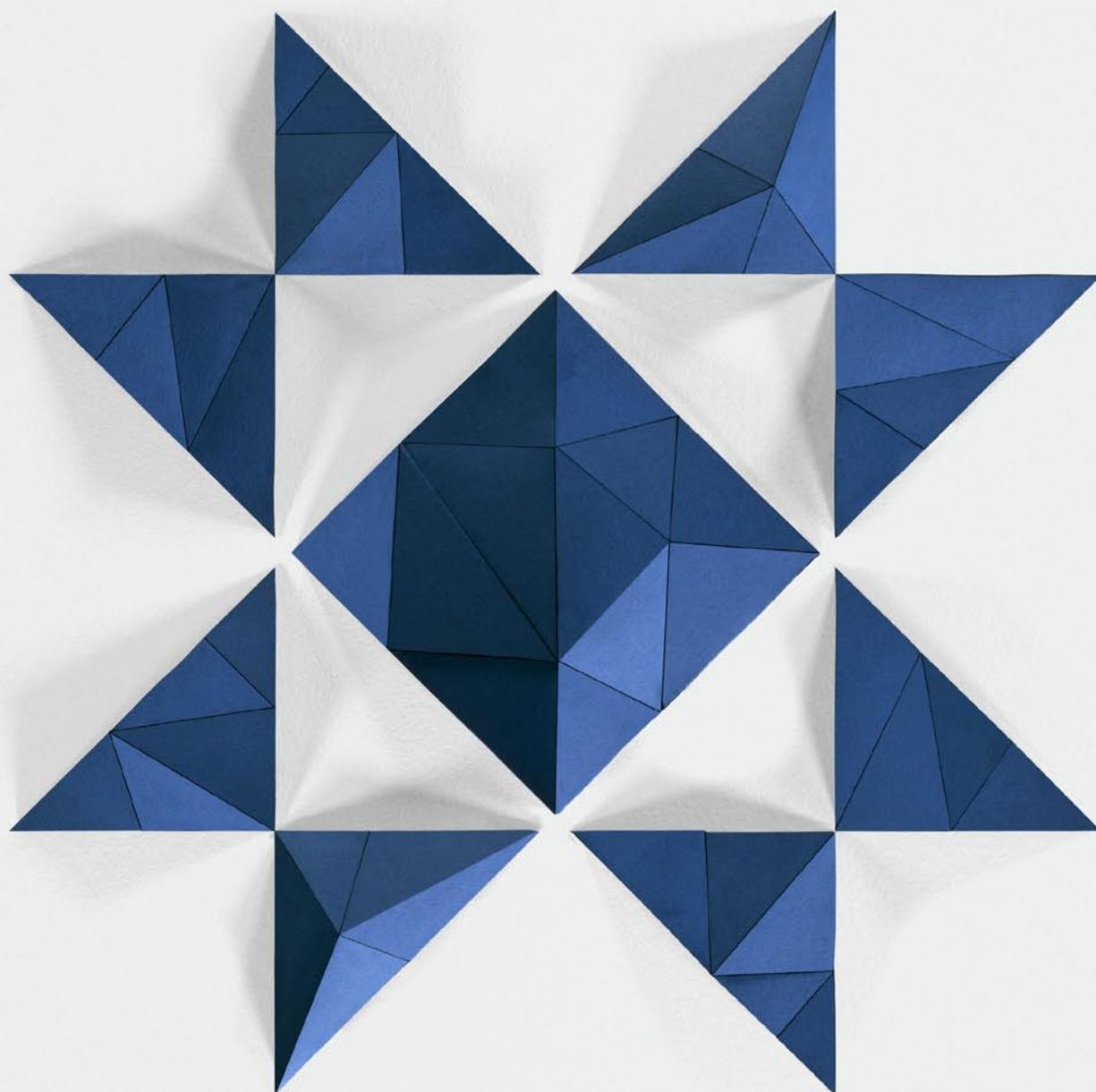


# Annual Report 2011









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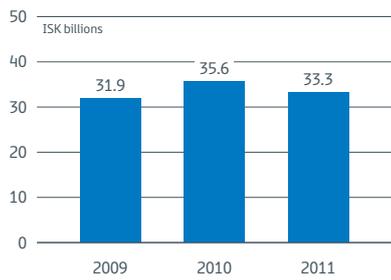
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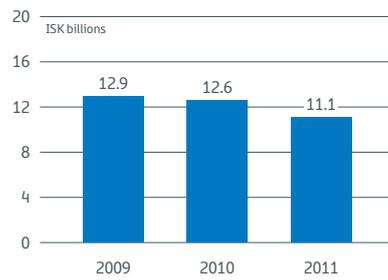
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## Financial Overview

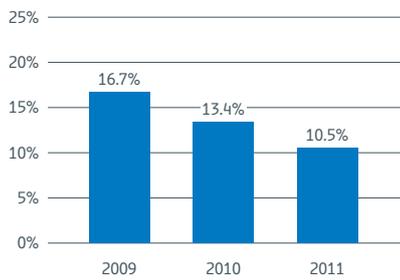
### Operating income



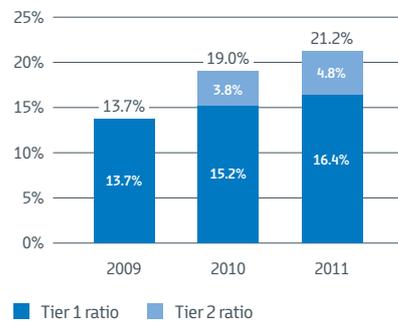
### Net earnings



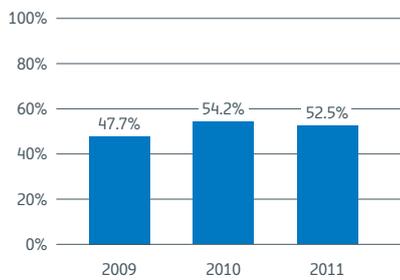
### Return on equity



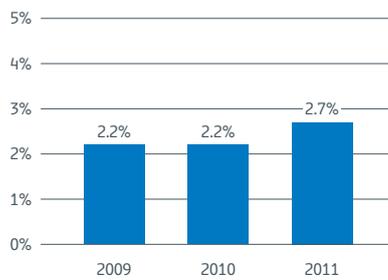
### Capital ratio



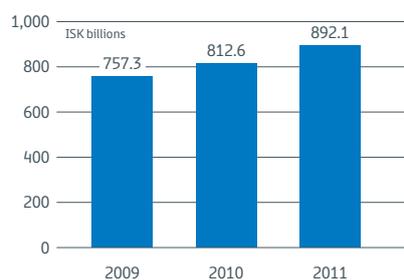
### Cost-to-income ratio



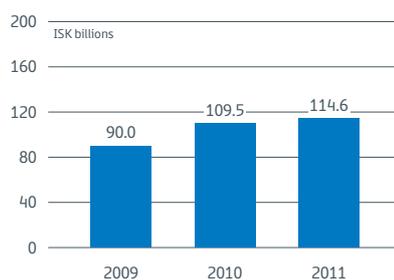
### Cost-to-total average assets ratio



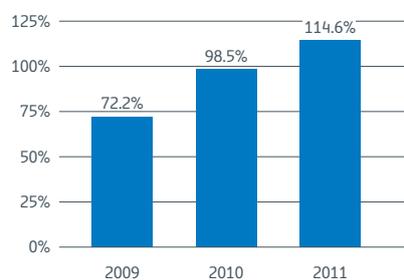
### Total assets



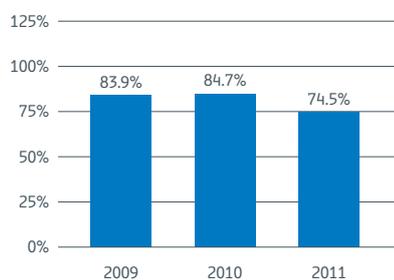
### Total equity



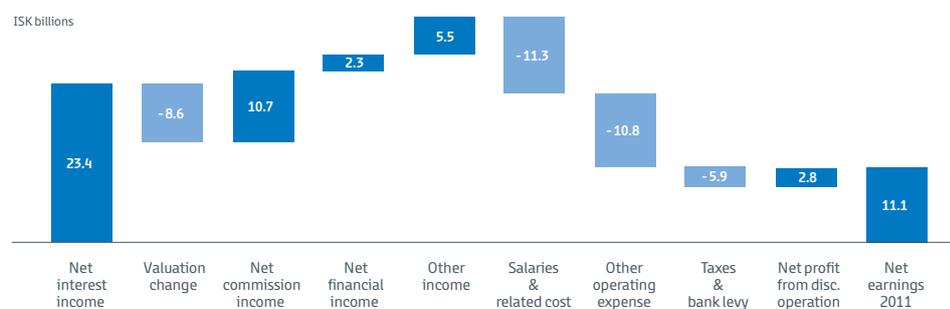
### Loans-to-deposits ratio



### Risk Weighted Assets / Total assets



### Breakdown of net earnings in 2011



## Progress in Recovery

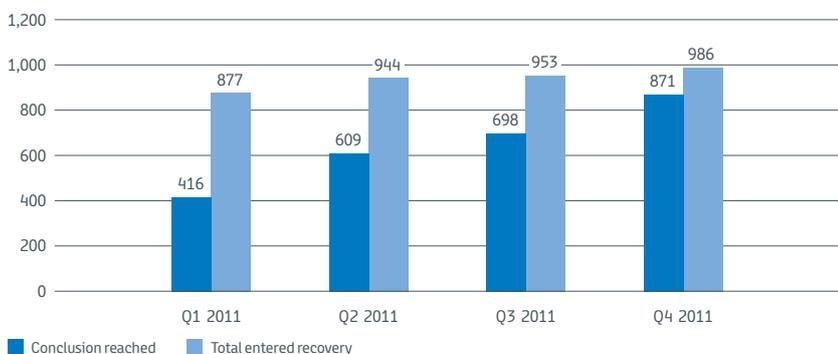
A key priority in Arion Bank’s operations during 2011 was the financial restructuring of corporate and household debt. Arion Bank has been at the forefront in this area since its establishment. Recovery work is not only important for the Bank but also for the economy as a whole.

### Corporate Recovery

Clients who are unable to meet their obligations are entered into the Bank’s debt recovery process. The objective is to turn insolvent companies into solvent companies with a healthy balance sheet and make them able to take on future business and contribute to the further positive development of the economy.

The Bank made excellent progress in recovery work in 2011 and had largely completed it by the end of the year.

**Total number of companies in recovery**



The Bank estimates that up to 1,000 corporate clients will have gone through the debt recovery process by the end of 2012.

### Restructuring household debts

More than 14,000 personal customers have taken advantage of the debt solution packages offered by the Bank. One of the key tools for achieving our goals has been the special debt relief programme. Arion Bank also set up a dedicated debt advisory service for personal customers at the end of 2010. The ability to draw upon the expertise of the debt advisory specialists was of paramount importance in completing such a high number of difficult debt recovery cases in 2011.

### Improved asset quality

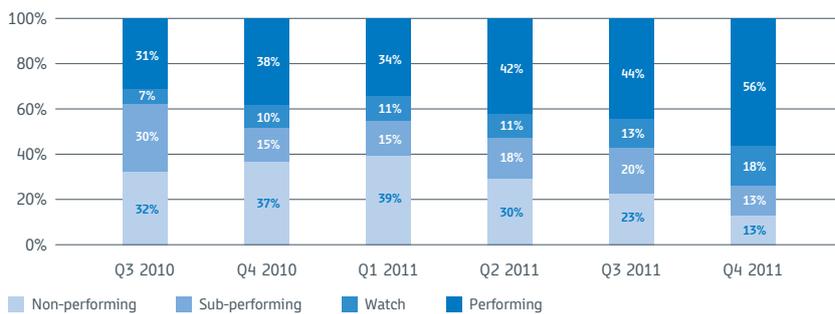
The result of this work is that the quality of the Bank’s asset portfolio has increased significantly.

The Bank is highly focused on the performance of the loan book. The Bank’s classification of the loan book seeks to capture the changes in the creditworthiness of counterparties as early as possible. The classification is based on four categories: Performing; Watch; Sub-performing; and Non-performing. For further information about the classification criteria, please refer to Note 105a to the Annual Accounts.

The number of Non-performing loans steadily decreased over the year and had fallen to 13% by the end of 2011 which is in line with the Bank’s targets.

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Non-performing loans as % of the loan book



### Plans for 2012

Arion Bank aims to complete its corporate and individual debt recovery projects in 2012. This process enhances our understanding of the loan book and, as it progresses, eliminates uncertainties and improves the quality of the Bank’s balance sheet.



“It is important for a company like HB Grandi that the Bank understands the nature of the business and the value chain of one of Iceland’s largest fisheries companies.”

**Eggert Benedikt Gudmundsson**  
CEO of HB Grandi



## Chairman's Address

The Icelandic economy has shown good signs of recovery. Economic growth in 2011 was above 3%, amongst the highest in the OECD. When the Icelandic financial system failed in the autumn of 2008, the eyes of the world turned to Iceland to watch the unfolding chain of events. To some extent Iceland has now returned to the limelight, but for different reasons. The country has made good progress, built up strong financial institutions and in many ways serves as an example to others.

### Economic recovery

The challenges presented in the autumn of 2008 were considerable; not just for the authorities but also for the corporate sector and the general public. From the outset it was clear that the financial companies would play a key role in the rebuilding of the economy. It would often prove to be a difficult and thankless task, given the part played by the financial sector in the Icelandic crisis. The undertaking faced by the banks, founded towards the end of 2008, was vital yet highly demanding.

However, everyone involved in the reconstruction of the Icelandic economy has performed their duties effectively.

The government has made great strides in stabilizing the budget deficit, indeed to such an extent that Iceland has completed the International Monetary Fund (IMF) programme. However, this has not been a painless process. Taxes on individuals and corporations have been raised, not least on financial companies, and the public sector has had to endure cut-backs.

The Icelandic banks have put great effort into financially restructuring thousands of companies. Arion Bank has completed the reorganization of close to 900 corporate clients which required financial restructuring. The Bank has also channelled its energy into resolving household debt and has reorganized the debts of more than 14,000 individuals.

It is imperative now that when good progress is being made, when the most important tasks related to settling past business have either been completed or are in process, that the focus is shifted even more firmly on to the future, to the growth of the economy and the opportunities that lie ahead.

### Investment is needed

The current economic growth in Iceland is to a large extent fuelled by private consumption. For economic growth to be sustainable investment is crucial, but the fact is that investment in Iceland is at an all-time low. It is not an overstatement to say that the most pressing task today is to increase investments in Iceland.



Monica Caneman, Chairman

The main reason for the low level of investment is the continued uncertainty in the Icelandic economy and, of course, the capital controls. The sooner the uncertainty is reduced the better, for everyone: the financial sector, the corporate world and subsequently families and individuals. The sooner Iceland attracts foreign investment, the quicker the rebuilding process can proceed.

The banks have done what is in their power to limit the uncertainty by establishing themselves as financially strong institutions with strong capital ratios well above the current requirements of the Icelandic Financial Supervisory Authority (FME). The government now needs to step up and reduce the uncertainty with all necessary means, only in doing so will investors regain the needed confidence.

In this context it is right to note that, even though it is fitting that the financial institutions shoulder their responsibilities in the rebuilding process, it is also important that taxes on the financial sector do not inhibit the sector's competitiveness. The authorities must recognize the importance for the economy of having strong financial institutions operating in a stable, predictable and transparent environment. A resilient financial system is a mainstay of every modern nation.

### **The foundations are in place**

For us at Arion Bank it has been an absolute priority in recent years to develop a financially robust bank. These endeavours have paid off. The Bank's capital ratio is 21.2%, which we consider to be vitally important given the prevailing uncertainties. We have been forced to streamline the business by reducing the number of employees and rationalizing the branch network. These were not easy decisions to make but they were vital. The Bank's employees deserve praise for their tireless work under difficult circumstances. The workload has seemed at times overwhelming, but our employees have approached their work meticulously and steadfastly.

The year 2011 was a good year in many ways for Arion Bank. In my address one year ago I said that 2011 would be the year in which the Bank's focus would shift from debt recovery cases linked to the past to projects driven by the future. And this is indeed what has happened. Debt recovery cases involving corporate and personal customers were largely brought to a conclusion during the year. While work continues on these cases, the main focus will be on what lies ahead. During the year Arion Bank offered its customers a range of new products and services, becoming the clear market leader in personal mortgages and offering products which had previously not been available. The Bank will continue in this direction in 2012. The customers and their future needs and prosperity will be the focus of our endeavours.

There is every reason to be optimistic about the futures of Iceland and Arion Bank. The most difficult period is now behind us and the outlook is bright. The platform for rebuilding has been erected.

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For us at Arion Bank it has been an absolute priority in recent years to develop a financially robust bank. These endeavours have paid off.

## CEO's Address

Arion Bank reported net earnings of ISK 11.1 billion in 2011, with operating income of ISK 33.3 billion. Return on equity was 10.5% during the period. The capital ratio at the end of the period was 21.2%.

Our chief priority continues to be creating a solid financial foundation for Arion Bank, and we are proud to see how far we have come in building an efficient and profitable operation.

### A new chapter

As I stated in the last Annual Report I believe that Arion Bank will have to undergo four 12-month stages of development before reaching full strength. In 2009 we fought a tough battle for survival. In 2010 we concentrated our efforts inwards, came under new ownership and new management and the Bank finalized its strategic planning for the future. Furthermore we made strong progress with recovery work on our loan portfolio, whilst continuously having to confront new regulatory and legislative realities. In 2011 we focused on completing this recovery work, reorganizing our loan book and implementing the strategies necessary to make Arion Bank a competitive relationship bank. Finally, this year, in 2012 we expect more traditional banking operations to play a greater role, while we continue to play a vital role in the growth of the Icelandic economy.

The year 2011 was in many ways a constructive and eventful year for Arion Bank and we did indeed note a shift in our operations and activities from the recovery/reconstruction mode to more normal business. We made significant progress in streamlining our operation and gained important new business. Reflecting this change we aligned ourselves in the latter part of the year to a more forward-looking organization that supports our strategic plan.

The completion of debt recovery work was one of our primary undertakings during the year. We have channeled a tremendous amount of energy into this task over the last few years. We have reorganized the debts of more than 14,000 individuals and financially restructured almost 900 companies. There is still some way to go, but great progress has been made. We have accomplished what we set out to do.

An important milestone was reached during the year with the final separation of the assets and liabilities of Arion Bank and its predecessor Kaupthing Bank. This marked a new chapter in the history of Arion Bank and is critical for the Bank's future.

Another significant milestone was the acquisition of the mortgage portfolio which was managed in a special fund owned by the bankruptcy estate of Kaupthing Bank. The portfolio represents an important addition to the Bank's assets and further consolidates Arion Bank's position on the Icelandic banking market.



Höskuldur H. Ólafsson, CEO

A ruling of the Supreme Court, made in February 2012, regarding currency-linked loans has created uncertainty within the Icelandic banking system. It is clear that the banks will to some extent have to reassess the recalculations of currency-indexed mortgages made in 2011. The ruling has a substantial, negative impact and provisions have been made in the 2011 annual accounts (see Note 95).

### To better serve our customers

Arion Bank's strategy is to remain a universal bank, providing a wide range of services and focusing on tailored and personalized solutions. Special emphasis will be placed on the Bank's ability to meet the needs of those customers, both personal and corporate, who require comprehensive and diverse services.

With the introduction of a new organizational chart investment banking was given greater prominence. Corporate Advisory, Capital Markets and Research were merged in a new division, Investment Banking. Two new managing directors were appointed during the year, bringing their expertise to a management team already possessing extensive experience from all corners of the business sector.

We continued to streamline the Bank's operations. In March 2011 we completed the latest phase of our branch restructuring programme when we merged three branches in the Reykjavik area into one. We have now pared down the number of branches by 15; the remaining network of 24 branches is cost efficient while maintaining a high level of attention to our customers' needs. A further and very decisive step was taken with the aim of moving more decision making in the Retail Banking division closer to the customer in order to improve our interface and service to the customer. This decentralization within Retail Banking will be fully executed in a very controlled manner over the course of the next two years.

In relation to the above changes the Bank has reduced its workforce by approximately 10% during the year and is at the forefront of the much needed rationalization within the financial sector.

Having completed these necessary actions we believe that we have built the base on which we want to operate from. We have aligned our resources and will now focus on normalizing and improving our service to our customers. We do not plan or anticipate major changes or investments in our operational setup in the short term but we will continue to invest significantly in our IT infrastructure.

We have performed well in our market and strengthened our position. The Bank's Asset Management signed one of its largest new client deal in the division's history at the end of the year when it added one of Iceland's most prominent private pension funds as a client.

An exciting product was launched on the home financing market when we introduced non-indexed mortgages with fixed interest for a period of five years. Up to this point

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Special emphasis will be placed on the Bank's ability to meet the needs of those customers, both personal and corporate, who require comprehensive and diverse services.

there was no realistic option available for buying residential property with non-indexed loans. We are therefore proud to have been the first Icelandic bank to offer its customers this loan option as part of our broad spectrum of goods and services – others have since followed our example. This innovation is a prime example of how determined we are to listen to our customers and help them to reach their objectives. We have furthermore introduced other new products for individuals, SMEs and corporations which have been well received.

However, last year was also a year of taxation of the financial system, something which threatens to undermine the Bank's competitiveness and ability to meet the demands of our customers. It is important that the taxes imposed on financial companies are not out of step with what is common practice elsewhere in the business sector and the general environment.

### Rebuilding of the Icelandic stock market

An important watershed on the Icelandic financial market was reached at the beginning of December when Arion Bank's subsidiary, Eignabjarg, listed the retail company Hagar on the Icelandic stock market. It was the first IPO on the NASDAQ OMX Iceland since 2008 and we are proud to have contributed to the rebuilding of the Icelandic stock market. The IPO attracted huge interest from the general public and investors and was heavily oversubscribed, which indicates there is a current lack of available investment options. In 2011 we divested companies which had come into our possession during the restructuring process. We sold BM Vallá, Hekla, Tíu-ellefu and N1 while Penninn and Fram Foods were entered into the sale process at the beginning of 2012.

### Outlook

During 2011 we have made significant progress. The foundations on which we will build a strong financial institution have been laid. The implementation of the Bank's strategy continues with the aim of providing our customers with even better services and products. It is of great significance that we have been able to deliver on our ambitious plans. We are building a track record.

The outlook for 2012 is in many ways positive and we will be able to concentrate our efforts to a greater extent on the future, developing our business and safeguarding the long-term interests of our customers. We do, however, need to exercise caution in all our actions since the environment we operate in remains volatile, in spite of the immense progress made. I look to the year ahead with confidence and believe it will present us with great opportunities.

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It is of great significance that we have been able to deliver on our ambitious plans. We are building a track record.







“For a major retailer with diverse operations it is important to have access to a comprehensive range of services from your bank.”

**Gerdur Ríkhardsdóttir**  
Managing Director of Hagar Non-Food Business

## The Economic Landscape

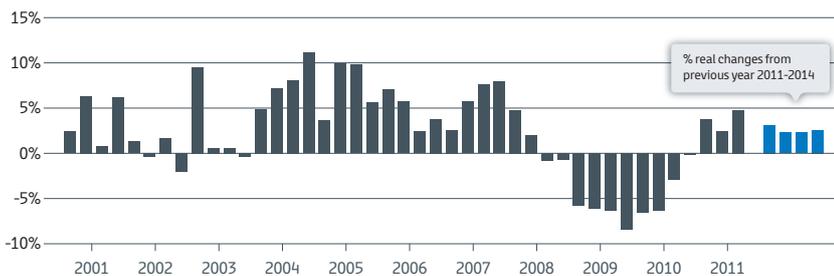
The Icelandic economy has shown various signs of recovery in the past year, with the economy growing for the first time since the start of the financial crisis and the unemployment rate dropping. An important milestone was also reached when international credit markets opened up again for the Icelandic government and some Icelandic companies. Iceland’s external debt has been decreasing and the economic programme of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the Icelandic government, launched in November 2008, has now formally come to an end. The year ended with the first new stock market listing in Iceland since the economic collapse, the retail company Hagar, and so in some ways the year marked a watershed on the road to economic recovery. However, the economy remains delicately balanced and investment needs to get under way again if GDP growth is to be maintained, which this year was largely driven by special measures buoying household consumption.

### Economic growth at last

Growth in domestic product was substantial last year and increased 3.2% (in real terms) between 2010 and 2011. The weight of individual GDP components in growth has varied in the last few quarters but private consumption and exports were the main drivers of growth in 2011. Imports grew by 6.4% in 2011 and private consumption was up by 4% compared to 2010. The increase in private consumption can possibly be attributed to the special measures taken by the government last year. Withdrawals of private pensions increased by ISK 3.6 billion between 2010 and 2011 and interest subsidies to households rose by ISK 6 billion. Arion Research has estimated that last year 40% of the ISK 20 billion increase in private consumption was due to these special measures.

### Historical GDP Growth

- & Yearly GDP Growth Forecast for 2011-2014

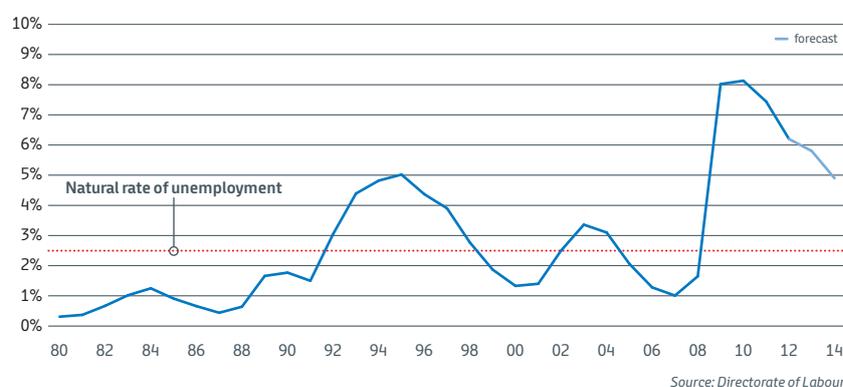


Source: Central Bank of Iceland & Statistics of Iceland

Business investment appears to be recovering as newly reported figures from Statistics Iceland indicate that investment grew by more than 13% between years. Nevertheless, investment remains at a historical low in Iceland and could clearly be adding much more to economic growth than it is doing at the present. Unemployment appears to have peaked during the first few months of 2010 at more than 9% before dropping to around 7% at the end of 2011.

Nevertheless, investment remains at a historical low in Iceland and could clearly be adding much more to economic growth than it is doing at the present.

### Unemployment



### External trade and Iceland's position in the international markets

Iceland formally completed its economic programme with the IMF last autumn with a conference that brought to an end the work between the sovereign and the IMF. Despite certain differences both parties agreed that the relationship had borne fruit. Shortly before the completion of the economic programme the Icelandic government launched a successful bond issue in dollars. The interest shown by foreign investors in the offering may indicate that international markets are now starting to look at Iceland more kindly again.

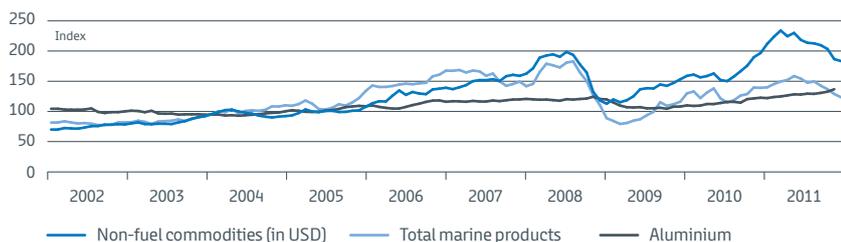
### The balance of payments for Iceland



The outlook on Iceland's credit rating has been stable, with a BBB- rating in foreign currency at Fitch and at Standard & Poor's. In February 2012 Moody's confirmed a negative outlook to Iceland's Baa3 rating comparable to BBB- at S&P.

External trade has been growing steadily since the economic collapse, with imports and exports both growing considerably last year. The current account balance is improving and there is now a surplus both including and excluding deposit institutions in winding-up proceedings. The current account surplus is largely attributable to the burgeoning export sector; marine products and aluminium products account for more than 70% of the total value of Icelandic exports. The price of commodities and aluminium products has fluctuated sharply recently, at the same time as the export value of marine products has steadily risen.

#### Global commodity prices and Icelandic export prices



Source: Central Bank of Iceland

Service exports have also undergone considerable change in recent years on account of the increase in services provided to foreign tourists. The number of tourists visiting Iceland is estimated to have grown by almost 20% from 2010.

#### Revival of the stock market

Trading commenced with shares in the Icelandic retailer Hagar shortly before Christmas. Hagar is the first company to be floated on the Icelandic stock market since the autumn of 2008. This IPO thus represented a certain milestone for the Icelandic stock market. The offering attracted considerable interest from investors who subscribed for eight times the number of shares available, reflecting the current paucity of investment options for Icelandic investors. Several Icelandic companies have expressed an interest in a stock market listing and it is possible that 4-5 companies will be listed on the Icelandic stock market in 2012.

#### Various problems remain unresolved

Although there are signs of a recovery in the Icelandic economy, there are a number of problems still to be resolved. Foreign debts of Icelandic companies have scarcely changed since peaking after the collapse of the economy and many households are still too heavily indebted. The lifting of capital controls has progressed slowly although the Central Bank of Iceland (CBI) announced a liberalization schedule in March 2011

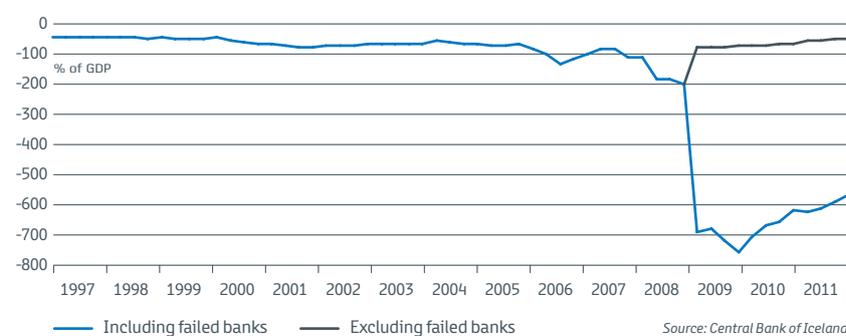
which listed a number of measures aimed at lifting controls over the next four years. However, later in the year the Icelandic parliament decided merely to extend the laws on foreign currency (and thus the capital controls) until 2013. The CBI has therefore been given little room for maneuver by the parliament if the controls are to be lifted over the next two years. At the end of 2011 the CBI announced its investment programme under which owners of offshore ISK would be able to transfer offshore ISK to Iceland for investment purposes.

The fight against inflation has been difficult this year. The depreciation of the ISK, high global commodities prices in the first half of the year and contractual wage increases have all contributed to an annual rate of inflation of 5.3% at the end of the year. The inflation outlook for the next few years is not promising and inflation is likely to exceed the CBI's target of 2.5% for the next two years at least. In response to increasing economic activity and the deteriorating inflation outlook the CBI raised interest rates twice during the year by a total of 50 basis points. At the same time labour market participants have called for a cut in interest rates owing to the negative investment environment and moderate economic growth.

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Iceland has a wealth of resources - fish in the sea, clean energy and an unspoiled countryside – and there is great potential in these areas in the near future.

#### Net external position (assets minus debts)



Despite the fact that various difficult issues remain unresolved there is every sign that there are brighter times ahead. The economy is staging a recovery and unemployment is steadily decreasing. Iceland has a wealth of resources - fish in the sea, clean energy and an unspoiled countryside – and there is great potential in these areas in the near future. Tourism has been expanding in recent years and there are plans to make further major investments in the energy sector. The government has tightened its fiscal policy and Iceland's debt position appears to be manageable. In addition, the Icelandic economy seems to be performing well in international comparison. While many other European countries are still struggling with the consequences of the financial crisis, Iceland was hit hard and is now slowly working its way out of one of the most serious depressions in history.

## Year in Review

### Results for 2011

- Solid performance in 2011 despite the challenging environment.
- Net earnings of ISK 11.1 billion.
- Net interest income of ISK 23.4 billion.
- Net fee and commission income of ISK 10.7 billion.
- Return on equity was 10.5%.
- Capital ratio of 21.2% which is well above the Icelandic Financial Supervisory Authority's (FME) requirements of 16%.
- The Bank is liquid and meets the FME/Central Bank of Iceland's guidelines on a minimum secured liquidity ratio of 20%.
- Arion Bank's main source of funding is domestic deposits which amounted to ISK 506.2 billion at the end of the year, compared with ISK 553.5 billion at the end of 2010.
- Total assets amounted to ISK 892.1 billion at the end of 2011, compared with ISK 812.6 billion at the end of 2010.
- Loans to customers totalled ISK 561.6 billion at the end of 2011, compared with ISK 451.2 billion at the end of 2010. This increase is primarily a result of the acquisition of Kaupthing Bank's mortgage portfolio at the end of 2011.
- The Supreme Court's ruling of 15 February 2012 reduced the Bank's pre-tax earnings by ISK 13.8 billion or ISK 11 billion after tax.
- During the year Arion Bank completed the final settlement with the bankruptcy estate of Kaupthing Bank. These parties no longer have any outstanding claims on each other.

### Strategy and vision

- Arion Bank is a relationship bank with its prime focus on delivering personalized services and tailored solutions to larger corporations and individuals who seek a broad spectrum of financial solutions.
- We are committed to helping develop the business sector and society as a whole. The Bank's goal is to occupy a leading position on the domestic financial market in terms of return on equity, operational efficiency and service offerings.
- A new equal opportunities policy was adopted and implemented by an equal opportunities committee.

### Operations and restructuring

- Changes in Arion Bank's executive management, with new managing directors in Corporate Development & Marketing, Operations and Retail Banking.

- Changes were made to the organizational structure of the Bank. The Recovery team merged with Corporate Banking, and Capital Markets, Research and Corporate Finance were combined to form a new division, Investment Banking.
- A new department was established within Investment Banking whose focus is helping clients to work within the capital controls.
- The Retail Banking division was restructured and work continued to improve the efficiency of the branch network. A new branch was opened at Hófdi in Reykjavík, and the securities and pensions advisors transferred to the branches.
- The Bank launched A Plus, a programme based on the lean management philosophy of creating more value to the customer.
- Streamlining measures continued and the number of employees was reduced by approximately 10% over the year.

### New business

- The Bank offered new types of mortgage loans to individuals and was the first bank on the Icelandic market to introduce non index-linked mortgage loans with competitive fixed 5-year interest rates.
- The Bank began to offer Corporate Banking clients factoring services.
- The Meniga personal financial management system became available via Arion Online Bank. Meniga helps people to manage their personal finances, to set goals and to use their money as effectively as possible.

### Debt restructuring

- Recovery cases continued to be a priority and had largely been completed by the end of the year.
- Significant progress was made in restructuring of household debt. The Bank has reorganized the debt of more than 14,000 individuals.
- At the end of the year 986 companies had entered into the recovery process and a conclusion had been reached in the cases of 871 companies.
- The recalculation of personal and corporate loans was completed on schedule.

### Sales Processes

- The sale of a 34% strategic stake in Iceland's largest retailer Hagar, which Arion Bank acquired in 2009, was completed in February 2011. The buyers also exercised a call option on a further 10% in November.
- A public share offering in Hagar was held in December 2011 in which 30% of issued shares were sold. Investment Banking managed the offering and subsequent listing of the company on NASDAQ OMX Iceland. The seller was Eignabjarg, Arion Bank's subsidiary.

- The car dealership Hekla was sold in early 2011.
- The retailer Tíu-ellefu was put up for sale in April and the process was completed in June.
- The company BM Vallá was offered for sale at the end of March and sold at the beginning of October. The sale is pending approval from the competition authorities.
- The Bank sold 39% share in N1, retail and service company, in October. The sale is pending approval from the competition authorities.
- Arion Bank took over 33% in HB Grandi as part of its debt settlement with Kjalur at the end of October.

## Miscellaneous

- There was a focus on innovation and the Bank entered into a partnership agreement with Innovation Iceland, Seed Forum Iceland, Gekon, and ReMake Electric. The Bank arranged a conference at which the Icelandic geothermal cluster was established. Arion Bank was also the main sponsor of Dr. Michael Porter's research into the Icelandic geothermal cluster.
- The Bank is the main sponsor of the Institute for Financial Literacy whose principal aim is to improve financial literacy in Iceland.
- Arion Bank is the key sponsor of several sport associations such as the Icelandic Handball Association, The National Gymnastics Association, The Icelandic Sports Association for the Disabled, and Golf Iceland.
- Arion Bank and Edda, the Disney franchise in Iceland, entered into a partnership during the year. The Bank organized the Arion Bank and Disney Reading Week whose aim is to encourage children of all ages to read.
- Arion Bank and a medical equipment fund managed by the Bank donated a piece of equipment designed for use in brain surgery to the National Hospital.
- The Bank signed a partnership agreement with Harpa, the concert hall and conference center, and is also one of the main sponsors of musical events at Harpa. The aim of the agreement is to promote music and cultural events in Iceland.
- The Bank participated in the Open Forest project whose goal was to open up forests to the general public.
- Financial support was given to various charities and organizations such as the Icelandic Church Aid, the Icelandic Cancer Association, and the Icelandic Red Cross.

## Key Business Objectives

Arion Bank is a strongly capitalized bank which provides universal banking services to corporations and individuals. Our prime focus is on larger corporations and individuals seeking a variety of financial solutions by delivering personalized services and tailored solutions. Arion Bank's operations are primarily based in the Greater Reykjavík area as well as the largest urban areas around the country. We are committed to helping develop the business sector and society as a whole. Arion Bank's target is to retain a leading position within the domestic financial market with regards to return on equity, operational efficiency and service offerings.

### A Relationship Bank

To achieve our objectives we are working in accordance with the relationship banking model that puts our relationship with our customers at the centre of everything we do. We work with our customers towards goals that are important to them. For the last two years Arion Bank has been implementing a number of initiatives in line with this strategy. To improve customer satisfaction and loyalty we have increased the efficiency and quality of our work processes to reduce waste and operational risk and simultaneously increase the time spent on creating value for the customer. Our systems are being upgraded to provide better information to monitor our own performance and to improve the tools necessary to analyze and serve our customers' needs.

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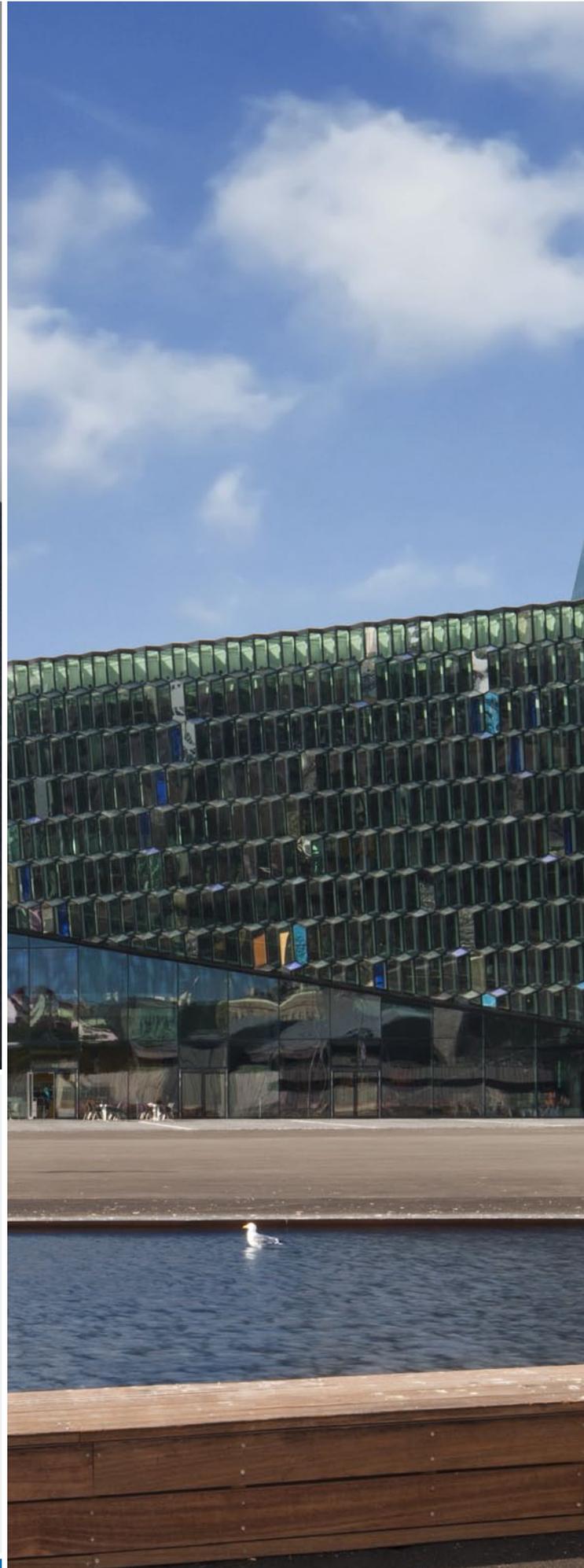
Arion Bank is therefore well positioned for the future and ready to take on new challenges.

### Important progress made

In addition to implementing a new strategy and strengthening the foundations of Arion Bank through an emphasis on solid financials, efficient operations and strong governance, the restructuring of the loan portfolio has been the focal point of our work since the financial crisis in 2008. That task is now nearing completion with decisions made on over 95% of the companies estimated to require some kind of restructuring. Furthermore, a variety of measures for households have been introduced. The result is a material reduction in the NPL ratio, although it is still above normal levels.

