



Argenta Spaarbank

January 2024





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1. Argenta Spaarbank Key Takeaways

- Argenta Spaarbank benefited from rising interest rates with a **net profit of EUR 132m**, adjusted for upfront bank levies (reported EUR 91m). This is an increase of EUR 61m compared to last year. ROE is at 10.7% vs. 5.9% in H1 2022.
 - The net interest income increased EUR 134m YoY due to a positive impact of rising interest rates on the investment portfolio and the cost-of-carry of swaps. The NIM increased to 1.45% (vs. 1.13% FY2022)
 - The balance sheet stabilized in the first half year of 2023 with mortgage markets slowing down and stable deposit market. Market shares remained stable.
 - Net fee and commission income returned to the level of H1 2022 due to recovering markets and new production.
 - A new benchmark covered bond was issued in June 2023.
 - **C/I ratio of 53%** (vs. 60% FY 2022) as a result of higher profit, partly offset by an increase of operating expenses (~7%), mainly inflation-linked.
- **Sound Solvency position and Liquidity ratios** with a CET1-ratio of 22.6%, LCR of 192% and NSFR of 141%.



2. Who is Argenta

2. Company history

Foundation of Argenta

Argenta was founded as a company specialized in offering personal loans by Karel Van Rompuy. Until today, the Van Rompuy family is still the majority shareholder

Argenta Assuranties

Argenta Assuranties nv was established, enabling Argenta to offer life and fire insurances. Bankassurance was a fact

Financial crisis

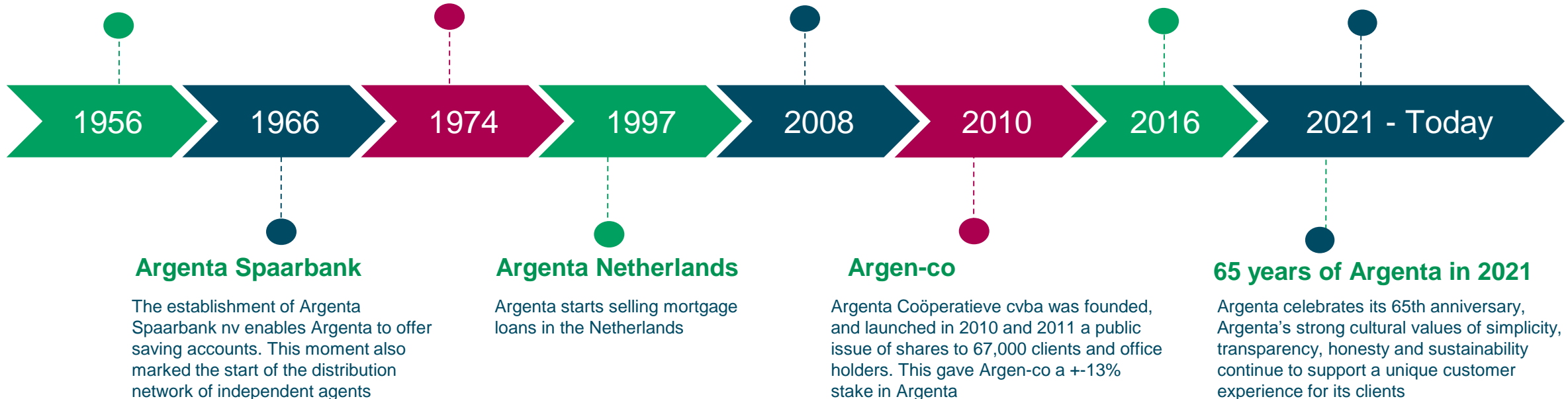
Argenta came unscathed through the crisis and did not need any government support

Start Wholesale funding

Argenta starts with wholesale funding and places its first Tier 2 in 2016. Since then RMBS's (2017), EMTN (2019) and CB (2021) programme are established.

Fee market share

Fee market share hits more than 5%, which translates into enhancing the diversification of operating income (up to 31%).

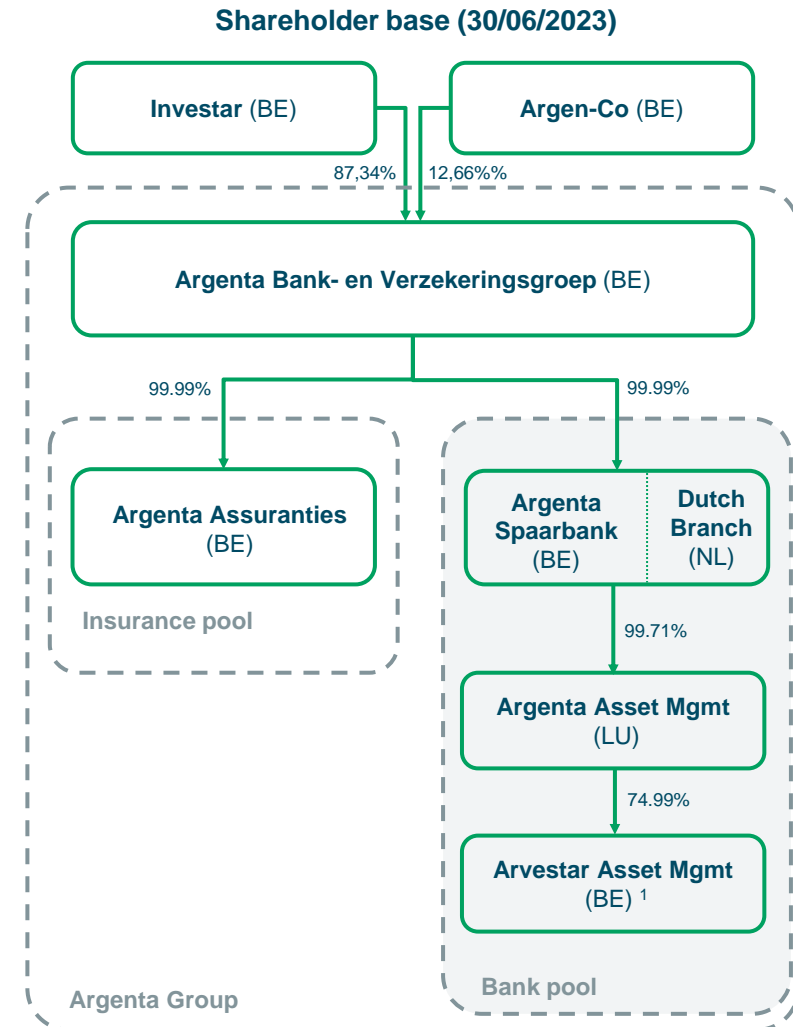


2. Group Structure: Full-Fledged Retail Bank

Group structure (share % rounded)


A transparent group structure

- Stable shareholder base Investar (holding company of founding family) and Argen-Co (cooperative capital held by employees and clients)
- Banking operations in Belgium and the Netherlands
- Insurance operations in Belgium
- Asset management operation incorporated in Luxembourg
- Arvestar Asset Management (AAM) is a consolidated joint venture with Bank Degroof Petercam Asset Management N.V. (DPAM)




(1) Arvestar Asset Management (AAM) is a consolidated joint venture with Bank Degroof Petercam Asset Management N.V. (DPAM)

2. Simple and Easy to Understand Business Model

Market share 	
Deposits ¹	0,5%
Mortgage loans ¹	2,5%



Market share 	
Deposits ¹	8,5%
Investment funds ²	5,4%
Mortgage loans ¹	6,7%
Life insurance ¹	5,3%
Non-life insurance ¹	2,1%

(1) 30/06/2023

(2) 31/03/2023

Sources: BeroepsVereniging van het Krediet (BVK); Nationale Bank van België (NBB), De Nederlandse Bank (DNB), Belgian Asset Managers Association (BEAMA), Assuralia

- Integrated bank-insurance business model focussed on fruitful long-term relationships with its retail clients, employees, tied agents, family shareholders and investors
- Offering simple and transparent bank and insurance products
- Broad reach through a strong network of independent agents in Belgium exclusively operating for Argenta, third party distribution in the Netherlands, complemented by a user-friendly digital platform
- Unrivalled levels of customer satisfaction, loyalty and brand strength:
 - Awarded 'Best Bank 2023' by *TestAankoop* and 'Best Bank 2023' and 'Best Branch Network 2023' by *Spaargids* following an extensive assessment of customer satisfaction
 - Customer appreciation exceptionally high with an NPS of 44
 - App with strong focus on a simple user interface (4.5/5, top 3 ranking of Belgian banks in both app stores), confirmed by a continuous growth in active app users
- Integrated operating model creating cost synergies and efficiencies



3. H1 2023 overview

3. Argenta Group key financials H1 2023

Argenta Group

Net result	131.8 m
Return on Equity ¹	10.6%
Total assets	59.9 bn
Total equity	3.6 bn
Cost / Income ¹	51.2%
Total funds under mgmt	59.0 bn
CET 1	22.8%

Argenta Spaarbank

Net result	90.8 m
Return on Equity ¹	10.7%
Total assets	53.5 bn
Total equity	2.6 bn
Cost / Income ¹	53,4%
Total funds under mgmt	53.4 bn
CET 1	22.6%

