

SECTION 2 – RISKS OF INSURANCE COMPANIES

2.1 INSURANCE RISKS

QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE INFORMATION

Life business

The typical risks of the life insurance portfolio (managed by Intesa Sanpaolo Vita, Intesa Sanpaolo Life and Fideuram Vita) may be divided into three main categories: premium risks, actuarial and demographic risks and reserve risks.

Premium risks are managed initially during definition of the technical features and product pricing, and over the life of the instrument by means of periodic checks on sustainability and profitability (both at product level and at portfolio level, including liabilities). During the definition of a product, profit testing is used, aimed at measuring profitability and identifying any weaknesses beforehand, by means of specific sensitivity analyses.

Actuarial and demographic risks arise when an unfavourable trend is recorded in the actual loss ratio compared with the trend estimated when the rate was calculated, and these risks are reflected in the level of “reserves”. The loss ratio refers not only to actuarial loss, but also to financial loss (guaranteed interest rate risk). The Company guards against these risks by means of systematic statistical analysis of the evolution of liabilities in its own contract portfolio, divided by risk type, and through simulations of expected profitability of the assets hedging technical reserves.

Reserve risk is guarded against through the exact calculation of mathematical reserves, with a series of detailed checks (for example, checking that all the variables required for the calculation such as yields, quotations, technical foundations, parameters for the supplementary reserves, and recalculation of the value of single contracts are correctly saved in the system) as well as overall verifications, by comparing results with the estimates produced on a monthly basis. Specific attention is paid to checking the correct assumption of contracts, by checking the relative portfolio against the reconstruction of movements during the period, divided by purpose, and checking the consistency of the amounts settled compared with the movements of reserves.

The tables below show the structure of the mathematical reserves by expiry date, excluding reserves for amounts to be paid and before intercompany netting, and the structure of the guaranteed minimum yield as at 31 December 2016.

	(millions of euro)	
Breakdown of mathematical reserves of life branch: maturity	Mathematical reserve	%
up to 1 year	1,662	2.09
1 to 5 years	5,516	6.95
6 to 10 years	1,347	1.70
11 to 20 years	1,223	1.54
over 20 years	69,625	87.72
TOTAL	79,373	100.00

	(millions of euro)	
Breakdown of risk concentration by type of guarantee	Total Reserves	%
Insurance and investment products with guaranteed annual yield		
0% - 1%	11,619	13.65
from 1% to 3%	54,951	64.54
from 3% to 5%	7,344	8.62
Insurance products	5,459	6.41
Shadow reserve	5,776	6.78
TOTAL	85,149	100.00

The mathematical reserves are calculated on almost the entire portfolio, on a contract-by-contract basis, and the methodology used to determine the reserves takes account of all the future commitments of the company.

The following table shows a breakdown by maturity of financial liabilities, before intercompany netting, represented by assets covering commitments arising under unit- and index-linked policies and subordinated liabilities.

(millions of euro)

Breakdown of financial liabilities by maturity	Within 12 months	Over 12 months	Total as at 31.12.2016	Total as at 31.12.2015
Unit linked	50	57,303	57,353	46,889
Index linked	-	1	1	276
Subordinated liabilities	-	1,402	1,402	1,399
Total	50	58,706	58,756	48,564

Non-life business

The typical risks of the non-life insurance portfolio (managed through Intesa Sanpaolo Assicura and Intesa Sanpaolo Vita) mainly relate to premium and reserve risks.

Premium risks are managed initially during definition of the technical features and product pricing, and over the life of the instrument by means of periodic checks on sustainability and profitability (both at product level and at portfolio level, including liabilities).

Reserve risk is monitored through the exact calculation of technical reserves. More specifically, for companies with non-life business the technical reserves may be broken down into: premium reserves, claims reserves, profit sharing and reversal reserves, other technical reserves and the equalisation reserve.

With regard to risk assumption, policies are checked when acquired through an automatic system aimed at detecting the underwriting parameters associated with the applicable tariff. The check is thus not only formal, but also substantive, and in particular allows the identification of exposures in terms of capital and limits of liability, in order to verify that the portfolio matches the technical and tariff scheme agreed upon with the sales network.