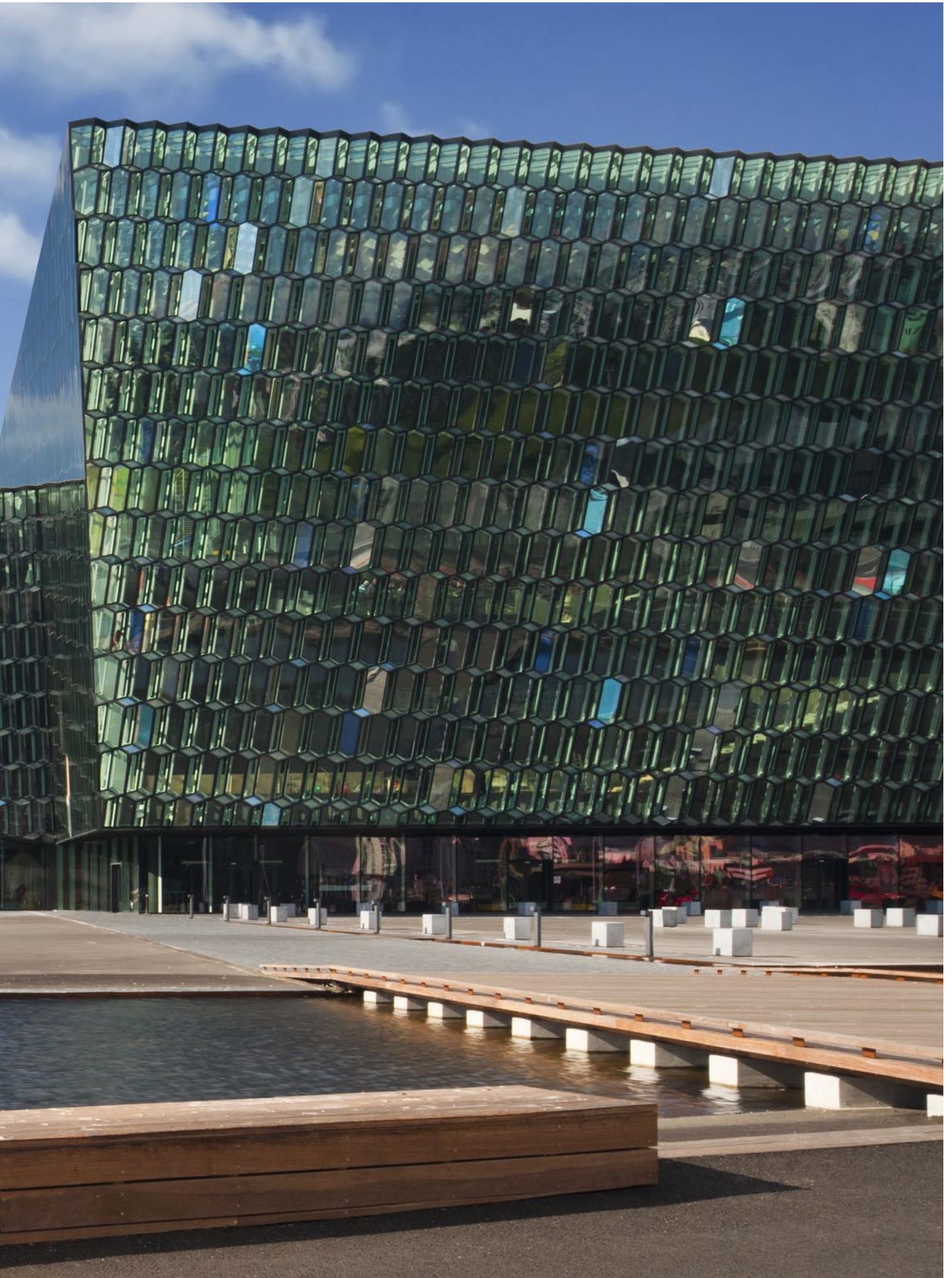
### Turning the corner

Arion Bank is therefore well positioned for the future and ready to take on new challenges. We have a strong balance sheet and the capabilities to execute our strategy are in place. We are entering a new chapter where we can devote more time and resources to thinking and planning for the future with our customers and together we will work to achieve their goals.



“A bank which understands the importance of harnessing Icelandic ingenuity for the business sector and stimulating innovation, professionalism and entrepreneurship, is a partner compatible with the philosophy of Mannvit, an international player offering comprehensive engineering, consulting and EPCM services.”

**Eyjólfur Á. Rafnsson**  
CEO of Mannvit



## Corporate Governance

At Arion Bank we constantly look to update our corporate governance framework in response to new events, changes in statutory law and developments in domestic and international standards. The Bank is directed and controlled by this framework which is chiefly provided by the guidelines issued in 2012 by the Icelandic Chamber of Commerce, NASDAQ OMX Iceland and the Confederation of Icelandic Employers. The framework ensures disclosure and transparency and increases accountability.

The framework is provided by the Internal Control and Procedure Handbook (ICPH) which describes the relationship between all stakeholders and defines the responsibilities of the Board of Directors (the Board) and the Management. The ICPH is reviewed and approved on an annual basis.

### Shareholders' meetings

The supreme authority in the affairs of the Bank is in the hands of the shareholders at a legitimate shareholders' meeting, within the limits established by the Articles of Association and statutory law. The Bank's Annual General Meeting (AGM) shall be held before the end of April each year.

### The Board of Directors

The Board is the supreme authority in the affairs of the Bank between shareholders' meetings. It is elected at a shareholders' meeting for a term of one year.

The Board is responsible for formulating a risk appetite, setting business objectives, a strategy and a business plan. It is also responsible for ensuring transparency and clarity in the decision-making process and ensures that senior management responsibilities and authorizations are delegated clearly in order to prevent conflicts of interest. The Board has established working procedures, presented in the ICPH, which further describe its duties and areas of responsibility.

The Board is required to have a thorough knowledge of the relevant rules and it shall regularly evaluate its own activities. Sound corporate governance principles are of paramount importance to the Board. The Board follows strict rules on the eligibility of directors and is governed by statutory law. All the Board's directors and alternates have undergone and passed the stringent Icelandic Financial Supervisory Authority's (FME's) qualification assessment.

The Board has established three sub-committees: the Board Audit and Risk Committee, the Board Remuneration Committee, which both serve as advisory committees to the Board, and the Board Credit Committee, which is the highest ranking credit committee

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Sound corporate governance principles are of paramount importance to the Board.

at the Bank. The Board has set working procedures for each of the sub-committees which are specified in the ICPH. The current Directors were elected at the Bank's AGM on 24 March 2011.

### **Management**

The CEO is appointed by the Board. He is in charge of the day-to-day operations of the Bank, and represents it in all matters concerning normal operations. The CEO is assisted by an executive management committee, in which all managing directors hold a seat.

### **Customers' Ombudsman**

The Customers' Ombudsman is appointed by the Board of Directors in accordance with a government recommendation issued on 2 December 2008.

The role of the Ombudsman is to ensure fairness and objectivity when dealing with recovery cases, prevent discrimination against the customer and make certain that the process for handling cases is transparent and documented. In the case of companies the Ombudsman shall also ensure that competition perspectives are taken into account, viable companies are entered into the restructuring process and rules on financial restructuring are adhered to.

In order to achieve these objectives, the Ombudsman takes part in the formation of procedures and solutions for customers as appropriate. In addition, the Ombudsman reviews specific cases upon request from customers, the Bank's employees or at his own initiative. Such a review can take place both while cases are being processed and after they are closed. The Ombudsman has access to information and data on specific issues. The Ombudsman submits information about the outcome of cases to clients, employees and the Board of Directors as appropriate.

### **Internal Audit**

The Internal Auditor is appointed by the Board of Directors and reports directly to the Board. The Board sets the Internal Auditor a charter which lays out the responsibilities associated with the position and the scope of the work. The mission of Internal Audit is to provide independent and objective assurance and consulting services designed to add value and improve the Bank's operations. The scope of the audit is the Bank, its subsidiaries and pension funds serviced by Arion Bank.

The audit is governed by the audit charter, directive no. 3/2008 issued by the Financial Supervisory Authority (FME) on the internal audit function in financial institutions and international standards on internal auditing. All audit work is completed by issuing an audit report with deadlines for the implementation of audit findings. Implementations are followed up by Internal Audit every quarter. Internal Audit had eight employees at the end of 2011.

## Compliance

In accordance with Act no. 108/2007 on Securities Transactions, Arion Bank has established an effective and independent compliance function. Rules no. 995/2007 describe the role of compliance as follows:

- To monitor and regularly assess the adequacy and effectiveness of policies and procedures designed to detect any risk of failure by an undertaking and to put in place procedures to minimize such risk.
- To monitor and assess the actions taken to address any deficiencies in an undertaking's compliance with its obligations.
- To provide the employees of the financial undertaking responsible for carrying out the execution of securities transactions with the necessary training, advice and assistance to enable them to discharge the undertaking's obligations under the Act on Securities Transactions.

Compliance had 5 employees at the end of 2011.

The Compliance Officer works independently and reports directly to the CEO, and the Bank thereby meets the requirements of the FME and Internal Audit. The Compliance Officer has monthly meetings with the CEO at which the Compliance Officer presents a report on activities during the past month and refers certain matters to the CEO. The Compliance Officer also meets the CRO and the Internal Auditor on a monthly basis. One of the focuses of the Compliance Officer is to ensure that the Bank's rules meet the most stringent requirements made of financial undertakings at all times.

## Anti-money laundering

The Compliance Officer is responsible for the Bank's measures against money laundering and terrorist financing. Tasks related to anti-money laundering (AML) can be broken down as follows:

- Know Your Customer due diligence
- Constant monitoring of clients
- Coordination of the Bank's compliance with laws, regulations and guidelines on measures against money laundering and terrorist financing.

The Compliance Officer organizes and is responsible for the above and carries out these tasks with the assistance of an AML team in Back Office.

The ICPH contains the rules on measures against money laundering and terrorist financing. The rules are based on Act no. 64/2006 and subsequent regulations. The rules also take into account 40 recommendations and nine special recommendations issued by the Financial Action Task Force, an international organization which combats money laundering and terrorist financing.

## Corporate Social Responsibility

One of the fundamental principles of corporate social responsibility is to align the interests of companies with those of the wider community. Arion Bank places great importance on being a responsible member of Icelandic society and an active participant in its development. A core aspect in corporate social responsibility at Arion Bank is the focus on carrying out the Bank's duties conscientiously, and ensuring that its customers receive first-rate services, while at the same time keeping in mind the interests of the society as a whole. In addition Arion Bank supports a select number of causes which it believes benefit and strengthen the community.

The Bank focuses on supporting social issues, environmental issues, research and innovation, sports and health issues and cultural issues. Many of these projects are ongoing and most of them require the active participation of the Bank's employees. This is the key to achieving results.

Below is an outline of the main projects supported by Arion Bank in 2011.

### Innovation and Entrepreneurship

#### **Kim – Medical Park**

Innovation Iceland runs Kim – Medical Park, an innovation centre for companies in the healthcare technology sector and related fields. Kim has research facilities for up to 20 companies. Arion Bank sponsors Kim – Medical Park.

#### **Seed Forum Iceland**

Arion Bank sponsors Seed Forum Iceland, whose main objective is to promote innovators and start-up companies and to present them to investors.

#### **Gekon**

Arion Bank and Gekon, an Icelandic consultancy firm, have led the way in the establishment of a collaborative forum for the Icelandic geothermal cluster, attracting the participation of leading organizations in the field of geothermal energy.

### Social Issues

#### **Financial literacy**

The aim of financial literacy is to help the public get to grips with their own finances so they can shape their own financial future. The changing economic environment makes it doubly important for people to be able to understand finances so they can make decisions that benefit themselves and their families. It also encourages a critical and informed discussion and financial prudence. It therefore not only lays the foundations for a better quality of life, but also fosters a more responsible and healthier community. Arion Bank has a partnership and sponsorship agreement with the Institute for

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Arion Bank places great importance on being a responsible member of Icelandic society and an active participant in its development.

Financial Literacy at Reykjavik University. Together the Bank and institute have held numerous courses for thousands of customers. The Bank's focus is to provide online information on its latest products, the intention being to better enable its customers to control their personal finances.

### **Reflectors**

Arion Bank has helped organize a campaign to distribute reflective badges over the last three years. The campaign is called "We want you to be seen" and is designed to promote road safety for children and adults. The Bank has already distributed over 300,000 reflective badges. In this campaign the Bank has teamed up with the Road Traffic Directorate and the police to play a vital role in raising awareness of the road safety of pedestrians. The Bank plans to distribute the badges every year and customers can get hold of them every autumn when the nights begin to draw in.

### **Icelandic Red Cross**

Arion Bank is one of the main supporters of the Icelandic Red Cross and has been involved in a number of projects in recent years, including the Lidsauki volunteer project, which makes it easier for people to help out in emergency situations. Almost 200 employees of Arion Bank are signed up as Red Cross volunteers prepared to be called out to respond to emergencies. The Bank has a large number of people with varying educational backgrounds and skills who are willing to use their experience to help others.

### **Icelandic Church Aid**

Arion Bank provides support to Icelandic Church Aid. The Bank contributed to a new system for distributing aid in Iceland, whereby needy families receive gift cards in food stores. The Bank has subsidized the issue of the gift cards and is providing other financial support. The Bank is also paying for a financial advisor to help clients of Icelandic Church Aid. The advisor will come once a month and collaborate with Icelandic Church Aid's social workers to help clients take care of their personal finances, irrespective of which bank the client does business with.

## **Environmental issues**

### **The Icelandic Forestry Association**

The Bank has supported the Icelandic Forestry Association for many years and has now entered into a partnership aimed at improving public access to Icelandic forests. The Bank produced a map containing information on Icelandic forests and giving details of places where travellers can stop and rest when journeying around the country. The map has been distributed throughout the country and has been very well received.

### **Cycle to work**

The cycle-to-work campaign has been held regularly in recent years with the co-operation of the employees' association. The main objective of this campaign is to promote cycling as a cheap, healthy and environmentally friendly mode of transport. The Bank decided to introduce a monthly allowance to those employees who choose to come to work by public transport or under their own steam. This has proven popular and many employees have applied for the allowance.

## Sports and health

### Icelandic Cancer Society

Arion Bank has been one of the main sponsors of the Icelandic Cancer Society for many years. In recent years the Bank has been involved in fundraising campaigns aimed at cancers specific to women (Bleika slaufan - the Pink Ribbon) and men (Karlmenng og krabbamein).

The fundraising and awareness campaign the Pink Ribbon was held for the 11th time in October 2011. Employees were encouraged to wear the ribbons for the duration of the campaign to show their support.

Arion Bank was one of the three main sponsors of the "Karlmenng og krabbamein" campaign held by the Icelandic Cancer Society in March. The Bank and its employees did an excellent job and won first prize in the nationwide fundraising drive for the second successive year. The Bank also entered into a number of agreements concerning other fundraising projects and was, for example, the main sponsor of the Icelandic Cancer Society's 2011 Fun Run.

### National handball team

Arion Bank has been one of the main sponsors of the Icelandic handball team for many years. Handball is the most popular sport in Iceland and unites the nation, as demonstrated by the rousing reception given when the team returned from the 2008 Olympics with the silver medal. It has been proven time and time again that results like this greatly benefit grass roots development amongst children and teenagers. In December the women's national team took part in its first major tournament at the World Championships in Brazil.

### Icelandic Sports Association for the Disabled

Arion Bank has been one of the main sponsors of the Icelandic Sports Association for the Disabled from the outset. Disabled athletes have in recent years achieved superb results while competing for Iceland at the Special Olympics and other major championships and have been a great inspiration to Icelandic athletes.

### Golf Iceland

Golf Iceland has placed a great deal of emphasis on introducing golf to young people in recent years. Arion Bank has encouraged this development by sponsoring a series of tournaments for junior golfers. Approximately 1,400 junior golfers took part in last summer's tournaments and it was judged a great success. Many young golfers got the opportunity to start their golfing careers here.

### Icelandic Gymnastics Federation

Around 8,500 people in Iceland do gymnastics and Arion Bank is the main sponsor of the Icelandic Gymnastics Federation. Icelandic gymnasts have captured the public's imagination with a series of excellent results at major competitions in the last few years. The partnership between Arion Bank and the Icelandic Gymnastics Federation also places great emphasis on cultivating gymnastics at grass roots level among the huge number of children who participate in the sport.

#### **Healthy lifestyle campaign**

Arion Bank held its annual healthy lifestyle campaign for six weeks in the autumn. Employees were able to record on the intranet how much exercise they had done and prizes were awarded to individual employees and different departments. A variety of lectures and courses were held and the majority of employees took part.

#### **Lifshlaupid – health and fitness competition**

Lifshlaupid is a nationwide health and fitness competition in which employees are encouraged to exercise on a daily basis and do as much exercise as possible in their spare time, while doing household chores, at work, at university and travelling around. Arion Bank's employees came out as the winner in 2011.

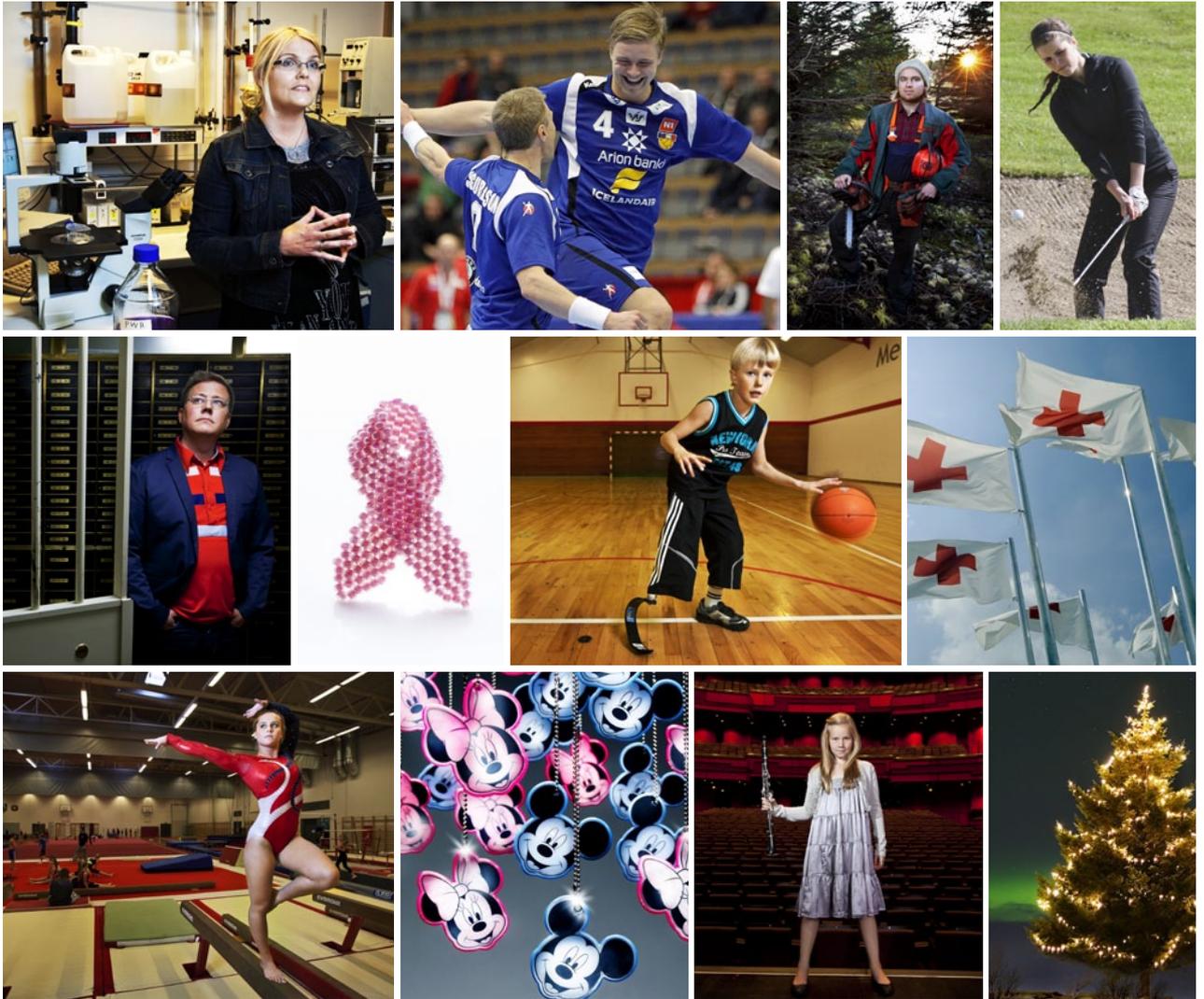
### **Culture**

#### **Harpa**

In 2011 the new Harpa concert hall and conference centre was opened in central Reykjavík, providing a long-awaited and treasured home for the Icelandic arts. Arion Bank is one of the concert hall's two main sponsors.

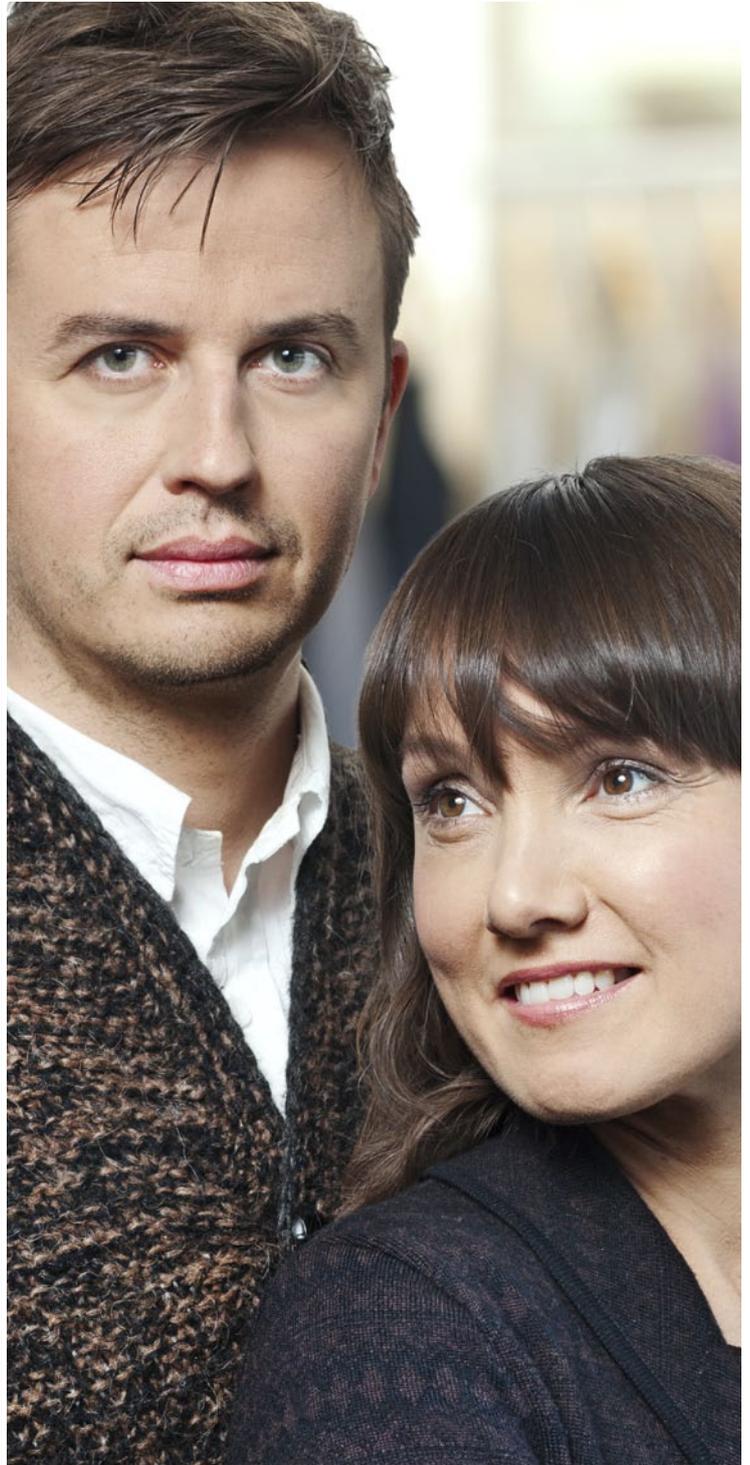
#### **Arion Bank's art collection**

Arion Bank has around 1,100 pieces of art in its collection. The Bank's policy through the years has been to acquire artwork and thereby support Icelandic artists. It has frequently lent works to a whole variety of exhibitions and plans to open up its collection further for the benefit and enjoyment of its customers and the general public.





Farmers Market  
Iceland



“It makes things much easier for us at design company Farmers Market to have an efficient system in our online bank which allows us to issue and collect invoices.”

**Bergthóra Gudnadóttir and Jóel Pálsson**  
Owners of Farmers Market

## Asset Management

Arion Bank’s Asset Management division is a leading player on the Icelandic financial market, with assets under management at Arion Bank and subsidiaries in excess of ISK 659 billion at the end 2011. The division comprises Investment Services, Private Banking, and Institutional Asset Management. The subsidiary Stefnir Asset Management Company operates the fund management business and Arion Bank Asset Management is the main fund distributor. Asset Management had 32 employees at the end of 2011.

### Personal services and comprehensive product offering

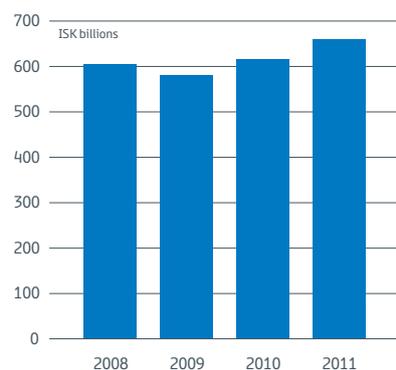
Asset Management serves clients of all sizes with different investment objectives, offering a wide range of services and a broad product mix. The main emphasis is on offering personal and professional services, founded on close relationships with our clients and identifying their needs and the right investment solutions. Asset Management is responsible for managing assets on behalf of its clients, including institutional investors, corporations, high net worth clients and retail investors. In addition to a variety of mutual funds, alternative investment vehicles and pension plan schemes, the division offers customized asset allocation strategies and managed accounts, designed to meet the diverse needs of investors. Moreover, it also offers funds from other leading global fund management companies. On 31 December 2011, assets under management (AuM) amounted to ISK 659 billion, representing an increase of 7.0% during the year.

### Fulfilling clients’ needs

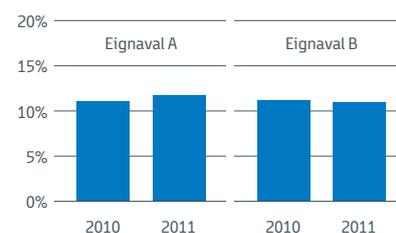
The goal of Private Banking is to provide first-class financial services and wealth management tailored to the needs of individual clients. Experienced account managers provide personal service and expert financial advice to our clients, with a focus on fostering long-term relationships and obtaining solid returns. Each client is assigned an Account Manager who provides personal service and expert financial advice to match the clients’ needs and wishes. Clients with more than ISK 10 million in assets under management should find solutions to their needs in Private Banking.

Private Banking has designed a range of new products, the main focus being on an asset allocation fund called Eignaval, which has proven a great success since it was introduced in December 2009. The main funds, Eignaval A (Government Bonds) and Eignaval B (with 25% weight in stock), delivered double digit returns in the first two years of operation, the nominal return in 2011 being 11.8% and 11.0% respectively. Eignaval brings certain tax advantages as changes in asset allocation within the fund do not involve the purchase and sale of securities on an individual basis and it is therefore not subject to withholding taxes.

Assets under management



Nominal return - Eignaval



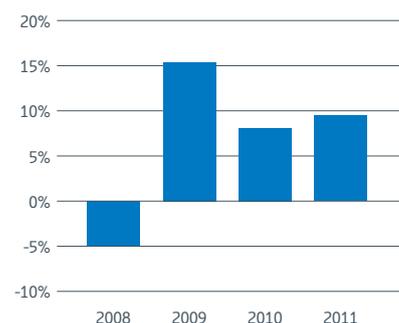
Institutional Asset Management provides services to pension fund clients, trade unions, insurance companies, government institutions and other institutional investors. The service provided to clients includes portfolio management and advice on investment strategies. Clients have different needs and Institutional Asset Management creates solutions through focused risk management, research and scenario analysis.

A major factor behind last year's satisfactory results was the performance of inflation-linked long-term government bonds, an asset class which Institutional Asset Management has particularly focused on.

In 2011, Asset Management added one of Iceland's most prominent private pension funds as a client, offering it exclusive customized services, including fund administration and asset management. With a total of ISK 20 billion added to AuM at the beginning of January 2012 this particular fund represents the largest new client deal in the division's history.

Asset Management places a special focus on equality, transparency and fiduciary duty as cornerstones in constructing long-term relationships that will benefit its clients.

Nominal return - Frjálsi 1



**Frjálsi Pension Fund – the best pension fund in Iceland for the third year in a row**

In November 2011 Frjálsi Pension Fund, which is run by Arion Bank, was voted “The Best Pension Fund in Iceland” by Investment Pension Europe (IPE) Magazine for the third consecutive year. Winning these awards represents a significant achievement for Frjálsi Pension Fund.

Arion Bank introduced a ground-breaking new service to customers in 2011 called Optimizing Retirement Payment tool (ORP) which numerous pension fund members have now used with excellent results. ORP is a tool to optimize and maximize the present value of monthly payments at retirement age, taking into account taxation, payments from social security, and payments from different mandatory and non-mandatory pension funds, as well as other savings.

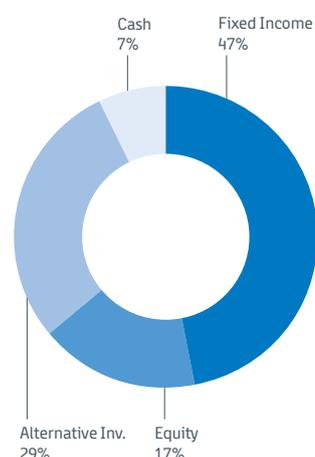


**Continued focus on performance and product development**

The Asset Management team places a special emphasis on building long-term relationships based on trust and ambitious goals. We do this by offering first-class services and a broad product range with good returns on investments and by safeguarding clients' interests.

The main focus of the Asset Management division is to obtain the best results for our clients based on their investment objectives. With the strong track record and focused investment approach by experienced investment professionals we will continue to strengthen our relationship with our customers.

Split between asset classes



## Corporate Banking

Corporate Banking offers a range of financing services and products for its corporate clients, from medium-sized businesses to large corporations. The prime focus of the division is to maintain long-term relationships with its clients as well as deliver tailor-made solutions and personalized services. In 2011, Corporate Banking strengthened its product portfolio by adding factoring to its list of services. Corporate Banking had 38 employees at the end of 2011 and is organized into seven departments: Corporate Lending; Specialized Lending; Legal & Documentation; Portfolio Management; Corporate Services; Recovery; and Factoring.

The Corporate Banking division is divided into front line and support functions. The front line staff comprises a team of account managers and loan specialists, focusing on lending to industries such as services, manufacturing and real estate, and specialized lending, such as project and structured finance. Each account manager is responsible for a specific group of companies, thus ensuring personal service and a clear overview of each client’s financial requirements. Each account manager relies on the assistance of a team of specialists from the support functions.

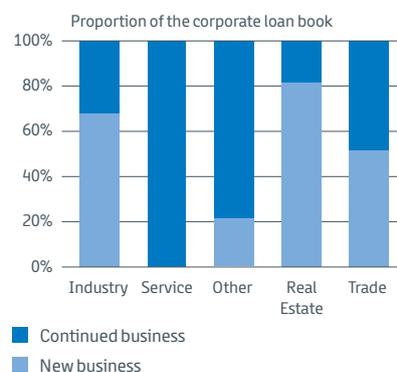
Although a significant proportion of the corporate banking business is credit exposure, the Bank offers a wide range of products and financial solutions which meet the needs of each customer. Examples of such services are cash management solutions, comprehensive deposit products, automatic billing and collection services, online payment slips, internet banking, as well as other specialized add-on products such as Factoring.

### The Corporate Loan Book

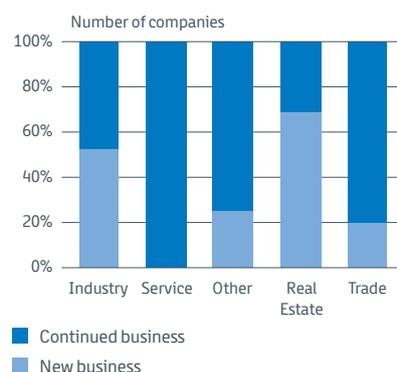
In 2011 Corporate Banking granted new loans amounting to over ISK 23 billion, both in the form of loans to new customers and loans to existing customers. Over half of this amount was used to finance new projects while the rest was towards continued business. A significant portion was in the form of short-term credit facilities in order to mitigate risk of cash-flow fluctuations and meet current cash needs for daily operations. The demand for short-term revolving credit facilities has remained high, whereas demand for funding investments is at a low.

The Bank classifies the loan portfolio into four categories: Performing; Watch; Sub-performing; and Non-performing. Loan classification is based on several factors, e.g. leverage of the company or loan to value; equity ratio; credit rating; whether a client is in default or is in breach of contract covenants, and if provisions have been made. The Bank’s requirements for Performing and Watch are very stringent and don’t allow for much flexibility. In 2010 the Bank also revised its classification of Non-performing loans to better reflect changes in the creditworthiness of borrowers and to streamline the process of entering problem loans into Recovery. Only clients with sufficient collateral to cover existing loans can be classified as Sub-performing if the loan is more than 90

### New lending 2011



### New lending 2011



days in default. However, it is important to note, that clients can still be classified as Sub-performing even if there is no default on loan agreements if one or more of the Bank's other requirements are not met. An example of this would be when a client has lower equity ratio than desired in the opinion of the bank.

Significant progress was made in reshaping the capital structure of companies in financial difficulties during the year 2011. By comparing the figures from the past two years one can see that the proportion of Performing companies and Performing/Watch according to book value went from being 32% in 2010 to 54% in 2011 and 42% in 2010 to 76% in 2011 respectively. The numbers of companies also tells a similar story with the proportion going from 23% in 2010 to 40% in 2011 and 28% in 2010 to 48% in 2011 respectively. In 2012, the plan is to continue this trend in collaboration with our clients.

### Factoring Arion Bank

In 2011 Arion Bank acquired the operation of SPRON Factoring, a former subsidiary of SPRON Savings Bank, and added factoring to its portfolio of products and services. SPRON Factoring was a pioneer in providing factoring services in the Icelandic market and remained fully operational after SPRON went out of business in 2009. In July 2011 the name was changed to Factoring Arion Bank (FAB).

FAB is now a separate unit in the Corporate Banking division and provides factoring services to both large and small businesses on the domestic market as well as to export businesses. Its basic activities include the funding of accounts receivables, credit management and risk reduction. In addition to the financing the client receives systematic support in the collection process and is granted access to FAB's online web services.

Factoring is a widely used financial tool and is especially valuable to export businesses. Therefore a large percentage of our clients come from the fisheries export sector.

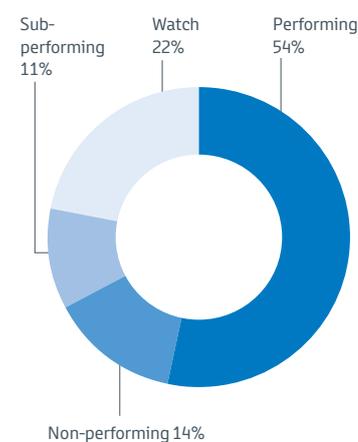
Credit insurance forms the basis for financing export receivables and in December 2011 Arion Bank signed an agreement with Euler Hermes, the leading insurance company in this field. Under this agreement FAB is able to offer credit insurance to its clients at a favorable rate and can offer effective debt collection and risk assessment internationally.

### Outlook

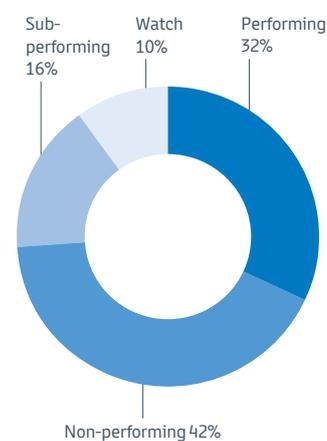
Corporate Banking foresees a gradual increase in demand for longer-term funding in line with the modest growth of new business ventures. Requests for factoring are on the rise to maintain steady cash flows and as a means to mitigate risk in day-to-day operations. For those companies who seek to expand their operations in international markets, the agreement with Euler Hermes offers the opportunity to provide international credit insurance in addition to general credit management and risk reduction. Finally, having made significant progress in reshaping the capital structure of companies in financial difficulty, coupled with the Bank's revised loan classifications and reinforced early warning system, Corporate Banking is relatively optimistic about developments in 2012.

### Performance of companies in Corporate Banking - book value

2011



2010



## Investment Banking

Investment Banking was established in the autumn of 2011 with the merger of the Corporate Finance, Capital Markets and Research units within the Bank. The objective was to better serve domestic and international clients requiring investment banking and securities services. Key products and services include foreign exchange, interest rate products, securities and other investment products, debt and equity financing, principal investments, research and advisory services. Investment Banking had 32 employees at the end of 2011.

### Corporate Finance

Corporate Finance provides M&A advisory services and capital markets transaction services to corporate clients and investors, along with advice on funding and capital controls. The Bank's Principal Investments are also managed within Corporate Finance.

In 2011 one of Corporate Finance's main activities was managing the sale of assets which the Bank had taken over during the restructuring process. The key assignment was the listing of Hagar on NASDAQ OMX Iceland following the placement of an 80% stake in the company through an IPO and pre-placement. This was the first IPO in Iceland since the spring of 2008 and it therefore represented an important milestone in the regeneration of the Icelandic stock market. The offering proved highly successful, with almost 3,000 individuals, institutional investors and pension funds investing in the company during the pre-placement.

These projects also included the management of the sale processes of Tíu-ellefu, BM Vallá and Hekla.

Other activities involved advising clients on various investment opportunities in the market, the key assignment being advice to the investors acquiring an anchor stake in Sjóvá.

### Capital Markets

Capital Markets brokers securities and foreign exchange for institutional and corporate clients. It provides service to the increasing number of international investors interested in the Icelandic market, although the primary focus remains on the domestic client base.

The fixed income market is still the main pillar in the Icelandic financial market despite the fact that the turnover decreased between 2010 and 2011. Even though the majority of trading is in government-backed or issued bonds it is hoped that other issuers will emerge, thereby increasing diversification and channeling funds to the private sector through the capital markets. Although the market is still subject to capital controls, the turnover in the FX market as reported by the Central Bank of Iceland (CBI) increased slightly but it remains well below pre-crisis levels. With the Icelandic equity market taking its first steps towards recovery, our focus was still on providing service on the US and Nordic equity markets.



A key milestone last year was the listing of the retailer Hagar on the stock exchange, and investors' interest in the listing is a positive indicator for the future development of the market.

Capital Markets continues to be innovative in providing value-added service and products to our clients.

### Research

Arion Research is divided into Equity, Fixed Income, and Macro Analysis. The majority of clients are asset management companies, institutional investors, and other divisions of the Bank. Its main objectives are to further enhance the services provided to clients of Investment Banking, Corporate Banking and Asset Management by providing superior equity, fixed income, real estate, and sector analysis. In addition Arion Research issues regular economic forecasts and updates on key economic developments in Iceland.

### Future prospects

In 2011 several positive factors indicate that the business sector is recuperating and business activity is increasing. Most Icelandic companies have now undergone the required financial restructuring which mean our focus will turn toward more customary business activities. As a result we foresee over the coming quarters an increase in activities on the financial markets on all fronts; we expect the regeneration of the Icelandic stock market to continue following the success of the IPO of Hagar. As a result equity turnover should increase as investors welcome the diversification brought by more listings.

Last year the CBI started lifting the capital controls in gradual stages. The controls have been in place since late 2008, and the process of lifting the controls will continue over the next few months. As the Icelandic economy has shown strength in terms of general economic parameters and managed to avoid the current global turmoil, foreign investors have expressed an interest in investing in Iceland. We expect this interest to continue and aim to serve as a hub for those keen on investing in Iceland, providing all around service.

Arion Bank will continue to support and enable its current clients to operate under the prevailing market conditions. Sector analysis and other publications will play an even greater role for Arion Research in 2012. In addition, in order to add value to the Bank's corporate clients there will be an increased focus on organizing and hosting conferences on current events.

Arion Bank actively participated in the market in 2011 and our aim is to be a leading player in the Icelandic capital markets and corporate finance, positioning ourselves as a preferred and strategic partner alongside Iceland's largest companies and investors, and playing a key role in the restoration of the market. Our ultimate goal is to convert our expertise and experience into value for our clients.

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A key milestone last year was the listing of the retailer Hagar on the stock exchange.

## Retail Banking

Arion Bank's Retail Banking division continues to be among the market leaders in Iceland. The core of Retail Banking's operation is the nationwide network of 24 branches and our call center. We service over 100,000 customers and place a special emphasis on individuals and small and medium-sized enterprises. The branches provide a comprehensive range of services, including deposits and loans, payment cards, pension savings, insurance, securities, funds and more. Our focus is on tailored solutions and personalized services to meet customer needs. Online Banking is an important distribution channel for Retail Banking, where customers can take care of all their banking needs. Retail Banking had 383 employees at the end of 2011.

During the last three years, Retail Banking has been streamlining the branch network. One of the most important steps was taken in 2011 when three existing branches were merged into a state-of-the-art new branch at Höfði in Reykjavík. Our branch network is divided into seven clusters, each with its own business manager. Smaller branches capitalize on the strength of larger units within each cluster. To increase decentralization more executive authority and responsibility has been transferred to the branches and therefore closer to the customers. By introducing these changes the Bank has created stronger branches able to provide tailored solutions and enhanced services for our customers.

### Nationwide



### Greater Reykjavík Area



### Key tasks in 2011

In 2011 Retail Banking completed a number of key tasks which had been under way since the collapse of the financial sector in 2008. One of our most important objectives has been to provide satisfactory solutions for our customers experiencing financial distress. We have already met our targets in the restructuring of small and medium-sized enterprises. The restructuring of household debt has also made good progress.