Credit Rating

Standard & Poor's

Short-term	A-1
Long-term	A
Outlook	Stable

Argenta Assuranties¹

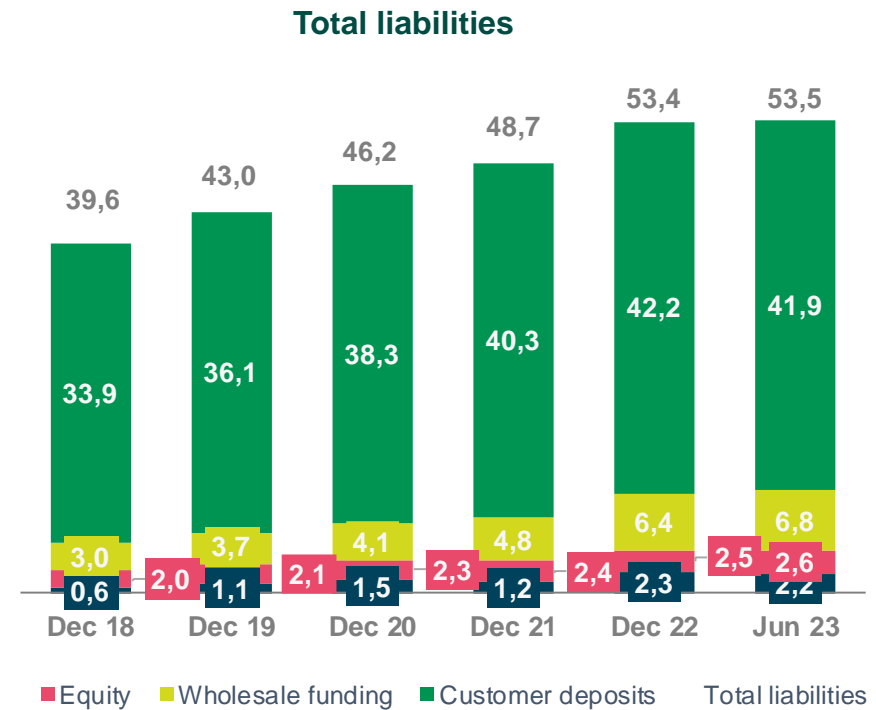
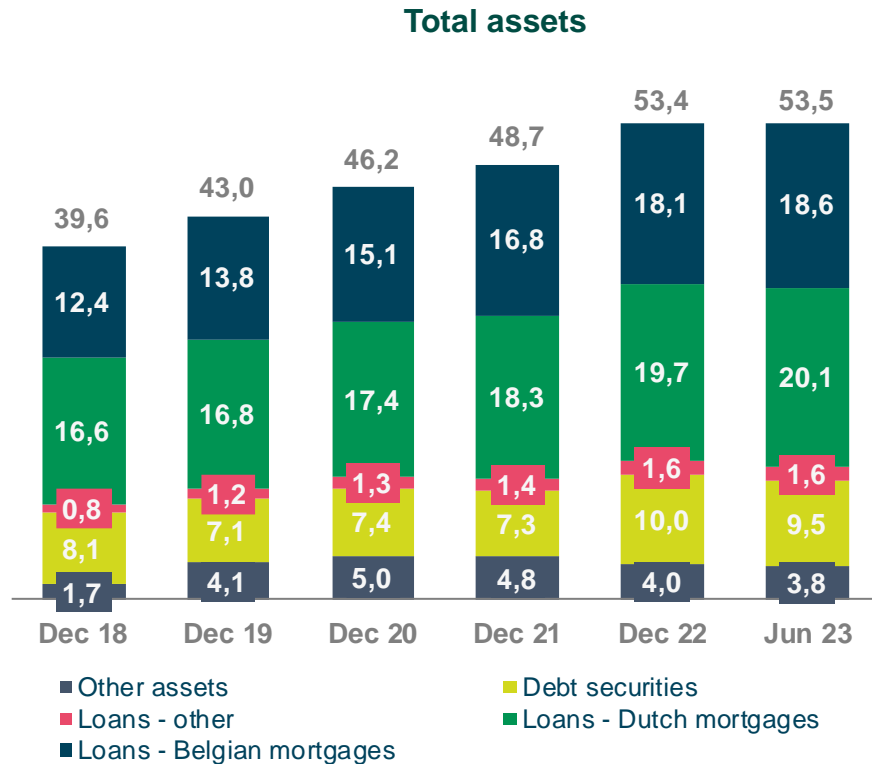
Net result	37.1 m
Return on Equity	12.4%
Total assets	6.6 bn
Total equity	0.6 bn
Premium Life	227 m
Premium Non-life	106 m
Solvency II	239%

Note: all numbers are stated in EUR
 (1) Adjusted for IFRIC 21
 (2) BGAAP

3. Financial Objectives on Key Parameters

Argenta Spaarbank	2022 FY	2023 H1	LT Target
Return on Equity	8.2%	10.7%	>8%
Leverage Ratio	4.3%	4.6%	>5%
Cost / Income Ratio	60%	53%	<55%
CET 1 Ratio	21.5%	22.6%	>18%
Total Capital Ratio	21.5%	22.6%	>20%
Net Interest Margin (NIM)	1.12%	1.45%	>1.25%
NSFR	142%	141%	>132%
LCR	186%	192%	>150%

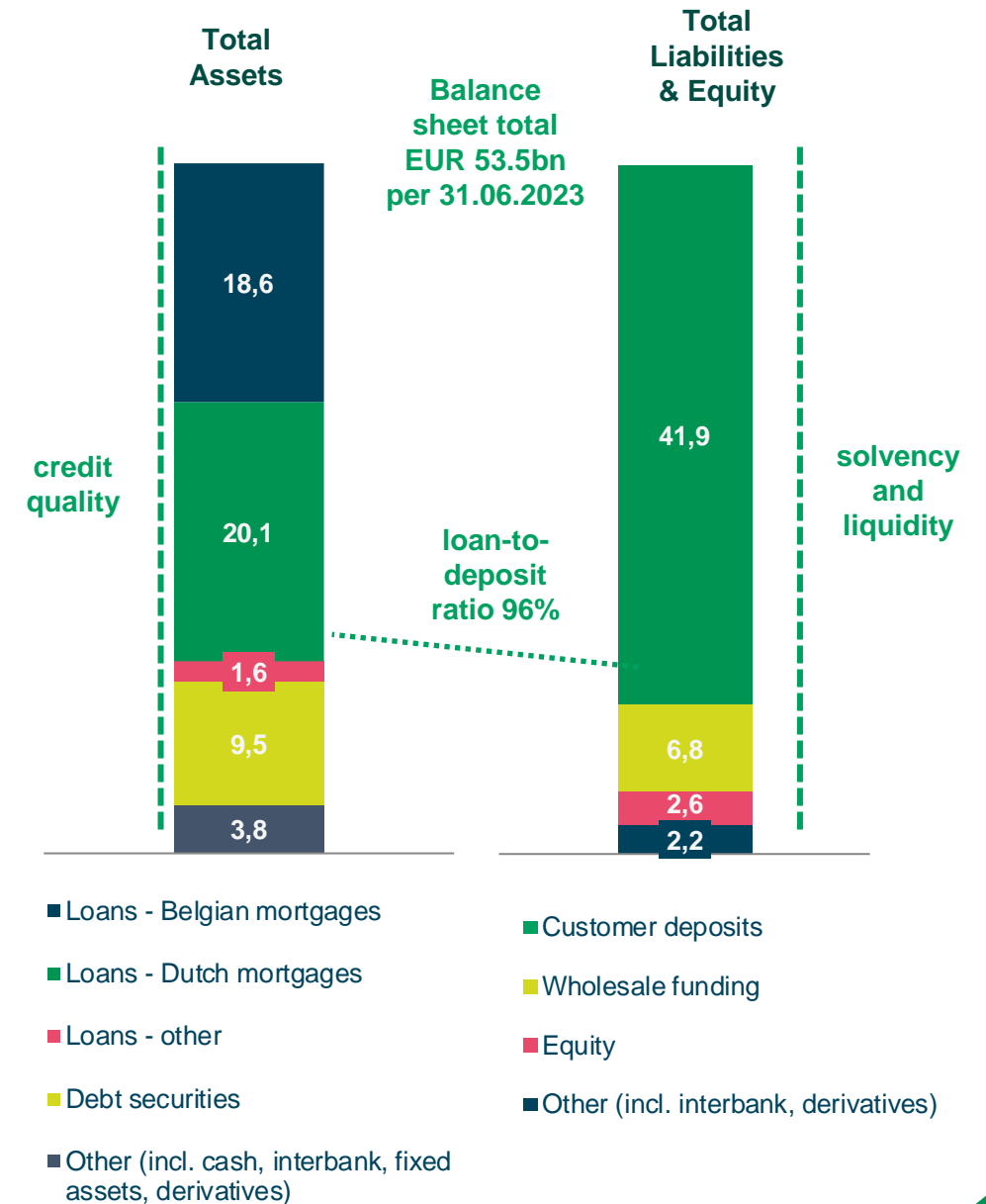
3. Stable Balance Sheet in H1 2023



(1) Other assets including cash, interbank, fixed assets, derivatives
 (2) Wholesale funding including saving certificates, subordinated debt and securitization funding

3. Balance Sheet Composition

- Slower asset and liability growth results in stable balance with a low-risk loan book of prime retail mortgage loans in the Netherlands and Belgium and a diversified and conservative investment portfolio.
- Limited portfolio of loans granted to local authorities and public-private partnerships.
- Strong and stable retail deposit base with a slightly increasing loan-to-deposit ratio to 96%.
- Wholesale funding of EUR 6.8bn outstanding.
 - EUR 1.8bn securitizations
 - EUR 0.5bn SP
 - EUR 2.1bn SNP
 - EUR 2.5bn covered bond
- A new benchmark covered bond was issued in June 2023.

