

Introduction

The Central Bank of Kuwait (CBK) approved at its meeting held on 25 October 2015 the Net Stable Funding Ratio in its final form for local Islamic banks. The issuance of the NSFR guidelines comes as part of the steps taken by the CBK to implement Basel III reforms.

The objective of this ratio is to promote resilience of banks' liquidity risk profiles and more resilient banking sector. The NSFR will require banks to maintain a stable funding profile in relation to the composition of their assets and off-balance sheet activities. A sustainable funding structure can mitigate the risk of erosion of a bank's liquidity position due to disruptions in its sources of funding. The NSFR limits overreliance on short-term wholesale funding, encourages better assessment of funding risk across all on- and off-balance sheet items, and promotes funding stability.

The NSFR is reported and monitored at two organizational levels: Level A (Boubyan Kuwait) and Level C including all banking subsidiaries (Boubyan Group).

Definition

The NSFR is defined as the amount of available stable funding relative to the amount of required stable funding. This ratio should be equal to at least 100% on an ongoing basis. "Available stable funding" is defined as the portion of capital and liabilities expected to be reliable over the time horizon considered by the NSFR, which extends to one year. "Required stable funding" is defined as the portion of assets and off-balance sheet (OBS) exposures expected to be funded on an ongoing basis over a one-year horizon. The amount of such stable funding required of a specific institution is a function of the liquidity characteristics and residual maturities of the various assets held by that institution as well as those of its off-balance sheet exposures.

The NSFR (as a percentage) is calculated as follows:

$$\frac{\text{Available amount of stable funding}}{\text{Required amount of stable funding}} \geq 100\%$$

Regulatory Scope of Reporting and Consolidation

The NSFR is calculated on a total currency level and is calculated for Level (A) and Level (C)

Liquidity Policy and Contingency Funding Plan

The Bank's liquidity management is guided by its Liquidity Policy which is reviewed annually and approved by the Board of Directors. The Liquidity Policy document specifies the main goals, policies and procedures for managing liquidity risk. The Liquidity Policy outlines procedures to identify, measure and monitor liquidity risk parameters in line with regulatory and internal limits, under normal and stress scenarios.

The Liquidity Policy also encompasses the bank's Contingency Funding Plan (CFP), which is approved by the Board of Directors, charts the course to be followed under stressed conditions.

Funding Strategy and Liquidity Management

While the operational aspect of day-to-day cash flow and liquidity management rests with Treasury, other groups such as Consumer Banking Group (CBG), Corporate Banking Group (COR), and Risk Management Department (RMD), and Financial Control Group (FCG) plays a key role in managing and monitoring the longer-term funding profile of the bank under the oversight of the Asset Liability Management Committee (ALCO).

The Bank's long-term strategy has been to maintain a strong and diversified liabilities profile. The bank has embraced a robust funding profile through its wide domestic retail customer base and the diversified wholesale funding customers. The bank's major wholesale funding counterparties comprise mostly of Kuwaiti government and quasi-sovereign agencies with which the Bank has established a strong and long-term relationship. Moreover, given its strong and consistent credit rating, the Bank is able to obtain longer-term funding from the debt market through its Global Medium Sukuk (GMTN) program.

Results Analysis and Main Drivers

The Bank's Available Stable Funding (ASF) as of 31 March 2020, was KD 3,943 Million (after applying factors) against Required Stable Funding (RSF) of KD 3,578 Million resulting in a Net Stable Funding Ratio of 110%.

ASF primarily comprise of capital as per CBK's Basel III regulations (15% of ASF), retail and SME funding (57%), and other wholesale funding (27%).

RSF is primarily comprised of financing assets (83% of RSF), investments and off-balance sheet items.

The table below sets forth the Net Stable Funding Ratio for the Bank as at 31 March 2020.

Table 4: NSFR Common Disclosure Template

Sr.	Item	Unweighted Values (i.e. before applying relevant factors)				Total weighted value
		No specified maturity	Less than 6 months	More than 6 months and less than one year	Over one year	
Available Stable Funding (ASF):						
1	Capital:					
2	Regulatory Capital	590,754	-	-	-	590,754
3	Other Capital Instruments	-	-	-	-	-
4	Retail deposits and deposits from small business customers:					
5	Stable deposits	-	3,148	-	-	2,991
6	Less stable deposits	-	1,835,153	366,670	261,657	2,243,298
7	Wholesale funding:					
8	Operational deposits and investment accounts	-	-	-	-	-
9	Other wholesale funding	-	2,372,642	369,205	248,106	1,072,570
10	Other liabilities:					
11	NSFR Shari'ah-compliant hedging contract liabilities	23,024	3,156	-	-	-
12	All other liabilities not included in the above categories	24,083	120,959	12,281	9,757	33,840
13	Total ASF					3,943,453
Required Stable Funding (RSF):						
14	Total NSFR Shari'ah-compliant high-quality liquid assets (HQLA)	667,733	-	-	-	42,847
15	Deposits and investment accounts held at other financial institutions for operational purposes	-	-	-	-	-
16	Performing loans and securities:					
17	Performing financing to financial institutions secured by Level 1 HQLA	-	-	-	-	-
18	Performing financing to financial institutions secured by non- Level 1 HQLA and unsecured performing financing to financial institutions	-	720,353	18,244	5,406	122,582
19	Performing financing to non-financial corporate clients, financing to retail and small business customers, and financing to sovereigns, central banks and PSEs, of which:	-	2,231,627	458,414	1,703,912	2,837,521
20	With a risk weight of less than or equal to 35% as per the Capital Adequacy Ratio – Basel 3 guidelines	-	-	-	-	-
21	Performing residential mortgages, of which:	-	-	-	-	-
22	- With a risk weight of less than or equal to 35% under the CBK Capital Adequacy Ratio – Basel III Guidelines	-	-	-	-	-
23	Securities that are not in default and do not qualify as HQLA, including exchange-traded equities	-	-	-	206,416	175,453
24	Other assets:					
25	Physical traded commodities, including gold	-	-	-	-	-
26	Assets posted as initial margin for Shari'ah-compliant hedging contracts and contributions to default funds of CCPs	-	-	-	-	-
27	NSFR Shari'ah-compliant hedging contract assets	-	-	-	-	-
28	NSFR Shari'ah-compliant hedging contract liabilities before deduction of variation margin posted	4,605	-	-	-	4,605
29	All other assets not included in the above categories	284,061	90,547	2,902	18,282	326,667
30	Off-balance sheet items	-	1,364,449	-	-	68,222
31	Total RSF					3,577,897
32	NSFR (%)					110%