### Branches

#### Nationwide

- ✦ **Greater Reykjavík Area**
- ✦ **Akureyri**  
Varmahlid  
Blönduós  
Saudárkrókur  
Egilsstaðir
- ✦ **Borgarnes**  
Búdardalur  
Stykkishólmur  
Grundarfjörður  
Hólmavík
- ✦ **Selfoss**  
Hveragerði  
Hella  
Kirkjubæjarklaustur  
Vík

#### Greater Reykjavík Area

- ✦ **Main Branch**  
Austurstraeti  
Vesturbaer
- ✦ **Gardabaer**  
Hafnarfjörður  
Mosfellsbaer
- ✦ **Höfði**  
Kringlan
- ✦ **Kópavogur**

Recalculation of all currency-linked loans was finished before year end; however due to a recent ruling of the Supreme Court regarding currency-linked loans the Bank has to recalculate a number of loans again.

Our good progress in these tasks has enabled us to focus our attention on traditional banking activities, working with our customers on new projects and offering them new and exciting products and services.

In 2011 Arion Bank played a pioneering role in offering new types of mortgage loans to individuals in the Icelandic market and was the first bank to introduce non index-linked mortgage loans with competitive fixed five-year interest rates. Demand for the new products has been strong and coincides with increasing activity in the housing market in general.

Our customers are offered a wide range of services in the branches, from pension and life insurance to mortgage loans. Last year saw the introduction of financial advisors at the branches. This new position is designed to better attend to the increasingly complex and diverse needs of our customers.

### Key tasks ahead

The year 2012 presents exciting opportunities for Arion Bank to cement existing relationships with customers as well as establish new ones. As economic activity increases so will the need for a trusted partner in business. We will continue to evolve our approach of building on the Bank's strategy to offer universal banking services to our customers. The continuing training and education of our employees is vital to our strategy. Our goal for 2012 is to further improve our level of service. To achieve this we will deepen our understanding of customer needs through detailed analysis and employ a disciplined approach to improving our processes and service. We will use the principles of lean management to achieve these goals and have set out an ambitious programme, A Plus, which will be in full motion in the first half of 2012.

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In 2011 Arion Bank played a pioneering role in offering new types of mortgage loans to individuals in the Icelandic market.



“The Bank offers diverse electronic solutions which enable us, the largest telecommunications company in Iceland, to reduce our consumption of paper, help protect the environment and at the same time make life easier for our customers.”

**Saevar Freyr Thráinsson**  
CEO of Siminn



## Support Units

Arion Bank has four units which provide support to the Bank's business segments. The support units are Corporate Development & Marketing, Finance, Legal and Operations.

### Corporate Development & Marketing

One of Corporate Development's main responsibilities is overseeing the implementation of the relationship banking strategy across the Bank. The success of the strategy depends on the ability to tailor products and services to the needs of customers. This involves implementing analytical methods for customer segmentation, adjusting product and service offerings and marketing, and reinforcing the sales and services organization. Corporate Development & Marketing is comprised of five departments and had 24 employees at the end of 2011.

**Corporate Development** is responsible for the acquisition and divesting of assets and divisions and strategic partnerships.

**Marketing** creates and sets the Bank's marketing strategy and policies. Marketing is responsible for brand management, marketing initiatives for products and services, internal marketing and CSR.

**Project Office** is responsible for running projects across the Bank which focus on the implementation of the Bank's strategy. The team ensures the strategic alignment of projects, decides on the optimal project mix and project prioritization.

**Internet Banking** is responsible for the Bank's online banking solutions, websites, online communication and electronic distribution channels. The Bank's online solutions focus on strengthening customer relationships and facilitating self-service where applicable.

**Research & Development** is the latest addition to Corporate Development & Marketing. R&D is responsible for product development across the Bank, market research and customer analytics.

Strategy implementation was launched in late 2010 with 166 initiatives, of which 95 were completed by the end of 2011. These initiatives have strengthened the Bank's operations and internal processes, increased efficiency and sharpened the strategic direction as the Bank enters a new phase in its history. The emphasis is turning from projects that reinforce the foundations of the Bank to initiatives that focus on creating more value for the customer and taking advantage of opportunities with new products and services.

At the end of 2011, the Bank launched A Plus, a programme based on the lean management philosophy of creating more value for the customer. The main objective of A Plus is improving the customer experience by focusing processes, mindsets, performance and organization around the voice of the customer. The A Plus pilot project will be completed in the first branch in the first quarter of 2012, with other branches and headquarters to follow.

In 2011, a new platform for the online bank was launched, resulting in major operational improvements. The launch of online personal finance management was an important addition to the online banking functionality and was welcomed by many users. In 2012, further emphasis will be put on online services that add more value for customers such as mobile banking and B2B.

## Finance

The Finance division is managed by the Chief Financial Officer and comprises four departments: Accounting, Analysis, Funding and Treasury. The objective of Finance is to provide first-class treasury services as well as timely and accurate management and accounting information to all divisions and the Bank as a whole. Finance had 45 employees at the end of 2011.

**Accounting** is responsible for the Bank's financial reporting, both internally and to external stakeholders. The activities of Accounting include the preparation of the accounts for the parent company and some of its subsidiaries as well as the consolidated accounts for the group. Furthermore, Accounting prepares management reports for the Board of Directors, the CEO and Managing Directors on a monthly basis. Finally, Accounting is responsible for various reporting to the Icelandic Financial Supervisory Authority and the Central Bank of Iceland.

**Analysis** is responsible for the annual budget of the Bank as well as its long-term budgeting in close cooperation with the Bank's divisions. Analysis is also responsible for the benchmarking of Arion Bank with comparable financial institutions, both locally and internationally. The objective of Analysis is to contribute to the continuous improvement in the performance of the Bank.

**Funding** manages the medium and long-term funding of Arion Bank both in the domestic and international markets. The unit is furthermore responsible for liaison with local and international rating agencies. The objective of Funding is to diversify and strengthen the funding sources of the Bank.

**Treasury** is in charge of the Bank's liquidity management and is already focusing on the effects of Basel III regulation on its operations and activities. The department is furthermore responsible for the Bank's currency and interest rate management. A substantial part of the activities of Treasury is to provide other divisions of the Bank with competitive internal pricing of interest rates and currency and to interact with the money market desks of other financial institutions. Treasury is a market maker in domestic securities and currencies and is responsible for the Bank's proprietary trading.

In 2011, Finance played an integral part in increasing the quality of the Bank's Balance Sheet through the agreement on the closing of the Compensation Instrument with Kaupthing Bank and the purchase of the Covered Bond fund from the same institution. Finance will continue this effort in 2012. The Division will, furthermore, strive to further improve liquidity management and diversify the Bank's funding sources. A part of this effort will be to regularly meet domestic and international investors, and the possibility of obtaining international credit ratings will be thoroughly evaluated.

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The launch of online personal finance management was an important addition to the online banking functionality.

## Legal

The Legal division is divided into two departments: Legal Collection and Legal Services. The division had 48 employees at the end of 2011. The Legal division endeavours to provide first-rate independent services in the fields of debt collection, legal paperwork, legal representation and legal advice.

**Legal Collection** is responsible for debt collection, handling appropriated assets and providing legal representation for the Bank. At the end of 2011 the division was actively working on 5,400 collection cases, compared with 4,600 at the end of 2009 and 6,600 at the end of 2010. The Bank owned 175 appropriated properties at the end of 2011, compared with 166 properties at the end of 2009 and 193 properties at the end of 2010. The Bank sold 142 properties during the year compared to 151 in 2010.

**Legal Services** provides a range of legal services for divisions across the Bank. The division played an active role in many of the Bank's key projects in 2011; it helped draft agreements with the Recovery team, advised Treasury on its Covered Bond programme and the acquisition of the Kaupthing Mortgages Institutional Investor Fund, assisted Asset Management in drawing up agreements for new customers, and represented the Bank in dealings with the relevant authorities.

One of the main focuses of the Legal Division in 2011 was to analyze the complex legal issues involved in the currency-linked loans in order to obtain a satisfactory solution both for the Bank and its customers. The activities of Legal Services depend to a certain degree on the tasks currently being undertaken by other divisions of the Bank. In 2012 Legal Services will need to continue to focus strongly on issues which arose in the aftermath of the 2008 financial crisis, as well as contributing to the development of new products. The resolution of issues concerning currency-linked loans and communication with the relevant authorities will continue to be a time-consuming and painstaking process. The Legal division will also be required to provide legal advice to an even greater degree to Investment Banking and Retail Banking in 2012.

## Operations

The Operations division comprises Information Technology, Human Resources, Back Office, Record Management, Service Desk, and Property Management. In 2011 the numerous structural changes, which started in 2010 when the above departments were all moved under the single umbrella of the Operations division, were brought to a conclusion. Operations had 236 employees at the end of 2011.

The focus of Operations is to run and maintain efficient information and document management systems, and to create and support a working environment which allows all employees to apply their capabilities to the fullest extent. Operations played a key role in several major initiatives which started in 2011 and were managed by Corporate Development and Marketing.

The focus for 2012 continues to be on the strategic projects that enable the Bank to automate and simplify more of its functions and by doing so support the Bank's strategy of spending more time with customers without compromising the quality of the work necessary to serve the customer.

The focus and operation of the different parts of the Operations is described below.

### Information Technology

The IT department is responsible for advising, developing and operating the Bank's information systems.

The IT department touches the Bank in multiple ways. First, the IT department works closely with Corporate Development & Marketing in implementing new solutions to match the IT system with the Bank's business strategy. Second, the IT department has a strategic view on the information architecture of the Bank and makes sure that new solutions and upgrades to existing solutions complement the current architecture. A large part of the architecture work is also focused on steering the Information System towards an ever more efficient architecture, so that new solutions do not increase the complexities of the system. Third, the IT department focuses on providing excellent service to all divisions and employees of the Bank and to certain subsidiaries of the Bank. Fourth, the IT department takes information security into account in all work it takes on and makes sure that all procedures take into account the Bank's guidelines on information security. The IT division had 118 employees at the end of 2011.

The IT department is divided into seven main units; Web Solutions, Front end Systems, Back end Systems, Business Intelligence and Data Warehouse, Core Services, Technical Services and Service Management. Each unit is responsible for managing the portfolio of its projects, the implementation and maintenance of both in-house developed solutions and standard solutions as well as the operation of its system.

The focus of the IT department in 2011 was to evaluate and initiate projects to streamline the system architecture and match it with the Bank's business strategy, and to make changes and adjustments to the information systems in order to comply with new regulations.

In 2012 the focus areas for the IT department will be to further streamline the system architecture in order to increase business productivity, and to strengthen the employees' skills and flexibility.

### Human Resources

The goal of Human Resources (HR) is to maximize efficiency at the Bank by identifying and appointing the best possible employees to every position.

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The focus for 2012 continues to be on the strategic projects that enable the Bank to automate and simplify more of its functions.

There were 936 full-time employees at the Bank at the beginning of 2011 and 858 full-time employees at the end of the year. The employee turnover was 15.7%. The voluntary turnover was 5%. During the year the Bank made 90 redundancies, 56 of these in September.

The following points describe the main focus of the HR in 2012:

- Gender equality – equal pay – continues to be a main focus.
- Motivation of employees in an economic downturn.
- Improving information flow, communications and internal marketing.
- Support the A Plus project by coordinating HR issues with the project and employee training.
- Succession planning, including improving the competence of the management team.
- Improve the competence of employees by offering a greater range of professional training.
- Increase productivity and control costs.

### **Back Office**

The Back Office department is responsible for processing customer's orders and to support the branches in servicing the customer. Back Office is divided into six groups: Loans, Deposits, Payments & Trade Finance, Collateral Management & AML, Main Fund and Payment Plans. Back Office had 71 employees at the end of 2011.

Back Office's main tasks include handling deposits, loans, customer payment plans, guarantees and supplying the branches and the ATMs with cash. Trade finance, clearing and settlement of various securities along with liaison with international banks are also among Back Office's responsibilities. The AML team monitors the Bank's compliance with both AML and MiFID regulations.

During 2011 Back Office continued to rationalize its operations by changing the setup and reducing the number of employees. Since 2008 the department has been focusing on lean management and will continue to do so as the Bank is implementing A Plus.

The main focus for 2012 is to continue to support the Bank's strategy of streamlining its processes and operations by continuing to take an active part in the new document and workflow management system and to support the rollout of A Plus. The objective of Back Office is to help the Front Office to serve the Bank's customers by freeing the Front Office of Back Office work and preparing quality information.

## Subsidiaries

Arion Bank owns four main subsidiaries which play a vital role in the long-term strategy of the Bank. They operate in the fields of asset management, life insurance, payment services and securities custody and complement the services that Arion Bank offers its customers. These subsidiaries are Stefmir Asset Management Company, Okkar Life Insurance, Valitor and Verdis.

### Stefmir Asset Management Company

Stefmir Asset Management Company is Iceland's largest fund management company with assets of around ISK 300 billion under active management. Stefmir caters for both retail and professional clients with the aim of managing its clients' assets as best serves their interests. Stefmir has 17 specialists in four teams managing a diverse collection of mutual, investment and institutional investment funds. The company also manages the assets of several limited partnerships that have been established around private equity investments in well-known Icelandic companies.

The year 2011 was characterized by the introduction of new funds and the establishment of several limited partnerships. The fixed income team started the year by creating two new funds. The first was a bond and deposits fund, Stefmir Liquidity Fund, which is ideal for private investors, companies and institutional investors looking for a short-term low volatility investment option. The second fund was Stefmir Government Bonds Short Term whose investment strategy gives investors the opportunity to invest in inflation-linked and nominal bonds and other ISK-denominated debt instruments issued or guaranteed by the Icelandic government. Both funds were well received by investors and their combined size at the end of 2011 was ISK 3.6 billion. The fixed income team established two institutional investment funds operating as securitization funds which issued bonds worth ISK 1.9 billion in 2011.

SIA I, an institutional investment fund established in 2010, completed three high profile investments in 2011 and is currently 70% invested. The alternative investment team proved a key force in recruiting both private and professional to invest in a 34% stake in Hagar, a leading Icelandic retailer. The investors also hold a 10% call option. Hagar has subsequently been successfully listed on the NASDAQ OMX Iceland exchange. The second investment with co-investors was a 52.4% stake in Sjóvá Almennar Tryggingar, a leading insurer in Iceland, and the third investment is a 51% stake in 66°North, an established innovator in specialized clothing for use in the toughest conditions on land and at sea. These investments are compatible with the investment strategy of investing in Icelandic firms with strong operating fundamentals which are likely to become listed in the near future.

Undertakings for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities (UCITS) managed by Stefmir in all teams did well this past year. Fixed income funds were the preferred choice of retail clients and the balanced funds managed by Stefmir did exceptionally

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Stefmir Asset Management Company is Iceland's largest fund management company with assets of around ISK 300 billion under active management.

well, demonstrating the active and competent asset allocation strategy within the funds. Domestic Equity funds were prominent as co-investors in SIA I's investments. Stefnir's International equity funds rated by Morningstar, Stefnir Scandinavian fund, received 5 out of 5 stars possible and Stefnir International Equities and KF Global Value both received 4/5 stars, underlining the excellent quality of the funds. Other funds managed by the International Equity team received high ratings by Lipper, a leading global mutual fund rating agency which actively rates and analyzes global mutual funds based on risk. The alternative investment team had an eventful year in which it not only invested through SIA I in several investments but also established a limited partnership with prominent pension funds and professional investors who invested in a long-term real estate project in Akureyri worth ISK 1.6 billion.

Stefnir is proud to have introduced new investment options for clients who seek specialized investment options and products. The limitations imposed by the Icelandic government and the Central Bank of Iceland have left investors with homogenous investment opportunities, mainly comprising of fixed income instruments. However Stefnir's current range of funds provides investors with a broad range of investment choices. Through its performance, new investment options and its desire to serve its clients to the best of its ability Stefnir has proven to be Iceland's leading fund manager, continually building trust and strengthening long-term relationships.

## Okkar Life Insurance

The insurance company Althjóða líftryggingarfélagid hf. (Alif) was founded in 1966 by a consortium of Icelandic investors and a British insurance company. It is the oldest life insurance company in Iceland. Its main role is to provide modern insurance services and to offer its customers financial security in the event of illness, disability or death. Okkar had 14 employees at the end of 2011.

Okkar has pioneered the development of life insurance, health insurance, children's insurance, disability insurance and a range of group insurance policies in Iceland. Operations are divided into Insurance, Finance, Sales & Marketing and Technical. Okkar is operated independently of other insurance companies. It has sales and distribution partnerships with Arion Bank and KB ráðgjöf, which also sells pension products on behalf of Arion Bank.

In 2011 the company produced its strongest ever results. The company met its objectives on income and expenses, while financial income exceeded projected targets. Return on equity was 39%, which was also the best in the company's history. The solvency rate is now 2.75 which is well above the minimum required of life insurance companies.

Okkar Life Insurance has, however, felt the effects of shrinking household income and the company did not grow organically this year. In such a serious economic climate, people tend to make cutbacks, and this often includes insurance premiums. However, there were signs of improvement in the second half of the year. The Icelandic economy appears to be on the right track but any recovery is going to be gradual.

The chief focus during the year was on increasing sales and raising the profile of the company's marketing activities. This approach met with a degree of success and insurance policy sales increased by 27% in 2011 from the previous year. The rate of cancelled policies also slowed down and was 12% lower than the previous year. During the year the company lobbied for a change to income tax law. The law was amended so that benefits from sickness insurance are now exempt from income tax.

During the year a risk assessment was devised for the company and its rules of procedure were mapped and reinforced. The company published a procedural handbook which is expected to boost efficiency and tighten security. The company commissioned the design of some new software during the year and this is expected to be completed in 2013.

### Outlook

The outlook for 2012 is reasonably good. The company will launch at least two new types of insurance policies this year and will actively seek to expand its business. Sales are projected to grow by 20% in 2012, both in terms of the number of policies sold and premiums paid. These estimates are based on trends in the last few years and sales targets. The rate of policies which are cancelled or not renewed is also likely to decrease and we therefore expect Okkar's earned premiums to grow again in 2012. There is a certain risk that actions by the authorities may have a detrimental effect on the company's financial performance and outlook.

However, in spite of the continued uncertainties in the external environment in 2012 we are optimistic about the long-term prospects of Okkar and are convinced that the collaboration with Arion Bank will continue to be critical to Okkar's future.

### Valitor

Valitor is a leading service company in the field of payment solutions. Valitor operates internationally and focuses on trust, leadership and initiative in its operations. The company's mission is to provide merchants and banks with safe and swift services and thereby contribute to their success.

Valitor has been a leader in the Icelandic card market for over 25 years and is a group member of Visa Europe and a licensee of MasterCard. The company provides card acquiring services to merchants and card issuing services to banks, savings banks and cardholders. Valitor divides its operations into three business segments: cross-border acquiring, domestic acquiring, and card processing services. It had 146 employees at the end of 2011.

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Valitor has been a leader in the Icelandic card market for over 25 years.

## Main projects in 2011

Since 2003 Valitor has increasingly been building business relations in most European countries through cross-border acquiring services. Recently the company has also been active in the prepaid field, offering issuing and processing services to program managers in Europe. In early 2011 the company's first cross-border prepaid program went live in the United Kingdom.

In October 2011 Valitor announced that the company had partnered Oberthur Technologies, the world's second largest provider of security and identification solutions and services based on smart card technologies, and Visa Europe to launch Iceland's first mobile contactless payments project. The partners chose Iceland as the ideal test market for the project based on the size of the population, its concentration in the Reykjavik area and very high modern technology penetration.

In December 2011 Valitor became the first Icelandic financial and payment card company to gain validation of compliance in accordance with the comprehensive PCI DSS security certification, with respect to both issuing and acquiring. The PCI DSS security standard is specifically intended to combat card fraud which has become one of the most common crimes in global financial systems.

## Future prospects & projects

Valitor will continue to expand its business internationally and sees further business potential in overseas markets. This year Valitor will implement a new issuing platform which has been under development for the last three years. This new state-of-the art system has a wide range of new features and will enhance the issuing services to the company's issuing partners.

In the second half of 2012, Valitor will start a mobile contactless payments project pilot (NFC) in Iceland. It builds on Valitor's acquiring and issuing relationships with Icelandic banks and merchants. Combined with high mobile and card penetration, Iceland's demographic profile will enable the partners to monitor cardholder and merchant response to mobile contactless payments ahead of a full commercial launch in late 2013.

In 2012 Valitor will continue its growth in the prepaid issuing field in Europe, issuing both physical and virtual cards. Valitor will also collaborate with the French company Welcome Realtime to launch a new loyalty solution in 2012. The solution enables Valitor to provide all merchants and banks in Iceland with the capacity to create more advanced loyalty schemes.

## Verdis

Verdis is a provider of custody, back office for hire and fund administration services for Icelandic and international financial institutions. The company was the first of its kind in Iceland to focus on the administration of securities and funds. This sector is governed by a highly specialized legal and regulatory framework and requires cutting edge technology, scalable solutions and a high level of expertise. Verdis has a dedicated team who are guided by the company's principles of quality, satisfaction and trust. The company had 40 employees at the end of 2011.

The company's clientele includes major financial companies and institutional investors in the domestic market, as well as 19 international banks. Verdis is the leading custody and fund administration service provider in Iceland. Its employees strive to fulfill clients' needs and expectations and provide them with the best available solutions.

In March 2011, Arion Bank and Landsbankinn signed a letter of intent whereby Landsbankinn would purchase new equity issued by Verdis. Following this agreement the intention is to increase the number of shareholders and within two years the total shareholding of Arion Bank and Landsbanki should be less than 50%. The letter of intent was signed with the preconditions of due diligence and approval by the Icelandic Competition Authority (ICA). The matter was initially rejected by the ICA on 17 October 2011, however this was appealed on 14 November 2011 and a new ruling is currently pending.

In June Arion Custody Services changed its name to Verdis. The new name was another step towards ensuring the company's independence in keeping with the new strategy implemented at the beginning of the year.

Although 2011 has been a challenging year for the business, new customers, both domestic and foreign, joined the clientele of Verdis and the company returned a profit and 22.1% ROE.

### Future prospects

A new landscape in the financial market calls for reduced costs, economies of scale and increased efficiency. Financial companies therefore need to do their utmost to lower direct costs in order for operations to return a satisfactory profit. This environment presents a great opportunity for Verdis. Financial companies can outsource settlement, custody and fund administration services to Verdis and thereby cut costs considerably and focus on their core competencies. As we look ahead we are confident that the value of an independent service provider will continue to create business for Verdis and our clients.

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Verdis is the leading custody and fund administration service provider in Iceland.

## Holding Companies

Arion Bank operates three holding companies, which mostly manage assets the Bank has taken over during the debt restructuring process. The purpose of these holding companies is the professional management, development, and disposal of these assets in due course - all at arm's length from the Bank.

### Eignabjarg

Eignabjarg is responsible for managing and disposing of ownership stakes in companies which Arion Bank has taken possession of as a part of the restructuring process. The purpose of Eignabjarg is to maximize the value of these assets.

The aim of the operations of Eignabjarg and its holdings in companies is to:

- ensure that assets generate acceptable returns
- ensure the independence of these companies
- prevent conflicts of interest towards other companies which are clients of the bank
- ensure good corporate governance is followed in companies which are owned by Eignabjarg
- to manage the sales process of these assets, which as a general rule is conducted in an open and transparent sales process

The main changes to Eignabjarg's asset portfolio in 2011 were:

In February a 34% stake in Hagar and a call option on a further 10% were sold to Búvellir. A public share offering was held in December in which 30% of issued shares were sold. The offering helped to create a diverse shareholder base of public and professional investors. Hagar shares were subsequently admitted for trading on the main market of NASDAQ OMX Iceland, and Hagar became the first company to be floated in Iceland since 2008.

In June the retailer Tíu-ellefu was sold to Basko.

In October BM Vallá was sold to BMV Holding, a company owned by international and Icelandic investors. The sale is pending approval from the competition authorities.

The entire share capital of Penninn, Fram Foods and Sigurplast has been put up for sale. These sales processes are expected to be completed during the second quarter of 2012.

Once the sales processes mentioned above have been concluded Eignabjarg's only holding will be a 42.7% stake in the real estate company Reitir. The company is currently being prepared for a sales process and the ultimate aim is to list Reitir on the Main Market of NASDAQ OMX Iceland, hopefully before the end of 2012.



## Landey

Landey is a property development company whose purpose is to deal with properties that currently do not generate revenue, such as building lots and unfinished housing developments. The company's main objective is to maintain and maximize its current assets with a professional approach to real estate and housing development, always working in close collaboration with the planning authorities. The company started the sales process of several prominent assets during 2011 and that process is expected to continue in 2012.

## Landfestar

Landfestar specializes in leasing out business premises on a long-term basis. The majority of the property owned by the company is commercial property in the Greater Reykjavík area. A total of some 100,000 square metres, owned by seven subsidiaries, is leased out to approximately one hundred tenants. These clients include the state treasury and several of Iceland's largest companies.

The year 2011 was an eventful one in the company's history. The main focus was on increasing the company's occupancy ratio and to complete long-term debt financing. Despite the volatile economic climate for its tenants, the company managed to increase the space it leases by almost 4,000 square metres, bringing the occupancy ratio up to 95%. At the end of the year long-term financing had been arranged with Arion Bank for all Landfestar's subsidiaries, with the exception of LF 1, which had previously been funded through a bond issue. This represents a significant milestone for the company.

The company aims to continue along the same path this year. The key to strengthening the company is to further improve its occupancy ratio by providing first-class services to current clients and responding to their changing needs in the coming years.





“It is vital for an adventure tour company such as Arctic Adventures to be able to transfer foreign payments directly, conveniently, securely and inexpensively.”

**Torfi G. Yngvason**  
Managing Director of Arctic Adventures

## Risk Management

The Bank's Risk Management division is independent and centralized. The Chief Risk Officer (CRO) is the head of Risk Management and reports directly to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO). The CEO and the Board of Directors are responsible for defining and articulating a risk appetite for the Bank's operations. Risk appetite is translated into exposure limits and targets that are monitored by Risk Management, which reports its findings regularly to the CEO and the Board of Directors. For full risk disclosures, please refer to Notes 100-112 to the Annual Accounts.

The Bank is exposed to four major areas of risk, defined as follows:

**Credit risk** is the current or prospective risk to earnings and capital arising from the failure of an obligor to pay an obligation at the stipulated time or otherwise to perform as agreed or as expected. This type of risk includes concentration risk, residual risk, credit risk in securitization, and cross border (or transfer) risk (for further information see Notes 103-105).

**Market risk** is the current or prospective risk to earnings as a result of changes in financial market prices and rates. The risk arises from market-making, dealing, and position-taking in bonds, equities, currencies, commodities, derivatives, and any other commitment which depends on market prices and rates. The main types of market risk are interest rate risk, equity price risk and foreign exchange risk (see Notes 106-107).

**Liquidity risk** is the risk arising from the possible inability of the Bank to meet its liabilities when they come due. It is an unavoidable source of risk in the Bank's operations as the Bank requires funding to support its activities (see Notes 108-109).

**Operational risk** is the risk of loss, resulting from inadequate or failed internal processes, human and system error, or from external events that affect the Bank's operations and can result in direct losses. This risk is present in all four core business segments and in the support units (see Notes 110-111).

Risk Management had 24 employees at the end of 2011. The division comprises five units which monitor risks and report to management in a coordinated manner.

### Credit Analysis

Credit Analysis monitors and provides support for the Bank's credit decisions and credit granting processes from loan application to loan disbursement.

Risk Management's Credit Officer is the head of Credit Analysis and the unit is Risk Management's primary interface with the Bank's credit committees. Credit Analysis

prepares a written opinion for all credit applications that go before the Board Credit Committee (BCC) and the Arion Credit Committee (ACC). The Credit Officer participates in the meetings of ACC and BCC as a non-voting advisor. Credit Analysis monitors the activities of the Corporate Banking and Retail Banking credit committees. The Credit Officer is authorized to escalate disputed credit decisions from one committee to a committee with higher authority – all the way to the BCC.

Credit Analysis monitors the corporate credit rating process.

### Economic Capital

The Economic Capital unit is responsible for the design, implementation and management of the Bank's Internal Capital Adequacy Assessment Process (ICAAP) and interfacing with the Financial Supervisory Authority (FME) in the Supervisory Review and Evaluation Process (SREP). The unit is responsible for the development of the Bank's Economic Capital model, which is the basis for the internal assessment of capital requirements.

A second role of the Economic Capital unit is the monitoring of portfolio credit risk such as single name and industry-sector concentrations. The Bank has been exposed to high levels of credit concentration risks related to the circumstances under which it was established (see Note 105i). The unit classifies the loan portfolio into Performing, Watch, Sub-performing and Non-performing according to the Bank's credit classification standard (see Note 105a).

### Credit Control

The Credit Control unit monitors weak and impaired credit exposures on a customer by customer basis. The unit analyses and takes action based on the results of the loan portfolio classification and operates as a gatekeeper in determining the re-classification of loans. Credit Control determines the appropriate level of provisioning and reports provisions and write-offs to the ACC.

The first three years of Arion Bank's operation were marked by a high degree of uncertainty regarding the valuation of assets transferred from Kaupthing Bank. The Bank has made significant progress in restructuring problem loans and the risk that the transferred assets were overvalued has been greatly diminished. The Credit Control unit is instrumental in ensuring that the book value of the loan book accurately reflects the expected recovery value of loans. An important aspect of loan valuation is the availability of accurate collateral information. Credit Control has taken a leadership role in enhancing the Bank's systems and processes for collateral valuation.

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The Bank has made significant progress in restructuring problem loans and the risk that the transferred assets were overvalued has been greatly diminished.

## Portfolio Risk

The Portfolio Risk unit is responsible for monitoring, analyzing and reporting on market risk and liquidity risk. In this role, Portfolio Risk interfaces primarily with the Treasury and Proprietary Trading units and reports its findings to the Bank's Assets and Liabilities Committee (ALCO).

The Board of Directors decides how much market risk exposure the proprietary trading units within the Bank are allowed to assume, expressed as a maximum overnight exposure in equities, fixed income and derivatives. The Board entrusts the CEO with the enforcement of this policy and Risk Management with the evaluation and monitoring of positions and limits.

A significant risk originally faced by the Bank was related to the large currency mismatch between assets and liabilities. Good progress has been made and the remaining imbalance should be eliminated during 2012 (see Note 107c).

Arion Bank's primary source of funding is deposits from individuals, corporations and financial institutions. The FME has set guidelines on a minimum secured liquidity ratio of 20%. The high liquidity reserve required by the FME reflects the uncertainty of the stickiness of the deposits of the Icelandic banks and the fact that a large part of the Bank's liabilities are primarily short-term or on demand deposits, while the contractual maturity of the assets is much longer. The Bank's liquidity reserves exceed the FME's guidelines by a considerable margin (see Note 109). Portfolio Risk is responsible for analyzing and modelling the behaviour of its deposit base and reporting its findings to ALCO.

Portfolio Risk also provides miscellaneous quantitative business support to the Bank's various business units.

## Operational Risk

The Operational Risk unit monitors risks associated with the daily operation of the Bank according to its operational risk framework. The unit conducts a regular risk and control self-assessment (RCSA) and monitors remedial actions. The unit collects loss data for all discovered and reported loss events and near misses. Serious events are investigated to find and remedy a root cause. Operational Risk assists divisions in accurately documenting and periodically revising their work processes. Operational Risk keeps track of new products being implemented through the Bank's new product approval process. The Bank's Security Officer is a member of the Operational Risk unit.

The Bank aims to maintain an open, no blame operational risk culture and aspires to reach a point of no surprises by utilizing the Bank's operational tools and processes to the fullest extent possible.

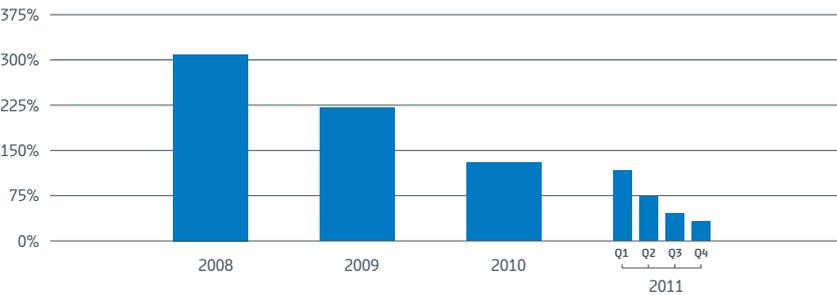
# Progress since Establishment

Arion Bank has been faced with many challenges, many of which are directly related to the way the Bank came into being. Arion Bank was established on 22 October 2008 with the transfer of domestic assets and liabilities from the bankruptcy estate of Kaupthing. Arion Bank would carry on domestic operations. This approach to building a balance sheet is not ideal and is rife with challenges. The period following the establishment has been devoted to addressing these challenges. Considerable success has been made, not least during the year 2011, as outlined below.

## Asset and liability mismatch

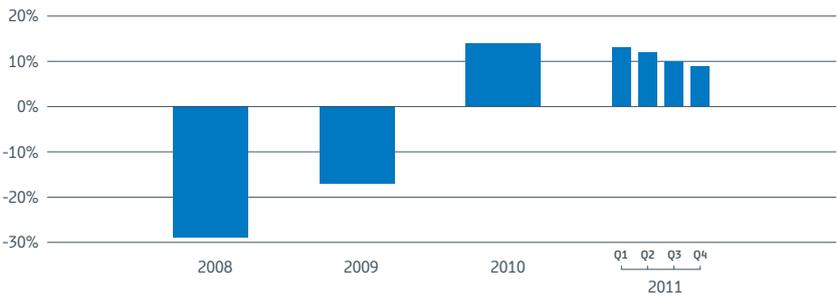
A considerable portion of the assets in the opening balance sheet were foreign currency denominated loans. These assets were funded with deposits which were predominately denominated in Icelandic krona. The initial FX imbalance of over 300% of the capital base far exceeded the legal limit. In spite of limited hedging opportunities the FX imbalance has largely been brought under control.

### Currency imbalance



Comparable progress has been achieved with regard to other asset and liability mismatches, e.g., Consumer Price Index imbalance.

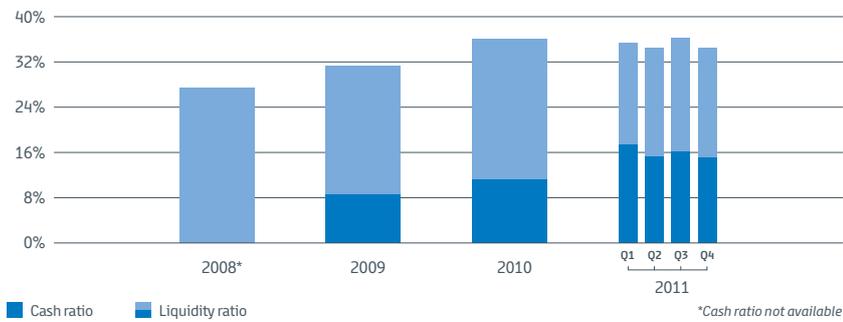
### CPI imbalance



## Funding and liquidity risk

Arion Bank was initially funded through customer deposits which were largely on-demand. In conjunction with the accumulation of liquidity reserves, the Bank has enjoyed success in diversifying its deposit base, increasing term deposits and securing alternative funding sources.

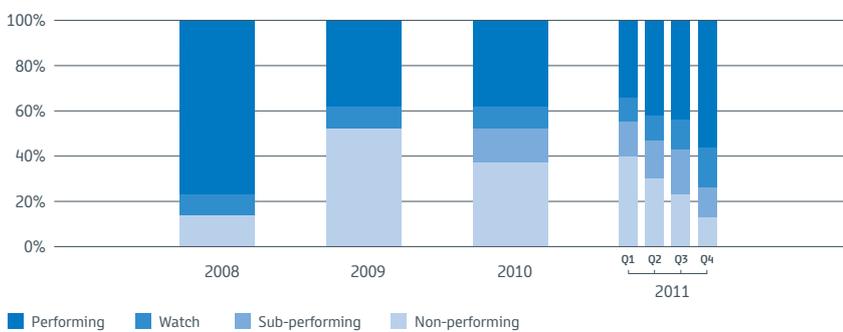
### Cash ratio and Liquidity ratio



## Distressed loans

The loan book performance reached a low-point in 2009 but with various payment-holiday schemes in place the performance could not be measured with traditional methods. A loan book classification system (see Note 105a) was introduced in late 2010 and loan book performance has improved sharply in 2011 following aggressive restructuring of distressed borrowers in 2010-2011.

### Loan book classification

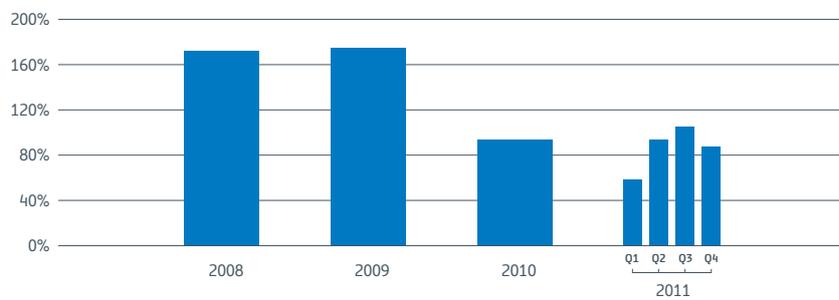


### Credit concentrations and risk capital

Arion Bank's initial asset portfolio contained several loans which were excessive for Arion Bank's balance sheet. The reduction of said exposures and an increased capital base means that there are no longer any exposures exceeding the legal limit.

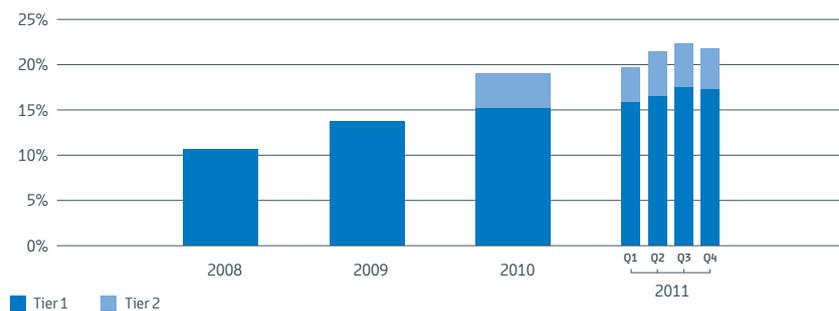
The Bank has been profitable since its inception and its capital base has grown steadily.

#### Sum of large exposure exceeding 10% of capital



The Bank has been profitable since its inception and its capital base has grown steadily. The inclusion of the Arion Mortgages Institutional Investor Fund and the effect of negative judgments from the Supreme Court caused a slight reduction in capital ratios in Q4 2011.

#### Capital ratio



## Funding & Liquidity

Arion Bank is to a large degree a deposit-funded bank. Significant steps have been made to diversify the funding profile of the Bank by issuing covered bonds. The Bank maintains a strong liquidity position, surpassing the requirements of the Icelandic Financial Supervisory Authority (FME) and the Central Bank of Iceland (CBI).

### Funding

Arion Bank was granted a license from the FME to issue statutory covered bonds in November 2011. A €1 billion covered bond programme was completed at the beginning of February 2012 and will be used to finance Arion Bank's mortgage lending. The Bank has been a pioneer on the Icelandic market in offering new types of mortgages.

Arion Bank also took over from Kaupthing Bank as the issuer of structured covered bonds that Kaupthing Bank had issued in 2006 -2008. The outstanding amount of structured covered bonds is ISK 127 billion, and the bond issue is owned by a number of Icelandic and international investors. The underlying cover pool consists of Icelandic inflation-linked mortgages.

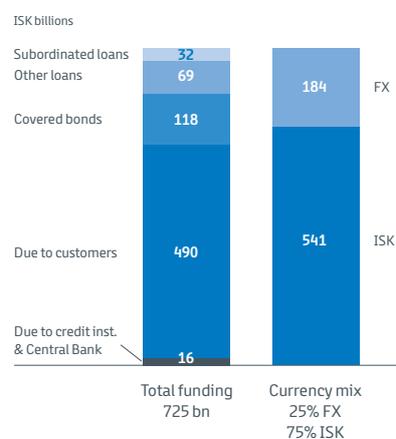
Arion Bank held meetings with prospective bond investors in 2011 and will continue to develop relationships with investors in 2012. It is very important for the Bank to inform investors of its efforts to improve the asset quality and to maintain strong liquidity and capital ratios. The Bank intends to issue bonds in various formats in 2012, including covered bonds and senior unsecured bonds.

While Arion Bank has yet to obtain one, an international credit rating from Moody's, S&P or Fitch would undoubtedly improve the Bank's access to international credit markets. However, any rating that the Bank may get is unlikely to be higher than the rating of the Icelandic sovereign which currently is rated Baa3/BBB-/BBB- by Moody's/S&P/Fitch.

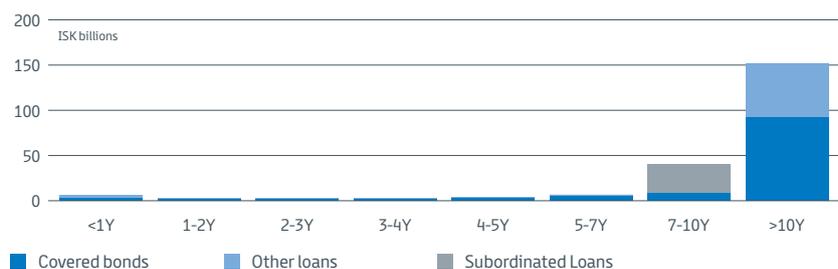
The Bank is majority funded by deposits, and a strong deposit base is the core structure of any bank's liability base. Deposits are short in maturity, and larger depositors can prove to be a volatile source of funding. Arion Bank therefore aims to further diversify its funding base by issuing bonds in various formats.

Out of total liabilities of ISK 778 billion, deposits represent ISK 506 billion, borrowings total ISK 187 billion and subordinated debt is ISK 32 billion. A total of ISK 118 billion of borrowings relate to structured covered bonds where Icelandic mortgages are used as security, ISK 56 billion relate to a loan from the CBI, denominated in various currencies with Icelandic mortgages and municipal loans as security, and finally ISK 13 billion relate to bond issues denominated in Icelandic krona and euros. The subordinated loan is a loan of ISK 32 billion from the Ministry of Finance and is denominated in several currencies.