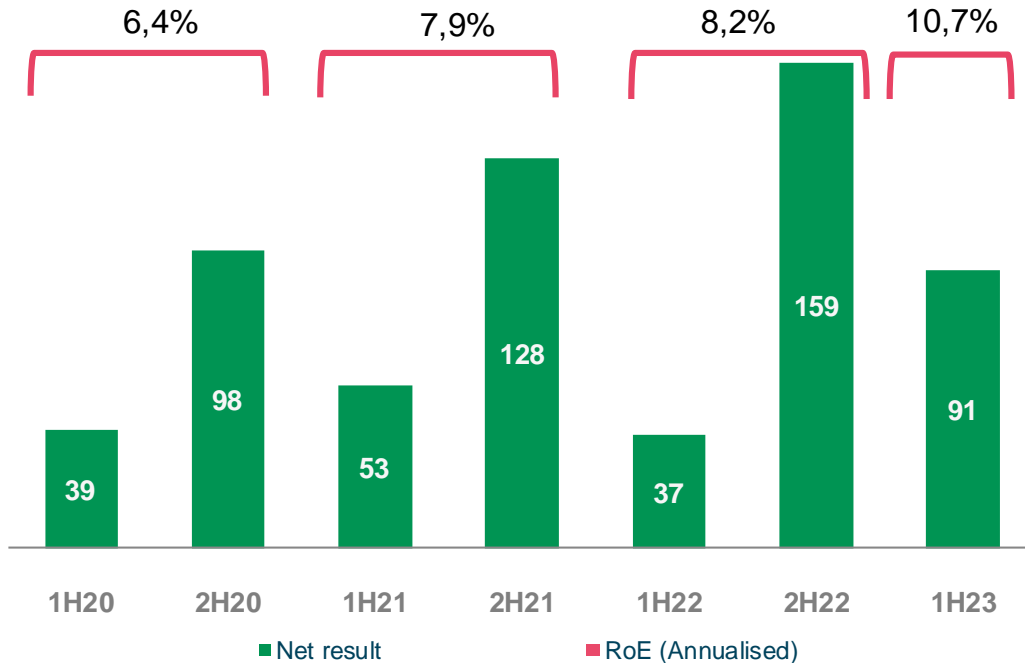




4. Financial Performance

4. Net Result up 86 %⁽¹⁾ YoY

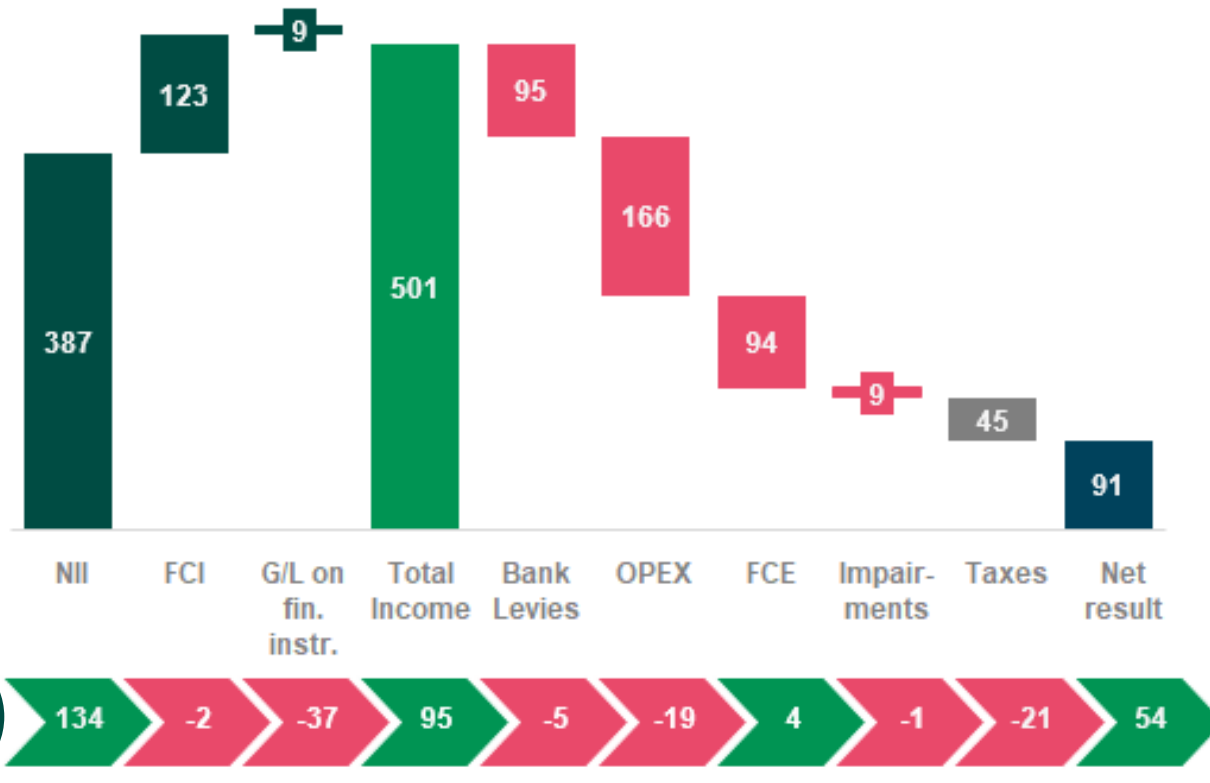
Net result (m EUR) and RoE (%)



In millions of EUR	1H 22	1H 23	Δ YoY
Net interest income	253	387	+134
<i>recurring NII</i>	254	381	+127
<i>prepayment fees</i>	16	1	-15
<i>one-off impact MTM</i>	-17	5	+22
G/L on financial instruments	28	-9	-37
<i>general result</i>	-6	-1	+5
<i>one-off impact MTM</i>	34	-8	-42
Net fee & commission result	26	29	+3
<i>fee income</i>	104	104	-1
<i>commissions to agents</i>	-78	-75	+3
Bank levies	-91	-95	-5
Net operating expenses	-147	-166	-19
<i>other operating income</i>	7	8	+1
<i>operating expenses</i>	-154	-174	-20
Impairments	-8	-9	-1
Income tax expense	-25	-45	-21
Net profit	37	91	+54
IFRIC21 adjustment	34	41	+7
Adjusted net profit	71	132	+61

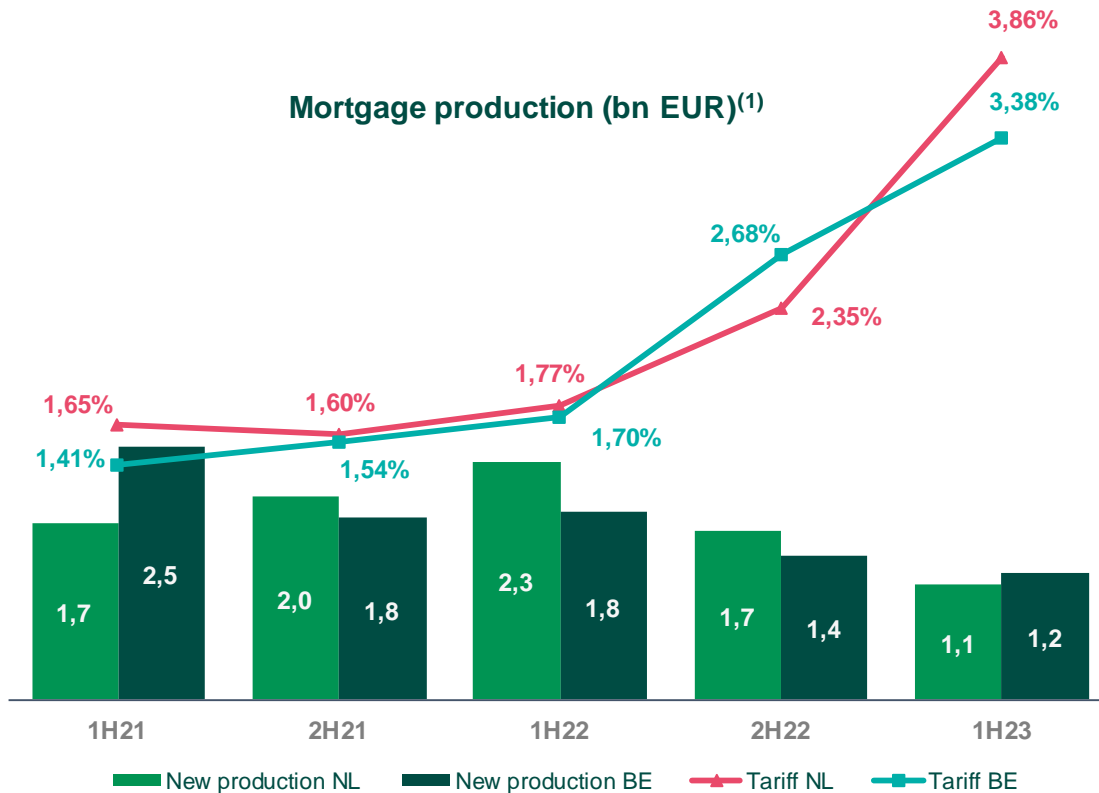
- The net profit is up EUR 54m following a sharp Euribor increase, leading to a recovery of the recurring NII.
- Slightly higher net fee & commission income due to resilient funds under management levels and lower acquisition cost.
- Additional impairments almost equalling last year's level
- Higher operating expenses and bank levies given inflation and growth in bank levy basis.
- Partial disallowance of banking tax deduction in tax calculations leads to 5m additional taxes.

