.

Return on Equity (ROE)

The return on equity is the net result as percentage of the average equity.

Risk Committee

The Risk Committee, consisting of members of the Supervisory Board, assists and advises the Supervisory Board in monitoring the risk profile of the company as well as the structure and operation of the internal risk management and control systems.

Risk-Weighted Assets ('RWA' under Basel I)

Assets that are weighted for credit risk according to a formula used by the Dutch central bank (De Nederlandsche Bank), which conforms to the capital adequacy guidelines of the BIS (Bank of International Settlements). On and off-balance-sheet items are weighted for risk, with off-balance-sheet items converted to balance-sheet equivalents (using credit conversion factors) before being allocated a risk weight.

Risk-Weighted Assets ('RWA' under Basel II)

Assets that are weighted for credit and market risk in accordance with the Basel II methodology. The risk-weighted assets are calculated using internal models approved by the Dutch central bank (De Nederlandsche Bank). Regulatory capital requirements for operational risk are calculated without the use of risk-weighted assets, but are included in the total risk-weighted assets reported. In the CRR/CRD IV, the term RWA is replaced by "Total Risk Exposure Amount", but for now we follow common usage.

Settlement risk

Settlement risk rises when there is an exchange of value (funds, instruments or commodities) for the same or different value dates or times and receipt is not verified or expected until ING Group has paid or delivered its side of the trade. The risk is that ING Group delivers, but does not receive delivery from the counterparty.

Significant influence

The power to participate in the financial and operating policy decisions of an entity, but not to have control over these policies. Significant influence may be gained by share ownership, statute or agreement.

Solvency I

Solvency I is the current prudential framework that lays out the amounts of regulatory capital an insurance undertaking must hold against unforeseen events.

Solvency II

Solvency II is a fundamental review of the prudential regime for insurance and reinsurance undertakings in the European Union. Solvency II must lead to a new solvability framework based on a market-consistent valuation in which the capital requirements adequately reflect the risks run by the insurer. It is still under discussion and is not expected to come into force before 1 January 2016.

Stakeholder

A stakeholder is somebody who has an interest in ING. ING distinguishes the following stakeholder groups: customers

(individuals, families, small businesses, large corporations and financial institutions, governments, public-private entities and supranational agencies), capital providers, employees, supervisors, regulators, civil society organisations, citizens and society at large.

Stress testing

Stress testing examines the effect of exceptional but plausible scenarios on the capital position of ING. Stress testing can be initiated internally or be external parties such as the European Central Bank.

Structured entity

An entity that has been designed so that voting or similar rights are not the dominant factor in deciding who controls the entity, such as when any voting rights relate to administrative tasks only and the relevant activities are directed by means of contractual arrangements.

Sub-prime mortgage

Mortgage loans made to borrowers who cannot get a regular mortgage because they have a bad credit history or limited income.

Subsidiary

An entity that is controlled by another entity.

Surrender

The termination of a life or retirement contract at the request of the policyholder after which the policyholder receives the cash surrender value, if any, on the contract.

Sustainable assets under management / socially responsible investments

Assets of customers registered at ING Bank, which are defined as sustainable following an assessment of environmental, social and governance (ESG) parameters / criteria.

Sustainable engagement score

The extent to which employees are motivated, enabled and energised to perform at their best and help ING to succeed.

Sustainable transitions financed

Sustainable transitions financed consist of loans to renewable projects, loans to other sustainable projects, loans to environmental outperformers and the portfolio of ING Groenbank.

Swap contracts

Commitments to settle in cash at a specified future date, based on differentials between specified financial indices as applied to a notional principal amount. Generally, no cash is exchanged at the outset of the contract and no principal payments are made by either party.

Tier 1 capital

The Tier 1 capital of an institution consists of the sum of the Common Equity Tier 1 capital and Additional Tier 1 capital.

Tier 1 ratio

Reflecting the Tier 1 capital of ING Bank as a percentage of its total risk-weighted assets.

Tier 2 capital

Tier 2 capital shall consist of the following:

- (a) Capital instruments and subordinated loans where the conditions laid down in Article 63 (CRR) are met.
- (b) The share premium accounts related to instruments referred to in point (a.)
- (c) For institutions calculating risk-weighted exposure amounts in accordance with Chapter 2 of Title II of Part Three, general credit risk adjustments, gross of tax effects, of up to 1,25 % of risk-weighted exposure amounts calculated in accordance with Chapter 2 of Title II of Part Three of the CRR.
- (d) For institutions calculating risk-weighted exposure amounts under Chapter 3 of Title II of Part Three, positive amounts, gross of tax effects, resulting from the calculation laid down in Articles 158 and 159 up to 0,6 % of risk-weighted exposure amounts calculated under Chapter 3 of Title II of Part Three of the CRR.