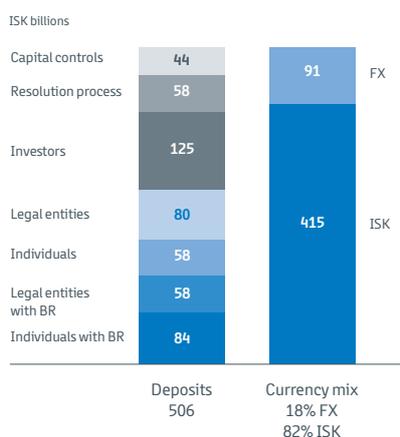
### Combination of total funding



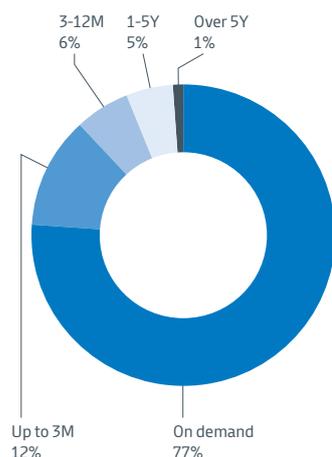
### Maturity of long-term funding



### Combination of total deposits



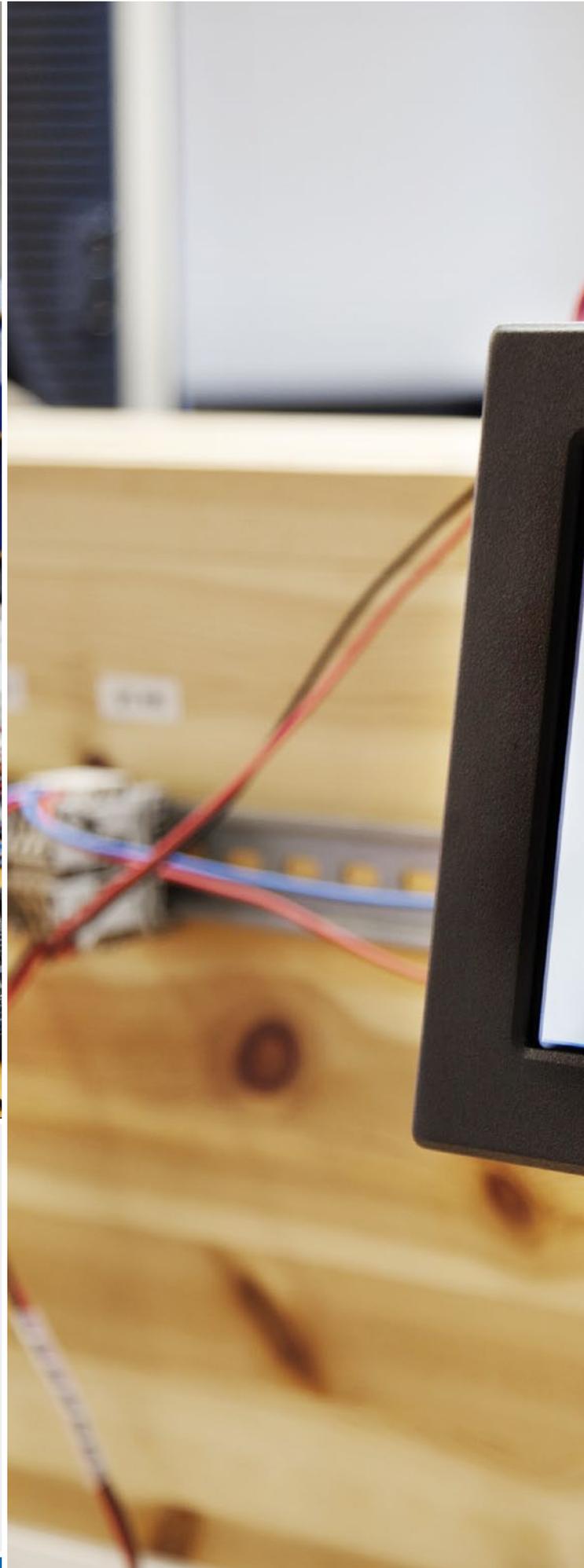
### Breakdown by maturity of total deposits



### Liquidity

Arion Bank maintains a strong liquidity buffer at all times. The main indicator used by the Bank is the liquidity ratio, which is secured liquidity as a percentage of total deposits. On 31 December 2011, the liquidity ratio was 35% while the regulatory minimum set by the FME is 20%. Another indicator used is the cash ratio; this ratio is the percentage of cash available as a percentage of demand deposits. The cash ratio was 15% on 31 December 2011, which is well above the regulatory minimum of 5%. Other liquidity indicators which the Bank has started monitoring are the Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR) and the Net Stable Funding Ratio (NSFR), both of which are defined in the Basel III accord.

Arion Bank is committed to maintaining a strong liquidity position in the future. The Bank regularly performs stress tests on its liquidity position, e.g. testing what the implications for the Bank's liquidity would be if the CBI immediately lifted capital controls.



“It is vital that our bank understands innovation and that providers of management solutions such as Marorka and other Icelandic innovators enjoy support in their development work, thereby strengthening the foundations of the Icelandic business sector.”

**Jón Ágúst Thorsteinsson**  
Managing Director of Marorka



Performance ME Fuel Speed Shaft Power 24h History



GPS Speed  
95.7 km/h

Fuel Consumption  
102 gph

ME Sp/100  
96 gph

62° 41.892' S  
042° 08.618' E



## Financial Results

Arion Bank reported net earnings of ISK 11.1 billion in 2011, compared with ISK 12.6 billion in 2010. Return on equity was 10.5%, compared with 13.4% in 2010. The Bank's capital ratio increased by 2.2% points to 21.2% at the end of 2011, which is well above the FME's 16% minimum requirement.

### Income

Total operating income in 2011 amounted to ISK 33.3 billion, a decrease of 6.6% between years. A recent ruling by the Supreme Court on the FX loans have a big impact on the total operating income in 2011.

Net interest income was ISK 23.4 billion in 2011, an increase of 18.2% between years. The net interest margin was 3.4% in 2011 compared with 2.7% in 2010.

Net commission income in 2011 amounted to ISK 10.7 billion, an increase of 55.6% between years. This strong increase is mainly related to the acquisition of Valitor; Arion Bank became Valitor's parent company in October 2010.

A revaluation of the Bank's portfolio of loans and receivables resulted in a net ISK 8.6 billion decrease. The total increase in the value of loans and receivables was ISK 38.4 billion, which was offset by impairment of loans of ISK 27.4 billion and changes in the Compensation Instrument of ISK 19.6 billion. Of the impairment amount ISK 13.8 billion are related to the recent ruling by the Supreme Court on the FX loans.

Net gain from discontinued operations was ISK 2.8 billion in 2011, with net income of 3.6 billion from the sale of Hagar but loss from sale of 10/11 and fair value loss from other held for sale assets.

### Expenses

Total operating expenses in 2011 amounted to ISK 22.0 billion, an increase of 20.4% between years. This cost increase is mainly due to the acquisition of Valitor. At the end of 2011 there were 1,158 full-time equivalent positions at the Bank, a decrease of 83 employees between years which is mostly related to redundancies in September.

### Balance sheet

At year end 2011 Arion Bank and Kaupthing Resolution Committee reached agreement for Arion Bank to acquire a mortgage portfolio which has been managed in a special fund owned by Kaupthing Bank. The agreement also specifies that the deal will be funded by the assumption of covered bonds by Arion Bank. The total amount of mortgage loans is ISK 110.0 billion, the total outflow of deposits is ISK 26.6 billion and the net effect of issued bonds is 117.7 billion.

The change in non-current assets and liabilities from disposal groups held for sale is mainly related to the sale of Hagar out of the Group.

### Capital requirements

At year end 2011 Arion Bank met all the FME's requirements on equity and liquidity. At year end 2011 Arion Bank's Tier 1 ratio was 16.4% and the capital ratio was 21.2%, above the FME's minimum requirement of 16%. The liquidity ratio was 34.7% and the cash ratio was 15.3% at year end 2011, above the FME's minimum requirement of 20% and 5%.

<b>Income statement</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
Net interest income	23,388	19,785	12,188
Net valuation change	-8,649	1,878	-296
Net commission income	10,685	6,866	5,862
Net financial income	2,347	1,361	10,353
Other income	5,505	5,733	3,758
<b>Total operating income</b>	<b>33,276</b>	<b>35,623</b>	<b>31,865</b>
Total operating expenses	-22,016	-18,292	-15,346
<b>Net earnings before taxes</b>	<b>11,260</b>	<b>17,331</b>	<b>16,519</b>
Income tax	-1,912	-3,481	-2,568
Bank Levy	-1,046	-290	0
Net gain (loss) from discontinued operation	2,792	-1,003	-1,080
<b>Net earnings</b>	<b>11,094</b>	<b>12,557</b>	<b>12,871</b>

<b>Balance sheet</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
Cash and balances with Central Bank	29,200	30,628	41,906
Loans to credit institutions	69,103	67,846	38,470
Loans to customers	561,550	451,219	357,734
Financial assets	157,659	134,767	182,802
Compensation Instrument	0	24,188	34,371
Investment properties	27,100	27,642	22,947
Non current assets and disposals groups held for sale	23,886	44,464	41,527
Other assets	23,623	31,861	37,587
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>892,121</b>	<b>812,615</b>	<b>757,344</b>

Total deposits	506,155	553,527	609,112
Non current liabilities and disposals groups held for sale	4,950	13,514	19,230
Other liabilities	47,150	44,503	27,926
Borrowings	187,203	65,278	11,042
Subordinated loans	32,105	26,257	0
Equity	114,558	109,536	90,034
Total liabilities and equity	892,121	812,615	757,344
Equity	114,558	109,536	90,034
<b>Total liabilities and equity</b>	<b>892,121</b>	<b>812,615</b>	<b>757,344</b>

<b>Key ratios and figures</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
Return on equity	10.5%	13.4%	16.7%
Net interest margin on interest bearing assets	3.4%	2.7%	1.9%
Cost-to-total income	52.5%	54.2%	47.7%
Cost-to-total average assets	2.7%	2.2%	2.2%
CAD ratio	21.2%	19.0%	13.7%
Non-performing loans / loans to customers	13.1%	37.0%	n/a
Loans to deposits ratio	114.6%	98.5%	72.2%
Risk Weighted Assets / Total assets	74.5%	84.7%	83.9%
Secured liquidity ratio	34.7%	24.8%	23.9%
Cash ratio	15.3%	11.2%	8.1%
The Group's employees at the end of the period	1,158	1,241	1,124
The Group's average number of employees	1,217	1,159	1,141

# Annual Accounts 2011

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## Endorsement and Statement by the Board of Directors and the CEO

The Consolidated Financial Statements of Arion Bank for the year ended 31 December 2011 include the Financial Statements of Arion Bank ("the Bank") and its subsidiaries, together referred to as "the Group".

Arion Bank is a group of financial undertakings which provide comprehensive financial services to companies, institutions and private customers. These services include corporate banking, retail banking, capital markets services, corporate financing and asset management and comprehensive wealth management for private banking clients.

Kaupskil ehf., a company owned by the creditors of Kaupthing hf. (formerly Kaupthing Bank hf.), holds 87% of the shares in Arion Bank. The remaining shareholding of 13% is held by the Icelandic State Financial Investments on behalf of the Icelandic government.

The number of full-time equivalent positions at the Group was 1,158 at year-end compared with 1,241 on 31 December 2010, of which 858 positions were at Arion Bank, compared with 936 at the end of December 2010.

### Operations in 2011

Net earnings amounted to ISK 11,094 million for the year ended 31 December 2011. The Board of Directors proposes that profits will be added to equity and that no dividend will be paid. Total equity amounted to ISK 114,558 million at the end of the year, including share capital amounting to ISK 2,000 million. The capital adequacy ratio of the Group, calculated according to the Act on Financial Undertakings, was 21.2%. By law this ratio is required to be no lower than 8.0%, but the Icelandic Financial Supervisory Authority ("FME") requires it to be no less than 16%. The Group's liquidity position was strong with the liquidity ratio and cash ratio being 35% and 15% respectively at the end of the year. This compares favourably with the regulatory minimum of 20% and 6% respectively.

Arion Bank performed well during the year and core banking activities continued to yield strong results. Substantial progress was made in reducing the Bank's currency imbalance during the year and the objective is to close the imbalance before the end of 2012. The Bank continued to make good progress in restructuring its loan book and other assets transferred from Kaupthing hf. As a result the Bank's knowledge of the value of the loan book is vastly improved. Recovery work was mainly completed by the end of the year.

Arion Bank undertook two major initiatives to improve the transparency of its balance sheet and improve its asset base during 2011. Firstly, on 30 June 2011 a Settlement and release of claims agreement was signed by Arion Bank and Kaupthing hf. to finalize a settlement of the Compensation Instrument and various other claims lodged against Kaupthing hf. by Arion Bank. Valuation changes in assets transferred from Kaupthing hf. upon the establishment of Arion Bank and the finalization of loan restructuring and the settlement of disputes made it possible to close the remaining balance of the Compensation Instrument. By signing the agreement the Compensation Instrument is terminated and neither Party shall have any payment obligations towards the other under the Instrument. The settlement was in the form of a transfer of loans and claims from Kaupthing hf. to Arion Bank and loans from Arion Bank to Kaupthing hf., which in most cases results in the total exposure to the customers being held wholly by either Arion Bank or Kaupthing hf. Secondly, at the end of the year Arion Bank acquired Kaupthing Mortgage Institutional Investor Fund which was a structured covered bond fund owned by the bankruptcy estate of Kaupthing hf. The mortgages within the portfolio are serviced by Arion Bank and are valued at around ISK 112 billion. The fund has been renamed and is called Arion Bank Mortgages Institutional Investor Fund (ABMIIF) and Arion Bank is the paying entity to bondholders instead of Kaupthing hf. The transaction strengthens the asset quality of the Group, improves the debt profile, and lastly strengthens the franchise value of the Group in the retail market as 40% of the loan portfolio are now loans to individuals. The effect on the loans-to-deposits ratio, changing it to 114.6% from 98.5%, is more than compensated for by the duration match of the portfolio and the covered bonds.

Early in 2011 Arion Bank's subsidiary Eignabjarg sold a 34% stake in Hagar plus a call option on an additional 10% to a diverse group of pension funds and professional investors. The sale price was ISK 4.1 billion. Later in the year the Corporate Advisory – Investment Banking division of Arion Bank successfully managed a public offering of shares in Hagar and the subsequent listing of the company on NASDAQ OMX Iceland. This is the first new listing on the stock exchange since 2008. The size of the offering represented 30% of the issued shares and the proceeds were ISK 4.9 billion. At the end of the year Eignabjarg still held 20% of shares in Hagar but 13.3% were sold through a private placement of shares at the end of February 2012.

Arion Bank actively sought to diversify its funding during 2011. Market conditions, however, remained challenging, partially due to the global economic situation. The Bank continued to work on an international covered bond programme which was signed in February 2012.

### Risk Management

The Group faces various risks in its business activities, Managing risk is a core activity within the Group, the Group manages its risks through a process of ongoing risk identification, measurement and monitoring, using limits and other controls. This process of risk management and the ability to evaluate, manage and price the risk encountered is critical to the Group's continuing profitability as well as to be able to ensure that the Group's exposure to risk remains within acceptable levels. Arion Bank's risk management structure, strategy and risk exposures are addressed in the notes, starting in Note 100.

## Endorsement and Statement by the Board of Directors and the CEO

### New FX rulings

On 15 February 2012, the Supreme Court passed a judgment in the case of Frjálsi fjárfestingabankinn. The Group has estimated that the loss to the Group's foreign loan portfolio arising from this judgement is ISK 13.8 billion, with an impairment charge for this amount included in Net Earnings as stated above. Further information regarding this judgement and methods used for the estimated effect is discussed in Note 95 in the Financial Statements.

### Outlook

Arion Bank is heavily influenced by the domestic and international economic environment. The recovery in Iceland has started with GDP growth of 3.1% in 2011. Growth is forecast to be 2.4% in 2012 but the recovery remains fragile. Loan demand has been limited for some time but is expected to increase gradually from current levels. Capital market activities are expected to pick up from very low levels in line with the rebuilding of the equity market in Iceland. Arion Bank aims to have a fair market share as the capital markets improve. The Bank has no refinancing need in the near to medium term and is therefore not exposed to the situation in the global financial markets. However, the Bank's counterparty risk is likely to increase over time, and adverse developments in the global markets will have a negative effect on the Icelandic economy and the Bank's financial results. Arion Bank is, however, financially strong and well positioned to meet any challenges presented by the aforementioned situations. The Bank, furthermore, is in an ideal position to support the growth of the Icelandic economy over the coming years.

### Statement by the Board of Directors and the CEO

The Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2011 have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the European Union.

It is our opinion that the Consolidated Financial Statements give a true and fair view of the financial performance of the Group for the year 2011, its financial position as at 31 December 2011 and its cash flows in 2011.

Further, in our opinion the Consolidated Financial Statements and the Endorsement of the Board of Directors and the CEO give a fair view of the development and performance of the Group's operations and its position and describes the principal risks and uncertainties faced by the Group.

The Board of Directors and the CEO have today discussed the Consolidated Financial Statements of Arion Bank for the year 2011 and confirm them by means of their signatures. The Board of Directors and the CEO recommend that the Consolidated Financial Statements be approved at the Annual General Meeting of Arion Bank.

Reykjavík, 13 March 2012

Board of Directors



Monica Capeman  
Chairman



Agnar Kofod-Hansen



Guðrún Johnsen



Måns Höglund



Guðrún Björnsdóttir



Jón G. Briem

Chief Executive Officer



Höskuldur H. Ólafsson

## Independent Auditor's Report

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To the Board of Directors and Shareholders of Arion Bank.

We have audited the accompanying Consolidated Financial Statements of Arion Bank and its subsidiaries (the "Group"), which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income, the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position as at 31 December 2011, the Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity and the Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows for the year then ended, and the summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes.

### Management's Responsibility for the Consolidated Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these Consolidated Financial Statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the EU, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of Consolidated Financial Statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these Consolidated Financial Statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the Consolidated Financial Statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the Consolidated Financial Statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the Consolidated Financial Statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the Consolidated Financial Statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the Consolidated Financial Statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

### Opinion

In our opinion, the Consolidated Financial Statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Group as at 31 December 2011, of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the EU.

### Confirmation of Endorsement and Statement by the Board of Directors and the CEO

Pursuant to the requirement of Item 5, Paragraph 1 of Article 106 of the Icelandic Financial Statements Act No. 3/2006, we confirm to the best of our knowledge that the accompanying Endorsement and Statement by the Board of Directors and the CEO includes all information required by the Icelandic Financial Statements Act that is not disclosed elsewhere in the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Reykjavík, 13 March 2012

Ernst & Young ehf.



Margrét Pétursdóttir, Partner

## Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year 2011

	Notes	2011	2010
Interest income .....		46,433	52,369
Interest expense .....		(23,045)	(32,584)
<b>Net interest income</b> .....	42	23,388	19,785
Increase in book value of loans and receivables .....	43	38,368	40,269
Impairment of loans and receivables .....	44	(27,424)	(26,787)
Changes in compensation instrument .....	71	(19,593)	(11,604)
<b>Net interest income less valuation changes on loans and receivables</b> .....		14,739	21,663
Fee and commission income .....		16,862	10,373
Fee and commission expense .....		(6,177)	(3,507)
<b>Net fee and commission income</b> .....	45	10,685	6,866
Net financial income (expense) .....	46-49	511	402
Fair value change to Drómi bond .....		-	(3,500)
Net foreign exchange gain (loss) .....	50	1,836	4,459
Share of profit or loss of associates .....	73	8	556
Other operating income .....	51-52	5,497	5,177
<b>Operating income</b> .....		33,276	35,623
Salaries and related expense .....	54	(11,254)	(9,272)
Administration expense .....		(7,810)	(7,154)
Depositors' and investors' guarantee fund .....	90	(1,200)	(324)
Depreciation and amortisation .....	75	(956)	(819)
Other operating expense .....	57-58	(796)	(723)
<b>Earnings before tax</b> .....		11,260	17,331
Income tax expense .....	60	(1,912)	(3,481)
Bank Levy .....	61	(1,046)	(290)
<b>Net earnings from continuing operations</b> .....		8,302	13,560
Net gain (loss) from discontinued operations, net of tax .....	59	2,792	(1,003)
<b>Net earnings</b> .....		11,094	12,557
<b>Attributable to:</b>			
Shareholders of Arion Bank .....		10,493	12,381
Non-controlling interest .....		601	176
<b>Net earnings</b> .....		11,094	12,557
<b>Other comprehensive income</b>			
Exchange difference on translating foreign subsidiaries .....	88	112	(203)
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b> .....		11,206	12,354
<b>Earnings per share</b>			
Basic and diluted earnings per share attributable to the shareholders of Arion Bank (ISK) .....	62	5.25	5.61

The notes on pages 80 to 147 are an integral part of these Consolidated Financial Statements.

## Consolidated Statement of Financial Position as at 31 December 2011

Assets	Notes	2011	2010
Cash and balances with Central Bank .....	63	29,200	30,628
Loans and receivables to credit institutions .....	64-65	69,103	67,846
Loans and receivables to customers .....	66-67,105	561,550	451,219
Bonds and debt instruments .....	68-69	140,568	120,112
Shares and equity instruments with variable income .....	68	14,045	10,316
Derivatives .....	68,86	674	1,126
Securities used for hedging .....	68	2,372	3,213
Compensation instrument .....	71	-	24,188
Investment property .....	72	27,100	27,642
Investments in associates .....	73	2,987	2,713
Property and equipment .....	74-75	6,271	7,365
Intangible assets .....	76	4,765	4,352
Tax assets .....	77-80	724	295
Non-current assets and disposal groups held for sale .....	81	23,886	44,464
Other assets .....	82	8,876	17,136
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>892,121</b>	<b>812,615</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Due to credit institutions and Central Bank .....	68	16,160	95,646
Deposits .....	68	489,995	457,881
Financial liabilities at fair value .....	68	4,907	999
Tax liabilities .....	77-80	3,421	4,454
Non-current liabilities and disposal groups held for sale .....	81	4,950	13,514
Other liabilities .....	83	38,822	39,050
Borrowings .....	68,84	187,203	65,278
Subordinated liabilities .....	68,85	32,105	26,257
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>777,563</b>	<b>703,079</b>
<b>Equity</b>			
Share capital .....	87	2,000	2,000
Share premium .....	87	73,861	73,861
Other reserves .....	88	1,637	1,525
Retained earnings .....		32,950	28,531
<b>Total Shareholders' Equity</b>		<b>110,448</b>	<b>105,917</b>
Non-controlling interest .....		4,110	3,619
<b>Total Equity</b>		<b>114,558</b>	<b>109,536</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Equity</b>		<b>892,121</b>	<b>812,615</b>

The notes on pages 80 to 147 are an integral part of these Consolidated Financial Statements.

## Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity for the year 2011

	Share capital and share premium	Other reserves	Retained earnings	Total Share- holders' equity	Non- controlling interest	Total equity
<b>2011</b>						
Equity 1 January 2011 .....	75,861	1,525	28,531	105,917	3,619	109,536
Dividend paid .....			(6,074)	(6,074)		(6,074)
Total comprehensive income for the year attributable to the shareholders of Arion Bank .....		112	10,493	10,605		10,605
Total comprehensive income for the year attributable to the non-controlling interest .....					601	601
Disposal of non-controlling interests .....					(110)	(110)
<b>Equity 31 December 2011 .....</b>	<b>75,861</b>	<b>1,637</b>	<b>32,950</b>	<b>110,448</b>	<b>4,110</b>	<b>114,558</b>
<b>2010</b>						
Equity 1 January 2010 .....	72,000	1,729	16,150	89,879	155	90,034
Redeemed share capital .....	(62,139)			(62,139)		(62,139)
Issued share capital .....	66,000			66,000		66,000
Total comprehensive income for the year attributable to the shareholders of Arion Bank .....		(204)	12,381	12,177		12,177
Total comprehensive income for the year attributable to the non-controlling interest .....					176	176
Non-controlling interests acquired during the year .....					3,288	3,288
<b>Equity 31 December 2010 .....</b>	<b>75,861</b>	<b>1,524</b>	<b>28,531</b>	<b>105,917</b>	<b>3,619</b>	<b>109,536</b>

The notes on pages 80 to 147 are an integral part of these Consolidated Financial Statements.

## Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows for the year 2011

	Notes	2011	2010
<b>Cash flows from (used in) operating activities:</b>			
Earnings before income tax .....		11,260	17,331
Adjustments to reconcile earnings before income tax to net cash from (used in) operating activities:			
Non-cash items included in net earnings before income tax and other adjustments .....	97	(1,623)	(6,386)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities .....	98	(13,443)	(7,991)
Income taxes paid .....		(3,232)	(748)
		(7,038)	2,206
<b>Net cash from (used in) operating activities</b>			
<b>Cash flows from (used in) investing activities:</b>			
Purchase of investment property .....		(2,160)	(1,120)
Investment in associated companies .....		(177)	(66)
Proceeds from sale of investment property .....		5,999	1,705
Proceeds from sale of associated companies .....		-	54
Purchase of intangible assets .....		(518)	(121)
Purchase of property and equipment .....		(667)	(381)
Proceeds from sale of property and equipment .....		158	110
Proceeds from sale of assets held for sale .....		-	706
Proceeds from the sale of individual properties included in discontinued operations .....		11,028	1,870
		13,663	2,757
<b>Net cash from (used in) investing activities</b>			
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents .....		6,625	4,963
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year .....		72,797	56,094
Cash and cash equivalents acquired through business combinations .....		11	18,110
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents .....		3,382	(6,370)
		82,815	72,797
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>			
	99	82,815	72,797
<b>Non-cash investing and financing transactions:</b>			
Tier II subordinated notes issued in settlement of dividend .....		(6,074)	-
Change in retained earnings for settlement of dividend with Icelandic State Financial Investments .....		6,074	-
Loans and receivables received through changes in capitalization .....		-	112,824
Bonds and debt instruments delivered through changes in capitalization .....		-	(32,595)
Liabilities due to credit institutions and Central Bank			
transferred due to changes in capitalization .....		-	14,428
Borrowings transferred due to changes in capitalization .....		-	(61,252)
Subordinated loans transferred due to changes in capitalization .....		-	(29,543)
Net changes in equity due to changes in capitalization .....		-	(3,862)
Assets acquired through foreclosure on collateral from legal entities with view to resale .....		8,825	9,816
Settlement of loans and receivables through foreclosure on collateral from subsidiaries			
with view to resale .....		(8,825)	(9,816)

The notes on pages 80 to 147 are an integral part of these Consolidated Financial Statements.

# Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

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## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

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### General information

#### 1. Reporting entity

Arion banki hf., the Parent Company, was established 18 October 2008 and is incorporated and domiciled in Iceland. The registered office of Arion banki hf. is located at Borgartún 19, Reykjavík. The Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2011 comprise the Parent Company and its subsidiaries (together referred to as "the Group"). The Group offers integrated financial services to companies, institutional investors and individuals. These services include corporate banking, retail banking, investment banking services, and asset management.

The Financial Statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors of Arion Bank on 13 March 2012.

#### 2. Basis of preparation

##### a) *Statement of compliance*

The Financial Statements are consolidated and have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards, as endorsed by the European Union.

##### b) *Basis of measurement*

The Financial Statements are prepared on the historical cost basis except for the following:

- Financial assets/liabilities held for trading are measured at fair value;
- Financial assets/liabilities designated at fair value through profit and loss are measured at fair value;
- Investment properties are measured at fair value; and

Non-current assets (or disposal groups) classified as held for sale are stated at the lower of their carrying amount and fair value less costs to sell. Immediately before the initial classification, or where the assets and liabilities are not within the scope of IFRS 5, the carrying amounts are measured in accordance with applicable IFRSs.

##### c) *Functional and presentation currency*

The Financial Statements are presented in Icelandic króna (ISK), which is the Parent Company's functional currency, rounded to the nearest million unless otherwise stated.

##### d) *Use of estimates and judgements*

The preparation of the Financial Statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, contingent liabilities as well as income and expenses in the Financial Statements presented. Use of available information and application of judgement are inherent in the formation of estimates. Actual results in the future could differ from such estimates and the differences may be material to the Financial Statements.

Estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an on going basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the year in which the estimate is revised and in any future periods affected.

Judgements made by management that have a significant effect on the Financial Statements and estimates with a significant risk of material adjustment within the next financial year are discussed in Notes 34, 70, 105, 106 and 107.

### Significant accounting policies

The accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these Financial Statement are consistent with those followed in the preparation of the Group's annual Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2010.

#### 3. Going concern assumption

The Group's management has made an assessment of the ability to continue as a going concern and is satisfied that the Group has the resources to continue. In making this assessment management has taken into consideration the risk exposures facing the Group which are further described in the Risk Management Disclosures.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

### 4. Principles underlying the consolidation

#### a) *Subsidiaries*

Subsidiaries are entities controlled by the Group. Control exists when the Group has the power to govern the financial and operating policies of an entity so as to obtain benefits from its activities. Control usually exists when the Group holds more than 50% of the voting power of the entity. In assessing control, potential voting rights that are currently exercisable or convertible are taken into account. The Financial Statements of subsidiaries are included in the Financial Statements from the date that control commences until the date that control ceases. The Financial Statements of the subsidiaries are prepared for the same reporting period as the parent entity, using consistent accounting policies.

The acquisition method of accounting is used to account for the acquisition of businesses and subsidiaries by the Group. The cost of an acquisition is measured as the aggregate of the consideration transferred, measured at acquisition date fair value and the amount of any non-controlling interest in the acquiree. For each business combination, the Group measures the non-controlling interest in the acquiree either at fair value or at the proportionate share of the acquiree's identifiable net assets. Acquisition costs incurred are expensed and included in administrative expenses. If the business combination is achieved in stages, the acquisition date fair value of the acquirer's previously held equity interest in the acquiree is remeasured to fair value at the acquisition date through profit or loss. Identifiable assets acquired and liabilities and contingent liabilities assumed in a business combination are measured initially at their fair values at the acquisition date, irrespective of the extent of any non-controlling interest.

Goodwill is initially measured at cost being the excess of the aggregate of the consideration transferred and the amount recognised for non-controlling interest over the net identifiable assets acquired and liabilities assumed. If this consideration is lower than the fair value of the net assets of the subsidiary acquired, the difference is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income. After initial recognition, goodwill is measured at cost less any accumulated impairment losses.

Transactions eliminated on consolidation

Intragroup balances, income and expenses arising from intragroup transactions, are eliminated in preparing the Financial Statements.

If an investment in subsidiary is classified as held for sale the investment is accounted for, as non-current asset held for sale from the date of classification.

#### b) *Non-controlling interest*

Non-controlling interests represent the portion of profit or loss and equity not owned, directly or indirectly, by the Group; such interests are presented separately in the Statement of Comprehensive Income and are included in equity in the Statement of Financial Position, separately from equity attributable to owners of the Group. Losses within a subsidiary are attributed to the non-controlling interest even if that results in a deficit balance. Changes in the Group's ownership interest in a subsidiary that do not result in a loss of control are accounted for as equity transactions.

#### c) *Funds management*

The Group manages and administers assets held in investment vehicles on behalf of investors. The Financial Statements of these entities are not included in these Financial Statements except when the Group controls the entity.

### 5. Associates

Associates are those entities over which the Group has significant influence, i.e. the power to participate in the financial and operating policy decisions of the associates but not control or joint control over those policies. Significant influence generally exists when the Group holds between 20% and 50% of the voting power, including potential voting rights. Investments in associates are initially recognised at cost. The carrying amount of investments in associates includes intangible assets and accumulated impairment loss.

The Financial Statements include the Group's share of the total recognised income and expenses of associates from the date that significant influence commences until the date that significant influence ceases. When the Group's share of losses exceeds its interest in an equity accounted associate, the Group's carrying amount is reduced to nil and recognition of further losses is discontinued except to the extent that the Group has incurred legal or constructive obligations or made payments on behalf of the associate. If the associate subsequently reports profits, the Group resumes recognising its share of those profits only after its share of the profits equals the share of losses not recognised.

If an investment in an associate is classified as held for sale the equity method is no longer applied and the investment is accounted for, as a non-current asset held for sale. In instances where control of a subsidiary is lost and the Group retains an associate investment, a portion of the recognised gain or loss on sale is attributable to recognising the investment retained in the former subsidiary at its fair value at the date when control is lost. This gain or loss is recognised as either Other operating income (expense) or Net gain (loss) from discontinued operations in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

### 6. Foreign currency

#### a) *Functional currencies*

Items included in the Financial Statements of each of the Group's subsidiaries are measured using the functional currency of the respective entity.

#### b) *Foreign currency transactions*

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated to the respective functional currencies of Group entities at exchange rates at the dates of transactions. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the reporting date are retranslated to the functional currency at the exchange rate at that date. All differences arising on settlement or translation of monetary items are taken to the Statement of Comprehensive Income. Non-monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are reported at historic cost.

#### c) *Foreign operations*

The assets and liabilities of foreign operations are translated to Icelandic króna, at exchange rates at the reporting date. The income and expenses of foreign operations are translated to Icelandic króna at exchange rates approximating the exchange rates current at the dates of the transactions.

Foreign exchange differences arising on translation are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income. When a foreign operation is disposed of, in part or in full, the cumulative amount of the exchange differences relating to that foreign operation which is recorded in comprehensive income and accumulated in the separate component of equity, is transferred to the Statement of Comprehensive Income when the gain or loss on disposal is recognised.

### 7. Income and Expense

#### a) *Interest income and expense*

Interest income and expense are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income using the effective interest method. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts the estimated future cash payments and receipts through the expected life of the financial asset or liability (or, where appropriate, a shorter period) to the carrying amount of the financial asset or liability. The effective interest rate is established on initial recognition of the financial asset and liability and is not revised subsequently.

The calculation of the effective interest rate includes all fees paid or received, transaction costs, and discounts or premiums that are an integral part of the effective interest rate. Transaction costs are incremental costs that are directly attributable to the acquisition, issue or disposal of a financial asset or liability.

Interest income and expense presented in the Statement of Comprehensive Income include:

- Interest on financial assets and liabilities at amortised cost on an effective interest rate basis;
- Interest on trading assets and liabilities on an accrual basis;
- Interest on financial assets and financial liabilities designated at fair value through profit or loss on an accrual basis; and
- Interest on derivatives on an accrual basis.

Interest income on non-performing assets are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income using the effective interest method. The Group recognises losses for impaired loans to offset the recognised interest income when appropriate.

#### b) *Fee and commission income and expense*

The Group provides various services to its clients and earns income therefrom, such as income from Corporate banking, Retail banking, Capital Markets, Corporate Finance and Asset Management and Private banking. Fees earned from services that are provided over a certain period of time are recognised as the services are provided. Fees earned from transaction type services are recognised when the service has been completed. Fees that are performance linked are recognised when the performance criteria are fulfilled. Fees and commission income and expenses that are integral to the effective interest rate on a financial asset or liability are included in the measurement of the effective interest rate.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

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c) *Net financial income*

Net financial income comprises Dividend income, Net gain on financial assets and liabilities at fair value through profit or loss and Net gain on disposal of financial assets and liabilities not at fair value.

i) Dividend income is recognised when the right to receive income is established. Usually this is the ex-dividend date for equity securities.

ii) Net gain on financial assets and liabilities at fair value through profit or loss comprises: Net gain on trading portfolio, Net gain on assets and liabilities designated at fair value through profit or loss.

*Net gain on trading portfolio*

Net gains on financial instruments held for trading comprise gains and losses related to financial assets and financial liabilities held for trading, and includes all realised and unrealised fair value changes, except for interest (which is included in "Interest income" and "Interest expense") and foreign exchange gains and losses (which are included in "Net foreign exchange gains" as described below).

*Net gain on assets and liabilities designated at fair value through profit or loss*

Net gains on financial instruments designated at fair value through profit or loss comprise gains and losses related to financial assets and financial liabilities designated at fair value through profit or loss, and includes all realised and unrealised fair value changes, except for interest (which is included in "Interest income" and "Interest expense") and foreign exchange gains and losses (which are included in "Net foreign exchange gains" as described below).

iii) Net foreign exchange gains comprise all foreign exchange differences arising on the settlement of foreign currency monetary assets and liabilities and on translating foreign currency monetary assets and liabilities at rates different from those at which they were translated on initial recognition during the year or in previous financial statements.

Net foreign exchange gains also include foreign exchange differences arising on translating non-monetary assets and liabilities which are measured at fair value in foreign currencies and whose other gains and losses are also recognised in profit or loss.

iv) Net gain on financial assets and liabilities not at fair value through profit or loss relates to derecognition of certain financial assets and liabilities and comprises Net realised gain or loss on financial liabilities measured at amortised cost and other net realised gain or loss. It does not include either unrealised foreign exchange gains and losses or interest income and expense which are included in other line items.

d) *Income tax*

*Income tax* comprises current and deferred tax. Income tax is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income except to the extent that it relates to items recognised directly in other comprehensive income or equity, in which case it is recognised in other comprehensive income or equity.

Current tax is the expected tax payable on the taxable income for the year, using tax rates enacted or substantially enacted at the reporting date.

The deferred income tax asset / liability has been calculated and entered in the Statement of Financial Position. The calculation is based on the difference between Statement of Financial Position items as presented in the tax return on the one hand, and in the Financial Statements on the other. This difference is due to the fact that tax assessments are based on premises that differ from those governing the Financial Statements, mostly because revenues and settlement is not expected at the same time. A deferred tax asset is only offset against income tax liability if they are due to tax assessment from the same tax authorities.

A deferred tax asset is recognised only to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profits will be available against which the asset can be utilised. Deferred tax assets are reviewed at each reporting date and reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that the related tax benefit will be realised.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

### 8. Impairment of financial assets

At each reporting date the Group assesses whether there is objective evidence that financial assets not carried at fair value through profit or loss are impaired. Financial assets are impaired when objective evidence demonstrates that a loss event has occurred after the initial recognition of the assets, and that the loss event has an impact on the future cash flows on the asset that can be estimated reliably.

An impairment loss is recognised whenever the carrying amount of a financial asset exceeds its recoverable amount. Impairment losses are recognised as described below.

#### a) *Impairment on loans and receivables*

The Group recognises losses for impaired loans when there is objective evidence that impairment of a loan or portfolio of loans has occurred. This is done on a consistent basis in accordance with the Group's guidelines.

There are two basic methods of calculating impairment losses, those calculated on individual loans and those losses assessed on a collective basis. Losses expected as a result of future events, no matter how likely, are not recognised.

Objective evidence of impairment includes observable data about the following loss events:

- i) Significant financial difficulty of the borrower;
- ii) A breach of contract, such as a default on instalments or on interest or principal payments;
- iii) The Group granting to the borrower, for economic or legal reasons relating to the borrower's financial difficulty, a refinancing concession, that the lender would not otherwise consider;
- iv) It becomes probable that the borrower will enter bankruptcy or undergo other financial reorganisation;
- v) Deterioration in collateral to loan ratio; or
- vi) Observable data indicating that there is a measurable decrease in the estimated future cash flows from a group of loans since the initial recognition of those assets, even if the decrease cannot yet be identified with the individual financial assets in the group, including:
  - Adverse changes in the payment status of borrowers in the Group; or
  - General national or local economic conditions connected with the assets in the Group.

#### Individually assessed loans

Impairment losses on individually assessed accounts are determined by an evaluation of the exposures on a case-by-case basis. The Group assesses at each reporting date whether there is any objective evidence that a loan is impaired. This procedure is applied to all accounts that are considered individually significant. In determining such impairment losses on individually assessed accounts, the following factors are considered:

- The Group's aggregate exposure to the customer;
- The amount and timing of expected receipts and recoveries;
- The likely distribution available on liquidation or bankruptcy;
- The complexity of determining the aggregate amount and ranking of all creditor claims and the extent to which legal and insurance uncertainties are evident;
- The realisable value of security (or other credit mitigates) and likelihood of successful repossession; and
- The likely deduction of any costs involved in recovery of amounts outstanding.

Impairment loss is calculated by comparing the present value of the expected future cash flows, discounted at the original effective interest rate of the loan, with its current carrying value and the amount of any loss is charged in the Statement of Comprehensive Income. The carrying amount of impaired loans is reduced through the use of an allowance account. In the case of a loan at variable interest rates, the discount rate for measuring any impairment loss is the current effective interest rate determined under the contract.

#### Collectively assessed loans

Where loans have been individually assessed and no evidence of loss has been identified, these loans are grouped together on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics for the purpose of calculating a collective impairment loss. This loss covers loans that are impaired at the reporting date but which will not be individually identified as such until some time in the future. The estimated collective impairment loss is recognised through the use of an allowance account.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

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The collective impairment loss is determined after taking into account:

- Future cash flows in a group of loans evaluated for impairment are estimated on the basis of the contractual cash flows of the assets;
- Historical loss experience in portfolios of similar risk characteristics (for example, by industry sector, loan grade or product);
- The estimated period between a loss occurring and that loss being identified and evidenced by the establishment of an allowance against the loss on an individual loan;
- Future cash flows in a group of loans evaluated for impairment are estimated on the basis of the contractual cash; and
- Management's experienced judgement as to whether the current economic and credit conditions are such that the actual level of inherent losses is likely to be greater or less than that suggested by historical experience.

The estimated period between a loss occurring and its identification is determined for each identified portfolio.

Estimates of changes in future cash flows for groups of assets should be consistent with changes in observable data from period to period, for example, changes in property prices, payment status, or other factors indicative of changes in the probability of losses on the group and their magnitude. The methodology and assumptions used for estimating future cash flows are reviewed regularly by the Group to minimise any differences between loss estimates and actual losses.

### Loan write-offs

Loans are normally written off, either partially or in full, when there is no realistic prospect of recovery of these amounts and, for collateralised loans, when the proceeds from the realisation of security have been received.