4. Solid Financial Results driven by 53 % increase of NII



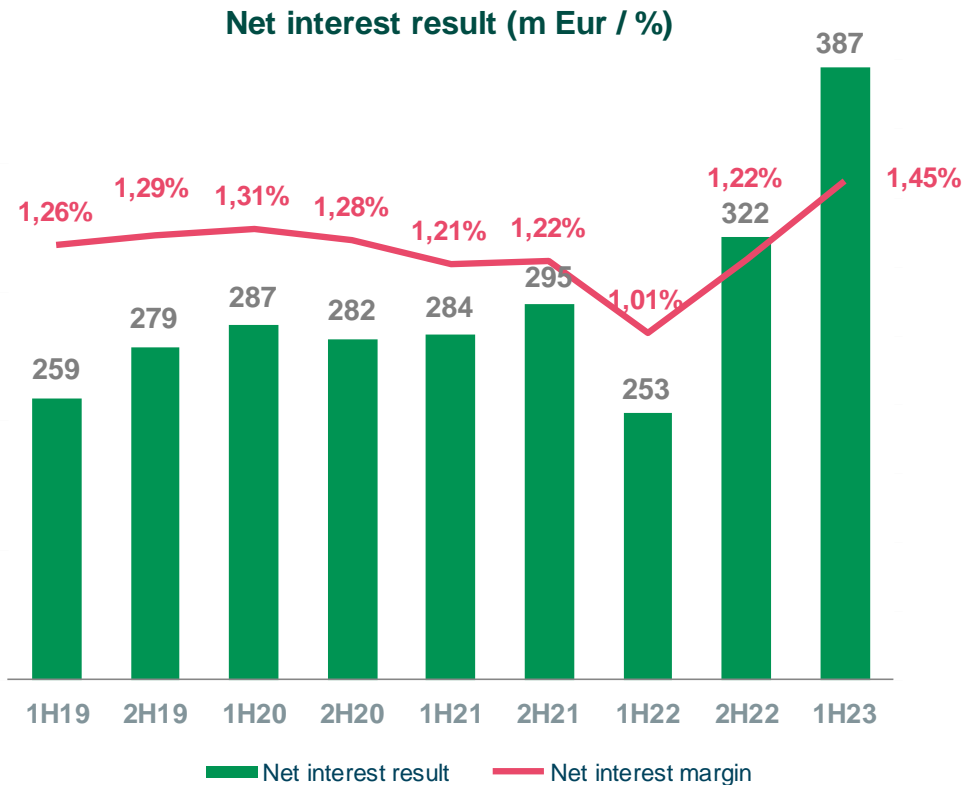
- Total NII increased YoY lifted by higher interest rates and slightly offset by lower prepayment fees:
 - Strong interest rate hikes materially lowered the carry cost on swaps and increased the average yield of the bond portfolio. On the other hand, wholesale and retail funding costs rose.
 - Increasing time value of swaptions
 - Higher interest rates also led to less prepayment fees on mortgages than last year.
- Slightly higher Net Fee and Commission income (FCI/E).
- Lower gains & losses driven by hedge inefficiencies and MtM on hedging instruments.
- Increased inflation and IT-investments impacted operating expenses. Bank levies increased further as a result of higher retail savings than 1H22.
- Increasing impairments compared to YE 2022, mainly due to less favorable macro-economic parameters compared to 1H22 and internal rating downgrades.

4. Lower mortgage production at rising interest rates



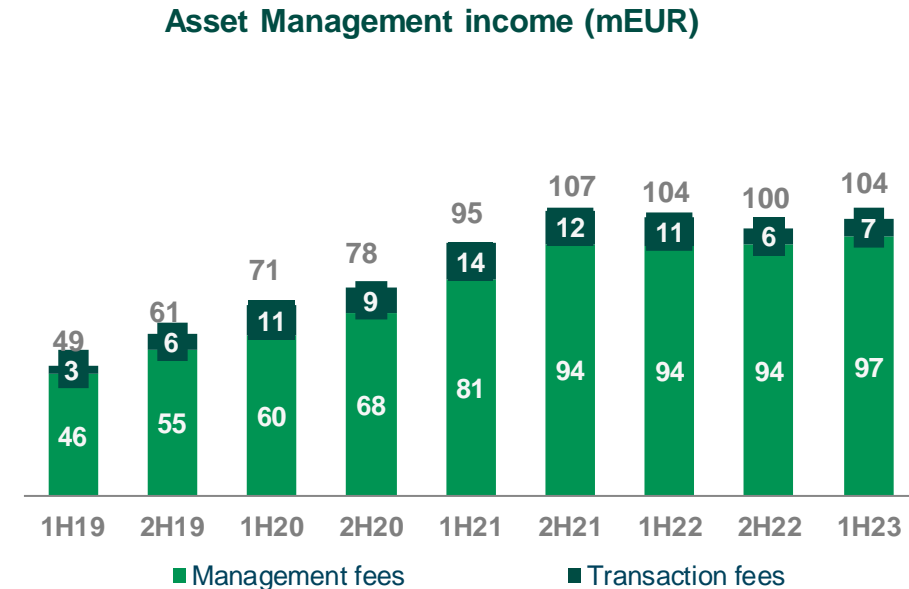
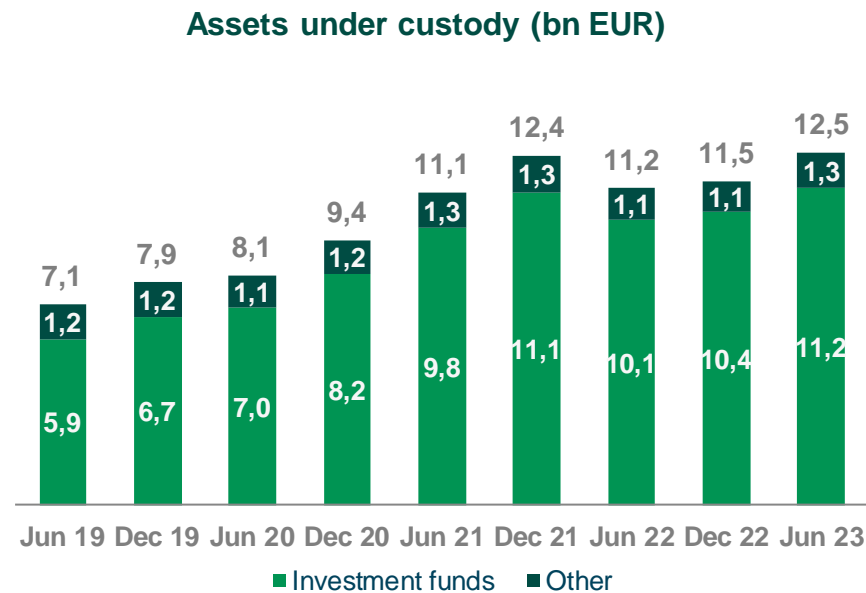
- EUR 2.4bn mortgage loans were granted in H1 2023 to Belgian and Dutch households.
- Production of mortgages slowed down, in line with market evolution.
- Higher pricing followed the increase in 2022 of LT-market rates