Subsequently, statistical checks are carried out to verify potentially anomalous situations (such as concentration by area or by type of risk) and to keep under control accumulation at the level of individual persons (with particular reference to policies that provide cover in the accident and health branches). This is also carried out in order to provide the Financial Reporting Actuarial Analysis and Reinsurance Unit with suitable indications on the portfolio characteristics in order to prepare the annual reinsurance plan.

The following table presents the development of claims by year of generation, broken down into the major business lines of operation, as at 31 December 2016.

(millions of euro)

Development of Claims Reserves	YEAR OF GENERATION/EVENT					TOTAL
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	
Reserve amount:						
as at 31/12 generation year N	92	116	124	122	128	
as at 31/12 year N+1	92	110	102	98		
as at 31/12 year N+2	88	108	99			
as at 31/12 year N+3	88	106				
as at 31/12 year N+4	87					
Total claims paid	74	89	81	73	43	360
Claims reserve booked as at 31.12.2016	13	17	18	25	86	159
Final claims reserve for previous years						13
Total claims reserve booked as at 31.12.2016						172

2.2 FINANCIAL RISKS

Financial Risks

These risks derive from the level or volatility of market prices of financial instruments that impact the book value of both assets and liabilities. The risk factors identified by the company are as follows:

- Interest rate risk: impacts assets and liabilities whose value is sensitive to changes in the forward structure of interest rates or the volatility of interest rates;
- Equity price risk: derives from the level or volatility of market prices of equities and impacts assets and liabilities whose value is sensitive to changes in equity prices;
- Property risk: derives from the level or volatility of market prices of real estate property and impacts assets and liabilities sensitive to said changes;
- Foreign exchange risk: derives from changes in the level or volatility of foreign exchange rates;
- Spread risk: impacts assets and liabilities whose value is sensitive to adverse changes in credit spreads;
- Concentration risk: reflects the risk of holding high percentages of financial assets of the same counterparty.

Investment portfolios

As at 31 December 2016, the investment portfolios of Group companies, recorded at book value, amounted to 147,105 million euro. Of these, the part regarding traditional revaluable life policies, the financial risk of which is shared with the policyholders by virtue of the mechanism whereby the returns on assets subject to segregated management are determined, non-life policies and free capital amounted to 84,312 million euro. The other component, whose risk is borne solely by the policyholders, mainly consists of investments related to Index-Linked policies, Unit-Linked policies and Pension Funds and amounted to 62,793 million euro. Considering the various types of risks, the analysis of investment portfolios, described below, concentrates on the financial assets used to cover traditional revaluable life policies, non-life policies and free capital.

Financial assets under segregated funds and free capital

In terms of breakdown by asset class, net of loans on policies and positions in derivative financial instruments (-73 million euro at book value) detailed below, 87.22% of the assets (73,601 million euro) consisted of bonds, whereas assets subject to equity price risk represented 1.87% of the total and amounted to 1,575 million euro. The remainder (10.91%, 9,209 million euro) consisted of investments relating to UCI, private equity and hedge funds.

Interest rate risk exposure

The breakdown by maturity of bonds was as follows: 6.88% short-term (under 1 year), 35.74% medium-term and 57.38% long-term (over five years).

Financial assets	Book value	%	(millions of euro)	
			Duration	
Fixed-rate bonds	66,664	79.00	6.45	
up to 1 year	3,440	4.08		
1 to 5 years	23,336	27.65		
over 5 years	39,888	47.27		
Floating rate/indexed bonds	6,937	8.22	3.09	
up to 1 year	1,623	1.92		
1 to 5 years	2,968	3.52		
over 5 years	2,346	2.78		
TOTAL	73,601	87.22	-	
Equities or similar capital securities	1,575	1.87		
UCI, Private Equity, Hedge Fund	9,209	10.91		
TOTAL AS AT 31.12.2016	84,385	100.00		

The sensitivity of the fair value of the portfolio of financial assets to interest rate movements, summarised in the table below, highlights both exposure of the securities portfolio and the effect of positions represented by hedging derivatives which reduce its sensitivity. For example, a parallel shift in the yield curve of +100 basis points leads to a negative fair value change in the bond portfolios of 4,252 million euro.