### Reversals of impairment

If, in a subsequent period, the amount of an impairment loss decreases and the decrease can be related objectively to an event occurring after the impairment was recognised or acquired, the previously recognised or acquired impairment loss is reversed. The amount of any reversal is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

In some cases, financial assets are acquired at a deep discount that reflects incurred credit losses. The Group includes such incurred credit losses in the estimated cash flows when computing the effective interest rate. If the Group revises its estimate of payments or receipts, the Group adjusts the carrying amount of the financial asset to reflect actual and revised estimated cash flows. The Group recalculates the carrying amount by computing the present value of estimated future cash flows at the financial instrument's original effective interest rate. The adjustment is recognised as increase in value of loans and receivables in profit or loss when recalculation results in an increase in carrying amount and impairment when decrease in carrying amount.

### Assets acquired in exchange for loans

Assets acquired in exchange for loans are recorded as non-current assets held for sale in the Statement of Financial Position if its sale is highly probable and management is committed to a plan to sell the asset, and an active programme to locate a buyer and complete the plan have been initiated. The non-current asset held for resale is recorded at the lower of its fair value less costs to sell, and the carrying amount of the loan, net of impairment allowance amounts, at the date of exchange. No depreciation is provided in respect of assets held for sale. Any subsequent write-down of the acquired asset to fair value less costs to sell is recorded as an impairment loss and included in the Statement of Comprehensive Income. Any subsequent increase in the fair value less costs to sell, to the extent this does not exceed the cumulative impairment loss, is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

### b) Calculation of recoverable amount

The recoverable amount of the Group's investments in financial assets carried at amortised cost is calculated as the present value of estimated future cash flows, discounted at the original effective interest rate, i.e. the effective interest rate computed at initial recognition of these financial assets.

### c) Impairment on investments in associates

After applying the equity method to account for investments in associates, the Group determines whether it is necessary to recognise any impairment loss with respect to its investments in associates. The Group first determines whether there is any objective evidence that an investment in an associate is impaired. If such evidence exists, the Group then tests the entire carrying amount of the investment for impairment, by comparing its recoverable amount, which is the higher of value in use and fair value less costs to sell, with its carrying amount. The recoverable amount of an investment in an associate is assessed for each associate, unless the associate does not generate cash inflows from continuing use that are largely independent of those from other assets of the Group. The excess of the carrying amount over the recoverable amount is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income as an impairment loss. Impairment losses are subsequently reversed through the Statement of Comprehensive Income if the reasons for the impairment loss no longer apply.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

### 9. Impairment of non-financial assets

The carrying amounts of the Group's non-financial assets, other than non-current assets held for resale, investment property and deferred tax assets, are reviewed at each reporting date to determine, whether there is any indication of impairment. If any such indication exists then the asset's recoverable amount is estimated. The recoverable amount of intangible assets is assessed annually.

An impairment loss is recognised if the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its recoverable amount. Impairment losses are recognised in profit or loss.

The recoverable amount of an asset is the greater of its value in use and its fair value less cost to sell. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset.

An impairment loss in respect of other assets, where impairment losses have been recognised in prior periods, are assessed at each reporting date for any indications that the loss has decreased or no longer exists. An impairment loss is reversed if there has been a change in the estimates used to determine the recoverable amount. An impairment loss is reversed only to the extent that the asset's carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined, net of depreciation or amortisation, if no impairment loss had been recognised.

### 10. Derivatives

A derivative is a financial instrument or other contract, the value of which changes in response to a change in an underlying variable, such as share, commodity or bond prices, an index value or an exchange or interest rate, which requires no initial net investment or initial net investment that is smaller than would be required for other types of contracts that would be expected to have a similar response to changes in market factors and which is settled at a future date.

Derivatives are recognised at fair value. Fair value changes are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income. Changes in fair values of derivatives are split into interest income, foreign exchange differences and other gains and losses. Interest income is recognised on an accrual basis. Derivatives with positive fair values are recognised as Derivatives and derivatives with negative fair values are recognised as Financial liabilities at fair value.

The fair value of derivatives is determined in accordance with the accounting policy presented in Note 13.

### 11. Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents in the Statement of Cash Flows consist of cash, demand deposits with the Central Bank and demand deposits with other credit institutions. Cash and cash equivalents comprise balances with less than three months' maturity from the date of acquisition.

### 12. Loans and receivables

Loans and receivables are financial instruments with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market and that the Group does not intend to sell immediately or in the near term. Loans include loans provided by the Group to credit institutions and to its customers, participation in loans from other lenders and purchased loans.

When the Group purchases a financial asset and simultaneously enters into an agreement to resell the asset (or a substantially similar asset) at a fixed price on a future date reverse repo or stock borrowing, the arrangement is accounted for as a loan, and the underlying asset is not recognised in the Group's Financial Statements.

Loans and receivables are initially measured at fair value plus incremental direct transaction costs, and subsequently measured at their amortised cost using the effective interest method. Accrued interest is included in the carrying amount of the loans and receivables.

### 13. Financial assets measured at fair value through profit and loss

#### a) Trading assets

Trading assets are financial instruments acquired principally for the purpose of generating profits from short term price fluctuations or from a dealer's margin, and derivative financial instruments.

Securities used for hedging are trading securities acquired exclusively in order to hedge against market risk of asset swap derivative contracts.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

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### 13. cont.

#### b) *Financial assets designated at fair value through profit or loss*

The Group classifies certain financial assets upon their initial recognition as financial assets held at fair value with fair value changes recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income as Net financial income if doing so results in more relevant information because:

- i) the assets are managed, evaluated and reported internally on a fair value basis;
- ii) the designation eliminates or significantly reduces an accounting mismatch which would otherwise arise; or
- iii) the assets contain an embedded derivative that significantly modifies the cash flows that would otherwise be required under the contract.

The assets classified according to the above mentioned conditions consist of equity and debt instruments which are acquired by the Group with a view to profiting from their total return and which are managed and evaluated on a fair value basis.

Interest and dividend income that arises from these assets are included in Interest income and Net financial income, respectively.

### 14. Determination of fair value

The determination of fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities that are quoted in an active market is based on quoted prices. A market is considered active if quoted prices are readily and regularly available and those prices represent actual and regularly occurring market transactions on an arm's length basis. For all other financial instruments fair value is determined by using valuation techniques. Valuation techniques include net present value techniques, the discounted cash flow method, comparison to similar instruments for which market observable prices exist, and valuation models. The Group uses widely recognised valuation models for determining the fair value of common and more simpler financial instruments like options and interest rate and currency swaps. For these financial instruments, inputs into models are market observable.

The value produced by a model or other valuation technique is adjusted to allow for a number of factors as appropriate, because valuation techniques cannot appropriately reflect all factors market participants take into account when entering into a transaction. Valuation adjustments are recorded to allow for model risks, bid-ask spreads, liquidity risks, as well as other factors. Management believes that these valuation adjustments are necessary and appropriate to fairly state financial instruments carried at fair value in the Statement of Financial Position.

### 15. Recognition and derecognition of financial assets and financial liabilities

Purchases and sales of financial assets are recognised using trade date accounting, i.e. they are recognised on the date on which the Group commits to purchase or sell the asset, except for loans which are recognised when cash is advanced to the borrowers.

Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the financial assets have expired or where the Group has transferred substantially all risks and rewards of ownership.

Financial liabilities are recognised when the Group becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the liability instrument. Financial liabilities are derecognised when the obligation of the Group specified in the contract is discharged or cancelled or expires.

### 16. Offsetting financial assets and financial liabilities

Financial assets and liabilities are set off and the net amount reported in the Statement of Financial Position when, and only when, the Group has a legal right to offset the recognised amounts and intends either to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Income and expenses are presented on a net basis only when permitted by the accounting standards, or for gains or losses arising from a group of similar transactions such as in the Group's trading activity.

### 17. Amortised cost measurement of financial assets and financial liabilities

The amortised cost of a financial asset or liability is the amount at which the financial asset or liability is measured at initial recognition, minus principal repayments, plus or minus the cumulative amortisation using the effective interest method of any difference between the initial amount recognised and the maturity amount, minus any reduction for impairment.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

### 18. Intangible assets

Intangible assets acquired separately are measured on initial recognition at cost. The cost of intangible assets acquired in a business combination is fair value as at the date of acquisition. Following initial recognition, intangible assets are carried at cost less any accumulated amortisation and any accumulated impairment losses. Internally generated intangible assets are not capitalised and expenditure is reflected in the Statement of Comprehensive Income in the period in which the expenditure is incurred.

The value of intangible assets with indefinite useful lives is not amortised, but the assets are tested for impairment at least once a year.

#### a) *Subsequent expenditure*

Subsequent expenditure on capitalised intangible assets is capitalised only when it increases the future economic benefits embodied in the specific asset to which it relates. All other expenditure is expensed as incurred.

#### b) *Amortisation*

Amortisation is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of intangible assets. Intangible assets are amortised from the date they are available for use. The estimated useful lives are as follows:

Software.....	5 years
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### 19. Investment property

An investment property is a property which is held either to earn rental income or for capital appreciation or for both. Investment property is stated at fair value. The Group has not engaged independent property valuers to appraise the values of investment properties at year-end as management believe the valuation techniques as described below provide a more reliable estimate of fair value.

When determining the fair value of the properties, net present value of future cash flow over 30 years is calculated. When determining the cash flow general accepted valuation techniques are applied, such as international valuation standards, IVS no. 1 Market Value Basis of Valuation. The valuation model is based on estimated free cash flow to the owners and assumptions applied that reflect the market conditions at the accounting date. The cash flow of the properties is based on estimation of rental income less estimated expenses. There is great uncertainty about the actual fair value of investment properties, as further described in Note 34.

Rental income is estimated based on valid lease agreements. In the valuation model estimated market lease at the end of the current lease agreement is taken into consideration. Fundamental assumptions on estimated utilisation of the properties in the future, estimated discounts and loan provisioning are applied when estimating future rental income.

All related expenses, e.g. maintenance, real estate tax and other operating and financial expenses, is deducted from the estimated rental income. Real estate tax and insurances are based on historical data and foreseen future changes. Financial expense is estimated based upon market interest and expected interest yield (interest margin).

The net present value of free cash flow to owners, for each property, is determined by calculating the net present value of the cash flow with a factor representing current market uncertainty on amount and timing of the cash flow, including expected inflation. The CAPM model is used and the required rate of return is based on the risk free real interest on the accounting date, the risk factor of the real estate market and specific risk factors of each lessee.

When estimating the fair value of the investment properties' assets like fixtures, equipment and furniture are not accounted for separately as they are considered part of the fair value of the properties. The fair value of the properties does not reflect the possible future increase in the value due to further investments in the property.

### 20. Property and equipment

#### a) *Recognition and measurement*

Items of property and equipment are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. When parts of an item of property and equipment have different useful lives, they are accounted for as separate items of property and equipment.

#### b) *Subsequent costs*

The cost of replacing part of an item of property and equipment is recognised in the carrying amount of the item if it is probable that the future economic benefits embodied within the part will flow to the Group and its cost can be measured reliably. All other costs are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income as an expense as incurred.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

20. cont.

c) *Depreciation*

The depreciable amount of property and equipment is determined after deducting its residual value. Depreciation is charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Income on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of each part of an item of property and equipment. The estimated useful lives are as follows:

Buildings.....	33-50 years
Equipment.....	3-7 years

The depreciation methods, useful lives and residual values are reassessed annually.

21. Non-current assets and disposal groups held for sale

The Group classifies a non-current asset or disposal group as held for sale if its carrying amount will be recovered principally through a sale transaction rather than through continuing use. For this to be the case the asset or disposal group must be available for immediate sale in its present condition subject only to terms that are usual and customary for sales of such asset or disposal group and the sale must be highly probable.

Immediately before classification as held for sale, the measurement of the qualifying assets and all assets and liabilities in a disposal group is brought up-to-date in accordance with applicable IFRS. Then, on initial classification as held for sale, non-current assets and disposal groups are recognised at the lower of carrying amount and fair value less costs to sell. Impairment losses on initial classification as held for sale are included in the Statement of Comprehensive Income, even when there is a revaluation. The same applies to gains and losses on subsequent remeasurement. Revaluation through the reversal of impairment in subsequent periods is limited so that the carrying amount of the held for sale, non-current assets or disposal group does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised in prior years.

22. Deposits

Deposits are initially measured at fair value plus transaction costs, and subsequently measured at their amortised cost using the effective interest method.

23. Borrowings

Some of the borrowings of the Group are classified as other financial liabilities and are initially recognised at fair value less attributable transaction costs. Subsequent to initial recognition, borrowings are measured at amortised cost with any difference between cost and redemption amount being recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income over the period of the borrowings on an effective interest basis. Accrued interest is included in the carrying amount of the borrowings.

24. Subordinated liabilities

Subordinated liabilities are financial liabilities in the form of subordinated capital which, in case of the Group's voluntary or compulsory winding-up, will not be repaid until after the claims of ordinary creditors have been met. In the calculation of the capital ratio, they are included within Tier II, as shown in Note 112. The subordinated liabilities have no maturity date and the Group may only retire them with the permission of the Financial Supervisory Authority. The liabilities qualify as Tier II capital in the calculation of the equity ratio.

Subordinated liabilities are recognised initially at fair value less attributable transaction costs. Subsequent to initial recognition, subordinated liabilities are stated at principal amount due plus accrued interest, which is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income based on the contractual terms of the borrowing.

25. Financial liabilities at fair value

*Trading liabilities*

Trading liabilities primarily consist of derivatives with negative fair values. Hedging derivatives such as those used for internal risk control but not qualifying for hedge accounting under IAS 39 are also disclosed under this item.

Trading liabilities are measured at fair value. Gains and losses realised on disposal or redemption and unrealised gains and losses from changes in the fair value of trading liabilities are reported as Net gain (loss) on financial assets and liabilities classified as held for trading. Interest expenses on trading liabilities are included in Interest expenses.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

### 26. Other assets and other liabilities

Other assets and other liabilities are stated at cost less impairment.

### 27. Equity

#### *Dividends on shares*

Dividends on shares are recognised in equity in the period in which they are approved by the Group's shareholders.

#### *Statutory reserve*

According to the Icelandic companies Act No. 2/1995 at least 10% of the profit of the Group which is not devoted to meeting losses from previous years and is not contributed to other legal reserves must be contributed to the statutory reserve until it amounts to 10% of the share capital. When that limit has been reached the contribution must be at least 5% of the profit until the statutory reserve amounts to 25% of the share capital of the Group.

#### *Foreign currency translation reserve*

The foreign currency translation reserve comprises all foreign exchange differences arising from the translation of the financial statements of foreign operations.

### 28. Earnings per share

Earnings per share are calculated by dividing the net earnings attributable to equity holders of the Group by the weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding during the year.

### 29. Financial guarantees

In the ordinary course of business, the Group gives financial guarantees, consisting of letters of credit, guarantees and acceptances. Financial guarantees are initially recognised in the financial statements at fair value, being the premium received. Subsequent to initial recognition, the Group's liability under each guarantee is measured at the higher of the amount initially recognised less, when appropriate, cumulative amortisation recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income, and the best estimate of expenditure required to settle any financial obligation arising as a result of the guarantee. Any increase in the liability relating to financial guarantees is recorded in the Statement of Comprehensive Income. The premium received is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income in *Net fees and commission income* on a straight line basis over the life of the guarantee.

### 30. Fiduciary activities

The Group provides asset custody, asset management, investment management and advisory services to its clients. These services require the Group to make decisions on the treatment, acquisition or disposal of financial instruments. Assets in the Group's custody are not reported in its Statement of Financial Position.

### 31. Employee benefits

All entities with employees within the Group have defined contribution plans. The entities pay fixed contribution to publicly or privately administered pension plans on a mandatory and contractual basis. The Group has no further payment obligations once these contributions have been paid. The contributions are recognised as an expense in the Statement of Comprehensive income when they become due. The Group has no defined benefit pension plan.

### 32. New standards and amendments to standards

#### a) New standards and amendments to standards effective in 2011

The accounting policies adopted are consistent with those of the previous financial year, except for the following new and amended IFRS effective as of 1 January 2011:

#### *IAS 24 Related Party Transactions (Amended)*

The IASB issued an amendment to IAS 24 that clarifies the definitions of a related party. The new definitions emphasise a symmetrical view of related party relationships and clarifies the circumstances in which persons and key management personnel affect related party relationships of an entity. In addition, the amendment introduces an exemption from the general related party disclosure requirements for transactions with government and entities that are controlled, jointly controlled or significantly influenced by the same government as the reporting entity. The adoption of the amendment did not have any impact on the financial position or performance of the Group.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

32. cont.

### Improvements to IFRS

In May 2010, the IASB issued its third omnibus of amendments to its standards, primarily with a view to removing inconsistencies and clarifying wording. The adoption of the following amendments resulted in changes to accounting policies, but no impact on the financial position or performance of the Group.

- *IFRS 7 Financial Instruments — Disclosures*: The amendment was intended to simplify the disclosures provided by reducing the volume of disclosures around collateral held and improving disclosures by requiring qualitative information to put the quantitative information in context. The Group reflects the revised disclosure requirements in Note 105.

### b) New standards and amendments to standards not yet adopted

A number of new standards, amendments to standards and interpretations are not yet effective for the year ended 31 December 2011, and have not been applied in preparing these Financial Statements. Relevant to the Group's reporting are:

*IFRS 7 Financial Instruments: Disclosures — Enhanced Derecognition Disclosure Requirements*. The amendment requires additional disclosure about financial assets that have been transferred but not derecognised to enable the user of the Group's financial statements to understand the relationship with those assets that have not been derecognised and their associated liabilities. In addition, the amendment requires disclosures about continuing involvement in derecognised assets to enable the user to evaluate the nature of, and risks associated with, the entity's continuing involvement in those derecognised assets. The amendment becomes effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 July 2011. The amendment affects disclosure only and has no impact on the Group's financial position or performance.

*IFRS 9 Financial Instruments: Classification and Measurement*. In November 2009, the IASB issued *IFRS 9 Financial instruments*, which includes new classification and measurement criteria for financial assets. The publication of IFRS 9 represents the completion of the first part of a multi-stage project to replace *IAS 39 Financial instruments: recognition and measurement*. Under the revised guidance, a financial asset is to be accounted for at amortized cost only if it is held within a business model whose objective is to hold assets in order to collect contractual cash flows and the contractual terms of the financial asset give rise on specified dates to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding. Non-traded equity instruments may be accounted for at fair value, with unrealised and realised fair value gains recognised through other comprehensive income, but the subsequent release of amounts booked directly to other comprehensive income to profit or loss is no longer permitted. All other financial assets are measured at fair value through profit or loss. The Group is currently assessing the impact of the new standard on its financial statements. If endorsed by the EU, the effective date for mandatory adoption is 1 January 2015.

*IFRS 10 Consolidated Financial Statements*. IFRS 10 replaces the portion of IAS 27 Consolidated and Separate Financial Statements that addresses the accounting for consolidated financial statements. It also includes the issues raised in *SIC-12 Consolidation — Special Purpose Entities*. IFRS 10 establishes a single control model that applies to all entities including special purpose entities. The changes introduced by IFRS 10 will require management to exercise significant judgement to determine which entities are controlled, and therefore, are required to be consolidated by a parent, compared with the requirements that were in IAS 27. If endorsed by the EU this standard becomes effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2013.

*IFRS 12 Disclosure of Interests in Other Entities*. IFRS 12 includes all of the disclosures that were previously in IAS 27 related to consolidated financial statements, as well as all of the disclosures that were previously included in IAS 31 and IAS 28. These disclosures relate to an entity's interests in subsidiaries, joint arrangements, associates and structured entities. A number of new disclosures are also required. If endorsed by the EU this standard becomes effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2013.

*IFRS 13 Fair Value Measurement*. IFRS 13 establishes a single source of guidance under IFRS for all fair value measurements. IFRS 13 does not change when an entity is required to use fair value, but rather provides guidance on how to measure fair value under IFRS when fair value is required or permitted. The Group is currently assessing the impact that this standard will have on the financial position and performance. If endorsed by the EU this standard becomes effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2013.

### 33. Segment reporting

The Group's segmental reporting is based on the management and internal reporting structure. The Group comprises six main business segments; Corporate Banking, Retail Banking, Asset Management & Stefniir, Investment Banking, Treasury and Other Divisions & Subsidiaries.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

### 34. Critical accounting estimates and judgements in applying accounting policies

The Group makes estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities. Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

These disclosures supplement the risk management disclosures, provided elsewhere in these Financial Statements.

#### *Key sources of estimation uncertainty*

##### i) Impairment losses on loans and receivables

The Group reviews its loan portfolios to assess impairment at least on a quarterly basis. In determining whether an impairment loss should be recorded in the Statement of Comprehensive Income, the Group makes judgements as to whether there is any observable data indicating that there is a measurable decrease in the estimated future cash flows from a portfolio of loans before the decrease can be identified with an individual loan in that portfolio. This evidence may include observable data indicating that there has been an adverse change in the payment status of borrowers in a group, or national or local economic conditions that correlate with defaults on assets in the group. Management uses estimates based on historical loss experience for assets with credit risk characteristics and objective evidence of impairment similar to those in the portfolio when scheduling its future cash flows. The methodology and assumptions used for estimating both the amount and timing of future cash flows are reviewed regularly to reduce any differences between loss estimates and actual loss experience.

##### ii) Foreign currency linked loans

The Group is reviewing the impact of the Supreme Court judgment of 15 February 2012 on the currency-linked loan portfolio. The Group's preliminary evaluation is that currency linked loans can be recalculated with the non-indexed interest rate set by the Central Bank of Iceland. However, if the borrower has paid according to the Bank's payment slips, then the Bank can not normally claim a larger amount of interest on the loan than the interest the borrower has actually paid.

As set out in Note 95 of these Financial Statements, the Group recognised impairment of the currency linked loan portfolio at year-end for the estimated loss arising from the above judgment. The Group remains exposed to significant uncertainty regarding foreign currency linked loans arising from firstly, uncertainty over its interpretation of this judgment and secondly, uncertainty over the outcome of future legal decisions and new or amended government legislation.

Management judgment is required in the determination of the individual borrowers that require recalculation, and the estimated loss is based on assumptions that may be revised when it becomes clear how to interpret the Supreme Court's judgement. In addition, the outcome of future legal decisions and new or amended government legislation may require recalculation of other categories of foreign currency loans that the Group has not previously considered as vulnerable. This will be determined by future court rulings and government actions, for which it is not currently possible to predict an outcome.

##### iii) Fair value of financial instruments

The fair value of financial instruments that are not quoted in active markets are determined by using valuation techniques. Where valuation techniques (for example, models) are used to determine fair values, they are validated and periodically reviewed by qualified personnel independent of the area that created them. All models are certified before they are used, and models are calibrated to ensure that outputs reflect actual data and comparative market prices. To the extent practical, models use only observable data, however areas such as credit risk (both own and counterparty), volatilities and correlations require management to make estimates. Changes in assumptions about these factors could affect reported fair value of financial instruments.

##### iv) Assets classified as held for sale

The Group classifies assets as held for sale if the assets are available for immediate sale in their present condition subject only to terms that are usual and customary for sales of such assets and the sale is considered highly probable. For the sale to be highly probable management must be committed to sell the assets and be actively looking for a buyer, the assets must be actively marketed at a price that is reasonable in relation to their fair value and the sale is expected to be completed within one year. An extension of the period required to complete a sale does not preclude an asset or disposal group from being classified as held for sale if the delay is caused by events or circumstances beyond the Group's control and there is sufficient evidence that the Group remains committed to its plan to sell the assets or disposal groups.

When classifying assets as held for sale the Group has determined that the requirements of IFRS 5 have been met.

As set out in Note 21 of these Financial Statements, disposal groups being legal entities acquired exclusively with view to resale are measured at the lower of carrying amount and fair values less costs to sell. For the most part, fair values at the date of classification of these legal entities were calculated using valuation models based on discounted future cash flows that incorporated significant non-market observable inputs and assumptions. The use of reasonably possible alternative inputs and assumptions to these models, in particular changes to the discount rate employed (representing the required rate of return on equity), would have a significant impact on the fair value of these disposal groups.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

34. cont.

v) Fair value of Investment Property

As the property market in Iceland is relatively inactive and assets are often quite dissimilar it is difficult to obtain reliable estimates of fair values of investment properties. The international financial crises and the financial crisis in Iceland had significant influence on the real estate market in Iceland. The effects of that resulted in a relatively passive market and with disparate properties on the market it can be complicated to use prices from recent market transactions in order to determine values of comparable properties. This being the case there is great uncertainty about the actual fair value of the properties.

vi) Intangible assets

The value of intangible assets with indefinite useful lives is not amortised, but the assets are tested for impairment at least once a year.

### Changes within the Group

35. Changes in ownership and capitalization of Arion Bank.

There were no changes in the ownership and capitalization of Arion Bank during the year. The shareholders in Arion Bank during the year and at 31 December 2011 were Kaupskil ehf. with an 87% shareholding, and the Icelandic State Financial Investments with a 13% shareholding.

Following an approval from the FME, the annual shareholders meeting of Arion Bank held on 8 January 2010 approved the transfer of 87% of the Icelandic State Financial Investments shareholding to Kaupskil ehf. In connection with the change in ownership of the Bank on this date were transactions with the Icelandic State Financial Investments and the Resolution Committee of Kaupthing hf. to contribute additional assets and liabilities to the Bank that resulted in a net increase in Group total assets of ISK 80,229 million, total liabilities of ISK 76,367 million and total equity of ISK 3,862 million.

During the year a special dividend amounting to ISK 6,500 million was settled with the Icelandic State Financial Investments. The dividend was deducted from retained earnings and settled following the fulfilment of certain conditions under the agreement with Arion Bank. The dividend payment was currency based and due to changes in the foreign exchange rate from the signing of the agreement the settlement amounted to ISK 6,074 million and was settled through the issuance of Tier II subordinated notes to the Icelandic State in March 2011.

36. Acquisition of mortgage portfolio

At year-end 2011 Arion Bank and Kaupthing hf. reached agreement for Arion Bank to acquire a mortgage portfolio which has been managed in a special fund owned by Kaupthing hf. The agreement also specifies that the deal will be funded by the assumption of covered bonds by Arion Bank.

Under the agreement Arion Bank will replace Kaupthing hf. as issuer of the covered bonds. The covered bonds will be listed on the Icelandic stock market in 2012.

The effect on the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position:

Assets:

Loans and receivables to customers.....	109,969
Non-current assets and disposal groups held for sale.....	445
Other assets.....	(16,014)
Total effect on assets:	94,399

Liabilities:

Deposits.....	(23,514)
Tax liabilities.....	(569)
Other liabilities.....	3,048
Borrowings.....	117,712
Total effect on liabilities	96,677

The effect on the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income:

Impairment on loans and receivables *.....	(2,847)
Tax expense.....	569
Total effect on Net earnings	(2,278)

\* Consideration paid for intangible asset not meeting the recognition criteria of IFRS and expensed immediately through the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

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### 37. Acquisition of subsidiaries

On 8 April 2011 the Group's shareholding in its associate KB Rádgjöf ehf. increased from 43.1% to 100.0%, resulting in a change in classification from associate to subsidiary and accounted for accordingly. As this entity is immaterial to the Group, further disclosure on this acquisition is not deemed necessary.

### 38. Disposal of subsidiaries.

On 11 February 2011 the Group sold a 35.3% effective share in its held for sale subsidiary Hagar hf. The sale agreement included a plan to list the company on the Nasdaq OMX stock exchange in Iceland and a right to the buyers to purchase an additional 10% share, which they did on 2 November 2011. In August 2011 the Bank signed an agreement with the management of Hagar hf. that entitled the company management to acquire a 1.4% share in two transactions, of which a 0.65% effective share was transferred in 2011. On 5 to 8 December 2011 an effective share of 30.8% was sold in a public offering followed by a listing of the company on NASDAQ OMX Iceland. An additional 1.5% was sold before year-end. At end of 2011 the Group holds 20.9% effective share in Hagar hf. and consequently it is an associate. As it is expected the Group's shareholding in Hagar will be sold in 2012, this investment in associate was classified as non-current assets and disposal groups held for sale at year-end 2011.

On 18 February 2011 the Group sold its 100.0% shareholdings in Hekla ehf. and Hekla fasteignir ehf. These legal entities were classified as non-current assets and disposal groups classified as held for sale at year-end 2010.

On 21 June 2011 the Group sold its 100.0% shareholdings in Rekstrarfélagid tíu-ellefu ehf. The legal entity was classified as non-current assets and disposal groups classified as held for sale at year-end 2010.

The results from the disposal of these legal entities is included in net earnings from discontinued operations net of tax.

On 25 May 2011 the Group transferred its 55.9% share in Menntaskóli Borgarfjarðar to the non-controlling shareholder, the municipality Borgarbyggð.

On 14 June 2011 all assets and liabilities of the Group's subsidiary Kaupthing Advisory Company were transferred to the Group. Subsequently the subsidiary was liquidated.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

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### Operating Segment Reporting

39. Segment information is presented in respect of the Group's operating segments based on the Group's management and internal reporting structure. Segment performance is evaluated based on earnings before tax.

Inter segment pricing is determined on an arm's length basis. Business segments pay and receive interest to and from Treasury on an arm's length basis to reflect the allocation of capital and funding cost.

Segment capital expenditure is the total cost incurred during the year to acquire property and equipment and intangible assets.

#### Operating segments

The Group comprises six main operating segments:

**Corporate Banking** serves large enterprises and professional investors. The role of the division is to provide universal financial services as well as tailored services to meet the needs of each customer. *Corporate Banking* is divided into a *Corporate Banking* unit, *Factoring* services and a *Corporate Recovery* unit. *Corporate Banking* and *Factoring* together provide a wide range of credit solutions while the *Recovery* unit is responsible for the financial restructuring of companies which need to reorganise their capital structure.

**Retail Banking, Arion Bank Mortgages Institutional Investor Fund, AFL and Sparisjóður Ólafsfjardar** provide a comprehensive range of services, including advice on deposits and loans, savings, payment cards, pension savings, insurance, securities, funds and more. To maximize operational efficiency the branch network is divided into seven clusters, with the smaller branches capitalizing on the strength of larger units within each cluster. Customers of Retail Banking's 24 branches all around Iceland are over 100,000.

**Asset Management and Stefnir hf.** manage assets on behalf of its clients, who include institutional investors, corporations, high net wealth clients and retail investors. The entities offer clients variety of mutual funds, alternative vehicles, pension plan schemes and customized asset allocation strategies designed to meet the diverse needs of investors. The subsidiary Stefnir operates the fund management business.

**Investment Banking** is divided into Corporate Finance, Capital Markets and Research. *Corporate Finance* provides M&A advisory services and capital markets transaction services to corporate clients and investors. *Capital Markets* provides securities brokerage and FX sales for institutional investors and corporate clients. *Research* is split into Equity, Fixed Income and Macro Analysis with clients such as asset management companies, institutional investors, and other divisions of the Group.

**Treasury** is responsible for the Bank's liquidity management as well as currency and interest rate management. The other main functions of Treasury are the internal pricing of interest rates and currency, liaison with other financial institutions, Proprietary trading and market making in domestic securities and currencies.

**Other Divisions and Subsidiaries** include Proprietary trading and the subsidiaries Eignabjarg ehf., Landey ehf., Landfestar ehf., Okkar líftryggingar hf., Verdis hf., Valitor holding hf. and other smaller entities of the Group.

**Headquarters:** Overhead, Risk Management, Finance, Legal, Operations, Corporate Development and activities of other non-core entities.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

### 40. Summary of the Group's business segments:

2011	Corporate Banking	Retail Banking	Asset Managem. and Stefnir	Investment Banking	Treasury	Other Divisions and Subsidiaries	Headquart. and Elimination	Total
Net interest income .....	10,433	12,759	1,409	322	901	(2,530)	94	23,388
Other income .....	12,859	(14,310)	2,322	765	(2,872)	10,935	189	9,888
<b>Operating income .....</b>	<b>23,292</b>	<b>(1,551)</b>	<b>3,731</b>	<b>1,087</b>	<b>(1,971)</b>	<b>8,405</b>	<b>283</b>	<b>33,276</b>
Operating expense .....	(1,408)	(9,280)	(1,799)	(912)	(598)	(5,305)	(2,714)	(22,016)
Allocated cost .....	(688)	(734)	(90)	(71)	(288)	-	1,871	-
<b>Earnings before tax .....</b>	<b>21,196</b>	<b>(11,565)</b>	<b>1,842</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>(2,857)</b>	<b>3,100</b>	<b>(560)</b>	<b>11,260</b>
Net seg. rev. from ext. cust. ....	28,044	(5,958)	427	1,085	(2,818)	11,724	772	33,276
Net seg. rev. from oth. seg. ....	(4,752)	4,407	3,304	2	847	(3,319)	(489)	-
<b>Operating income .....</b>	<b>23,292</b>	<b>(1,551)</b>	<b>3,731</b>	<b>1,087</b>	<b>(1,971)</b>	<b>8,405</b>	<b>283</b>	<b>33,276</b>
Depreciation and amortisation .....	-	222	-	1	-	213	520	956
<b>Total assets .....</b>	<b>271,207</b>	<b>299,208</b>	<b>3,621</b>	<b>16,477</b>	<b>207,099</b>	<b>94,509</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>892,121</b>
Allocated equity .....	43,297	32,580	2,673	1,269	18,062	16,677	-	114,558
2010								
Net interest income .....	13,463	9,041	1,591	(527)	1,183	(4,823)	(143)	19,785
Other income .....	10,188	2,860	2,281	(1,432)	(4,121)	7,521	(1,459)	15,838
<b>Operating income .....</b>	<b>23,651</b>	<b>11,901</b>	<b>3,872</b>	<b>(1,959)</b>	<b>(2,938)</b>	<b>2,698</b>	<b>(1,602)</b>	<b>35,623</b>
Operating expense .....	(1,133)	(7,723)	(1,426)	(789)	(630)	(3,517)	(3,074)	(18,292)
Allocated cost .....	(536)	(750)	(171)	(167)	(519)	-	2,143	-
<b>Earnings before tax .....</b>	<b>21,982</b>	<b>3,428</b>	<b>2,275</b>	<b>(2,915)</b>	<b>(4,087)</b>	<b>(819)</b>	<b>(2,533)</b>	<b>17,331</b>
Net seg. rev. from ext. cust. ....	32,926	5,903	(152)	(1,552)	(1,104)	8,442	(7,344)	37,119
Net seg. rev. from oth. seg. ....	(9,275)	5,998	4,024	(407)	(1,834)	(5,744)	5,742	(1,496)
<b>Operating income .....</b>	<b>23,651</b>	<b>11,901</b>	<b>3,872</b>	<b>(1,959)</b>	<b>(2,938)</b>	<b>2,698</b>	<b>(1,602)</b>	<b>35,623</b>
Depreciation and amortisation .....	-	233	-	-	-	66	520	819
<b>Total assets .....</b>	<b>269,002</b>	<b>194,956</b>	<b>3,214</b>	<b>7,492</b>	<b>222,092</b>	<b>114,979</b>	<b>880</b>	<b>812,615</b>
Allocated equity .....	43,040	27,237	2,505	1,199	6,118	29,297	140	109,536

The vast majority of the revenues from external customers is attributable to customers in Iceland.

Operating segment reporting is based on the Group's management and internal reporting structure for 2011. Consequently, operating segment reporting for 2010, when only two operating segments were used, has been represented in accordance with the six operating segments for 2011.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

### Quarterly Statements

#### 41. Operations by quarters

2011	Q4	Q3 <sup>1</sup>	Q2 <sup>1</sup>	Q1 <sup>1</sup>	Total
Net interest income .....	6,552	5,676	5,274	5,886	23,388
Increase in value of loans and receivables .....	8,573	457	27,281	2,057	38,368
Impairment on loans and receivables .....	(20,981)	(642)	(6,241)	440	(27,424)
Changes in compensation instrument .....	-	-	(16,683)	(2,910)	(19,593)
Net fee and commission income .....	3,111	2,475	2,607	2,492	10,685
Net financial income (expense) .....	163	386	(767)	729	511
Net foreign exchange (loss) gain .....	(143)	2	2,289	(312)	1,836
Other operating income .....	2,028	1,127	1,251	1,099	5,505
<b>Operating income .....</b>	<b>(697)</b>	<b>9,481</b>	<b>15,011</b>	<b>9,481</b>	<b>33,276</b>
Administration expense .....	(6,069)	(4,880)	(5,316)	(4,955)	(21,220)
Other operating expense .....	(172)	(126)	(332)	(166)	(796)
<b>Earnings before tax .....</b>	<b>(6,938)</b>	<b>4,475</b>	<b>9,363</b>	<b>4,360</b>	<b>11,260</b>
Income tax expense .....	1,167	(562)	(1,472)	(1,045)	(1,912)
Bank Levy .....	(362)	(238)	(379)	(67)	(1,046)
<b>Net earnings from continuing operations .....</b>	<b>(6,133)</b>	<b>3,675</b>	<b>7,512</b>	<b>3,248</b>	<b>8,302</b>
Net gain (loss) from discontinued operations net of tax .....	3,579	(219)	(286)	(282)	2,792
<b>Net earnings .....</b>	<b>(2,554)</b>	<b>3,456</b>	<b>7,226</b>	<b>2,966</b>	<b>11,094</b>
2010					
Net interest income .....	3,428	6,060	4,662	5,635	19,785
Increase in value of loans and receivables .....	28,437	3,131	8,298	403	40,269
Impairment on loans and receivables .....	(19,496)	(2,351)	(4,106)	(834)	(26,787)
Changes in compensation instrument .....	(8,182)	-	(3,422)	-	(11,604)
Net fee and commission income .....	2,752	1,262	1,389	1,463	6,866
Net financial income (expense) .....	756	(92)	(447)	185	402
Fair value change to Drómi bond .....	(3,500)	-	-	-	(3,500)
Net foreign exchange (loss) gain .....	6,275	(3,485)	1,060	609	4,459
Other operating income .....	1,925	1,571	1,521	716	5,733
<b>Operating income .....</b>	<b>12,395</b>	<b>6,096</b>	<b>8,955</b>	<b>8,177</b>	<b>35,623</b>
Administration expense .....	(5,790)	(3,729)	(4,424)	(3,626)	(17,569)
Other operating expense .....	128	(500)	(219)	(132)	(723)
<b>Earnings before tax .....</b>	<b>6,733</b>	<b>1,867</b>	<b>4,312</b>	<b>4,419</b>	<b>17,331</b>
Income tax expense .....	(696)	(1,236)	(827)	(722)	(3,481)
Bank Levy .....	(290)	-	-	-	(290)
<b>Net earnings from continuing operations .....</b>	<b>5,747</b>	<b>631</b>	<b>3,485</b>	<b>3,697</b>	<b>13,560</b>
Net gain (loss) from discontinued operations net of tax .....	(2,103)	345	1,042	(287)	(1,003)
<b>Net earnings .....</b>	<b>3,644</b>	<b>976</b>	<b>4,527</b>	<b>3,410</b>	<b>12,557</b>

The half-year results were reviewed by the Bank's auditors.

1. The Q1, Q2, and Q3 results and the split between quarters were not audited or reviewed.

# Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

## Notes to the Statement of Comprehensive Income

### Net interest income

42. Interest income and expense is specified as follows:

2011	Interest income	Interest expense	Net interest income
Cash and balances with Central Bank .....	486	-	486
Loans, receivables and deposits .....	37,410	18,338	19,072
Borrowings .....	-	2,597	(2,597)
Subordinated liabilities .....	-	1,830	(1,830)
Securities .....	7,690	-	7,690
Compensation instrument .....	322	-	322
Other .....	525	280	245
<b>Interest income and expense .....</b>	<b>46,433</b>	<b>23,045</b>	<b>23,388</b>
Interest income and expense from assets and liabilities at fair value .....	7,690	-	7,690
Interest income and expense from assets and liabilities not at fair value through profit or loss .....	38,743	23,045	15,698
<b>Interest income and expense .....</b>	<b>46,433</b>	<b>23,045</b>	<b>23,388</b>
2010			
Cash and balances with Central Bank .....	937	-	937
Loans, receivables and deposits .....	38,004	28,222	9,782
Borrowings .....	-	2,683	(2,683)
Subordinated loans .....	-	1,250	(1,250)
Securities .....	11,320	-	11,320
Compensation instrument .....	1,256	-	1,256
Other .....	852	429	423
<b>Interest income and expense .....</b>	<b>52,369</b>	<b>32,584</b>	<b>19,785</b>
Interest income and expense from assets and liabilities at fair value .....	11,320	-	11,320
Interest income and expense from assets and liabilities not at fair value through profit or loss .....	41,049	32,584	8,465
<b>Interest income and expense .....</b>	<b>52,369</b>	<b>32,584</b>	<b>19,785</b>

### Increase in book value of loans and receivables

43. The increase in book value of loans and receivables is determined in accordance with the accounting policy presented in Note 8 a). Increase in book value of loans and receivables consists of adjustment to reflect actual and estimated cash flows.

### Impairment of loans and receivables

44. Impairment of loans and receivables is specified as follows:	2011	2010
Impairment of loans and receivables to credit institutions .....	199	632
Impairment of loans and receivables to customers .....	27,225	26,155
<b>Impairment of loans and receivables .....</b>	<b>27,424</b>	<b>26,787</b>

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

### Net fee and commission income

45. Fee and commission income and expense is specified as follows:	2011	2010
<b>Fee and commission income</b>		
Asset management .....	2,716	2,447
Cards .....	10,031	3,975
Collection and payment services .....	1,164	1,066
Derivatives .....	179	169
Interbank clearing .....	682	651
Lending and guarantees .....	667	540
Security trading .....	250	189
Other fee and commission income .....	1,173	1,336
<b>Fee and commission income</b> .....	<b>16,862</b>	<b>10,373</b>
<b>Fee and commission expense</b>		
Asset management .....	105	177
Cards .....	4,892	2,215
Collection and payment services .....	32	42
Interbank clearing .....	708	703
Security trading .....	44	201
Other fee and commission expense .....	396	169
<b>Fee and commission expense</b> .....	<b>6,177</b>	<b>3,507</b>
<b>Net fee and commission income</b> .....	<b>10,685</b>	<b>6,866</b>

Asset management fees are earned by the Group on trust and fiduciary activities where the Group holds or invests assets on behalf of the customers.