4. Recurring NII boosted by rising interest rates



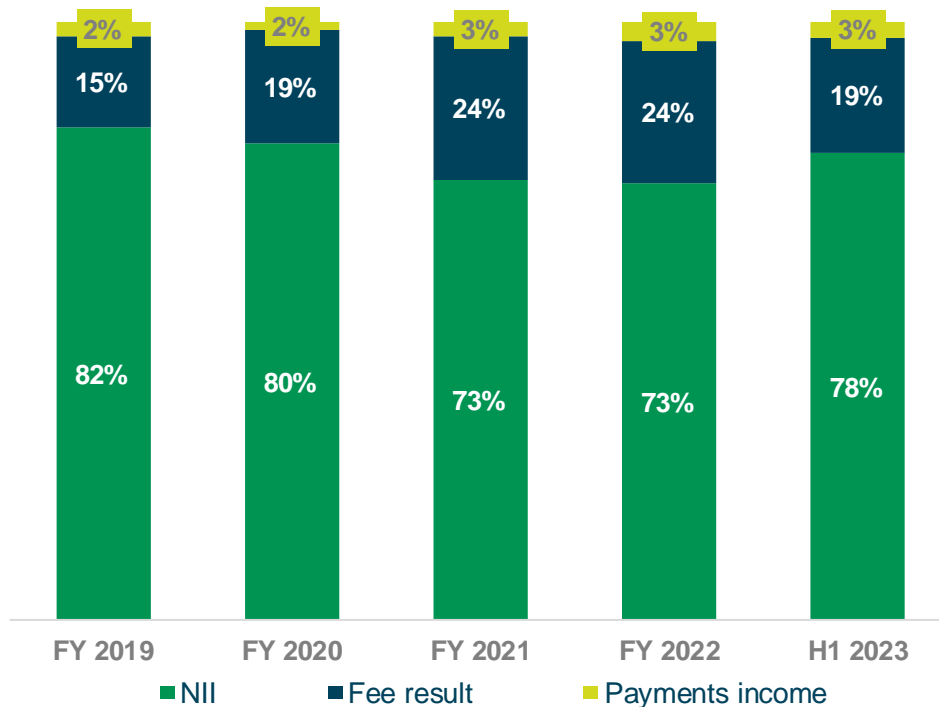
- Recurring NII up as:
 - the exposure of the bank to 3M Euribor improved the cost-of-carry on hedging instruments (+152m)
 - higher income from the bond portfolio (+55m)
 - partly compensated by increased wholesale funding cost (-52m) and more expensive retail funding (-59m)
- Non-recurring elements were also positive and include the MtM increase of swaptions (increase in time value, +22m YoY) tempered by lower Dutch prepayment fees (-15m YoY).
- NIM rose to 1,45 %

4. Net inflow and market recovery drive stable Asset management income



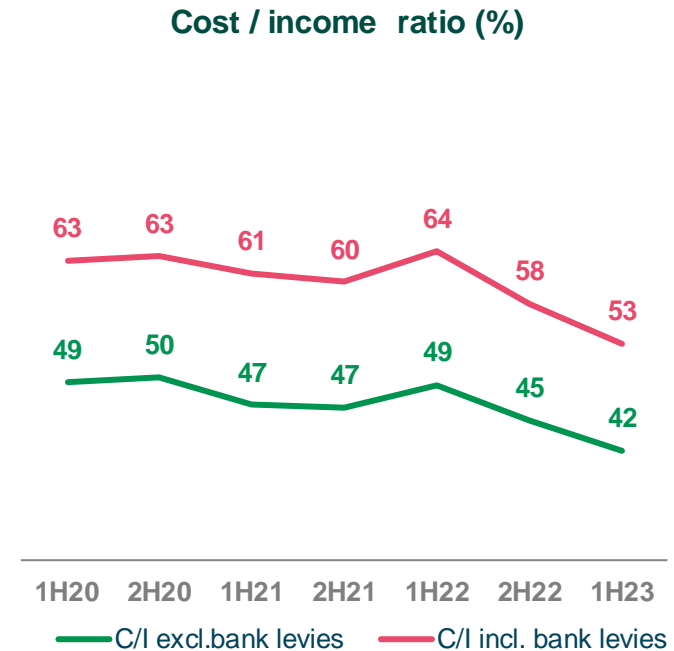
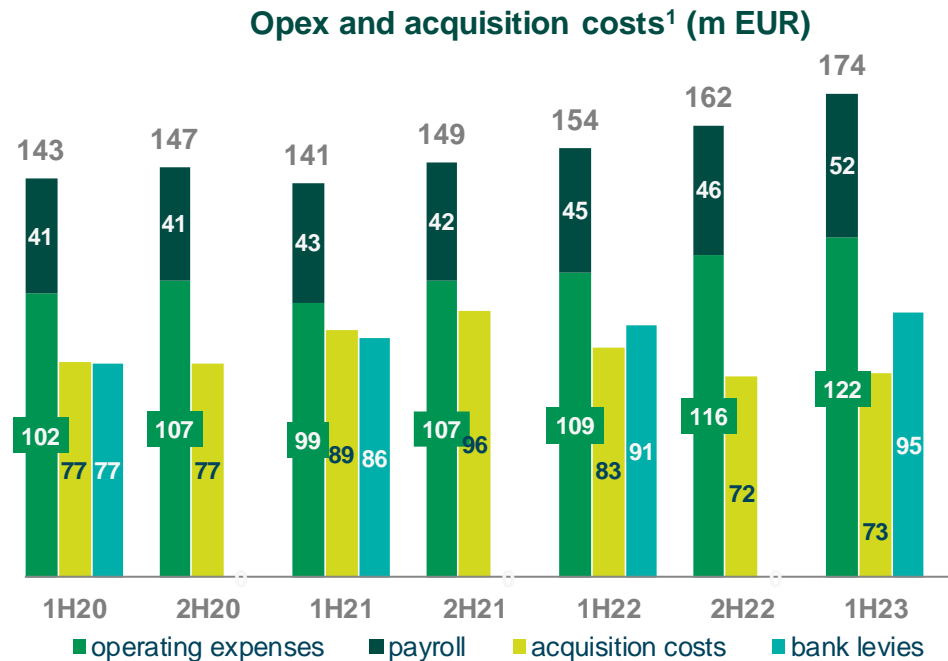
- Market recovery combined with net inflow of assets led to higher portfolio levels.
- Asset Management fee income returned to last year's level at H1 2022, coming from a slight drop EOY 2022.

4. Income diversification impacted by NII hike



- Boosted NII triggers altered proportions in income diversification.
- Commercial focus remains on strategic diversification between interest related and fee related products.
- The proportion of non-interest related income decreased from 27 % to 22 %.

4. Historically low C/I ratio driven by NII boost



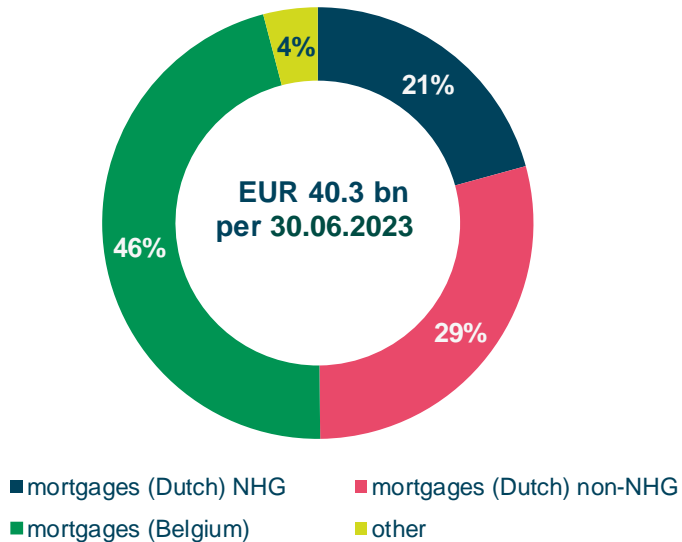
- Rise in income due to a strong NII after the recent interest rate hikes.
- This more than compensated for higher operating expenses from increased IT-investments, inflation, higher staffing and bank levies. Acquisition costs stabilized compared to H2 2022.
- C/I ratio improved to 53% and to 42% excluding bank levies.



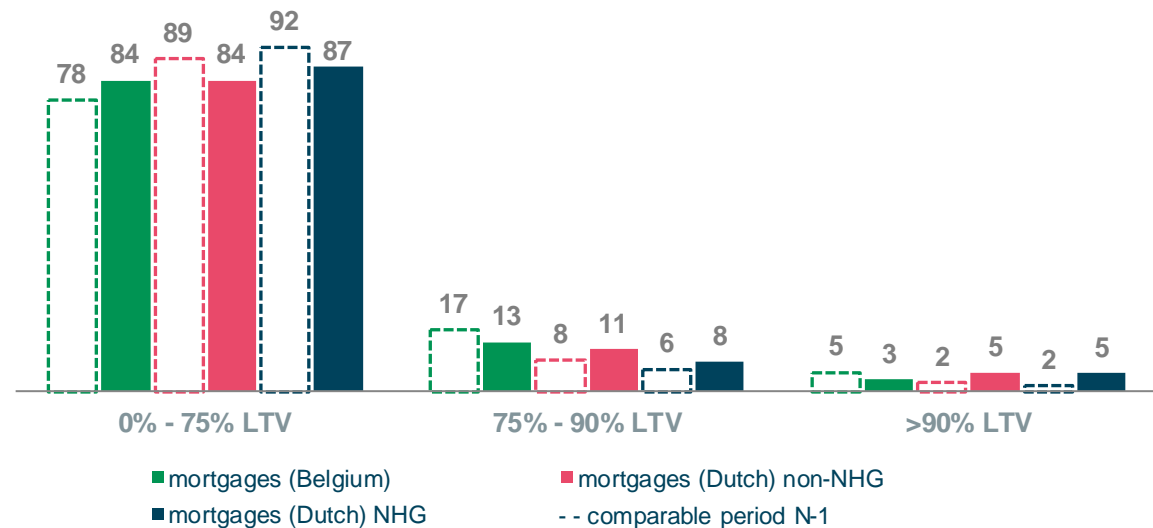
5. Asset Quality

5. High-Quality Loan Book with stable composition

Composition of loan book (%)