	Book value	%	(millions of euro)	
			Fair value changes due to interest rate fluctuations	
			+100 bps	-100 bps
Fixed-rate bonds	66,664	90.57	-4,044	4,494
Floating rate/indexed bonds	6,937	9.43	-208	227
Interest rate risk hedging effect	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	73,601	100.00	-4,252	4,721

Credit risk exposure

The table below sets forth the distribution of the bond portfolio by rating class: AAA/AA bonds represented 3.85% of total investments and A bonds approximately 4.73%. Low investment grade securities (BBB) were 76.29% of the total, while the portion of speculative grade or unrated was minimal (2.35%).

With regard to exposure to BBB rated securities, the majority of the exposure related to bonds issued by the Republic of Italy.

(millions of euro)

Breakdown of financial assets by issuer rating	Book value	%
Bonds	73,601	87.22
AAA	2,135	2.53
AA	1,113	1.32
A	3,994	4.73
BBB	64,374	76.29
Speculative grade	1,822	2.16
Unrated	163	0.19
Equities or similar capital securities	1,575	1.87
UCI, Private Equity, Hedge Fund	9,209	10.91
TOTAL	84,385	100.00

The analysis of the exposure in terms of the issuers/counterparties produced the following results: securities issued by governments, central banks and other public entities made up 75.22% of bonds, whereas the securities of corporate issuers contributed around 24.78%.

The sensitivity values of the fair value of the bonds with respect to a variation in the creditworthiness of the issuers, namely a market credit spread shock of ± 100 basis points, as at end of 2016, are shown in the table below.

(millions of euro)

	Book value	%	Fair value changes due to credit spread fluctuations	
			+100 bps	-100 bps
Government bonds	55,366	75.22	-3,393	3,799
Corporate bonds	18,235	24.78	-953	993
TOTAL	73,601	100.00	-4,346	4,792

Equity risk exposure

The sensitivity of the equity portfolio to a hypothetical deterioration in equity prices of 10% amounts to 157 million euro, as shown in the table below.

(millions of euro)

	Book value	%	Fair value changes due to stock price fluctuations
			-10%
Equities - Financial institutions	161	10.22	-16
Equities - Non-financial companies and other counterparties	1,414	89.78	-141
TOTAL	1,575	100.00	-157

Exchange risk exposure

The investment portfolio is not appreciably exposed to foreign exchange risk: approximately 97% of investments are made up of assets denominated in the EU currency. The residual exposure to exchange risk was hedged by positions in financial instruments, particularly domestic currency swaps, in the same currency.

Financial derivative instruments

Financial derivative instruments are used to hedge the financial risks of the investment portfolio or for effective management.

Liquidity risk associated with positions in financial derivative instruments is primarily attributable to plain-vanilla derivatives (chiefly interest rate swaps, credit default swaps and futures) traded on OTC markets with significant liquidity characteristics and sizes. These instruments are thus also liquid and easily liquidated both with the counterparty with which they were traded and with other market operators.

The table below shows the book values of the financial derivative instruments as at 31 December 2016.

(millions of euro)

Type of underlying	INTEREST RATES		EQUITIES, EQUITY INDICES, COMMODITIES, EXCHANGE RATES		TOTAL	
	Quoted	Unquoted	Quoted	Unquoted	Quoted	Unquoted
Hedging derivatives	-	-	-	-	-	-
Effective management derivatives	-	-80	3	4	3	-76
TOTAL	-	-80	3	4	3	-76

The capital losses shown for the hedging derivatives are offset, due to the nature of the instruments, by the capital gains on the positions hedged. For the purpose of reducing investment risk, the instruments shown under effective management derivatives are also netted with the appreciation of the associated assets.