### Net financial income

46. Net financial income is specified as follows:	2011	2010
Dividend income .....	7	34
Net gain (loss) on financial assets and liabilities classified as held for trading .....	(959)	(531)
Net gain (loss) on financial assets and liabilities designated at fair value through profit or loss .....	1,463	899
<b>Net financial income</b> .....	<b>511</b>	<b>402</b>
47. Dividend income is specified as follows:		
Dividend income on trading assets .....	4	2
Dividend income on financial assets designated at fair value through profit or loss .....	3	32
<b>Dividend income</b> .....	<b>7</b>	<b>34</b>
48. Net gain (loss) on trading assets and liabilities is specified as follows:		
Net gain (loss) on equity instruments and related derivatives .....	250	251
Net gain (loss) on interest rate instruments and related derivatives .....	(668)	(1,038)
Net gain (loss) on other derivatives .....	(541)	256
<b>Net gain (loss) on trading portfolio</b> .....	<b>(959)</b>	<b>(531)</b>

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

49. Net gain (loss) on assets/liabilities designated at fair value through profit or loss is specified as follows:	2011	2010
Net gain (loss) on interest rate instruments designated at fair value .....	930	(119)
Net gain (loss) on equity instruments designated at fair value .....	533	1,018
<b>Net gain (loss) on assets/liabilities designated at fair value through profit and loss .....</b>	<b>1,463</b>	<b>899</b>

### Net foreign exchange gain (loss)

50. Net foreign exchange gain (loss) is specified as follows:

FX gain (loss) of loans and receivables .....	9,118	(7,658)
FX gain (loss) on bank accounts .....	3,382	(6,370)
FX gain (loss) from deposits and borrowings .....	(8,751)	17,407
FX gain (loss) from subordinated liabilities .....	(955)	4,401
FX gain (loss) on bonds, equity and derivatives .....	(1,284)	(21)
FX gain (loss) from compensation instrument .....	325	(1,852)
FX gain (loss) on other assets and liabilities .....	1	(1,448)
<b>Net foreign exchange gain (loss) .....</b>	<b>1,836</b>	<b>4,459</b>

### Other operating income

51. Other operating income is specified as follows:

Rental income from investment properties .....	2,146	2,050
Fair value changes on investment property .....	916	69
Realised gain on investment property .....	485	121
Earned premiums, net of reinsurance .....	864	851
Net gain (loss) on disposals of assets other than held for sale .....	293	578
Other income .....	793	1,508
<b>Other operating income .....</b>	<b>5,497</b>	<b>5,177</b>

52. Earned premiums, net of reinsurance:

Premium written .....	987	994
Outward reinsurance premiums .....	(93)	(99)
Change in the gross provision for unearned premiums .....	(30)	(44)
<b>Earned premiums, net of reinsurance .....</b>	<b>864</b>	<b>851</b>



## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

55. cont.

The 2010 Annual General Meeting of the Bank held on 24 March 2011 approved the monthly salaries for 2011 for the Chairman, Vice Chairman and for other Board Members of amounts ISK 700,000, ISK 525,000 and ISK 350,000 respectively. It was also approved that the salary of Alternative Board Members would be ISK 175,000 per meeting, up to a maximum of ISK 350,000 per month. For Board Members resident abroad, the aforementioned figures are doubled. In addition, it was approved to pay Board Members who serve on board committees of the Bank a maximum of ISK 150,000 per month for each committee they serve on.

	Period	2010
Finnur Sveinbjörnsson, CEO .....	01.01. - 31.05.2010 .....	15.9
Höskuldur H. Ólafsson, CEO .....	01.06. - 31.12.2010 .....	30.0
Colin C. Smith, Director .....	20.05. - 30.09.2010 .....	1.6
Drífa Sigfúsdóttir, Director .....	01.01. - 18.03.2010 .....	0.4
Erna Bjarnadóttir, Chairman of the Board .....	01.01. - 18.03.2010 .....	0.7
Gudrún Björnsdóttir, Alternate Director .....	18.03. - 31.12.2010 .....	0.4
Gudrún Johnsen, Vice-Chairman of the Board .....	18.03. - 31.12.2010 .....	5.0
Helga Jónsdóttir, Director .....	01.01. - 18.03.2010 .....	0.4
Jón G. Briem, Alternate Director .....	18.03. - 31.12.2010 .....	0.7
Jónína A. Sanders, Director .....	01.01. - 18.03.2010 .....	0.4
Kristján Jóhannsson, Director .....	18.03. - 31.12.2010 .....	3.3
Monica Caneman, Chairman of the Board .....	18.03. - 31.12.2010 .....	6.6
Steen Hemmingsen, Director .....	18.03. - 10.11.2010 .....	2.7
Theodór S. Sigurbergsson, Director .....	18.03. - 31.12.2010 .....	3.3
Kaupthing hf* .....	01.01. - 18.03.2010 .....	0.8
Ten managing directors of the Group's divisions being members of the Bank's Executive Committee .....		200.6

The members of the Bank's Executive Committee are considered to be key management personnel.

Remuneration to the Chairman of the Board, CEO and other key management personnel consist of salary and other benefits.

All compensation to key management personnel were short term employee benefits.

\* Kaupthing hf assigned two directors to the board of Arion Bank, Theodór S. Sigurbergsson and Jóhannes Rúnar Jóhannesson for the period 03.09.2009 - 18.03.2010.

### Auditor's fee

56. Auditor's fee is specified as follows:

2011	Ernst & Young	KPMG	Total
Audit and review of the Financial Statements .....	151	28	179
Other audit related services .....	28	11	39
Other service .....	-	20	20
<b>Auditor's fee .....</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>238</b>
2010			
Audit and review of the Financial Statements .....	118	66	184
Other audit related services .....	6	10	16
Other service .....	-	8	8
<b>Auditor's fee .....</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>208</b>

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

### Other operating expense

57. Other operating expense:	2011	2010
Direct operating expense (including repairs and maintenance) arising on rental-earning investment properties .....	497	449
Claims incurred, net of reinsurance .....	298	274
Other expense .....	1	-
<b>Other operating expense</b> .....	<b>796</b>	<b>723</b>
58. Claims incurred, net of reinsurance:		
Claims paid .....	346	279
Change in the provision for claims .....	21	117
Claims paid, net of reinsurers' share .....	(60)	(76)
Change in the provision for claims, reinsurers' share .....	(9)	(46)
<b>Claims incurred, net of reinsurance</b> .....	<b>298</b>	<b>274</b>

### Net gain (loss) from discontinued operations net of tax

59. Net gain (loss) from discontinued operations net of tax is specified as follows:		
Net gain (loss) from legal entities .....	3,867	799
Impairment loss on remeasurement to fair value of legal entities .....	(2,027)	(2,629)
Net loss on revaluation and disposal of real estate .....	(207)	(904)
Other assets .....	(103)	(286)
Effect of compensation instrument .....	1,262	2,017
<b>Net gain (loss) from discontinued operations net of tax</b> .....	<b>2,792</b>	<b>(1,003)</b>

Net gain (loss) from legal entities comprises the Group's share of net profit after tax from operations of legal entities that were classified as held for sale during the year. The 2011 amount predominantly comprises a gain of ISK 3,635 million arising on the sale of the Group's held for sale subsidiary Hagar hf. Included in this amount is a gain of ISK 1,256 million arising on the recognition at fair value of the investment retained in Hagar hf. at the date it became an associate of the Group in December 2011.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

### Tax expense

60. Income tax recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income is specified as follows:		2011		2010
<i>Current tax expense</i>				
Current year .....		1,683		3,518
<i>Deferred tax expense</i>				
Changes in temporary differences .....		229		(37)
<b>Total income tax expense</b> .....		<b>1,912</b>		<b>3,481</b>
Reconciliation of effective tax rate:		2011		2010
Earnings before income tax .....		11,260		17,331
Income tax using the Icelandic corporation tax rate .....	20.0%	2,252	18.0%	3,120
Effect of tax rates in foreign jurisdictions .....	(0.9%)	(103)	0.0%	-
Non-deductible expense .....	(0.1%)	(13)	0.3%	60
Tax exempt revenues .....	0.0%	-	(1.6%)	(283)
Changes in deferred tax asset .....	(0.6%)	(73)	4.7%	811
Non-deductible taxes .....	(1.9%)	(214)	0.0%	-
Effect of increase in the income tax rate from 18% to 20% .....	0.0%	-	0.4%	64
Other changes .....	0.6%	63	(1.7%)	(291)
<b>Effective tax rate</b> .....	<b>17.0%</b>	<b>1,912</b>	<b>20.1%</b>	<b>3,481</b>

### 61. Bank Levy

Bank levy is calculated according to law. The levy is 0.1285% on total debt excluding tax liabilities at end of year. Non-financial subsidiaries are exempt from this tax.

### Earnings per share

62. Earnings per share are specified as follows:		2011		2010
Net earnings attributable to the shareholders of Arion Bank .....		10,493		12,381
Weighted average share capital:				
Weighted average number of outstanding shares for the year, million .....		2,000		2,207
Basic earnings per share .....		5.25		5.61
Diluted earnings per share .....		5.25		5.61
Number of outstanding shares at the end of the year, million .....		2,000		2,000
Number of total shares at the end of the year, million, diluted .....		2,000		2,000

There were no instruments at year-end that could potentially dilute basic earnings per share.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

### Notes to the Statement of Financial Position

#### Cash and balances with Central Bank

63. Cash and balances with Central Bank are specified as follows:	2011	2010
Cash on hand .....	2,954	9,609
Cash with Central Bank .....	17,686	13,250
Mandatory reserve deposit with Central Bank .....	8,560	7,769
<b>Cash and balances with Central Bank .....</b>	<b>29,200</b>	<b>30,628</b>

The mandatory reserve deposit with Central Bank is not available for the Group to use in its daily operations.

#### Loans and receivables to credit institutions

64. Loans and receivables to credit institutions specified by types of loans:		
Bank accounts .....	62,175	57,707
Money market loans .....	4,720	1,294
Overdrafts .....	19	29
Other loans .....	2,963	10,175
Provision on loans and receivables .....	(774)	(1,359)
<b>Loans and receivables to credit institutions .....</b>	<b>69,103</b>	<b>67,846</b>

65. Changes in the provision for losses on loans and receivables to credit institutions are specified as follows:

Balance at the beginning of the year .....	1,359	727
Provision for losses during the year .....	199	632
Write-offs during the year .....	(784)	-
<b>Balance at the end of the year .....</b>	<b>774</b>	<b>1,359</b>

#### Loans and receivables to customers

66. Loans and receivables to customers specified by types of loans:		
Overdrafts .....	43,178	37,390
Subordinated loans .....	550	499
Other loans and receivables .....	574,111	455,173
Provision on loans and receivables .....	(56,289)	(41,843)
<b>Loans and receivables to customers .....</b>	<b>561,550</b>	<b>451,219</b>

The total book value of pledged loans at year-end was ISK 171 billion (2010: ISK 74 billion). Pledged loans at year-end comprised mortgage loans to individuals, loans to municipals and loans to state related entities that were pledged against amounts borrowed.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

67. Changes in the provision for losses on loans and receivables to customers are specified as follows:	2011	2010
Balance at the beginning of the year .....	41,843	28,736
Provision for losses during the year .....	27,225	20,655
Write-offs during the year .....	(13,230)	(7,718)
Payment of loans previously written off .....	451	170
<b>Balance at the end of the year .....</b>	<b>56,289</b>	<b>41,843</b>
Specific .....	46,776	39,083
Collective .....	9,513	2,760
	<u>56,289</u>	<u>41,843</u>

Further information about the unrealisable FX gains from FX denominated loans to borrowers with ISK income are in Note 107 c).

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

### Financial assets and liabilities

68. Financial assets and liabilities are specified as follows:

2011	Loans and receivables	Trading	Designated at fair value	Financial assets/ liabilities at amort. cost	Total
<i>Loans and receivables</i>					
Cash and balances with Central Bank .....	29,200	-	-	-	29,200
Loans and receivables to credit institutions .....	69,103	-	-	-	69,103
Loans and receivables to customers .....	561,550	-	-	-	561,550
<b>Loans and receivables</b> .....	<b>659,853</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>659,853</b>
<i>Bonds and debt instruments</i>					
Listed .....	-	2,919	52,688	-	55,607
Unlisted .....	-	44	84,917	-	84,961
<b>Bonds and debt instruments</b> .....	<b>-</b>	<b>2,963</b>	<b>137,605</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>140,568</b>
<i>Shares and equity instruments with variable income</i>					
Listed .....	-	153	1,163	-	1,316
Unlisted .....	-	657	8,382	-	9,039
Bond funds with variable income .....	-	1,774	1,916	-	3,690
<b>Shares and equity instruments</b> .....	<b>-</b>	<b>2,584</b>	<b>11,461</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>14,045</b>
<i>Derivatives</i>					
OTC derivatives .....	-	674	-	-	674
<b>Derivatives</b> .....	<b>-</b>	<b>674</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>674</b>
<i>Securities used for hedging</i>					
Bonds and debt instruments .....	-	1,922	-	-	1,922
Shares and equity instruments .....	-	450	-	-	450
<b>Securities used for hedging</b> .....	<b>-</b>	<b>2,372</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,372</b>
Other financial assets .....	-	-	-	8,004	8,004
<b>Financial assets</b> .....	<b>659,853</b>	<b>8,593</b>	<b>149,066</b>	<b>8,004</b>	<b>825,516</b>
<i>Liabilities at amortised cost</i>					
Due to credit institutions and Central Bank .....	-	-	-	16,160	16,160
Deposits .....	-	-	-	489,995	489,995
Borrowings .....	-	-	-	187,203	187,203
Subordinated liabilities .....	-	-	-	32,105	32,105
<b>Liabilities at amortised cost</b> .....	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>725,463</b>	<b>725,463</b>
<i>Financial liabilities at fair value</i>					
Short position in bonds held for trading .....	-	3,711	-	-	3,711
Derivatives held for trading .....	-	1,196	-	-	1,196
<b>Financial liabilities at fair value</b> .....	<b>-</b>	<b>4,907</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,907</b>
Other financial liabilities .....	-	-	-	33,764	33,764
<b>Financial liabilities</b> .....	<b>-</b>	<b>4,907</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>759,227</b>	<b>764,134</b>

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

68. cont.

2010	Loans and receivables	Trading	Designated at fair value	Financial assets/ liabilities at amort. cost	Total
<i>Loans and receivables</i>					
Cash and balances with Central Bank .....	30,628	-	-	-	30,628
Loans and receivables to credit institutions .....	67,846	-	-	-	67,846
Loans and receivables to customers .....	451,219	-	-	-	451,219
<b>Loans and receivables .....</b>	<b>549,693</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>549,693</b>
<i>Bonds and debt instruments</i>					
Listed .....	-	4,731	41,833	-	46,564
Unlisted .....	-	20	73,528	-	73,548
<b>Bonds and debt instruments .....</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,751</b>	<b>115,361</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>120,112</b>
<i>Shares and equity instruments with variable income</i>					
Listed .....	-	12	2,062	-	2,074
Unlisted .....	-	612	5,451	-	6,063
Bond funds with variable income .....	-	360	1,819	-	2,179
<b>Shares and equity instruments .....</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>984</b>	<b>9,332</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10,316</b>
<i>Derivatives</i>					
OTC derivatives .....	-	1,126	-	-	1,126
<b>Derivatives .....</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,126</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,126</b>
<i>Securities used for hedging</i>					
Bonds and debt instruments .....	-	3,213	-	-	3,213
<b>Securities used for hedging .....</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,213</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,213</b>
Compensation instrument .....	-	-	24,188	-	24,188
Other financial assets .....	-	-	-	16,688	16,688
<b>Financial assets .....</b>	<b>549,693</b>	<b>10,074</b>	<b>148,881</b>	<b>16,688</b>	<b>725,336</b>
<i>Liabilities at amortised cost</i>					
Due to credit institutions and Central Bank .....	-	-	-	95,646	95,646
Deposits .....	-	-	-	457,881	457,881
Borrowings .....	-	-	-	65,278	65,278
Subordinated liabilities .....	-	-	-	26,257	26,257
<b>Liabilities at amortised cost .....</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>645,062</b>	<b>645,062</b>
<i>Financial liabilities at fair value</i>					
Short position in bonds held for trading .....	-	923	-	-	923
Derivatives held for trading .....	-	76	-	-	76
Financial liabilities at fair value .....	-	999	-	-	999
Other financial liabilities .....	-	-	-	34,048	34,048
<b>Financial liabilities .....</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>999</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>679,110</b>	<b>680,109</b>

Included in unlisted Bonds and debt instruments designated at fair value is Drómi bond, which the Group received when acquiring deposits from SPRON in March 2009.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

69. Bonds and debt instruments designated at fair value specified by issuer:	2011	2010
Financial institutions .....	70,640	74,626
Public .....	59,368	40,393
Corporates .....	7,597	342
<b>Bonds and debt instruments designated at fair value .....</b>	<b>137,605</b>	<b>115,361</b>

No bonds were pledged at year-end (2010: ISK 20,005 million). Pledged bonds at year-end 2010 comprised Icelandic Government Bonds that were pledged against funding received and included in Due to credit institutions and Central Bank.

### 70. Fair value hierarchy

The Group uses the following hierarchy for determining and disclosing the fair value of financial instruments by valuation technique:

Level 1: quoted (unadjusted) prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities;

Level 2: valuation techniques for which all significant inputs are market observable, either directly or indirectly; and

Level 3: valuation techniques which include significant inputs that are not based on observable market data.

The following table shows an analysis of financial instruments recorded at fair value by level of the fair value hierarchy:

2011	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Financial assets designated at FV through PL .....	6,222	140,844	2,000	149,066
Financial assets held for trading .....	5,391	3,181	21	8,593
	<u>11,613</u>	<u>144,025</u>	<u>2,021</u>	<u>157,659</u>
Financial liabilities held for trading .....	<u>3,710</u>	<u>1,197</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,907</u>
2010				
Financial assets designated at FV through PL .....	3,063	119,962	1,668	124,693
Financial assets held for trading .....	7,956	2,098	20	10,074
Compensation instrument .....	-	-	24,188	24,188
	<u>11,019</u>	<u>122,060</u>	<u>25,876</u>	<u>158,955</u>
Financial liabilities held for trading .....	<u>-</u>	<u>999</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>999</u>

The classification of assets between financial assets designated at fair value through profit or loss and financial assets held for trading in 2011 is consistent with the classification used in 2010.

The following table shows transfers between Level 1 and Level 2 on the fair value hierarchy for financial assets and financial liabilities which are recorded at fair value:

	Transfers from Level 1 to Level 2	
Financial assets	2011	2010
<b>Financial assets designated at FV through PL .....</b>	<b>886</b>	<b>1,146</b>

The above financial assets were transferred from Level 1 to Level 2 as they have ceased to be actively traded during the year and fair values were consequently obtained using valuation techniques using observable market inputs. There have been no transfers from Level 2 to Level 1 in 2011 and 2010.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

70. cont.

The fair value of a financial instrument is the amount at which the instrument could be exchanged in a current transaction between willing parties, i.e. not during a forced sale or liquidation. The existence of published price quotations in an active market is the best evidence of fair value and when they exist they are used by the Group to measure financial assets and financial liabilities. If quoted prices for a financial instrument fail to represent actual and regularly occurring transactions in active market transactions or if quoted prices are not available at all, fair value is established by using an appropriate valuation technique.

Methods for establishing fair value

*Level 1: Fair value established from quoted market prices*

The best evidence of the fair value of a financial instrument at initial recognition is the transaction price, unless the fair value can be evidenced by comparison with other observable current market transactions, or is based on a valuation technique whose variables include only data from observable markets.

In some cases, the carrying value of the financial instrument in Note 68 is used as an approximation for the fair value of the instrument. This is straight forward for cash and cash equivalents but is also used for short term investments and borrowings to highly rated counterparties, such as credit institutions, on contracts that feature interest close to or equal to market rates and expose the Group to little or no credit risk.

For listed and liquid stocks and bonds, certain financial derivatives and other market traded securities, such as commodities, the fair value is derived directly from the market prices. These instruments are disclosed under Bonds, Shares, Derivatives and Financial liabilities at fair value in the Statement of Financial Position.

*Level 2: Fair value established using valuation techniques with observable market information*

For financial instruments, for which the market is not active, the Group applies specific working procedures and valuation techniques to attain a fair value using as much market information as available. Valuation techniques include using recent arm's length market transactions between knowledgeable, willing parties, if available, reference to the current fair value of another instrument that is substantially the same, discounted cash flow analysis, option pricing models or other commonly accepted valuation techniques used by market participants to price the instrument.

For financial instruments for which quoted prices on active markets are not available, the fair values are derived using various valuation techniques. This applies in particular to OTC derivatives such as options, swaps, futures and unlisted equities but also some other assets and liabilities.

In most cases the valuation is based on theoretical financial models, such as the Black Scholes model or variations thereof. These techniques also include forward pricing and swap models using present value calculations.

The fair value for deposits with stated maturities was calculated by discounting estimated cash flows using current market rates for similar maturities. For deposits that can be withdrawn immediately, the fair value is the amount payable on demand, which is equal to the carrying amount in the Statement of Financial Position.

*Level 3: Fair value established using valuation techniques with significant unobservable market information*

In many cases there is little or no market data to rely on for fair value calculations. The most common valuation technique is present value calculations. Such calculations involve the estimation of future cash flow and the assessment of appropriate discount rate. The discount rate should both reflect current market rates and the uncertainty in the future cash flow. In such cases internal models and methods are used to calculate the fair value. The models may be statistical in nature, based on internal or external history of financial instruments with similar characteristics and/or based on internal knowledge and experience. For example, the credit margin on most loans to customers which, is added to the current and suitable interest rate to arrive at an appropriate discount rate, is estimated using credit rating and loss parameters in case of default that have been derived from internal models.

Equity instruments that do not have a quoted market price are evaluated using methods and guidelines from pertinent international organisations. In most cases intrinsic value is the basis for the assessment but other factors, such as cash flow analysis, can also modify the results.

*Movements in Level 3 financial instruments measured at fair value*

The level of the fair value hierarchy of financial instruments is determined at the beginning of each reporting year. The following table shows a reconciliation of the opening and closing amounts of Level 3 financial assets and liabilities which are recorded at fair value.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

70. cont.

The following table shows the movements of Level 3 financial assets and liabilities (excluding the Compensation Instrument):

	2011	2010
Balance at the beginning of the year.....	1,688	2,678
Gain (loss) recognised in Statement of Comprehensive Income.....	771	(1,348)
Acquisition.....	160	376
Disposal.....	(598)	(18)
<b>Balance at the end of the year.....</b>	<b>2,021</b>	<b>1,688</b>

The following table shows the line items in the Statement of Comprehensive Income where gains (losses) related to fair value measurements in Level 3 are recognised:

	2011	2010
Net interest income.....	176	18
Net financial income (expense).....	520	(1,223)
Net foreign exchange gain (loss).....	75	(143)
<b>Gain (loss) recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.....</b>	<b>771</b>	<b>(1,348)</b>

The following table presents the carrying amounts and fair values of financial assets and liabilities that are not carried at fair value in the financial statements. This table does not include the fair values of non-financial assets and non-financial liabilities.

2011	Carrying value	Fair value	Un- recognised gain (loss)
<b>Financial assets not carried at fair value</b>			
Cash and balances with Central Bank.....	29,200	29,200	-
Loans and receivables to credit institutions.....	69,103	69,103	-
Loans and receivables to customers.....	561,550	562,940	1,390
Other financial assets.....	8,004	8,004	-
	<u>667,857</u>	<u>669,247</u>	<u>1,390</u>
<b>Financial liabilities not carried at fair value</b>			
Due to credit institutions and Central Bank.....	16,160	16,160	-
Deposits.....	489,995	489,995	-
Borrowings.....	187,203	187,067	136
Subordinated loans.....	32,105	32,105	-
Other financial liabilities.....	33,764	33,764	-
	<u>759,227</u>	<u>759,091</u>	<u>136</u>
<b>Net unrecognised gain not recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.....</b>			<u>1,526</u>

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

70. cont.

2010	Carrying value	Fair value	Un- recognised gain (loss)
Financial assets not carried at fair value			
Cash and balances with Central Bank .....	30,628	30,628	-
Loans and receivables to credit institutions .....	67,846	67,846	-
Loans and receivables to customers .....	451,219	451,219	-
Other financial assets .....	16,688	16,688	-
	566,381	566,381	-
Financial liabilities not carried at fair value			
Due to credit institutions and Central Bank .....	95,646	95,646	-
Deposits .....	457,881	457,881	-
Borrowings .....	65,278	65,219	59
Subordinated loans .....	26,257	26,257	-
Other financial liabilities .....	34,048	34,048	-
	679,110	679,051	59
<b>Net unrecognised gain not recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income .....</b>			<b>59</b>

As financial assets and financial liabilities predominantly bear interest at floating rates, the difference between book value and fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities is deemed to be immaterial.

### Compensation instrument

71. The compensation instrument was originated due to the difference in the fair value of the transferred assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities from Kaupthing hf. to Arion Bank in accordance with the FME decision in 2008. The compensation instrument amounted to ISK 38,300 million and was originally denominated 50% in ISK and 50% in EUR and subject to floating rates of interest.

Related to the compensation instrument was the Escrow and Contingent Value Rights Agreement (ECVRA) where Kaupthing hf. received 80% of the appreciation of defined Arion Bank loans (the "ring-fenced assets"). The increase in value of the defined loans should decrease the balance of the compensation instrument. If the compensation instrument was finally settled due to an increase in the aggregate value of the ring-fenced assets (such increase being 125% of the compensation instrument) then 50% of the increase in value of ring-fenced assets above the amount needed for closing the compensation instrument would be passed onto Kaupthing hf. up to a cap of ISK 5 billion.

On 30 June 2011 a special agreement called Settlement and release of claims agreement was signed on behalf of Arion Bank and Kaupthing hf. to finalise a settlement of the ECVRA and various other claims lodged against Kaupthing hf. by Arion Bank. By signing the agreement the ECVRA is terminated and neither Party shall have any payment obligations towards the other under the ECRVA.

During the first half 2011 changes in those defined assets amounted to ISK 22,519 million, 80% of this increased value belonging to Kaupthing hf., ISK 18,015 million as presented in the Statement of Comprehensive Income, 20% belonging to Arion Bank as a part of the Statement of Comprehensive Income. The total face value of the defined loans was approximately ISK 474,000 million and the book value was approximately ISK 210,000 million at the end of June 2011.

The net effect for the recognition of items per the settlement and release of claims agreement was expensed through the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

71. cont.

Compensation instrument is specified as follows:	2011	2010
Balance at the beginning of the year .....	24,188	34,371
Changes due to the Escrow and Contingent Value Rights Agreement		
Continuing operations .....	(19,593)	(11,604)
Discontinued operations .....	1,578	2,017
Accrued interest .....	322	1,256
Foreign exchange rate differences .....	325	(1,852)
Assets and liabilities upon settlement .....	(6,820)	-
<b>Balance at the end of the year .....</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>24,188</b>

### Investment property

72. Investment property is specified as follows:	Investment		Total 2011	Total 2010
	Investment property	property in progress		
Balance at the beginning of the year .....	21,551	6,091	27,642	22,947
Acquisition through business combination .....	-	-	-	3,000
Additions during the year .....	2,893	634	3,527	3,187
Disposals during the year .....	(3,851)	(1,909)	(5,760)	(1,561)
Transferred from property and equipment .....	775	-	775	-
Fair value adjustments .....	582	334	916	69
<b>Investment property .....</b>	<b>21,950</b>	<b>5,150</b>	<b>27,100</b>	<b>27,642</b>

The official real estate value amounts to ISK 18,380 million at year-end (2010: ISK 18,227 million). The insurance value of real estate amounts to ISK 20,130 million at year-end (2010: ISK 18,535 million).

### Investments in associates

73. The Group's interest in its principal associates are as follows:	2011	2010
Audkenni hf., Borgartún 31, 105 Reykjavík, Iceland .....	20.0%	20.0%
Borgarland ehf., Egilsholt 1, 310 Borgarnes, Iceland .....	-	42.0%
Farice ehf., Smáratorg 3, 201 Kópavogur, Iceland .....	43.5%	43.5%
GO fjárfesting ehf., Undirheimar, 845 Flúdir, Iceland .....	30.0%	-
Hótel Borgarnes hf., Egilsgata 16, 310 Borgarnes, Iceland .....	20.6%	20.6%
KB Rádgjöf ehf., Hlidarsmári 17, 201 Kópavogur, Iceland .....	-	43.1%
Klakki ehf., Ármúli 3, 108 Reykjavík, Iceland .....	44.9%	-
Kríuvarp ehf., Borgartún 35, 105 Reykjavík, Iceland .....	25.0%	25.0%
Reiknistofa bankanna hf., Kalkofnsvegur 1, 150 Reykjavík, Iceland .....	23.3%	21.7%
Reitir fasteignafélag hf., Kringlan 4-12, 103 Reykjavík, Iceland .....	42.7%	42.7%
Sementsverksmiðjan ehf., Mánabraut 20, 300 Akranes, Iceland .....	23.6%	-
SMI ehf., Smáratorg 3, 210 Kópavogur, Iceland .....	39.1%	-
Ölgerdin Egill Skallagrímsson ehf., Grjótháls 7-11, 110 Reykjavík, Iceland .....	20.0%	20.0%

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

73. cont.

Investments in associates are specified as follows:	2011	2010
Carrying amount at the beginning of the year .....	2,713	5,985
Additions during the year .....	2,854	115
Transferred to held for sale assets .....	(2,525)	(54)
Transferred from associates due to step acquisition .....	(9)	(3,889)
Impairment .....	(54)	-
Share of profit (loss) .....	8	556
<b>Carrying amount at the end of the year .....</b>	<b>2,987</b>	<b>2,713</b>

Summarised financial information in respect of the Group's associates is set out below:

Total assets .....	209,229	113,296
Total liabilities .....	(170,788)	(95,176)
<b>Net assets .....</b>	<b>38,441</b>	<b>18,120</b>
Total revenue .....	15,114	13,116
Total profit in associates .....	4,491	2,489
<b>Group's share of profit of associates .....</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>556</b>

### Property and equipment

	Real estate	Equip-ment	Total 2011	Total 2010
74. Property and equipment are specified as follows:				
Balance at the beginning of the year .....	5,767	2,805	8,572	11,808
Acquisitions through business combination .....	-	2	2	419
Additions during the year .....	-	667	667	381
Disposals during the year .....	(102)	(87)	(189)	(327)
Disposals through the sale of a subsidiary .....	-	(16)	(16)	(977)
Transfers to investment property .....	(839)	-	(839)	-
Transfers to assets held for sale .....	-	-	-	(2,732)
Gross carrying amount at the end of the year .....	4,826	3,371	8,197	8,572
Accumulated depreciation at the beginning of the year .....	297	910	1,207	1,108
Depreciation during the year .....	199	633	832	705
Disposals during the year .....	(8)	(41)	(49)	(178)
Disposals through the sale of a subsidiary .....	-	-	-	(274)
Transfers to investment property .....	(64)	-	(64)	-
Transfers to assets held for sale .....	-	-	-	(154)
Accumulated depreciation at the end of the year .....	424	1,502	1,926	1,207
<b>Property and equipment .....</b>	<b>4,402</b>	<b>1,869</b>	<b>6,271</b>	<b>7,365</b>

The official real estate value amounts to ISK 4,561 million at year-end. The insurance value of real estate amounts to ISK 8,518 million at year-end.

75. Depreciation and amortisation in the Statement of Comprehensive Income is specified as follows:

	2011	2010
Depreciation of property and equipment .....	832	705
Amortisation of intangible assets .....	124	114
<b>Depreciation and amortisation .....</b>	<b>956</b>	<b>819</b>

Amounts are in ISK millions.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

### Intangible assets

76. Intangible assets comprise three categories: Infrastructure, Customer Relationship and Related Agreements, and Software. Infrastructure and Customer Relationship and Related Agreements originate as a premium in connection with the acquisition of business activities in subsidiaries, while Software originates from the acquisition of software licenses and the introduction of the software into the Bank's operations.

*Infrastructure*, which is capitalized as an intangible asset, is connected to two business segments at the Bank, namely Asset Management and Credit card operation at the Bank's subsidiary Valitor. In both cases the business activity is based on years of building up expertise and systems, during which a valuable platform has been created for future growth. An impairment test is performed annually and this is described in more detail below.

*Customer Relationship and Related Agreements* are connected to business relationships and agreements which the Bank acquired in subsidiaries bought in 2008-2009. The asset is based on the assumption that business relationships and agreements generate regular payments and earnings to the relevant business segments. The business activities in question are those of the subsidiaries Okkar líftryggingar, Ekort and KB Rádgjóf. Every year existing agreements are examined and compared with agreements which were valid at the time of acquisition. Impairment is made if agreements are closed, total of ISK 6 m during 2011.

*Software* is acquired computer software licenses and is capitalized on the basis of the cost of acquiring them and bringing them into service. Computer software licenses recognized as intangible assets are amortized over their useful life, which is estimated to be 3 - 5 years.

Intangible assets are specified as follows:

	Infra-structure	Customer relationship and related agreements	Software	Total
2011				
Balance at the beginning of the year .....	3,824	149	379	4,352
Additions during the year .....	62	-	481	543
Impairment .....	-	(6)	-	(6)
Amortisation .....	-	-	(124)	(124)
<b>Intangible assets .....</b>	<b>3,886</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>736</b>	<b>4,765</b>
2010				
Balance at the beginning of the year .....	1,957	399	1,156	3,512
Acquisition through business combination .....	-	-	17	17
Additions during the year .....	2,124	-	121	2,245
Disposals through the sale of a subsidiary .....	(257)	-	(576)	(833)
Transfers to assets held for sale .....	-	-	(225)	(225)
Impairment .....	-	(250)	-	(250)
Amortisation .....	-	-	(114)	(114)
<b>Intangible assets .....</b>	<b>3,824</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>4,352</b>

The methodology for impairment testing on the Infrastructure part of intangible assets is based on using a discounted cash flow model, which uses inputs that consider features of the business and the environment.

The model used to determine the recoverable amount is most sensitive to changes in the forecast earnings available to shareholders over a five-year period, the cost of equity and to changes in the growth rate. As a result of this analysis no impairment was recognized for Asset Management and Credit card operation in 2011.

Below we see the Discount and Growth rates used for this calculation:

	2011		2010	
	Discount rates	Growth rates	Discount rates	Growth rates
Asset Management operation .....	10.8%	2.5%	10.8%	2.5%
Credit card operation .....	15.5%	4.5%	15.0%	4.0%

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

### Tax assets and tax liabilities

77. Tax assets and liabilities are specified as follows:

	2011		2010	
	Assets	Liabilities	Assets	Liabilities
Current tax .....	6	2,284	-	3,821
Deferred tax .....	718	1,137	295	633
<b>Tax assets and liabilities .....</b>	<b>724</b>	<b>3,421</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>4,454</b>

78. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are specified as follows:

2011	Assets	Liabilities	Net
	Balance at the beginning of the year .....	295	(633)
Acquisition through business combination .....	149	(1)	148
Income tax recognised in profit or loss .....	274	(503)	(229)
<b>Net tax assets and (liabilities) .....</b>	<b>718</b>	<b>(1,137)</b>	<b>(419)</b>

2010

Balance at the beginning of the year .....	1,415	(1,790)	(375)
Income tax recognised in profit or loss .....	(1,120)	1,157	37
<b>Net tax assets and (liabilities) .....</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>(633)</b>	<b>(338)</b>

Companies in the group own tax loss carry forward with asset value of the amount 2,514 million ISK that is not recognised in the accounts. The loss is not expected to be utilised due to 10 years time limits in Tax laws.

79. Changes in deferred tax assets and liabilities are specified as follows:

2011	At Jan. 1	Addition/ disposal during the year	Recognised in profit or loss	At Dec. 31
	Foreign currency denominated assets and liabilities .....	(249)	-	27
Investment property and property and equipment .....	(139)	149	(539)	(529)
Financial assets .....	-	-	611	611
Other assets and liabilities .....	(37)	-	(5)	(42)
Deferred foreign exchange differences .....	(538)	(1)	(358)	(897)
Tax loss carry forward .....	625	-	35	660
<b>Change in deferred tax .....</b>	<b>(338)</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>(229)</b>	<b>(419)</b>

2010

Foreign currency denominated assets and liabilities .....	(200)	-	(49)	(249)
Investment property and property and equipment .....	(16)	-	(123)	(139)
Other assets and liabilities .....	2	-	(39)	(37)
Deferred foreign exchange differences .....	(1,430)	-	892	(538)
Tax loss carry forward .....	1,269	-	(644)	625
<b>Change in deferred tax .....</b>	<b>(375)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>(338)</b>

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

80. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are attributable to the following:

	2011		2010	
	Assets	Liabilities	Assets	Liabilities
Deferred tax related to foreign exchange gain .....	-	(897)	5	(543)
Foreign currency denominated assets and liabilities .....	-	(221)	-	(249)
Investment property and property and equipment .....	5	(534)	10	(149)
Financial assets .....	611	-	-	-
Other assets and liabilities .....	174	(217)	-	(37)
Tax loss carry forward .....	388	272	625	-
	<u>1,178</u>	<u>(1,597)</u>	<u>640</u>	<u>(978)</u>
Set-off of deferred tax assets together with liabilities of the same taxable entities .....	(460)	460	(345)	345
<b>Deferred tax assets and liabilities .....</b>	<u>718</u>	<u>(1,137)</u>	<u>295</u>	<u>(633)</u>

### Non-current assets and disposal groups held for sale

81. Non-current assets and disposal groups held for sale are specified as follows:	2011	2010
Legal entities .....	8,458	41,924
Associates .....	12,073	3
Real estates .....	2,875	2,456
Other assets .....	480	81
<b>Non-current assets and disposal groups held for sale .....</b>	<u>23,886</u>	<u>44,464</u>

The legal entities are subsidiaries that were acquired exclusively with view to resale and are classified as disposal groups held for sale in accordance with IFRS 5. At year-end the largest entities were BM Vallá ehf., Fram Foods ehf. and Penninn á Íslandi ehf. All were held by the Group's holding company Eignabjarg ehf.

On 4 October 2011 Eignabjarg ehf. signed an agreement for the sale of its 100.0% shareholding in B.M. Vallá ehf. A condition precedent for the sale is approval by the Icelandic Competition Authority, which was pending at year-end.

The associates classified as disposal groups held for sale in accordance with IFRS 5 are Hagar hf., HB Grandi hf. and N1 hf. It is expected that the associates Hagar hf. and HB Grandi hf. will be sold in 2012. Fair value of the Group's associate investment in Hagar hf. at year-end, as based upon the closing trading price of its shares on the NASDAQ OMX Iceland, was ISK 697 million higher than the carrying amount included above.

On 28 September 2011 an agreement to sell the Groups 38.9% shareholding in its associate N1 hf. was signed. A condition precedent for the sale is approval by the Icelandic Competition authority, which was pending at year-end.

Real estates and other assets classified as non-current assets are generally the result of foreclosures on companies and individuals.

Liabilities associated with the legal entities held for sale are as follows:	2011	2010
<b>Legal entities, total liabilities .....</b>	<u>4,950</u>	<u>13,514</u>

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

### Other assets

82. Other assets are specified as follows:	2011	2010
Unsettled securities trading .....	708	366
Accounts receivable .....	6,511	14,312
Accrued income .....	455	802
Prepaid expenses .....	678	448
Sundry assets .....	524	1,208
<b>Other assets</b> .....	<b>8,876</b>	<b>17,136</b>

Unsettled securities trading was settled in less than three days from the reporting date.

### Other liabilities

83. Other liabilities are specified as follows:		
Accounts payable .....	18,944	24,704
Kaupthing hf. due to investment in ABMIIF .....	3,048	-
Withholding tax .....	2,186	2,600
Depositors' and investors' guarantee fund .....	3,018	2,669
Insurance claim .....	2,023	1,992
Unsettled securities trading .....	132	110
Sundry liabilities .....	9,471	6,975
<b>Other liabilities</b> .....	<b>38,822</b>	<b>39,050</b>

Unsettled securities trading was settled in less than three days from the reporting date.

### Borrowings

84. Borrowings are specified as follows:		
Bonds issued .....	124,524	7,156
Other loans .....	62,679	58,122
<b>Borrowings</b> .....	<b>187,203</b>	<b>65,278</b>

The Group has repurchased its own debt of value ISK 442 million during the year (2010: Nil).

At the end of 2011 Arion Bank took over the issuance of covered bonds which had originally been issued by Kaupthing hf. in 2006. The bonds in question are covered bonds amounting to ISK 117.7 billion, net outstanding, with collateral in mortgages and bank deposits in a special fund, Arion Bank Mortgages Institutional Investor Fund. It is a four-series issue, with two 25-year series and two 40-year series maturing in 2031, 2033, 2045 and 2048. The bonds are inflation-indexed with fixed 3.75% to 4.00% interest. Current repayment of principal is currently approximately 2.3 billion a year, currently total payment including repayment of principal, indexation and interest is 7.2 billion a year.

Interest of other loans is 3 month Euribor/Libor +300 bps until the loans expires in 2016. The loan can be extended up to 2022 with same terms.

### Subordinated liabilities

85. Subordinated liabilities are specified as follows:	2011	2010
Tier II capital .....	32,105	26,257
<b>Subordinated liabilities</b> .....	<b>32,105</b>	<b>26,257</b>

The interest on the loan is 3 month Euribor/Libor +400 bps to the year 2015 and thereafter 3 month Euribor/Libor +500 bps.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

### Derivatives

86. Derivatives at fair value are specified as follows:

	Fair value	
	Assets	Liabilities
2011		
Currency and interest rate derivatives, agreements unlisted:		
Forward exchange rate agreements .....	193	671
Interest rate and exchange rate agreements .....	463	415
	<u>656</u>	<u>1,086</u>
Bond derivatives:		
Bond swaps, agreements unlisted .....	18	110
<b>Derivatives</b> .....	<u>674</u>	<u>1,196</u>
2010		
Currency and interest rate derivatives, agreements unlisted:		
Forward exchange rate agreements .....	2	-
Interest rate and exchange rate agreements .....	1,100	-
	<u>1,102</u>	<u>-</u>
Bond derivatives:		
Bond swaps, agreements unlisted .....	24	75
<b>Derivatives</b> .....	<u>1,126</u>	<u>75</u>

### Equity

#### Share capital and share premium

87. According to the Parent Company's Articles of Association, total share capital amounts to ISK 2,000 million, with par value of ISK 1 per share. The holders of ordinary shares are entitled to receive dividends as declared from time to time and are entitled to one vote per share at Shareholders' meetings of the Group.