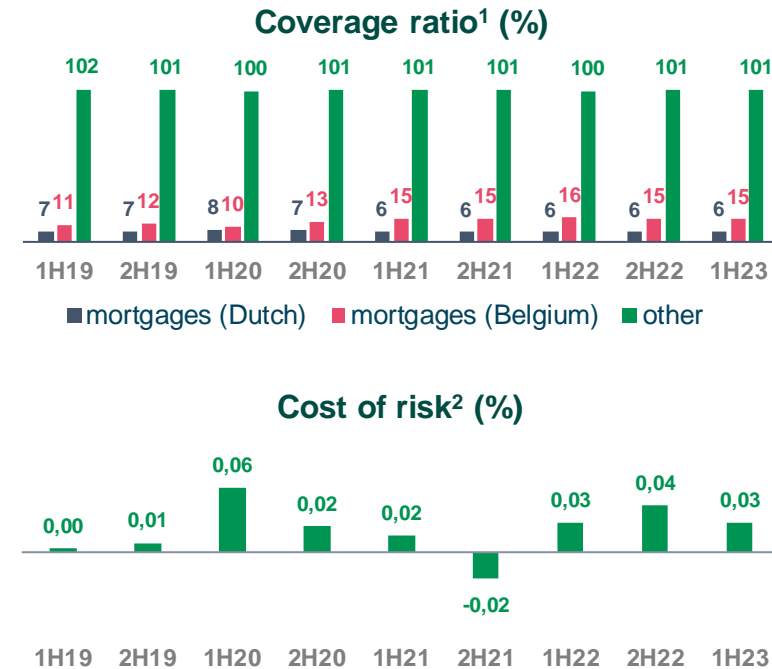
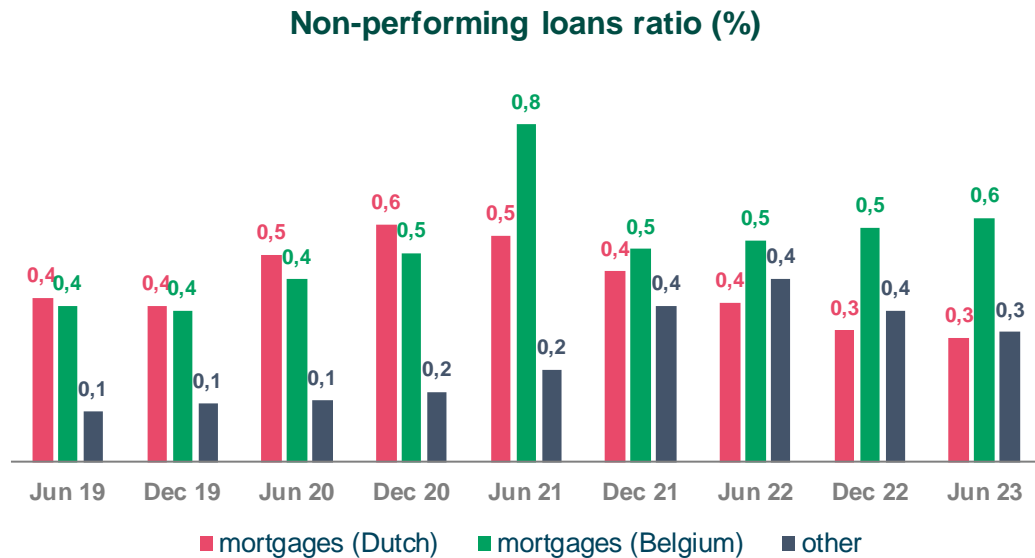


Indexed loan-to-value mortgage loan book (%)



- Per 30/06/2023, 96% of the total loan book consisted of mortgage loans in Belgium and in the Netherlands. The remaining 4% were consumer loans, loans to local and regional governments and public-private partnerships.
- The share of NHG¹ mortgages in the Netherlands remained stable at 42%.
- The total average portfolio-LTV evened out at 53% after years of decline, triggered by stabilizing house prices.

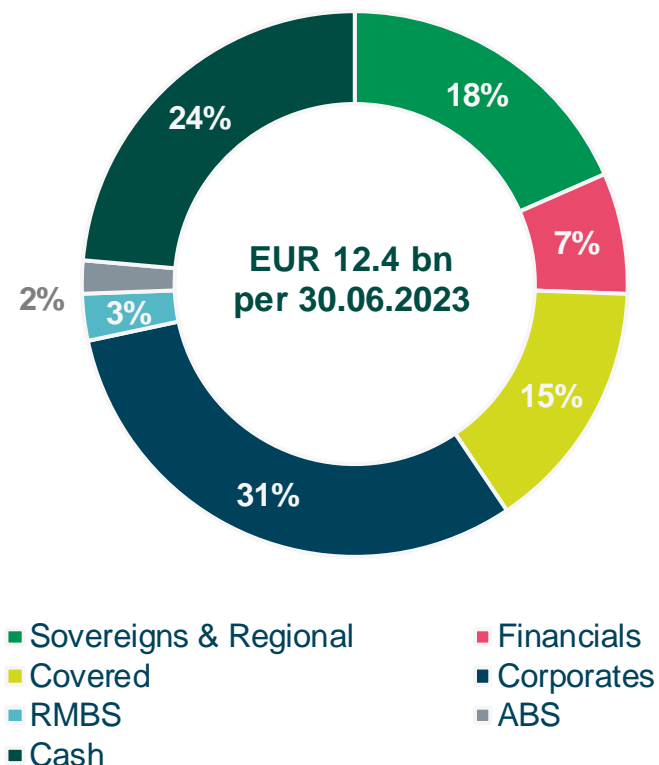
5. Risk indicators remained low



- Consistent with our low-risk business model, the risk indicators reflect again low arrears and limited losses.
- NPL-ratios remain stable at low levels, and the average coverage ratio of 15% confirms the high quality of the prime mortgage collateral.

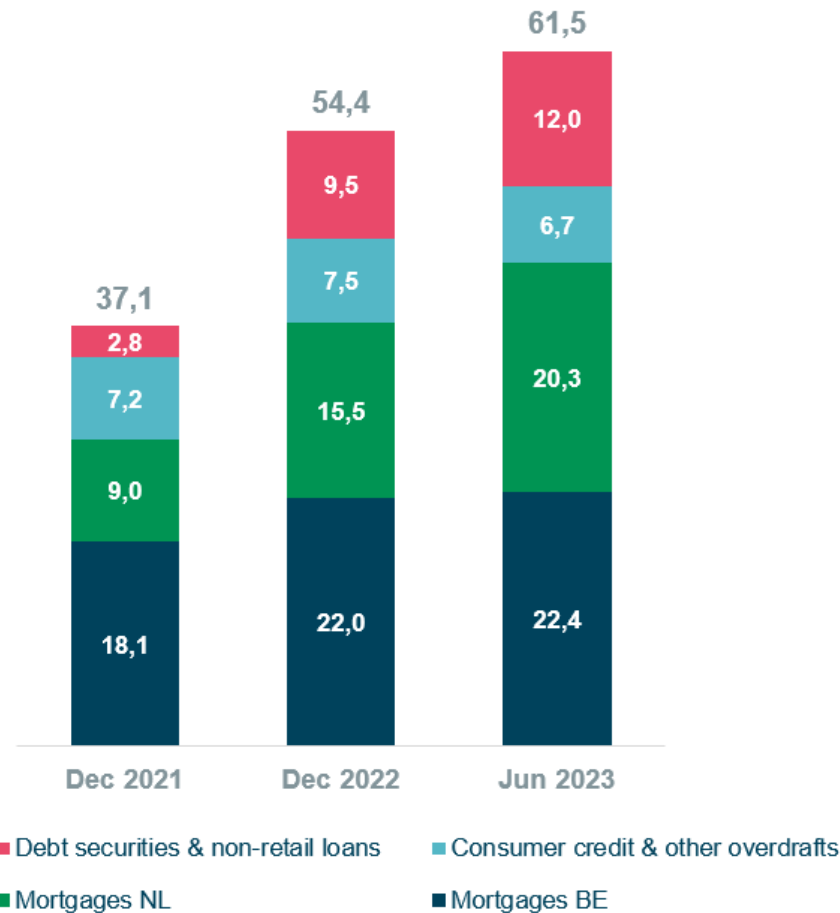
5. Diversified and Liquid Investment Portfolio

Exposure-type of investments (%)



- Decreased portfolio from EUR 13.2bn at the end of 2022 to EUR 12.4bn.
- Balanced investment of the excess cash from wholesale issuance and cash collateral inflow, with a relative increase in covered bonds and sovereigns.
- Low-risk portfolio with sustainable exclusion criteria for activities such as coal, tobacco, nuclear energy,...
- High quality investments: 48% of the portfolio is rated AA and above, and 99% of the portfolio is investment grade
- Exclusively euro-denominated with focus on European markets: 97% of portfolio in European Economic Area.
- The rise in the yield curves reduced the fair value of the investment portfolio. The unrealized result at fair value through OCI amounted to EUR -135m.