Total Loss-Absorbency Capacity (TLAC)

Total Loss Absorbency Capacity (TLAC) is a concept proposed by the Financial Stability Board in November 2014 meant to ensure that G-SIBs have sufficient capacity in order to absorb losses both before and during resolution, to continue critical functions without requiring taxpayer support or threatening financial stability.

Trading portfolio

Comprises financial instruments held to obtain short-term transaction results, to facilitate transactions on behalf of customers or to hedge other positions in the trading portfolio.

Transfer risk

Probability of loss due to currency conversion (exchange) restrictions imposed by a foreign government that make it impossible to move money out of the country.

Treasury bills

Generally short-term debt certificates issued by a central government. Dutch Treasury Certificates are regarded as Dutch Treasury Bills.

Treasury shares

An entity's own equity instruments, held by the entity or other members of the consolidated group.

Trust Office

At ING, this term is used to refer to the ING Trust Office.

Underlying result

Underlying result is a measure to evaluate the result of the segments. It is derived from the result in accordance with IFRS-EU by excluding the impact of divestments, discontinued operations and special items.

Unit-linked

A unit-linked insurance product functions as a savings product, but also offers coverage for specific life events. The policyholder invests in 'units' (stock, bonds, or mutual funds) and the return depends on the performance of these units. The insurance company may decide to provide guarantees on the return of the units.

Value at Risk (VaR)

The VaR for market risk quantifies, with a one-sided confidence level of 99%, the maximum overnight loss that could occur due to changes in risk factors (e.g. interest rates, equity prices, foreign exchange rates, credit spreads, implied volatilities) if positions remain unchanged for a time period of one day. Note that risk due to DVA and CVA sensitivities is not covered in this trading risk measure. Next to general market movements in these risk factors, VaR also takes into account market data movements for specific moves in e.g. the underlying issuer of securities. The impact of historical market movements on today's portfolio is estimated, based on equally weighted observed market movements of the previous year. ING Bank uses VaR with a 1-day horizon for internal risk measurement, control and backtesting, and VaR with a 10-day horizon for determining regulatory capital.

Value in use

The present value of estimated future cash flows expected to arise from the continuing use of an asset and from its disposal at the end of its useful life.

Variance-covariance

A model to calculate Value at Risk, assuming that changes in risk factors are normally distributed jointly and that the change in portfolio value is linearly dependent on all risk factor changes.

Warrant

A financial instrument that gives the holder the right to purchase ordinary shares.

General information

ING publications

- › ING Group Annual Report, in English
- › Sustainability Annex to the ING Group Annual Report, in English
- › Annual Review, online in Dutch and English. In print Dutch only.
- › ING Bank Annual Report
- › Annual Report on Form 20-F, in English (in accordance with SEC guidelines)

These publications are available on www.ing.com. The publications can be downloaded and ordered on the internet: www.ing.com, button 'Publications'.

This Annual Report contains the Reports of the Executive Board and Supervisory Board as well as the Annual Accounts and Other information for the financial year 2014 in their original language (English).

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Disclaimer

Certain of the statements contained in this Annual Report are not historical facts, including, without limitation, certain statements made of future expectations and other forward-looking statements that are based on management's current views and assumptions and involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results, performance or events to differ materially from those expressed or implied in such statements. Actual results, performance or events may differ materially from those in such statements due to, without limitation: (1) changes in general economic conditions, in particular economic conditions in ING's core markets, (2) changes in performance of financial markets, including developing markets, (3) consequences of a potential (partial) break-up of the euro, (4) the implementation of ING's restructuring plan to separate banking and insurance operations, (5) changes in the availability of, and costs associated with, sources of liquidity such as interbank funding, as well as conditions in the credit markets generally, including changes in borrower and counterparty creditworthiness, (6) the frequency and severity of insured loss events, (7) changes affecting mortality and morbidity levels and trends, (8) changes affecting persistency levels, (9) changes affecting interest rate levels, (10) changes affecting currency exchange rates, (11) changes in investor, customer and policyholder behaviour, (12) changes in general competitive factors, (13) changes in laws and regulations, (14) changes in the policies of governments and/or regulatory authorities, (15) conclusions with regard to purchase accounting assumptions and methodologies, (16) changes in ownership that could affect the future availability to us of net operating loss, net capital and built-in loss carry forwards, (17) changes in credit ratings, (18) ING's ability to achieve projected operational synergies and (19) the other risk factors and uncertainties detailed in the Risk Factors section contained in this Annual Report.

Any forward-looking statements made by or on behalf of ING speak only as of the date they are made, and, ING assumes no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information or for any other reason.

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