	Number		Number	
	(million)	2011	(million)	2010
Issued share capital				
At 1 January .....	2,000	75,861	12,646	72,000
Redeemed on 8 January 2010 .....			(12,386)	(62,139)
Issued on 8 January 2010 .....			1,740	66,000
	<u>2,000</u>	<u>75,861</u>	<u>2,000</u>	<u>75,861</u>

Share premium represents excess of payment above nominal value that Shareholders have paid for shares sold by the Group.

#### Other reserves

88. Other reserves are specified as follows:	2011	2010
Statutory reserve .....	1,637	1,637
Foreign currency translation reserve .....	-	(112)
<b>Other reserves</b> .....	<u>1,637</u>	<u>1,525</u>

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

### Off Balance Sheet information

#### Obligations

89. The Group has granted its customers guarantees, unused overdraft and loan commitments. These items are specified as follows:

	2011	2010
Guarantees .....	8,662	11,675
Unused overdrafts .....	34,258	40,896
Loan commitments .....	17,687	13,946

#### 90. Depositors' and Investors' Guarantee fund

According to a provisional amendment to Act No. 98/1999 on Deposit Guarantees and Investor Compensation Scheme the payments to a new division within the Depositors' and Investors' Guarantee Fund shall amount to a minimum of 0.3% of the amount of guaranteed deposits in the commercial bank concerned. Payment shall be made on a quarterly basis or 0.075% each quarter. In addition to the minimum fee the commercial bank concerned shall pay a variable fee based on risk indicator with value between zero and one as defined by the FME. The Group expensed ISK 1,200 million in the year ended 2011 for the amounts required under the provisional amendment. Due to uncertainty of the shape of final legislation on the Depositors' and Investors' Guarantee Fund the liability brought forward from previous year is not changed from the balance of ISK 2,669 million. The Group has granted the Fund a guarantee for obligations amounting to ISK 3,187 million.

The Icelandic parliament has discussed a bill on a new Depositors' and Investors' Guarantee Fund which, if passed, would entail a substantial increase in the size of the fund and related payments.

#### Operating lease commitments

##### 91. Group as a lessee

The Group has concluded lease agreements regarding some of the real estate it uses for its operations. These lease agreements are for a period of up to 24 years. The majority of the contracts include renewal options for various periods of time.

	2011	2010
Less than one year .....	243	213
Over 1 year and up to 5 years .....	787	644
Over 5 years .....	714	1,108
<b>Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable leases .....</b>	<b>1,744</b>	<b>1,965</b>

##### 92. Group as a lessor

The Group has entered lease agreements on its investment properties and real estates. The lease agreements are for a period of up to 22 years, with majority being non-cancellable agreements. The future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable leases are as follows:

	2011	2010
Less than one year .....	2,100	1,975
Over 1 year and up to 5 years .....	5,713	5,715
Over 5 years .....	2,605	4,269
<b>Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable leases .....</b>	<b>10,418</b>	<b>11,959</b>

#### Assets under management and under custody

93. Assets under management and assets under custody are specified as follows:

	31.12.2011	31.12.2010
Assets under management .....	659,024	618,062
Assets under custody .....	1,716,230	1,745,384

Amounts are in ISK millions.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

### Contingent liabilities

94. Litigation is a common occurrence in the banking industry due to the nature of the business undertaken. Due to the current economic climate in Iceland the prospects of possible litigation against the Group has become more likely. The Group has formal controls and policies for managing legal claims. Once professional advice has been obtained and the amount of loss reasonably estimated, the Group makes adjustments to account for any adverse effects which the claims may have on its financial standing. At year-end, the Group had several unresolved legal claims.

One significant court case is a case between Drómi and the Group. By means of a decision issued by the Icelandic Financial Supervisory Authority (FME) on 21 March 2009, the Group acquired the deposits of SPRON. According to the decision the resolution committee of SPRON should establish a specific limited liability company owned by SPRON, later Drómi, designed to receive all the assets of the savings banks and all security interests, including all liens, guarantees and other comparable interests linked to SPRON's claims. The subsidiary was then supposed to take over all SPRON's obligations to the Group relating to the acquisition of SPRON's deposits obligations and was supposed to issue a bond to the Group as compensation for the deposit obligations. Such obligation to the Group was documented with an agreement on repaying the debt. The agreement states that the interest rate on the debt principal shall be determined by the FME at any given time. The FME decided that the debt should bear a given annual interest rate plus an interest premium from that time until the debt has been paid in full. It was also specified that the FME was permitted to review the decision upon request by the parties every six months. In a letter dated 2 December 2009 Drómi insisted that the FME review its former interest rate decision. On 4 February 2011 the FME decided that the debt should bear annual interest rate which should be the original given interest rate plus the original given interest premium from the takeover date until 30 June 2010, but without an interest premium from that time until the debt has been paid in full. The Group has brought legal action against the FME and Drómi in an attempt to annul the FME's decision of 4 February 2011. On 4 May 2011 Drómi brought legal action against the FME and the Group. Drómi principally demands the annulment of all decisions by the FME on interest rates and secondly demanding a different interest rate from the outset.

Arion Bank has made agreements with clients of Private Banking to buy their approved claims against the estate of Kaupthing hf. The claims relate to claims for damages by clients made against the estate of Kaupthing hf. These claims were initially rejected but Kaupthing hf. has since offered these parties a settlement. The claims involved are general claims against the Kaupthing hf. estate and as a compromise to the clients, Arion Bank has acquired the claims at 30% of the claim value and paid them immediately instead of making the clients wait until the estate has been wound up. ISK 90 million of claims have already been acquired and it is likely that a similar amount will be paid for claims which will probably be agreed to by Kaupthing hf. There is still uncertainty over the recovery of these claims from Kaupthing hf. when the company is wound up or makes composition with creditors.

A number of clients alleged that assets under management were improperly managed resulting in the clients suffering financial loss. Five of these claims were taken to court of law. On 13 May 2011 all of these claims were dismissed by the district court. On 15 June 2011 the Supreme Court upheld the previous decision of the district court.

There are also a number of court cases, to which the Group is a party, whereby the legality of the Group's FX loans are called into question. In some of the cases, the interest rate which is used in the recalculation of said loans is called into question, and also if the Group is obligated to reimburse borrowers because of foreign currency linked loans which the borrower had repaid in full before the Group was founded in October 2008. If the courts side with the borrowers in said cases, and e.g. state that the Group is obligated to reimburse borrowers which had repaid before the Group was founded, the impact on the Bank's loan portfolio would be significant.

The Group is party to a court case, whereby the claimant, a guarantor to a loan issued to the Group, claimed that the Group did not adhere to the rules of an agreement from 2001 on the use of guarantees for individual debts. According to the claimant, the Bank did not provide the claimant with a credit valuation of the debtor to be signed by the guarantor. With a judgment on 23 February 2012, the district court of Reykjavík sided with the Bank in the court case. The disputed amount in this case is not material for the Group but could affect the validity of guarantees held by the Group for a number of other loans to individuals.

The EFTA Surveillance Authority (ESA) has opened a formal investigation into the purchases of the assets of money market funds in the autumn of 2008. The investigation aims to clarify whether the purchase by Arion Bank of assets from the funds can be seen as government support in the understanding of Article 61 of the EEA Agreement. Stefir hf. has communicated its remarks to the Ministry of Finance and a result was expected in the year 2011 but has not yet been received.

In 2011 Stefir hf. received two demands for the rescission of contract from the winding-up committee of Landsbanki Íslands hf. Firstly, the rescission of the sale of bonds, issued by Eimskipafélag Íslands hf. and owned by Peningamarkadssjóður, to Landsbanki Íslands hf. less than a month before the collapse of the bank in 2008. The total amount involved is ISK 1,600 million plus interest. Secondly, the demand to rescind Landsbanki Íslands hf. payment of money market deposits which matured early in October 2008 to five funds managed by Stefir hf. The amount involved is ISK 1,451 million plus interest and the winding-up committee has filed cases in court for two of these payments. The amount of those two cases is ISK 450 million plus interest. Stefir hf. has protested against the claims and believes that they are unfounded.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

### The uncertainty regarding the book value of Foreign currency lending

95. By two very similar judgments on 16 June 2010, the Supreme Court of Iceland stated that two car loans were in fact loans in Icelandic krona indexed to a foreign currency exchange rate (rather than loan agreements denominated in foreign currency) and that Act No. 38/2001 on Interest and Price Indexation made such indexation illegal. These judgments were mainly based on the wording of the respective loan documents. By a judgment on 16 September 2010, the Supreme Court of Iceland stated that a loan agreement, which was ruled to be in Icelandic krona indexed to a foreign currency exchange rate, should bear the non-indexed Icelandic krona interest rate posted by the Central Bank of Iceland.

On 18 December 2010, the Icelandic Parliament passed an act (Act No. 151/2010) removing legal uncertainty on how to recalculate interest on loans in Icelandic krona indexed to a foreign currency exchange rate. According to the law, the principal of such loans shall be recalculated from the start date bearing the non-indexed interest rate for the Icelandic krona posted by the Central Bank. Furthermore, the law requires that banks recalculate foreign-currency mortgage loans for personal residents before 28 March 2011. As applicable, the loan principal shall be adjusted to the outcome of the recalculation or if the borrower has overpaid, the amount shall be reimbursed. In accordance with the act, the Group has now finished recalculating all mortgage loans for personal residents in foreign currency to individuals. Over 60% of the number of foreign currency loans to individuals was affected and as of March 2011 the book value of the loans reflected the result of the calculations.

By two similar judgments on 14 February 2011, the Supreme Court stated that two foreign currency loans to small SMEs were in fact loans in Icelandic krona and indexed to a foreign currency exchange rate. Therefore, these loans were in breach of Act No. 38/2001 on Interest and Price Indexation. The Court passed another two similar judgements on 8 March 2011 dealing with foreign currency loans. By a ruling on 9 June 2011, the Supreme Court, by a 4-3 vote, stated that a foreign currency loan to a corporate was in fact a loan in Icelandic krona and indexed to a foreign currency exchange rate.

Even though no foreign currency indexed ISK loans made by the Group have been deemed illegal by the Supreme Court, the Group announced on 15 June 2011 that recent rulings made by the Supreme Court provide a precedent for the Group to follow, and that the loans that fall under the conditions set forth by the Supreme Court in its rulings would be recalculated. The Group has thus recalculated around 2,000 loans, to both individuals and businesses.

The recalculation came in addition to the recalculation of foreign currency indexed ISK mortgage loans which was done last year. Therefore, the lion's share of the Group's foreign currency indexed ISK loans to individuals have been or will be recalculated into ISK denominated loans. In the case of businesses it is important to point out that in the summer of 2010 the legality of the Group's FX loans to businesses was assessed by a team of experts at the Group based on FME guidelines. They concluded that the legality of some FX loans to companies was beyond doubt, while others were more vulnerable, as the recent rulings of the Supreme Court have confirmed.

On 15 February 2012, the Supreme Court passed a judgment in the case of Frjálsi fjárfestingarbankinn. As the judgment dealt with a dispute which rose from special circumstances, its precedent is not entirely clear. At this time the Bank is reviewing the judgment and evaluating its impact on the Bank. On first instance, it is likely the judgment does stipulate that loans, which are deemed to be currency-linked, can be recalculated with the un-indexed interest rate set by the Central Bank of Iceland, however the Bank cannot claim from the borrower a higher payment of interest of the loan than the interest the borrower actually paid, if the borrower has paid according to the Bank's payment slips. Therefore, it is likely that the recalculation of certain currency-linked loans will have to be modified in accordance with the judgment. This also means that certain currency-linked loans, which have already been recalculated, will have to be recalculated again. It is worth noting that the Bank's review of the judgment is not over, so the above-mentioned view of the judgment could change.

The Group currently estimates that the loss to the Group's foreign loan portfolio arising from the judgment of 15 February 2012 is ISK 13.8 bn. In calculating this estimate, the Group elected to follow a methodology prescribed in an impact analysis conducted by the FME. From the four scenarios prescribed in the FME's analysis, the Group has selected the one considered to be the most plausible interpretation of the judgement.

Despite the recognition of impairment for the above estimated loss, the Group remains exposed to significant uncertainty regarding foreign currency linked loans in two respects:

Firstly, the estimation uncertainty associated with the Group's interpretation of the impact of the Supreme Court judgment of 15 February 2012. Uncertainty exists with regard to firstly, the Group's preliminary determination of the specific loan customers that require recalculation and secondly, uncertainty with regard to assumptions used in the method of recalculation of loans to customers that were determined to fall within the judgment. As noted above, this uncertainty is somewhat mitigated by the use of an FME prescribed methodology. In the event the Group's interpretation of the judgment of 15 February 2012 were to change, the loss could be significantly greater or less than the current estimate of ISK 13.8 bn.

Secondly, the legal uncertainty over the outcome of future legal decisions and new or amended government legislation that may require recalculation of other categories of foreign currency loans that the Group has not previously considered as vulnerable. This will be determined by future court rulings and government actions, for which it is not currently possible to predict an outcome.

Significant uncertainty exists over the impact of the above matters on the carrying value of the Bank's portfolio of foreign currency linked loans at year-end.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

### Notes to the Statement of Cash Flow

96. Operational cash flows from interest and dividends:	2011	2010
Interest paid .....	22,364	30,809
Interest received .....	39,653	44,783
Dividend received .....	7	34

Interest paid includes interest credited to deposit accounts at year-end.

97. Non-cash items included in net earnings before income tax and other adjustments:

Increase in value of loans and receivables .....	(38,368)	(40,269)
Impairment on loans and other credit risk provisions .....	27,424	26,787
Compensation instrument, revaluation and accrued interest .....	17,693	8,331
Depreciation and amortisation .....	957	819
Impairment on other assets .....	60	250
Share of profit of associates .....	(8)	(557)
Investment property, fair value change .....	(916)	263
Foreign exchange difference .....	(1,837)	(4,458)
Net loss (gain) on financial assets and liabilities at fair value through profit or loss .....	(1,463)	3,132
Net loss (gain) on disposal of legal entities acquired exclusively with a view to resale .....	(3,325)	(579)
Net loss (gain) on disposal of property and equipment .....	(16)	39
Impairment loss on remeasurement to fair value of HFS legal entities .....	2,027	-
Net loss (gain) on non-current assets classified as held for sale .....	(3,851)	(144)
	<u>(1,623)</u>	<u>(6,386)</u>

98. Changes in operating assets and liabilities specified as follows:

Mandatory reserve with Central Bank, net change .....	(791)	2,080
Loans and receivables to credit institutions .....	10,928	520
Loans and receivables to customers .....	16,280	22,243
Bonds and debt instruments .....	(18,845)	16,118
Shares and equity instruments .....	(762)	(1,280)
Derivatives and financial liabilities at fair value .....	3,302	(720)
Other assets .....	11,431	1,754
Due to credit institutions and Central Bank .....	(33,282)	(9,285)
Deposits .....	4,993	(20,511)
Borrowings .....	(107)	984
Subordinated loans .....	(1,181)	1,115
Other liabilities .....	(5,409)	(21,009)
	<u>(13,443)</u>	<u>(7,991)</u>

99. Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year:

Cash in hand and demand deposits .....	29,200	30,628
Due from credit institutions .....	62,175	49,938
Mandatory reserve with Central Bank .....	(8,560)	(7,769)
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at year-end .....</b>	<b>82,815</b>	<b>72,797</b>

# Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

## Risk Management Disclosures

### Introduction

The Group faces various risks in its business activities, the most important being credit risk, liquidity risk and currency risk that are to the largest extent encountered within the parent company. Subsidiaries bear risk arising from real estate market and private equity prices and from asset management and insurance activities. Managing risk is a core activity within the Group, the Group manages its risks through a process of ongoing risk identification, measurement and monitoring, using limits and other controls. This process of risk management and the ability to evaluate, manage and price the risk encountered is critical to the Group's continuing profitability as well as to be able to ensure that the Group's exposure to risk remains within acceptable levels. The management of risks encountered within subsidiaries is carried out within each subsidiary. Arion Bank's risk management structure, strategy and risk exposures are addressed in the notes below.

#### 100. Risk management structure

##### Board of Directors

The Board of Directors is ultimately responsible for the Group's risk management framework and ensuring that satisfactory risk management processes and policies for controlling the Group's risk exposure are in place. The Board of Directors allocates risk management of subsidiaries to the relevant subsidiary. For the parent company (the Bank) the Board of Directors set the risk appetite. The risk appetite is translated into exposure limits and targets that are monitored by the Bank's Risk Management division, which reports its findings regularly to the Board of Directors. Risk is measured, monitored and reported according to internal policies, principles and processes that are reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors at least annually. The Board of Directors is also responsible for the Bank's Internal Capital Adequacy Assessment Process (ICAAP).

##### CEO

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) is responsible for sustaining an effective risk management framework, policies and control as well as maintaining a high level of risk awareness among the employees, making risk everyone's business.

The CEO of Arion Bank and all members of the Arion Bank Board of Directors are subject to a fit and proper examination by the FME.

##### Committee structure

The Bank operates several committees to manage risk. The Board Audit and Risk Committee (BARC) is responsible for supervising the Bank's risk management framework, risk appetite and ICAAP. The BARC regularly reviews reports on the Bank's risk exposures. The Asset and Liability Committee (ALCO), chaired by the Chief Financial Officer, is responsible for managing asset-liability mismatch, liquidity risk, market risk, interest rate risk and capital management. The Bank operates four credit committees. The highest authority in credits is the Board Credit Committee (BCC) which decide on all major credit risk exposures. The next highest credit granting authority is the Arion Bank Credit Committee (ACC) which operates within limits specified as a fraction of the Bank's capital. The ACC is chaired by the CEO or his designated representative. Corporate Banking and Retail Banking operate their individual credit committees, Corporate Credit Committee (CCC) and Retail Branch Committees (RBC), with tighter credit granting limits. The Bank also operates a temporary recovery committee that is focused on recovery cases. The recovery committee has authority to approve credit and write-offs, within its limits, in connection with recovery.

##### Risk Management

The Bank's Risk Management division is headed by the Chief Risk Officer (CRO). It is independent and centralized and reports directly to the CEO. The CEO and the Board of Directors are responsible for defining and articulating a risk appetite for the Bank's operations. The CRO and Risk Management are responsible for monitoring that the Bank is operating according to the risk appetite.

##### Internal Audit

The Bank's Internal Audit conducts independent reviews of the Bank's operations, risk management framework, processes, policies and measurements. Internal Audit examines both the adequacy and completeness of the Bank's control environment and processes as well as the Bank's compliance with its procedures, internal rules and external regulations. Internal Audit discusses its results with management and reports its findings and recommendations to the BARC.

#### 101. Organization of the Risk Management Department

The Risk Management division is divided into five units: Credit Analysis, which supports and monitors the credit granting process; Credit Control, which monitors credit exposures on a customer-by-customer basis; Economic Capital, which is responsible for the Bank's ICAAP; Portfolio Risk, which monitors liquidity risk and risks in the Bank's Assets and Liabilities at the portfolio level; and Operational Risk which monitors risks associated with the daily operation of the Bank.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

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### 102. Overview of the most material risks

The Bank faces traditional types of risks related to its business as a financial institution arising from its day to day operations. Management devotes a significant portion of its time to the management of these risks. The mainstays of effective risk management are the identification of significant risk, the quantification of the risk exposure, actions to limit risk and the constant monitoring of risk. The most significant of these risks are discussed below.

Although much progress has been made in curtailing the large foreign exchange imbalance between foreign currency denominated loans to customers and Icelandic currency denominated customer deposits, work remains to be done in order to eliminate the remaining imbalance in 2012. At the end of the year 2011, the imbalance still exceeded the legal limit and dispensation from the Icelandic Central Bank was necessary.

The Bank faces legal risk related to recent court judgments on foreign currency loans, see Note 95.

Single name concentration in the Bank's loan book remains high; the total sum of large exposures net of eligible collateral at year-end 2011 was 87% of capital base, down from 94% at year-end 2010.

### Credit risk

#### 103. Credit risk

Credit Risk is the risk that the Bank will incur a loss because its customers or counterparties fail to discharge their contractual obligations. The Bank manages and controls credit risk by setting limits on the amount of risk it is willing to accept for individual counterparties and group of connected clients, and by monitoring exposures in relation to such limits.

Credit risk arises anytime the Bank commits its funds, resulting in capital or earnings being dependent on counterparty, issuer or borrower performance.

#### 104. Credit risk strategy

The Bank recognizes that carefully monitored credit risk is a base for stable profits. Undertaking credit risk is a cornerstone in the Bank's strategy for maintaining the future profitability of the Bank. The main asset of the Bank is its loan portfolio, and therefore managing and analyzing the loan portfolio is of utmost importance. The emphasis is on keeping a high quality credit portfolio, by seeking business with strong parties, maintaining a strict credit process, critically inspecting loan applications, identifying and reacting to possible problem loans at an early stage and actively monitoring the credit portfolio.

##### a) Credit granting process

A fundamental requirement is to have a comprehensive structure for credits which is coherent across the Bank. This structure applies both for the granting of new credits and for the restructuring of impaired credits. The highest authority in credits is the BCC. The next highest credit granting authority is the ACC which operates within limits specified as a fraction of the Bank's capital. Corporate Banking and Retail Banking operate their individual credit committees with tighter credit granting limits. The principle of central management of risk is maintained by having the Bank's CEO as a member of the BCC and the ACC, and by having the CRO, or his representative, attend the meetings of the ACC and CCC with the power to escalate decisions to the BCC. The CEO is responsible for maintaining the Bank's exposures within legal and policy limits.

The pricing of each new credit granted and the credits arising from the impaired loan restructuring process should reflect the risk taken. The client's interests must be protected at all times and there must be a high likelihood that the client will be able to repay a given loan. In particular, the quality of collateral can never be the sole reason for a positive credit decision.

It is the aim of the credit strategy that, in the long run, write-offs should be less than 5% of net interest income. The credit process has been designed and implemented with this long term goal in mind.

Provisions for losses reflect the expected loss, both for loans for which specific provisions exist as well as for portfolios of performing loans. The collective assessment of such portfolios is based on default predictions and loss-given-default parameters.

The Bank seeks to limit its total credit risk through diversification of the loan portfolio across sectors and by limiting large exposures to group of connected clients.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

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### b) Recovery process

The Bank has developed numerous solution methods to assist customers that are experiencing payment difficulties. Members of the recovery team lead the restructuring work with support from Corporate Banking, Retail Banking and Legal. Restructuring of individuals and small companies is predominantly carried out by Retail Banking with assistance from the recovery team. Restructuring of larger companies is carried out by the recovery team.

### c) Customer Credit Rating and Loan Portfolio Classification

The basic elements for the quantification of credit risk are the probability of default, the loss given default, and exposure at default. These quantities need to be measured with an effective and accurate credit rating system. Information, both quantitative and qualitative, must be gathered, both specifically in regard to the counterparty and to its general economic situation in order to estimate its creditworthiness. Furthermore, a facility rating should be performed to determine the loss parameters in case of a default.

The Bank uses an internal rating system to rate corporate loans and loans to individuals. The rating model for larger corporates bases its rating both on qualitative factors and quantitative factors. The rating model for smaller corporates and individuals are purely quantitative models. Internal rating is used in a credit quality classification to distinguish between performing, watch, sub-performing and non-performing customers in addition to other parameters, see Note 105 a).

The policy of the Bank is to continue to use credit models to monitor credit risk. These credit models will however not come into play in the application of the Basel II standardized approach to capital requirements calculations but they will be the basis for a future application of an internal rating based approach. Therefore, further development, implementation and application of these models is carried out in accordance with Basel II requirements. The credit models will become an integral component in the Bank's ICAAP strategy.

### d) Loan provisioning

An allowance for credit losses is established if there is objective evidence that the Bank will be unable to collect all amounts due on a claim, i.e. a loan, commitment, guarantee etc., according to the original contractual terms or the equivalent value. An allowance for credit losses is reported as a reduction of the carrying value of a claim on the Statement of Financial Position, whereas for an off balance sheet item, such as a commitment, a provision for credit loss is reported in other liabilities. Additions to the allowances and provisions for credit losses are made through impairment on loans.

Allowances and provisions for credit losses are evaluated at a counterparty specific level and a collective basis, based on the principles described below.

#### *Individually assessed allowances*

A claim is considered impaired when there is objective evidence that it is probable that the Bank will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original contractual terms or the equivalent value. Individual credit exposures are evaluated based upon the borrower's character, overall financial condition, resources and payment record; the prospects for support from any financially responsible guarantors; and, where applicable, the realizable value of any collateral.

The estimated recoverable amount is the present value, using the loan's original effective interest rate, of expected future cash flows, which may result from restructuring or liquidation. Impairment is measured and allowances for credit losses are established for the difference between the carrying amount and the estimated recoverable amount.

Upon impairment, the accrual of interest income based on the original terms of the claim is discontinued, but the increase of the present value of impaired claims due to the passage of time is reported as interest income.

Impaired claims are reviewed and analyzed at least every three months. Any subsequent changes to the amounts and timing of the expected future cash flows compared to the prior estimates will result in a change in the allowances for credit losses and be charged or credited through impairment on loans.

An allowance for impairment is reversed only when the credit quality has improved such that there is reasonable assurance of improved collection of principal and interest.

A write-off is made when all or part of a claim is deemed uncollectible or forgiven. Write-offs are charged against previously established allowances for credit losses or directly to credit loss expense and reduce the principal amount of a claim.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

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### *Collective assessed allowances*

All loans for which no impairment is identified on a counterparty specific level are grouped into economically homogeneous portfolios to collectively assess whether impairment exists within a portfolio. Allowances from collective assessment of impairment are recognized as credit loss expense and result in an offset to the loan position. As the allowance cannot be allocated to individual loans, interest is accrued on all loans according to contractual terms.

### e) Sources of credit risk

#### Loan portfolio

The main assets of the Bank are its loans. To maintain and further improve the quality of the loan portfolio it is imperative to constantly monitor loans, both individually and at the portfolio level. However, it is not the policy of the Bank to solely issue credit of very low risk but it is important that the price of issued credit reflects both risk and costs incurred. This means that a detailed assessment of individual customers, their financial position and the collateral is a prerequisite for granted credits.

#### Commitments and guarantees

The Bank often commits itself to and ensures that funds are available to customers as required. The most common commitments to extend credit are in the form of limits on checking accounts, credit cards and credit lines. Potential loss on these accounts is equal to the amount of the limits although they may only be partly used at any one time. In practice, the potential loss is less severe since many of these commitments can be recalled immediately by the Bank in case the clients do not meet credit standards.

Guarantees carry the credit risk to the full amount similar as loans, since they represent irrevocable assurances that the Bank will make payments in the event that a customer cannot meet its obligations to third parties.

#### Derivatives trading

The Bank offers financial derivatives instruments to professional investors, including, interest rate swaps and options and forwards on Treasury notes and housing financing bonds. Value-changes are in response to changes in interest rates and security prices. Credit risk arising from derivative financial instruments is, at any time, limited to those with positive fair values. The Bank uses limits on total exposure and on the positive fair value net of collateral to control the Bank's risk towards these instruments. These limits are generally client specific and may refer specifically to different categories of contracts. Generally, collateral is required to cover potential losses on a contract. Acceptable collateral for margin accounts is cash or Treasury bills. Should the net-negative position of the contract fall below a certain level, a call is made for added collateral. If extra collateral is not supplied within a tightly specified deadline, the contract is closed. This process is closely monitored within the Bank.

#### Master netting agreements

Frequently, exposure to credit losses is reduced by entering into master netting agreements with client counterparties that have significant and/or diverse credit related business with the Bank. Master netting agreements do not generally result in an offset in the Statement of Financial Position of assets and liabilities, as transactions are usually settled on a gross basis. However, the credit risk associated with favourable contracts is reduced by these types of agreements since in the case of default all amounts of the counterparty are terminated and settled on a net basis.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

### 105. Credit risk disclosures

#### a) Loan portfolio classification

The Bank is highly focused on the performance of the loan book. The Bank's classification of the loan book seeks to capture the changes in the creditworthiness of counterparties as early as possible. The classification is based on classifying the loan portfolio into Performing, Watch, Sub-performing and Non-performing.

The current classification is based on the criteria outlined in the following table. A borrower who fails any single criterion is demoted to a lower status.

Status	Provision	Days in default	Debt/ EBITDA	LTV	Equity Ratio	Credit Rating	Covenant breach
Performing.....	No	<30 days	< 4-5	< 75/80%	> 15-25%	≥ B-	None
Watch.....	No	30 - 90 days	4-6	75/80%-90%	10-25%	CCC+	Minor
Sub-Performing.....	No	> 90 days	> 5-6	90%-100%	<10-20%	< CCC+	Serious
Non-Performing.....	Yes	> 90 days	> 5-6	>100%	<10-20%	< CCC+	Serious
< 100 million ISK.....	x	x		x		x	

For debt/EBITDA, LTV and equity ratios the condition varies based on industry sector and the underlying collateral type. LTV is used for classification of real estate and construction companies as well as mortgage loans to individuals.

The classification is made on a customer basis. All criteria must be met for a borrower to be able to be classified as performing. If one criterion is violated, the borrower is demoted to a lower status. Thus, for example, a borrower could be classified as Sub-Performing on the basis of LTV without being in default. Borrowers owing less than ISK 100 million are classified based on provisioning, days in default, LTV and credit rating.

The Credit Control department examines the need to provision for credit losses from loans to Sub-Performing and Non-Performing customers. Customers with sufficient collateral to cover existing loans and accrued interest are classified as Sub-Performing, otherwise a provision is made and the customer is classified as Non-Performing.

It is important to note that the classification is predominantly based on contractual loan terms and does not fully consider that some loans are deeply discounted. For instance, a borrower's debt and equity ratios do not reflect that banks are holding the borrower's debt at a discount. Also, a borrower who is making irregular payments may be in default relative to the contractual terms, but may be fulfilling the obligations anticipated for the discounted loan. More loans would be classified as Performing if this weaker standard was applied.

The following table shows a breakdown of the loan book based on these categories:

	2011	2010
Performing .....	56%	38%
Watch .....	18%	10%
Sub-performing .....	13%	15%
Non-performing .....	13%	37%
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

#### b) Maximum exposure to credit risk and credit concentration by industry sectors

The Bank seeks proper diversification in the granting of all new credits. Nevertheless, the loan portfolio which was transferred to Arion Bank from Kaupthing hf. suffers from material credit concentrations because only Icelandic assets were transferred to the Bank and assets were transferred at fair value resulting in a very different loan portfolio make-up.

The following table shows the maximum exposure to credit risk for the components of the Statement of Financial Position, by industry classification at the end of the reporting year before the effect of mitigation due to collateral agreements or other credit enhancements. The Bank uses ISAT 08 standard classification for its industry classification. ISAT 08 is based on the NACE Rev. 2 classification standard.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

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Maximum exposure to credit risk related to on balance sheet assets:

2011

	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	Total
Cash & balances w/ Central Bank .....	-	-	29,200	-	-	-	-	29,200
Loans & receivables to cr.inst. ....	-	-	69,102	-	-	-	1	69,103
Loans & receivables to customers .....	222,228	63,335	60,951	43,541	65,953	62,265	43,277	561,550
Overdrafts.....	19,951	2,048	8,609	2,218	2,427	715	2,917	38,885
Subordinated loans.....	-	-	-	-	508	-	42	550
Other loans.....	202,277	61,287	52,342	41,323	63,018	61,550	40,318	522,115
Bonds and debt instruments .....	-	10	70,946	7,455	-	-	62,157	140,568
Listed.....	-	10	1,716	6,841	-	-	47,047	55,614
Unlisted.....	-	-	69,230	614	-	-	15,110	84,954
Derivatives .....	8	92	53	7	39	-	475	674
Bonds & debt instrum., hedging .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,922	1,922
Listed.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,922	1,922
Other assets with credit risk .....	293	4,155	1,911	39	104	5	1,497	8,004
<b>Total on balance sheet maximum exposure to credit risk .....</b>	<b>222,529</b>	<b>67,592</b>	<b>232,163</b>	<b>51,042</b>	<b>66,096</b>	<b>62,270</b>	<b>109,329</b>	<b>811,021</b>

Maximum exposure to credit risk related to off balance sheet items:

Financial guarantees .....	417	1,023	1,590	528	1,045	125	3,934	8,662
Unused overdrafts .....	21,553	281	2,814	1,530	2,500	360	5,220	34,258
Loan Commitments .....	113	118	934	8,118	4,129	997	3,278	17,687
<b>Total off balance sheet maximum exposure to credit risk .....</b>	<b>22,083</b>	<b>1,422</b>	<b>5,338</b>	<b>10,176</b>	<b>7,674</b>	<b>1,482</b>	<b>12,432</b>	<b>60,607</b>
<b>Maximum exposure to credit risk .....</b>	<b>244,612</b>	<b>69,014</b>	<b>237,501</b>	<b>61,218</b>	<b>73,770</b>	<b>63,752</b>	<b>121,761</b>	<b>871,628</b>

I: Individuals

II: Real estate activities and construction

III: Financial and insurance activities

IV: Manufacturing, mining and other industry

V: Wholesale and retail trades, transport, accommodation and food service activities

VI: Agriculture, forestry and fishing

VII: Services\*

\*Includes business services, public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities and other service.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

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2010

	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	Total
Cash & balances w/ Central Bank .....	-	-	30,628	-	-	-	-	30,628
Loans & receivables to cr.inst. ....	-	-	67,846	-	-	-	-	67,846
Loans & receivables to customers .....	111,354	69,637	63,484	59,829	44,713	50,229	51,973	451,219
Overdrafts.....	12,315	2,289	14,831	1,711	2,274	780	3,190	37,390
Subordinated loans.....	-	-	-	-	493	-	6	499
Other loans.....	99,039	67,348	48,653	58,118	41,946	49,449	48,777	413,330
Bonds and debt instruments .....	-	223	74,635	11	27	-	45,216	120,112
Listed.....	-	-	1,384	11	27	-	45,143	46,565
Unlisted.....	-	223	73,251	-	-	-	73	73,547
Derivatives .....	10	-	14	732	-	-	370	1,126
Bonds & debt instrum., hedging .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,213	3,213
Listed.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,213	3,213
Compensation instrument .....	-	-	24,188	-	-	-	-	24,188
Other assets with credit risk .....	274	331	15,075	267	27	20	694	16,688
<b>Total on balance sheet maximum exposure to credit risk .....</b>	<b>111,638</b>	<b>70,191</b>	<b>275,870</b>	<b>60,839</b>	<b>44,767</b>	<b>50,249</b>	<b>101,466</b>	<b>715,020</b>

Maximum exposure to credit risk related to off balance sheet items:

Financial guarantees .....	407	2,825	1,958	724	1,693	920	3,148	11,675
Unused overdrafts .....	23,068	734	9,358	1,405	1,895	287	4,149	40,896
Loan Commitments .....	443	-	454	2,331	1,256	3,216	6,246	13,946
<b>Total off balance sheet maximum exposure to credit risk .....</b>	<b>23,918</b>	<b>3,559</b>	<b>11,770</b>	<b>4,460</b>	<b>4,844</b>	<b>4,423</b>	<b>13,543</b>	<b>66,517</b>
<b>Maximum exposure to credit risk .....</b>	<b>135,556</b>	<b>73,750</b>	<b>287,640</b>	<b>65,299</b>	<b>49,611</b>	<b>54,672</b>	<b>115,009</b>	<b>781,537</b>

I: Individuals

II: Real estate activities and construction

III: Financial and insurance activities

IV: Manufacturing, mining and other industry

V: Wholesale and retail trades, transport, accommodation and food service activities

VI: Agriculture, forestry and fishing

VII: Services\*

\*Includes business services, public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities and other service.

### c) Collateral and other credit enhancements

The amount and type of collateral required depends on an assessment of the credit risk of the counterparty and the exposure type. The main types of collateral obtained are as follows:

- For retail lending, mortgages over residential properties;
- For corporate lending, charges over real estate properties, fixed and current assets, inventory and trade receivables; and
- For derivative exposure, cash or treasury bills.

Collateral value is monitored and additional collateral requested in accordance with the underlying agreement. Collateral value is reviewed in line with the adequacy of the allowance for impairment losses.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

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## d) Credit quality by class of financial assets

The table below shows the credit quality of loans and receivables:

	Neither past due nor impaired	Past due but not impaired	Individually impaired	Total
<b>2011</b>				
Cash and balances with Central Bank .....	29,200	-	-	29,200
Loans and receivables to credit institutions .....	69,103	-	-	69,103
Loans and receivables to customers				
Loans to corporates .....	274,604	17,758	46,252	338,614
Loans to individuals .....	182,089	23,117	17,730	222,936
Bonds and debt instruments .....	140,568	-	-	140,568
Derivatives .....	674	-	-	674
Securities used for hedging .....	1,922	-	-	1,922
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>698,160</b>	<b>40,875</b>	<b>63,982</b>	<b>803,017</b>
<b>2010</b>				
Cash and balances with Central Bank .....	30,628	-	-	30,628
Loans and receivables to credit institutions .....	63,451	-	4,395	67,846
Loans and receivables to customers				
Loans to corporates .....	119,655	51,405	168,805	339,865
Loans to individuals .....	67,127	14,581	29,646	111,354
Bonds and debt instruments .....	120,112	-	-	120,112
Derivatives .....	1,126	-	-	1,126
Securities used for hedging .....	3,213	-	-	3,213
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>405,312</b>	<b>65,986</b>	<b>202,846</b>	<b>674,144</b>

Restructuring of loans to customers is now finalised for the major part of the loan book which makes it possible for the Bank to look at impairment on loans on a loan basis rather than customer basis, which was the method used until now. For these two reasons individually impaired loans are considerably lower than before. Different method and progress made in the restructuring of loans also affects the figure for Neither Past due nor impaired which is considerably higher than at year-end 2011.

## e) Past due but not impaired loans by class of loans and receivables:

	Less than 30 days	31 to 60 days	61 to 90 days	More than 91 days	Total
<b>2011</b>					
Loans to corporates .....	5,649	824	834	10,451	17,758
Loans to individuals .....	2,950	3,422	2,512	14,233	23,117
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>8,599</b>	<b>4,246</b>	<b>3,346</b>	<b>24,684</b>	<b>40,875</b>
<b>2010</b>					
Loans to corporates .....	6,063	949	7,112	37,281	51,405
Loans to individuals .....	2,594	3,237	1,792	6,958	14,581
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>8,657</b>	<b>4,186</b>	<b>8,904</b>	<b>44,239</b>	<b>65,986</b>

The majority of the loans have been acquired at discount and are in process of being restructured or in a recovery process.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

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f) Collateral repossessed

During the year, the Group took possession of real estates with the carrying value of ISK 1,724 million and other assets with the value of ISK 4.8 million, all which the Bank is in the process of selling, see Note 81.

g) Loans and receivables to customers specified by sectors:	2011	2010
Individuals .....	39.7%	24.7%
Financial and insurance activities .....	10.8%	14.1%
Manufacturing, mining and other industry .....	7.7%	13.3%
Real estate activities .....	9.8%	13.0%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing .....	11.1%	11.1%
Wholesale and retail trades, transport, accommodation and food service activities .....	11.7%	9.9%
Business services .....	5.3%	8.3%
Construction .....	1.5%	2.4%
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities .....	1.2%	1.8%
Other services .....	1.2%	1.4%
<b>Loans and receivables to customers .....</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

h) Impaired loans and receivables to customers by sector:	2011		2010	
	Impaired amount	Impaired loans	Impaired amount	Impaired loans
Individuals .....	12,662	30,392	5,472	35,118
Financial and insurance activities .....	6,098	11,498	4,673	24,228
Manufacturing, mining and other industry .....	1,911	11,112	2,136	19,095
Real estate activities .....	5,441	11,058	7,568	48,686
Agriculture, forestry and fishing .....	4,531	10,507	2,606	22,184
Wholesale and retail trades, transport, accommodation and food service activities .....	5,295	19,335	3,294	28,604
Business services .....	8,278	9,090	10,562	45,022
Construction .....	1,348	4,766	2,349	9,501
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities .....	754	1,706	77	2,558
Other services .....	458	1,294	346	2,538
<b>Impairment on loans and receivables to customers .....</b>	<b>46,776</b>	<b>110,758</b>	<b>39,083</b>	<b>237,534</b>

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

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### i) Large Exposure Disclosures

A large exposure is defined as an exposure to a group of financially related borrowers which exceeds 10% of the Group's capital base net of eligible collateral according to FME rules No 216/2007.

The legal maximum for individual large exposures is 25% of capital base and the sum of all large exposures cannot exceed 800% of capital base.

The maximum exposure to a group of connected clients at year-end was ISK 33 billion (2010: ISK 36 billion) before taking account of eligible collateral, excluding claim on Drómi. The Group has five large exposures at year-end (2010: seven exposures) net of eligible collateral.

no.	2011		2010	
	Gross	Net	Gross	Net
1 .....	49%	0%	57%	1%
2 .....	23%	23%	28%	19%
3 .....	20%	20%	26%	18%
4 .....	19%	19%	13%	13%
5 .....	14%	14%	12%	8%
6 .....	11%	11%	11%	11%
<b>Sum of exposure gross &gt; 10% .....</b>	<b>136%</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>147%</b>	<b>70%</b>

No large exposure exceeds the legal limit of 25% of the group's capital base at year-end. The Ministry of Finance has pledged that Arion Bank will be held harmless from the exposure due to the bond claim on Drómi. The FME has ruled that the Group can use the hold harmless statement as a credit enhancement towards the claim on Drómi ehf. Consequently, the Group finds that the net exposure on Drómi is zero, or 0.3% when taking into consideration financial related parties.