5. Higher stage 1/2 provisions as macro-economic outlook changed



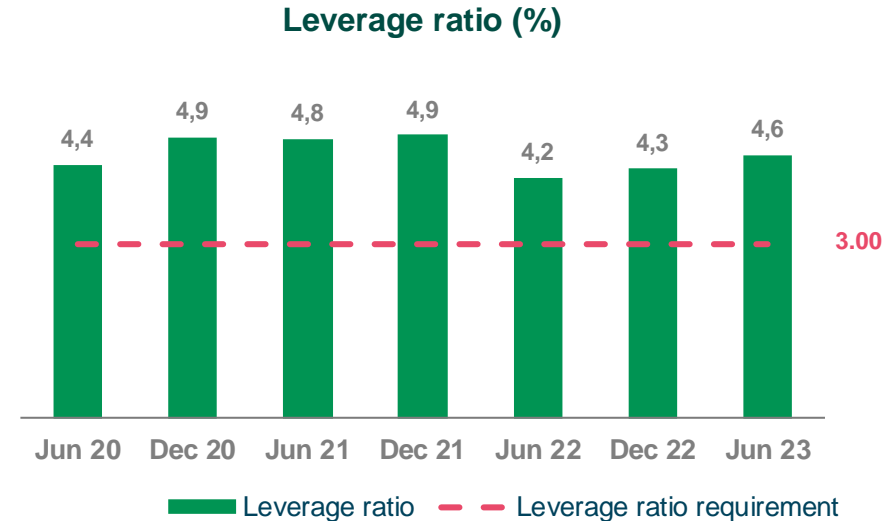
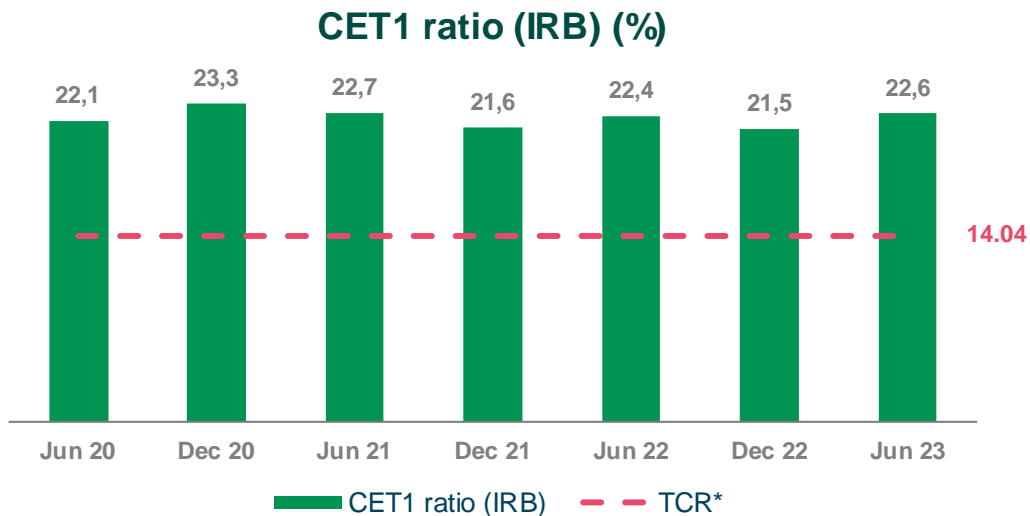
Total increase of EUR 7.0m in IFRS9 provisions:

- Higher stage 2 impairments on the investment portfolio (+2.5m) due to internal rating downgrades, partially compensated by modelling less severe macro-economic scenarios.
- Higher impairments on Dutch mortgages (+4.9m) due to higher stage 1 and stage 2 impairments as expected HPI has declined under the most recent central bank projections.
- Stable impairments on Belgian mortgages (+0.4m).
- Credit card overdrafts down 0.7m, mainly due to 0.9m outflow of written-off debt.



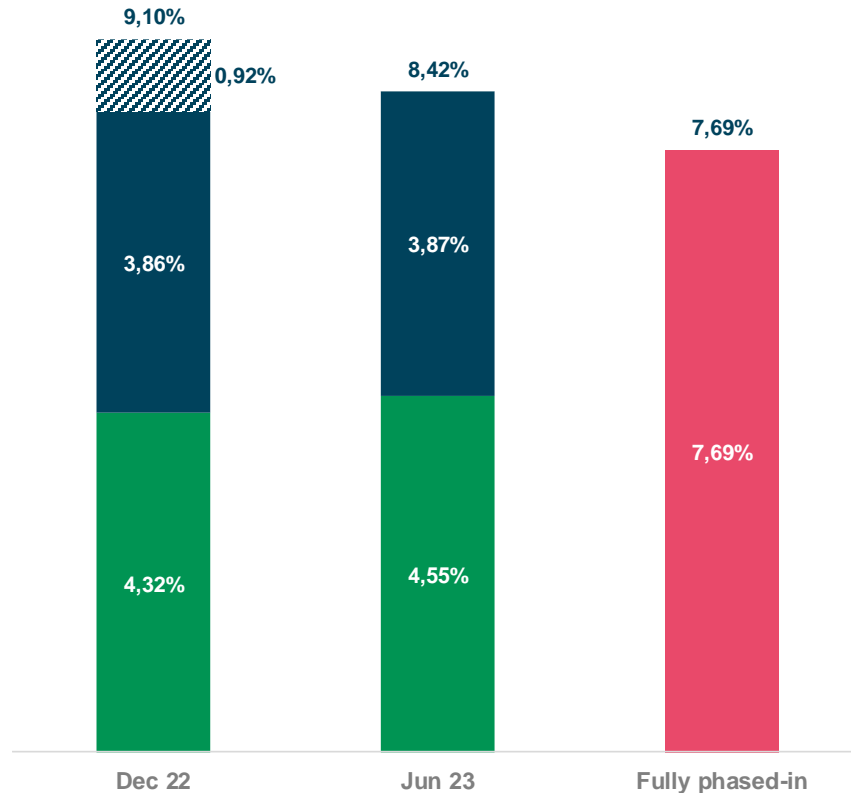
6. Solvency and Liquidity

6. Solvency well above SREP requirement



- The CET1 increased by 1.12% to 22.6%, the main factor being the inclusion of higher H1 profits, partly compensated by higher interest rates negatively impacting accumulated OCI on the investment portfolio.
- RWAs remained stable.
- Total Capital Requirement increased to 14.04% due to upwards adjusted CounterCyclical Buffers (mainly NL)
- In line with the CET1 ratio, the leverage ratio also slightly increased by 0.23% to 4.55%

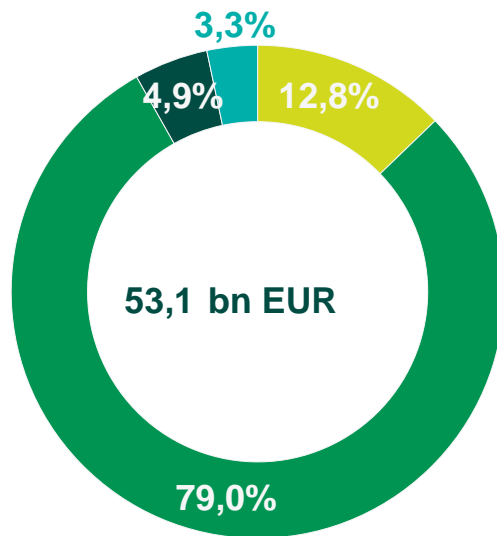
6. MREL ratio (in terms of LRE)



- ▨ Target not subordinated (SP)
- ▨ Target subordination
- ▨ Eligible liabilities not subordinated (SP)
- ▨ Eligible liabilities subordinated (SNP)
- CET1

- The 2023 MREL target is 7.69%, fully subordinated.
- The MREL ratio is at 8.42% (=41.69% TREA) and equals also the subordination ratio as Aspa's senior preferred bond is no longer eligible.
- The YTD increase in the MREL subordination ratio can be explained by an increase in own funds, while the leverage ratio exposure (LRE) remained almost unchanged.

6. Funding and Liquidity Position



- Wholesale Funding
- Retail Funding
- Equity
- Other

In %	Dec 21	Jun 22	Dec 22	Jun 23
Liquidity coverage ratio ¹	164	197	186	192
Net stable funding ratio ²	145	145	142	141

- Strong liquidity position, well above regulatory limits for both LCR and NSFR.
 - LCR remains high due to an excess cash position from a covered bond issuance in June and high level of cash collateral.
 - The NSFR remained rather stable at 141%.
- Retail deposits remained by far the most dominant funding source.
- Argenta further diversified its funding by issuing a benchmark covered bond in June 2023.



