

The Group first assesses whether objective evidence of impairment exists individually for loans that are individually significant. It then assesses collectively for loans that are not individually significant and loans which are significant but for which there is no objective evidence of impairment under the individual assessment.

To allow management to determine whether a loss event has occurred on an individual basis, all significant counterparty relationships are reviewed periodically. This evaluation considers current information and events related to the counterparty, such as the counterparty experiencing significant financial difficulty or a breach of contract, for example, default or delinquency in interest or principal payments.

If there is evidence of impairment leading to an impairment loss for an individual counterparty relationship, then the amount of the loss is determined as the difference between the carrying amount of the loan(s), including accrued interest, and the estimated recoverable amount. The estimated recoverable amount is measured as the present value of expected future cash flows discounted at the loan's original effective interest rate, including cash flows that may result from foreclosure less costs for obtaining and selling the collateral. The carrying amount of the loans are reduced by the use of an allowance account and the amount of the loss is recognized in the income statement as a component of the provision for credit losses.

The collective assessment of impairment is principally to establish an allowance amount relating to loans that are either individually significant but for which there is no objective evidence of impairment, or are not individually significant, but for which there is, on a portfolio basis, a loss amount that is probable of having occurred and is reasonably estimable. The loss amount has three components. The first component is an amount for country risks for transfer and currency convertibility risks for loan exposures in countries where there are serious doubts about the ability of counterparties to comply with the repayment terms due to the economic or political situation prevailing in the respective country of domicile. This amount is calculated using ratings for country risk and transfer risk which are established and regularly reviewed for each country that the Group does business in. The second component is an allowance amount representing the incurred losses on the portfolio of smaller-balance homogeneous loans covering loans to individuals and small business customers of the private and retail business. The loans are grouped according to similar credit risk characteristics and the allowance for each group is determined using statistical models based on historical experiences. The third component represents an estimate of incurred losses inherent in the group of loans that have not yet been individually identified or measured as part of the smaller-balance homogenized loans. Loans that were found not to be impaired when evaluated on an individual basis are included in the scope of this component of the allowance.

Once a loan is identified as impaired, although the accrual of interest in accordance with the contractual terms of the loan is discontinued, the accretion of the net present value of the written down amount of the loan due to the passage of time is recognized as interest revenues based on the original effective interest rate of the loan.

All impaired loans are reviewed for changes to the recoverable amount. Any change to the previously recognized impairment loss is recognized as a change to the allowance account and recorded in the income statement as a component of the provision for credit losses.

When it is considered that there is no realistic prospect of recovery and all collateral has been realized or transferred to the Group, the loan together with the associated allowance is written off. Subsequent recoveries, if any, are credited to the allowance account and recorded in the income statement as a component of the provision for credit losses.

Impairment and impairment loss for off-balance sheet positions is determined using the same measurement techniques as for loans. Any loss amounts are recognized as an allowance in the balance sheet within other liabilities and charged to the income statement as a component of the provision for credit losses.