







Impact of the Capital Adequacy Framework Revisions Qualitative Cost – Benefit Analysis

Bank of Albania is seeking to develop the regulatory framework on capital adequacy by improving the credit risk methodology and introducing the operational risk methodology for banks when calculating the capital requirements.

The Basel Committee on Banking Supervision for credit risk permits banks a choice between two broad methodologies for calculating their capital requirements, the Standardized Approach or the Internal Ratings-based Approach, while for operational risk, are proposed three methods: (i) the Basic Indicator Approach, (ii) the Standardized Approach and (iii) Advanced Measurement Approaches (AMA). For the operational risk banks are encouraged to move along from the spectrum of available approaches [starting from (i)] as they develop more sophisticated operational risk measurement systems and practices.

Given the current status of development of the banking activity and the directives of the Committee, Bank of Albania for credit risk methodology will update the current credit risk methodology with the latest guidelines as provided by the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision in the **Simplified Standardized Approach** and will introduce the **Basic Indicator Approach** on operational risk.

Regulated firms

	Impact	Comments
Costs	Higher	
One-off	Higher	
Operational	+	The modifications in the CA framework will require training of the (i) technical staff (ii) high strategic management staff
		and potential revisions in the strategy
Infrastructure	+	
Accounting and reporting	+	The modification of the CA framework will require changes in the methodologies of calculation of capital requirements to credit and operational risks
Other	+	Some banks might need to add capital in order to comply with the increased capital

On going	Lower	adequacy requirements. Other extra costs related to the modification of the credit risk methodology and the first time implementation of the operation risk methodology
Human resources	+	Increased complexity in of the prudential reporting framework and in a better risk management will generate a growth in the time allocated to this activity.
Benefits	Higher	
Additional products / additional business	=	No direct impact on the business strategy.
Cost saving / + revenues	+/=	Better coverage of banking activities - credit and operational risk with capital, with little effect on cost savings.
Equity requirements	=/+	Banks will have to account for the operational risk. Some banks might have already considered operational risk, or more sophisticated credit risk methodologies for capital requirements, based on their parent bank / group requirements. For some of the banks, introducing the operational risk might ask for an increase in the capital.
Total impact	Higher	Higher costs during the implementation
	costs and Higher benefits	process, and higher long run benefits

Consumers

	Impact	Comments
Costs	Slightly	
	lower costs	
Higher risks	-	Safer banking system, would reduce risk /
		increase protection for depositors and
		investors
Higher prices	+/=	The additional one off costs could be
		reflected on the prices (cost transfer from
		the banks), but no significant effect.
Lower quality of service	=	No direct effect
Benefits	No effect	No direct effect
Better choice	=	

Price reduction	=	
Improved access	=	
Total impact	Lower	Lower costs as consequence of a better capitalized and hedged banking activity.

Authorities

	Impact	Comments	
Costs	Higher		
One-off	+	Higher costs of the Banking Supervision	
		Authority related to the drafting,	
		enactment and implementation the	
		modified regulations.	
		Higher costs related to the training of the	
		supervisors and/or external assistance.	
On going	+		
Direct	+	The supervision process will be more	
Indirect	=	complex	
Benefits	Higher		
Statutory goals	++	The banking supervisory authority	
		accomplishes its statutory obligations of	
		ensuring the financial stability.	
Increase income to state	=	No direct effect	
budget			
Others	=	No direct effect	
Total impact	Higher	One-off costs related to the process of	
	costs and	new regulations, but the benefits are	
	higher	much higher.	
	benefits		

Summary of CBA of the PWG recommendations for the CPC

Stakeholders	Costs	Benefits	Total
Regulated firms	Higher	Higher	Higher
Consumers	Slightly lower	No effect	Lower
Authorities	Higher	Higher	Higher
Overall economy			More benefits
			Some costs

Legend: + increase - decrease = no effect