6. Retail Government Bond (“Staatsbon”)

- 22 bn printed by Kingdom of Belgium – 1Y maturity, addressed to retail investors
- Argenta offered during the same period a 1Y term deposit at the same net interest rate of 2,81%
- Argenta did not offer the State note but clients could participate through the Belgian Treasury website
- Outflow towards the State Note of 700m EURO was more than compensated by an inflow from new clients of 750m, resulting in a net inflow of 50m
- Shift from Saving Accounts to the 1Y term deposit of 5,3bn



7. Covered Bond

7. Amendments to the Belgian legal Framework

Tests Pursuant to the Belgian Framework (1/2)

85% Asset Coverage Test

The value of cover assets falling within one of 3 categories (residential mortgage loans, commercial mortgage loans, public sector exposures) must represent at least 85% of the nominal amount of the outstanding Covered Bonds

- The test prevents mixed asset covered bond programmes

105% Over-Collateralisation Test

The value of cover assets must represent at least 105% of the nominal amount of the outstanding Covered Bonds

- The test ensures a minimum OC of 5% at all times
- *Amendment: Correction for principal that was used to cover interest shortfall in the amortization test (Art 5 RD)*

Valuation of Residential Mortgages

- Minimum of:
 - The outstanding loan amount
 - 80% of the market value of the real estate
 - The amount of the mortgage inscription + mortgage mandate
 - The amount of the mortgage inscription divided by 0.6
- Value of 30+ days delinquent loans reduced by 50%
- Defaulted loans (i.e. 90+ days delinquent loans) have no value

7. Amendments to the Belgian legal Framework

Tests Pursuant to the Belgian Framework (2/2)

Amortisation Test

The sum of revenues (interest, principal and all other revenues) generated by the cover assets must be equal to or greater than the amount of interest, principal and costs related to the outstanding Covered Bonds and their management

Amendment: value of principal proceeds limited to the value of cover assets (Art 5 RD)

Liquidity Test

The cover assets must generate sufficient liquidity over a 6 month period or contain sufficient liquid assets to enable the issuer to meet all unconditional payments falling due during the following 6 months



7. Main Issuer Covenants

- The assets in the Special Estate will comply with the following covenants:
 - The Special Estate will mainly consist of **Residential Mortgage Loans**
 - The Special Estate will not contain any commercial mortgage loans or any residential mortgage loans with movable purpose, any RMBS, any CMBS or any other asset backed securities
 - The Residential Mortgage Loans will be **fully drawn**
 - The Residential Mortgage Loans have a current loan to current value ("**CLTCV**") **ratio of maximum 120%**
- **Over-Collateralisation Test:** the cover asset value of the Residential Mortgage Loans will at all times represent at least **105%** of the aggregate outstanding principal amount of the Mortgage Pandbrieven of all Series
- **Liquidity Test:** the Special Estate will at all times include liquid bonds that are ECB-eligible and credit quality step 1 to cover **interest due and payable** on the outstanding Mortgage Pandbrieven **within a period of six months**
- **Investor Reporting:** the issuer will provide **monthly investor reports** which will be made available on the website of the issuer at www.argenta.eu

7. Covered Bond Rating

S&P Covered Bond Rating

Expected Covered Bond Rating	AAA
Issuer Rating	A
Rating Leeway	4 notches
Systemic Importance	Very Strong
Legal Framework	Very Strong
Resolution Regime Uplift	+ 2 notches
Jurisdictional Support Uplift	+ 2 notches
Collateral Support Uplift	Up to 4 notches

7. Cover Pool Summary

Summary Table (Cut-off 31/12/2023)

Cover Pool Notional	EUR 3,049,281,520
Cover Asset Value Residential Mortgage Loans	EUR 2,880,493,329
Number of Loans	34,575
Number of Borrowers	20,373
Weighted Average Initial Loan To Original Value (“ILTOV”)	77.03%
Weighted Average CLTCV	52.96%
Weighted Average Remaining Life (in years, CPR=0)	9.26
Interest Rate Type (Fixed / Resetable)	33.69% / 66.31%
Average Loan Amount	88,193
Weighted Average Interest Rate	1.78%
No Forex Risk	Only EUR denominated assets & liabilities
No Derivatives	Interest rate risk hedged through natural hedging and over-collateralisation
Arrears, Defaults and Payment Holidays	None at cut-off date



8. Green Bond

8. Green Bond Framework

Rationale

- **Align** our funding strategy with our sustainability strategy
- Promote the growth of the Green Bond Market and address investor's willingness to finance **sustainable green buildings**
- Establish a **platform** which allows to issue Green Bonds in various formats

1 Use of Proceeds



- ✓ Argenta intends to allocate the net proceeds of the Green Bonds to a Green Loan Portfolio of new and existing loans, the "Eligible Green Loan Portfolio"
- ✓ Green Residential Buildings located in Belgium and in the Netherlands

2 Project Evaluation & Selection



- ✓ Projects financed and/or refinanced are evaluated and selected based on compliance with the Green Bond eligibility criteria described in the Use of Proceeds
- ✓ A Green Bond Committee will assess the eligibility and allocate the proceeds to Eligible Green Loans

3 Management of Proceeds



- ✓ Argenta intends to allocate the proceeds from the Green Bonds to an Eligible Green loan Portfolio, selected in compliance with the use of proceeds criteria and evaluation and selection process
- ✓ Proceeds from Green Bonds will be managed by Argenta's Green Bond Committee based on a portfolio and aggregated approach

4 Reporting



- ✓ Allocation reporting: Argenta will prepare an annual report with the status of Argenta's Green Bond proceeds allocation
- ✓ Impact reporting: Argenta intends to report on the impact of the Eligible Green Portfolio

5 Second Party Opinion



- ✓ Argenta's Green Bond Framework has been reviewed by Sustainalytics who has issued a Second Party Opinion



8. Allocation Report

Argenta Green Bond Allocation Reporting

Portfolio date: 31/12/2022

Eligible Green Loan Portfolio	
	Amount (EURm)
Green Buildings Belgium	2.643
Flanders region	2.387
Wallonia region	256
Green Buildings Netherlands	3.582
Total	6.225

Of which covered bond eligible assets

Of which senior bond eligible assets

Percentage of Eligible Green Loan Portfolio allocated (usage)	17,7%
Percentage of Net Proceeds of Green Funding allocated to Eligible Green Loan Portfolio	100%
Eligible Green Loan Portfolio - Unallocated (EURm eq.)	5.125
Percentage of Eligible Green Loan Portfolio allocated for Green Covered Bonds	0,0%
Percentage of Eligible Green Loan Portfolio allocated for Green Senior Bonds	17,7%
New Dutch loans added to the portfolio since January 2022 (EURm)	748
New Belgian loans added to the portfolio since January 2022 (EURm)	198

Outstanding Green Bonds			
Instrument (ISIN)	Issuance Date	Due Date	Amount (EURm)
BE6339428904	08/02/2022	08/02/2029	600
BE6333133039	29/11/2022	29/11/2027	500
Total (EURm)		Total	1.100

8. Impact Analysis of the Eligible Green Loan Portfolio



Impact reporting in line with the Harmonized Framework for Impact Reporting (fully allocated)

Eligible Project Category	Number of loans	Eligible portfolio (EURm)	Share of Total Financing	Eligibility for Green Bonds	Annual energy consumption (KWh/m2)	Annual reduced and/or avoided emissions of CO ₂ (tons)
Green Buildings in Belgium	12,737	2,643	100%	100%	60	19,106
Flanders	11,460	2,387		100%	52	
Wallonia	1,277	256		100%	128	
Green Buildings in the Netherlands	13,819	3,582	100%	100%	98	25,537
TOTAL	26,556	6,225	100%			44,643

- CFP calculated the CO₂-emissions are in line with the recommendations of the **Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials (PCAF)**
- CFP compared the CO₂-emission of the Argenta Eligible Green Loan Portfolio to a comparable reference portfolio with an average energy-efficiency
- The Argenta Eligible Green Loan Portfolio results in the following CO₂-emission reductions:
 - For Belgium: 19,106 tons of CO₂ eq. per year lower than the reference, which is a difference of 45%.
 - For The Netherlands: 25,537 tons of CO₂ eq. per year lower than the reference, which is a difference of 38%
 - TOTAL: 44,643 tons of CO₂ eq. per year



9. Wrap Up Financials



9. Wrap-up Financials

H1 2023 Argenta Spaarbank

- Excellent financial performance on the back of increased interest rates and transformation margins, combined with a resilient retail banking model and stable market shares.
- Stable Balance sheet driven by slower mortgage markets and the end of growing deposit markets.
- Net profit rose by 83% resulting in an ROE of 10.7%.
- Net interest income increased EUR 134m YoY driven by the positive impact of rising interest rates on the investment portfolio and on the cost-of-carry of swaps.
- Net Asset Management income returning to H1 2022 level due to a combination of market evolution and net production.
- Newly issued covered bond, confirming our market presence.
- The cost-income ratio decreased sharply to 53% despite an increase in the cost base.
- Further strengthening of solvency, funding and liquidity position, providing a high buffer against adverse market circumstances.



More information:

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