The sum of all large exposures is 136% before collateral mitigation or 87% net of eligible collateral, which is well below the 800% legal maximum and the Group's internal 150% limit net of collateral.

### Market risk

#### 106. Market risk

Market risk is the current or prospective risk that changes in financial market prices and rates will cause fluctuations in the value and cash flows of financial instruments. The risk arises from imbalances in the Group's balance sheet as well as in market making activities and position taking in bonds, equities, currencies, derivatives, and other commitments which are marked to market.

#### 107. Market risk strategy

The Bank's strategy towards market risk is to limit the risk exposure due to imbalances in the Group's balance sheet but accept limited risk in its trading book. The Bank keeps firm track of the market risk and separates its exposure to market risk into trading book and non-trading book i.e. banking book. The market risk in the trading book arises from proprietary trading activities. Market risk in the banking book arises from various mismatches in assets and liabilities in e.g. currencies, maturities and interest rates. The market risk in the trading book and in the banking book are managed separately by Treasury and monitored by Risk Management.

Fair value of financial instruments is disclosed in Note 70.

#### *Market risk - trading book*

In the case of proprietary trading the CEO decides the total market risk exposure of the book and per asset class, expressed as maximum overnight exposure. The Bank trading book's main exposures are listed Icelandic Treasury notes and bonds and Housing Fund bonds and to a very limited extent listed equities.

Fair values of bonds and debt instruments and shares and equity instruments are disclosed in Note 69.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

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### Derivatives

The Bank's use of derivatives is through derivative sales and trading portfolios. The types of derivative currently offered by the Bank are interest rate swaps and options and forwards on Treasury notes and housing financing bonds.

The Bank is not materially exposed to derivative instruments at year-end 2011.

### Market risk - banking book

#### a) Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk arises from the possibility that changes in interest rates will affect future cash flows or the fair values of financial instruments. The Bank's operations are subject to interest rate risk associated with a mismatch between interest bearing assets and interest bearing liabilities. These mismatches are characterized by a large maturity gap between assets and liabilities where a large amount of liabilities is on demand but the duration of interest bearing assets are much higher resulting in a yield curve risk for the Bank. The Bank also faces interest basis risk between interest bearing assets and interest bearing liabilities due to different types of floating rate indices in different currencies.

#### Interest rate risk strategy

The Bank's strategy for managing its interest rate risk is to strive for an interest rate balance between assets and liabilities by offering deposit incentives and by targeted lending practices.

The following table shows the sensitivity of net present value of interest bearing assets and liabilities to changes in interest rate by currency and maturity in million of ISK in the Group. Risk is quantified by assuming a 200 bps simultaneous upward shift in all yield curves in the relevant duration band. The sensitivity does not relate to variation of annual net interest income.

2011		0-1Y	1-5Y	5-10Y	10-20Y	>20Y
CPI Indexed linked .....	ISK	40	(1,509)	(1,016)	(14,001)	7,684
Non Indexed linked .....	ISK	(418)	(1,390)	(701)	(265)	(388)
	EUR	15	(5)	-	-	-
	Other	(27)	(785)	(109)	-	-
2010						
CPI Indexed linked .....	ISK	486	(160)	(673)	(10,833)	(78)
Non Indexed linked .....	ISK	(73)	(577)	(376)	(364)	(67)
	EUR	(65)	(26)	-	-	-
	Other	(584)	(40)	-	-	-

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

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The table below analyses the Group's assets and liabilities at carrying amount by residual maturity.

2011	Carrying amount	On demand	Up to 3 months	3-12 months	1-5 years	Over 5 years	With no maturity
<b>Assets</b>							
Cash and balances with Central Bank .....	29,200	20,640	-	8,560	-	-	-
Due from banks .....	69,103	62,155	6,703	-	245	-	-
Loans and receivables to customers .....	561,550	13,694	49,872	71,108	230,773	196,103	-
Bonds and debt instruments .....	140,568	3,994	515	15,256	80,125	40,678	-
Shares and equity instruments .....	14,045	-	-	-	-	-	14,045
Derivatives .....	674	-	188	3	483	-	-
Assets leg .....	9,589	-	5,603	299	3,687	-	-
Liabilities leg .....	(8,915)	-	(5,415)	(296)	(3,204)	-	-
Securities used for hedging .....	2,372	1,922	-	-	-	-	450
Investment property .....	27,100	-	-	-	-	-	27,100
Investments in associates .....	2,987	-	-	-	-	-	2,987
Property and equipment .....	6,271	-	-	-	-	-	6,271
Intangible assets .....	4,765	-	-	-	-	-	4,765
Tax assets .....	724	-	-	-	-	-	724
Non-current assets held for sale .....	23,886	-	-	-	-	-	23,886
Other assets .....	8,876	598	5,446	492	843	68	1,429
<b>Total assets 31.12.2011 .....</b>	<b>892,121</b>	<b>103,003</b>	<b>62,724</b>	<b>95,419</b>	<b>312,469</b>	<b>236,849</b>	<b>81,657</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>							
Due to credit inst. and Central Bank .....	16,160	10,341	231	5,588	-	-	-
Deposits .....	489,995	377,063	58,708	24,371	27,117	2,736	-
Financial liabilities at fair value .....	4,907	-	4,492	-	415	-	-
Assets leg .....	(35,374)	-	(34,697)	-	(677)	-	-
Liabilities leg .....	36,571	-	35,479	-	1,092	-	-
Short position bonds & derivatives .....	3,710	-	3,710	-	-	-	-
Tax liabilities .....	3,421	-	-	2,284	-	-	1,137
Non-current liabilities held for sale .....	4,950	-	-	-	-	-	4,950
Other liabilities .....	38,822	2,020	8,235	20,157	2,686	219	5,505
Borrowings .....	187,203	-	3,885	2,595	13,297	167,426	-
Subordinated liabilities .....	32,105	-	-	-	-	32,105	-
<b>Total liabilities 31.12.2011 .....</b>	<b>777,563</b>	<b>389,424</b>	<b>75,551</b>	<b>54,995</b>	<b>43,515</b>	<b>202,486</b>	<b>11,592</b>
<b>Off balance sheet items</b>							
Guarantees .....	8,662	343	420	1,273	5,108	1,518	-
Unused overdraft .....	34,258	808	7,685	12,465	13,272	28	-
Loan commitments .....	17,687	1	2,892	8,385	4,409	2,000	-
<b>Total off balance sheet items .....</b>	<b>60,607</b>	<b>1,152</b>	<b>10,997</b>	<b>22,123</b>	<b>22,789</b>	<b>3,546</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net interest sensitivity gap .....</b>	<b>53,951</b>	<b>(287,573)</b>	<b>(23,824)</b>	<b>18,301</b>	<b>246,165</b>	<b>30,817</b>	<b>70,065</b>

Amounts are in ISK millions.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

107. cont.

2010	Carrying amount	On demand	Up to 3 months	3-12 months	1-5 years	Over 5 years	With no maturity
<b>Assets</b>							
Cash and balances with Central Bank .....	30,628	22,859	-	7,769	-	-	-
Due from banks .....	67,846	49,572	15,372	691	1,803	408	-
Loans and receivables to customers .....	451,219	-	8,155	43,902	236,701	162,461	-
Bonds and debt instruments .....	120,112	6,467	-	32	73,984	39,629	-
Shares and equity instruments .....	10,316	-	-	-	-	-	10,316
Derivatives .....	1,126	-	44	262	820	-	-
Assets leg .....	5,687	-	2,447	538	2,702	-	-
Liabilities leg .....	(4,561)	-	(2,403)	(276)	(1,882)	-	-
Securities used for hedging .....	3,213	3,213	-	-	-	-	-
Compensation instrument .....	24,188	-	-	-	24,188	-	-
Investment property .....	27,642	-	-	-	-	-	27,642
Investments in associates .....	2,713	-	-	-	-	-	2,713
Property and equipment .....	7,365	-	-	-	-	-	7,365
Intangible assets .....	4,352	-	-	-	-	-	4,352
Tax assets .....	295	-	-	-	-	-	295
Non-current assets held for sale .....	44,464	-	-	-	-	-	44,464
Other assets .....	17,136	368	2,915	13,220	186	-	447
<b>Total assets 31.12.2010 .....</b>	<b>812,615</b>	<b>82,479</b>	<b>26,486</b>	<b>65,876</b>	<b>337,682</b>	<b>202,498</b>	<b>97,594</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>							
Due to credit inst. and Central Bank .....	95,646	58,985	3,508	5,153	28,000	-	-
Deposits .....	457,881	327,824	27,974	78,307	18,823	4,953	-
Financial liabilities at fair value .....	999	923	76	-	-	-	-
Assets leg .....	(4,283)	-	(4,283)	-	-	-	-
Liabilities leg .....	5,282	923	4,359	-	-	-	-
Tax liabilities .....	4,454	-	-	3,821	-	-	633
Non-current liabilities held for sale .....	13,514	-	-	-	-	-	13,514
Other liabilities .....	39,050	110	31,644	-	1,970	-	5,326
Borrowings .....	65,278	600	501	32	4,349	59,796	-
Subordinated liabilities .....	26,257	-	-	-	-	26,257	-
<b>Total liabilities 31.12.2010 .....</b>	<b>703,079</b>	<b>388,442</b>	<b>63,703</b>	<b>87,313</b>	<b>53,142</b>	<b>91,006</b>	<b>19,473</b>
<b>Off balance sheet items</b>							
Guarantees .....	11,675	67	1,029	2,173	7,347	1,059	-
Unused overdraft .....	40,896	40,896	-	-	-	-	-
Loan commitments .....	13,946	13,946	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total off balance sheet items .....</b>	<b>66,517</b>	<b>54,909</b>	<b>1,029</b>	<b>2,173</b>	<b>7,347</b>	<b>1,059</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net interest sensitivity gap .....</b>	<b>43,019</b>	<b>(360,872)</b>	<b>(38,246)</b>	<b>(23,610)</b>	<b>277,193</b>	<b>110,433</b>	<b>78,121</b>

Amounts are in ISK millions.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

107. cont.

## b) Inflation risk

The Group is exposed to inflation risk when there is a mismatch between inflation linked assets and liabilities. The total amount of indexed assets amount to ISK 230.7 billion (2010: ISK 106.4 billion) and the total amount of indexed liabilities amount to ISK 218.5 billion (2010: ISK 87.8 billion).

2011	Up to 1 year	1 to 5 years	Over 5 years	Total
<b>Assets - CPI indexed linked</b>				
Loans and receivables to customers .....	110	40,869	183,760	224,739
Bonds and debt instruments .....	37	28	2,221	2,286
Off balance sheet position .....	-	3,650	-	3,650
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>44,547</b>	<b>185,981</b>	<b>230,675</b>
<b>Liabilities - CPI indexed linked</b>				
Deposits .....	55,486	30,191	1,749	87,426
Borrowings .....	3,084	15,804	112,205	131,093
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>58,570</b>	<b>45,995</b>	<b>113,954</b>	<b>218,519</b>
Net on balance sheet position .....	(58,423)	(5,098)	72,027	8,506
Net off balance sheet position .....	-	3,650	-	3,650
<b>Total CPI Balance .....</b>	<b>(58,423)</b>	<b>(1,448)</b>	<b>72,027</b>	<b>12,156</b>
Total CPI Balance 31.12.2010 .....	(56,094)	8,579	66,180	18,665

## c) Currency risk

Currency risk is the risk of loss due to adverse movements in foreign exchange rates. The Bank is primarily exposed to currency risk through a currency mismatch between assets and liabilities. The liabilities of the Bank are predominantly ISK denominated deposits whereas the Bank's assets consist largely of foreign currency denominated loans to customers.

## Currency risk strategy

The Bank's strategy for reducing its currency imbalance is twofold: The systematic ISK redenomination of foreign currency loans to customers which have ISK income (the naturally hedged currency imbalance), and hedging of its real currency imbalances through agreements with the Central Bank of Iceland and through currency swaps with Icelandic customers. The task of redenominating loans to customers with ISK income was hampered by the uncertain legal status of foreign currency loans. The December 2010 legislation regarding the treatment of foreign currency loans to individuals and subsequent court decisions on certain loans to SMEs has accelerated the redenomination of the corresponding loans to ISK. Net exposures per currency are monitored centrally in the Bank.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

107. cont.

The following table shows the breakdown of assets and liabilities by currency at year-end:

Assets	ISK	EUR	USD	CHF	GBP	JPY	Other	Total
Cash with Central Bank .....	12,238	317	10,678	828	3,670	574	895	29,200
Loans to credit institutions .....	23,725	9,288	10,813	1,010	8,055	3,249	12,963	69,103
Loans and receivables to customers .....	393,093	48,344	20,998	34,298	10,957	27,824	26,036	561,550
Bonds and debt instruments .....	128,853	352	11,363	-	-	-	-	140,568
Shares and equity instruments .....	9,931	2,534	899	-	276	-	405	14,045
Derivatives .....	458	8	1	8	14	185	-	674
Securities used for hedging .....	2,372	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,372
Investment property .....	27,100	-	-	-	-	-	-	27,100
Investments in associates .....	2,986	1	-	-	-	-	-	2,987
Property and equipment .....	6,271	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,271
Intangible assets .....	4,765	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,765
Tax assets .....	724	-	-	-	-	-	-	724
Non-current assets held for sale .....	23,886	-	-	-	-	-	-	23,886
Other assets .....	8,469	245	68	-	12	-	82	8,876
<b>Total assets 31.12.2011 .....</b>	<b>644,871</b>	<b>61,089</b>	<b>54,820</b>	<b>36,144</b>	<b>22,984</b>	<b>31,832</b>	<b>40,381</b>	<b>892,121</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>								
Due to credit inst. and Central Bank .....	15,188	261	69	-	304	11	327	16,160
Deposits .....	399,616	26,869	16,880	6,664	7,464	5,253	27,249	489,995
Financial liabilities at fair value .....	3,856	23	430	2	113	378	105	4,907
Tax liabilities .....	3,421	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,421
Non-current liabilities held for sale .....	4,950	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,950
Other liabilities .....	34,339	1,027	2,587	8	397	-	464	38,822
Borrowings .....	126,311	3,090	19,833	20,281	6,720	10,968	-	187,203
Subordinated loans .....	-	25,869	2,446	-	3,790	-	-	32,105
Equity .....	114,558	-	-	-	-	-	-	114,558
<b>Total liabilities 31.12.2011 .....</b>	<b>702,239</b>	<b>57,139</b>	<b>42,245</b>	<b>26,955</b>	<b>18,788</b>	<b>16,610</b>	<b>28,145</b>	<b>892,121</b>
Net on balance sheet position .....	(57,368)	3,950	12,575	9,189	4,196	15,222	12,236	
Net off balance sheet position .....	14,737	4,660	(3,075)	-	(1,312)	(9,437)	(5,573)	
Net position 31.12.2011 .....	(42,631)	8,610	9,500	9,189	2,884	5,785	6,663	
Net position 31.12.2010 .....	(170,263)	24,097	23,018	55,109	7,896	46,627	13,516	
Loans to customers with ISK income .....	18,440	(2,822)	(1,224)	(8,164)	(91)	(5,907)	(232)	
Net real position 31.12.2011 .....	(24,191)	5,788	8,276	1,025	2,793	(122)	6,431	
Net real position 31.12.2010 .....	(48,556)	(8,817)	11,247	17,999	4,109	15,969	8,049	

Amounts are in ISK millions.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

107. cont.

The table below indicates the currencies to which the Group had significant exposure at 31 December 2011. The analysis calculates the effect of a reasonably possible movement of the currency rate against the ISK, with all other variables held constant, on the income statement (due to the fair value of currency sensitive non-trading monetary assets and liabilities). A negative amount in the table reflects a potential net reduction in income statement or equity, while a positive amount reflects a net potential increase. An equivalent decrease in each of the below currencies against the ISK would have resulted in an equivalent but opposite impact (+10 denotes a depreciation of the ISK).

Currency	2011	
	-10%	+10%
EUR .....	(579)	579
USD .....	(828)	828
CHF .....	(103)	103
GBP .....	(279)	279
JPY .....	12	(12)
Other .....	(643)	643

### A natural hedge for currency risk

The currency risk is mitigated by the specific nature of foreign currency loans to customers with ISK income. The Bank refers to this as a natural hedge because the loans do not generate profit and loss for small to moderate fluctuations in the exchange rate. These loans were purchased from Kaupthing hf. at a fair value which is based on the customer's ability to repay the loan, which is largely unaffected by changes in the exchange rate. IFRS accounting rules stipulate that the depreciation of the ISK against the loan currency be classified as an impairment event rather than a gain in the loan value if the borrower's ability to repay the loan remains unchanged. Conversely, an appreciation of the ISK is an impairment reversal and that this reversal may be made in certain situations up to the gross value of the loan, which may be significantly higher than the fair value at which the loan was transferred to Arion Bank. The Bank has modelled the effect of this mitigating effect and has presented the relevant authorities with its measure of the effective currency risk which is attributed to this portfolio of loans. The 31 December 2011 values of the foreign currency imbalance are shown in the following table with year-end 2010 values by comparison. The book value refers to the value of the imbalance without accounting for the natural hedge whereas the effective value takes into consideration the mitigating effect of the natural hedge, as modelled by the Bank. This strength of the natural hedge is different at different times. Previously, the natural hedge effect was applied on a portfolio level, but is now applied on a loan-by-loan basis.

	2011		2010	
	Book value	Effective value	Book value	Effective value
FX imbalance due to customers with FX income .....	24,191	24,191	48,556	48,556
FX imbalance due to customers with ISK income .....	18,440	6,823	121,707	48,683

The effective FX imbalance due to customers with ISK income during the year was 37% (2010: 40%), whereas the effective FX imbalance due to customers with FX income is always 100%.

The relevant authorities have granted temporary dispensation from rules regarding the currency imbalance.

### Equity price risk

Equity price risk is the risk that the fair value of equities decreases as the result of changes in the level of equity indices and individual stocks. The non-trading equity price risk exposure is mainly due to restructuring of the Bank's assets i.e. restructuring of troubled companies which the Bank has taken over. For information on assets seized and held for sale, see Note 81.

### Prepayment risk

Prepayment risk is the risk that the Bank will incur a financial loss because its customers and counterparties repay or request repayment earlier or later than expected, such as fixed rate mortgages when interest rates fall. The Bank is not materially exposed to prepayment risk at year-end 2011.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

### Liquidity risk

#### 108. Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is defined as the risk that the Bank will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities that are settled by delivering cash or another financial asset, or can secure them only at excessive cost. Liquidity risk arises from the inability to manage unplanned decreases or changes in funding sources. The funding liquidity risk limit is quantified by secured liquidity ratio as well as applying stress tests to identify scenarios of possible liquidity strain.

The Bank's primary source of funding is deposits from individuals, corporations and financial institutions. The Bank's liquidity risk stems from the fact that the maturity of loans exceeds the maturity of deposits, the majority of which is on demand.

#### 109. Liquidity risk strategy

The Bank's strategy is to lengthen the maturity profile on the liability side, e.g. by converting on-demand deposits to term deposits. At 31 December 2011 77% of the Bank's deposits were on-demand.

##### Secured liquidity

The Bank calculates its secured liquidity ratio from cash on hand and cash balances with the Central Bank of Iceland, Treasury notes and Housing Fund bonds which are held specifically as liquidity reserves and other eligible assets for repo transactions with the Central Bank and compare it with the total interest bearing liabilities.

The FME has set a guideline for minimum secured liquidity ratio and a minimum cash ratio. These guidelines stipulates that the Bank should have adequate liquidity reserves to withstand an instantaneous deposit outflow of 20% (Secured liquidity ratio), and that cash and cash equivalents shall amount to at least 5% (Cash ratio) of on-demand deposits. The high liquidity reserve required by the FME reflects the uncertainty of the deposit's stickiness of the Icelandic banks and the fact that a large part of the Bank's liabilities are primarily short term or on-demand deposits while the contractual maturity of the assets is much higher. The Bank actively monitors its liquidity reserves and has made excellent progress in understanding and modelling the behaviour of its deposit base. The ratios during the year were as follows:

	Liquidity ratio	Cash ratio
Year-end .....	35%	15%
Maximum .....	39%	20%
Minimum .....	29%	12%
Average .....	34%	15%

##### Deposit stickiness

The Group's deposit base has been split into seven different categories depending on its stickiness. The term stickiness of deposit defines the past stability of deposit and the projected behaviour over time. A deposit is described as being sticky if it has shown to be a stable funding for the Group in the past and is expected to remain stable in the future. Every depositor within a specific group shares common characteristics that can be used as a measure of stickiness. The criteria for different levels or categories of stickiness include, but not limited to, behaviour of depositor over time, behaviour of depositor in stressed condition, the depositors business relationship with the Group and the maturity of the deposit. These criteria's are based both on qualitative and quantitative methods.

- Capital controls: Deposits from customers believed to be waiting for the lifting of capital controls;
- Resolution process: Deposits from customers in a resolution process;
- Investors: Deposits from investors who may withdraw when other investment opportunities appear or competitor offers higher deposits rate;
- Deposits - legal entities: Deposits from legal entities with no other business relationship with the Group and not quantified as an active investor;
- Deposits - retail individual: Deposits from retail individual with no other business relationship with the Group and not quantified as an active investor;
- Deposits - legal entities with business relationship: Deposits from legal entities with business relationship with the Group; and
- Deposits - retail individual with business relationship: Deposits from retail individual with business relationship with the Group.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

109. cont.

The table below shows the split between different levels of the Bank's deposit stickiness at year-end, according to the Bank's classification. The rating 7 means the stickiest deposits and the rating 1 the least sticky.

% of deposit base:

Stickiness rating		2011		2010
1 Capital controls .....	9%	43,977	7%	39,932
2 Resolution process .....	11%	58,315	9%	48,718
3 Investors .....	25%	124,596	29%	160,437
4 Deposits - legal entities .....	16%	80,494	9%	49,817
5 Deposits - retail individuals .....	11%	57,559	12%	66,423
6 Deposits - legal entities with business relationship .....	11%	57,664	17%	94,100
7 Deposits - retail individuals with business relationship .....	17%	83,550	17%	94,100
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>506,155</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>553,527</b>

The Bank's stress tests are primarily focused on the effect of lifting the capital controls in Iceland on the deposit base and its liquidity buffer. A stress test below shows the effect on the secured liquidity and cash ratios if unpledged deposit in stickiness's categories Capital controls and Resolution process are withdrawn immediately taking into account expected cash flow from assets and expenses.

Liquidity stress test for the year 2012

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
Secured liquidity ratio.....	18.8%	19.1%	19.8%	19.7%	20.4%	20.9%	21.0%
Cash ratio.....	0.0%	0.4%	1.4%	1.3%	2.2%	3.0%	3.1%

### Operational risk

110. Operational risk

Operational risk is the risk of loss, resulting from inadequate or failed internal processes, human and system error, or from external events that affect the Bank's operations and can result in direct losses. The risk is present in all five core business areas and in the ancillary divisions.

Operational risk is inherent in every activity undertaken within the Bank, in outsourced activities and in all interaction with external parties. The Bank aims to reduce the frequency and impact of operational risk events in a cost effective manner. The Bank can reduce its exposure to operational risk with selection of internal control and quality management, well educated and qualified staff. The Bank can choose to transfer operational risk through outsourcing the activity or to transfer the financial consequences through insurance programs.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

### 111. Operational risk strategy

The Bank keeps a firm track of the operational risk that the Bank is exposed to. Identification and measurements are made by the means of Risk Control Self Assessment, registration of loss events, near misses and quality deficiencies and by monitoring potential risk indicators and other early warning signals. Operational risk is reduced through staff training, process redesign and enhancement of the control environment.

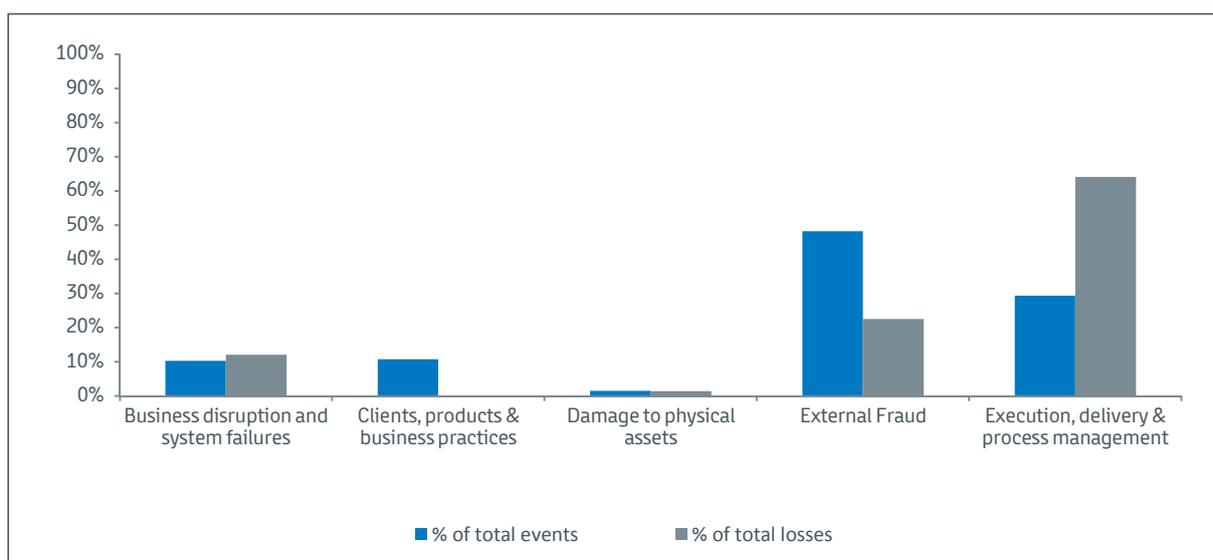
The Bank aims to maintain an open, no blame, operational risk culture and to seek to get to the point of no surprises by utilizing the Bank's operational tools and processes to the fullest extent possible. The Bank operates no tolerance policy for internal fraud.

The Bank uses the Basel II basic indicator approach to the calculation of capital requirements for operational risk but manages it in accordance with the standardized approach. Capital base for operational risk is measured 15% of the average over three years of the sum of net interest income and net non interest income, outlined in the EU's Capital Requirements Directive (CRD).

The Bank's losses due to operational risk are registered in the Bank's loss database. Loss events are analyzed to understand the cause of the event, control failure and amendments made where applicable to reduce the risk of the event happening again.

Losses of ISK 76.7 million were registered in the loss database for the year 2011. Failure in execution, delivery and process management accounted for 64.1% of the total loss amount.

Figure show the breakdown of loss events and amount by Basel categories in 2011:



### Capital Adequacy and ICAAP Strategy

112. The Group's capital policy is to maintain a strong capital base to support business development and to meet regulatory capital requirements, even in times of stress. Long term capital planning for the Group is currently based on a benchmark minimum Core Tier 1 capital ratio of 12.5% and a Capital adequacy ratio of 16.5%. On the 8th of January 2010 additional capital was injected by the Ministry of Finance as Tier 2 capital in the form of a subordinated loan, at the discretion of the FME. FME supervises the Group, receives information on the capital adequacy of, and sets capital requirements for, the Group as a whole.

#### a) Capital adequacy

Capital requirements according to Pillar 1 are based on the sum of risk weighted assets (RWA) for credit risk, market risk and operational risk, computed using formulas from the EU's CRD. The CRD offers different approaches for calculating RWA for these risk types:

##### *Credit Risk*

Standard approach, Foundation IRB approach, and Advanced IRB approach.

##### *Market Risk*

Standardised approach and Internal value at risk model.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

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112. cont.

### *Operational Risk*

Basic indicator approach, Standardised approach, and AM approach.

Banking operations are categorised as either trading book or banking book and the calculation of risk weighted assets is conducted differently for the assets in different books. Banking book risk weighted assets are measured by means of a hierarchy of risk weightings classified according to the nature of each asset and counterparty, taking into account eligible collateral or guarantees. Banking book off balance sheet items giving rise to credit, foreign exchange or interest rate risk are assigned risk weights appropriate to the category of the counterparty, again accounting for eligible collateral or guarantees. Trading book risk weighted assets are determined by taking into account market related risks such as foreign exchange, interest rate and equity position risks, and counterparty risk.

The Group uses the following approaches for capital requirement calculations:

- Standardized approach to calculate the capital requirements for credit risk;
- Standardized method to calculate the capital requirements for market risk; and
- Basic indicator approach for operational risk.

The Group will use the Basel II standardized method to calculate the capital requirements for credit risk under Pillar 1.

The Bank uses credit rating models for its corporate and retail portfolio but will be focusing on recalibrating those models for the post-crisis business environment and deploying them in its internal risk capital management and ICAAP. When the consistent fidelity of the credit rating models can be demonstrated they will be submitted to the FME as part of an application to use the Foundation Internal Ratings Based (FIRB) approach to calculating the capital requirements for credit risk.

The Bank has implemented methods and tools for operational risk management based on the minimal requirements for the standardised approach. The Bank will continue refining these tools and methods as part of its internal management of operational risk and is using them within its ICAAP.

### Internal capital adequacy assessment process

The ICAAP is an ongoing process that ensures that the Bank has in place sufficient risk management processes and systems to identify, manage and measure the Bank's total risk exposure. The ICAAP is aimed at identifying and measuring the Group's risk across all risk types and ensure that the Group has sufficient capital in accordance to its risk profile.

To measure the Pillar 2 capital requirement the Bank uses an internal capital model (economic capital model). This model is based on Pillar 1 calculations, using internal models for credit risk calculations, and takes into consideration risks that are not covered under Pillar 1, e.g. concentration risk, residual risk, country risk, settlement risk, fx risk, liquidity risk, interest rate risk in the banking book, reputation risk, legal and compliance risk, business risk and strategic risk.

The Bank has implemented methods to calculate, for Pillar 2, concentration risk for single name concentration and sector concentration in addition the Bank is applying methods to include valuation risk, interest rate risk in the banking book, legal risk and business risk. Methods for evaluating other Pillar 2 risks will be developed in line with further development of the Bank's economic capital model.

Stress tests are an important part of the ICAAP and show how the Group's capital could be affected by sharp macro economic changes, downswings in the Group's core business or other major events. The Bank is currently running, under the ICAAP, stress testing scenarios on its business plan and planned capital needs.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

112. cont.

### b) Capital adequacy disclosures

Capital base at 31 December 2011 amounts to ISK 141,174 million. The capital adequacy ratio, calculated in accordance with Article 84 of the Act on Financial Undertakings was 21.2%, exceeding the minimum legal requirement of 8%.

The Group, parent company and subsidiaries that are subjected to capital requirements rules comply in full with imposed capital requirements (2010: the same).

A remark about capital requirements for currency imbalance is in order. As indicated in the discussion about currency risk, there exists a risk mitigation in the form of a natural hedge when the imbalance is due to an FX loan to a borrower with ISK income. The effect of this natural hedge is reflected in the RWA for market risk where on average a 37% effective contribution of the corresponding portion of the FX imbalance has been accounted for at year-end 2011 (2010: 40%).

The table shows the Group's RWA calculations:	2011	2010
Capital Base		
Share capital .....	2,000	2,000
Share premium .....	73,861	73,861
Statutory reserve .....	1,637	1,525
Retained earnings .....	32,950	28,531
Non-controlling interests .....	4,110	3,619
<b>Total Equity</b> .....	<b>114,558</b>	<b>109,536</b>
Deduction from Tier 1 capital .....	5,489	4,647
Total Tier 1 capital .....	109,069	104,889
Tier 2 capital .....	32,105	26,257
<b>Total Capital base</b> .....	<b>141,174</b>	<b>131,146</b>
Risk weighted assets		
Credit risk .....	543,233	513,328
Market risk FX .....	31,990	97,657
Market Risk Other .....	30,757	20,397
Operational risk .....	58,976	57,267
<b>Total Risk weighted assets</b> .....	<b>664,956</b>	<b>688,649</b>
Tier 1 ratio .....	16.4%	15.2%
Capital adequacy ratio .....	21.2%	19.0%

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

### Other information

#### Related parties

113. The Group has a related party relationship with Kaupskil ehf., Kaupthing hf., the Group's associates, the Board of Directors of Arion Bank, the key management personnel of the Group and close family members of individuals referred to above.

Icelandic State Financial Investments (ISFI, a separate state institution under the Ministry of Finance) holds a 13% stake in the Group and the Ministry of Finance is the holder of all subordinated notes that represent Tier 2 capital of the Group. Accordingly the Ministry of Finance, ISFI and government entities related to them are related parties and balances and transactions with these entities are included in the tables below under "shareholders with significant influence over the Group". For 2010 this information was not reflected, consequently the tables below have been revised to include 2010 related party balances and transactions with these government related entities.

No unusual transactions took place with related parties during the year. Transactions with related parties have been conducted on an arm's length basis. There have been no further guarantees provided or received for related party receivables or payables other than the one related to the compensation instrument as disclosed in Note 71.

Balances with related parties:

2011	Assets	Liabilities	Net balance
Shareholders with significant influence over the Group .....	-	1,730	(1,730)
Shareholders with control over the Group .....	493	41,376	(40,883)
Board of Directors and key Management personnel .....	104	367	(263)
Associates and other related parties .....	74,135	29,088	45,047
	<u>74,732</u>	<u>72,561</u>	<u>2,171</u>

Transactions with related parties:

	Interest income	Interest expenses	Other income	Other expenses	Change in compens. instrum.
Shareholders with significant influence over the Group .....	-	28	-	-	-
Shareholders with control over the Group .....	322	887	47	-	18,015
Board of Directors and key Management personnel .....	6	12	31	-	-
Associates and other related parties .....	3,273	352	1,359	25	-
	<u>3,601</u>	<u>1,279</u>	<u>1,437</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>18,015</u>

2010

	Assets	Liabilities	Net balance
Shareholders with significant influence over the Group .....	8	1,690	(1,682)
Shareholders with control over the Group .....	36,440	65,170	(28,730)
Board of Directors and key Management personnel .....	348	903	(555)
Associates and other related parties .....	20,603	2,416	18,187
	<u>57,399</u>	<u>70,179</u>	<u>(12,780)</u>

Transactions with related parties:

	Interest income	Interest expenses	Other income	Other expenses	Change in compens. instrum.
Shareholders with significant influence over the Group .....	1	54	-	-	-
Shareholders with control over the Group .....	1,256	2,088	23	-	9,587
Board of Directors and key Management personnel .....	45	32	-	-	-
Associates and other related parties .....	1,444	108	499	263	-
	<u>2,746</u>	<u>2,282</u>	<u>522</u>	<u>263</u>	<u>9,587</u>

Comparative balances at 31 December 2010 were revised during the year to exclude related party balances of shareholders with control that had previously been included. The effect of this change was to increase the net liability amount due to shareholders with control at 31 December 2010 by ISK 6,165 million.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

### Events after Balance Sheet date

#### 114. Events after Balance Sheet date

##### a) Hagar hf.

On 29 February 2012 the Group sold 13.3% of issued shares in Hagar hf. for ISK 2.8 billion through a private placement of shares. The gain on sale from this transaction will be recognized in Q1 of 2012.

##### b) Verdis hf.

In March 2011 Arion Bank and Landsbanki Íslands hf. signed a letter of intent whereby Landsbanki Íslands hf. would purchase new equity issued by Verdis hf., currently a wholly owned subsidiary of Arion Bank. After the issuance of new equity Arion Bank will hold a 75.5% share in Verdis hf. Following this agreement the intention is to increase the number of shareholders and within two years the total shareholding of Arion Bank and Landsbanki Íslands hf. should be less than 50%. The letter of intent was signed with the preconditions of due diligence and approval by the Icelandic Competition Authority. The matter was initially rejected by the Icelandic Competition Authority on 17 October 2011, however this was successfully appealed on 14 November 2011 and a new ruling is currently pending.

##### c) Refund

In January 2012 Arion Bank refunded customers who serviced their loans on a timely basis a proportion of the amount they paid to the Bank in 2011. In most cases borrowers were refunded part of repayments made on mortgages, or 16.7% of their payments in 2011. In addition a 30% refund was made on last year's interest payments on overdrafts.

##### d) Index linked covered bonds issued by Arion Bank admitted to trading on Nasdaq OMX Iceland

On 22 February 2012 Arion Bank's covered bond series, Arion CBI 34, was admitted for trading on the bond market of Nasdaq OMX Iceland and the Luxembourg Stock Exchange. The series has a nominal value of ISK 2,500 million and is the first issuance under the Bank's EUR 1 billion Covered Bond Programme. The bonds are inflation-indexed with fixed 3.6% interest and mature in 2034.

### Subsidiaries

#### 115. Shares in subsidiaries in which Arion Bank held a direct interest at year-end were as follows:

Company:	Country	Currency	Equity interest accum. %
AB-fjárfestingar ehf., Borgartún 19, 105 Reykjavík .....	Iceland	ISK	100.0
AFL - sparisjóður, Adalgata 34, 580 Siglufjörður .....	Iceland	ISK	94.5
EAB 1 ehf., Borgartún 19, 105 Reykjavík .....	Iceland	ISK	100.0
Eignabjarg ehf., Borgartún 26, 105 Reykjavík .....	Iceland	ISK	100.0
Ekort ehf., Gardatorg 5, 210 Gardabær .....	Iceland	ISK	100.0
ENK 1 ehf., Borgartún 19, 105 Reykjavík .....	Iceland	ISK	100.0
Gen hf., Borgartún 19, 105 Reykjavík .....	Iceland	ISK	100.0
GIR Fund Management Ltd., Walker House Mary Street, George Town. ....	Cayman Isl.	ISK	100.0
Kaupthing Management Company S.A., 35a, avenue J.F. Kennedy .....	Luxemb.	EUR	100.0
KB Rádgjöf ehf., Hlíðasmári 17, 201 Kópavogur .....	Iceland	ISK	100.0
Landey ehf., Hátún 2b, 105 Reykjavík .....	Iceland	ISK	100.0
Landfestar ehf., Borgartún 26, 105 Reykjavík .....	Iceland	ISK	100.0
NS1 ehf., Diðranesgata 2, 310 Borgarnes .....	Iceland	ISK	100.0
Okkar líftryggingar hf., Sóltún 26, 105 Reykjavík .....	Iceland	ISK	100.0
Sparisjóður Ólafsfjardar, Adalgata 14, 625 Ólafsfjörður .....	Iceland	ISK	100.0
Stefnir hf., Borgartún 19, 105 Reykjavík .....	Iceland	ISK	100.0
Valitor Holding hf., Laugavegur 77, 101 Reykjavík .....	Iceland	ISK	53.6
Verdis hf., Ármúli 13, 108 Reykjavík (former Arion verdréfavarsla hf.) .....	Iceland	ISK	100.0
Vesturland hf., Borgartún 19, 105 Reykjavík .....	Iceland	ISK	100.0





“The diverse corporate solutions offered by Arion Online Banking provide a clear overview of our publishing company’s finances in one place.”

**Pétur Már Ólafsson**  
Publisher at Bjartur & Veröld

## Board of Directors

The Board of Directors was elected at the Annual General Meeting of Arion Bank on 24 March 2011 and comprises the following members:

### **Monica Caneman, Chairman**

Monica graduated in economics from the Stockholm School of Economics in 1976. She worked at Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken (now SEB) from 1977 to 2001. Monica held various positions at SEB in retail banking. She became a member of the Group Executive Committee and Group Management in 1995 and became deputy CEO in 1997. She became a deputy member of the board of directors at the same time. Monica left SEB in 2001. Since then she has developed a career around board assignments. She currently serves on the board of a number of companies and non-profit organizations and is the chairman of several of them.



### **Gudrún Johnsen, Vice-Chairman**

Gudrún completed a BA in economics at the University of Iceland in 1999. In 2002 she graduated with an MA in applied economics at the University of Michigan in the United States and with an MA in statistics from the same university the following year. Gudrún worked as a securities broker at the Icelandic Investment Bank (FBA) between 1999 and 2001 and as a teaching and research assistant at the University of Michigan in 2002-2003. Between 2004 and 2006 she worked as a specialist in the Monetary and Financial Systems Department of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in Washington, DC. Gudrún has been an assistant professor at Reykjavík University School of Business since 2006. She has served on the board of a fund management company of MP Bank, is the current chairman of a research and analysis company formed by a group of academics. In 2009 and 2010 Gudrún worked as a senior researcher for the Parliamentary Special Investigation Commission looking into the causes and events leading up to the fall of the Icelandic banking sector in 2008.



### **Agnar Kofoed-Hansen, Director**

Agnar received a B.Sc. in mechanical and industrial engineering from the University of Iceland in 1981. He completed a master's in Management Engineering from the Technical University of Denmark in 1983. He did a master's program at MIT Sloan School of Business in the United States, focusing on decision support systems, accounting, marketing and financial analysis. Agnar became an authorized securities dealer in 1991 and in addition he has completed numerous training courses in the field of management, operations and coaching. From 1983 to 1987 he worked for Thróun hf. as manager of sales and marketing. He worked for the Industrial Bank of Iceland hf. as head of the credit department from 1987 to 1989. Between 1989 and 2000 he served as manager of capital markets at Kaupthing hf., managing director of Credit Information Iceland ehf. and was later a board member, owner and director of the credit reporting department at Creditinfo Lánstraust hf. He worked as managing director at SPRON Factoring hf. from 2000 to 2007. Today Agnar works as chief financial officer of HRV Engineering ehf.



**Jón G. Briem, Director**

Jón gained a degree in law from the University of Iceland in 1974. He qualified as a district court attorney in 1977 and as a supreme court attorney in 1990. From 1976 to 1990 he was a partner at the law firm Lögfræðistofa Sudurnesja sf. From 1991 to 1999 he was head of the legal division of Íslandsbanki hf. and from 2000 to 2001 he was branch manager at the same bank. He completed a certificate in business and administration from the University of Iceland's Continuing Education Institute in 1999. In 2002 he opened a law firm in Reykjavík, where he still works. Jón has been a member of the boards of numerous companies and associations.

**Måns Höglund, Director**

Måns graduated from Stockholm School of Economics in 1975 where he became a lecturer and researcher after completing his studies. Måns served in various posts at Hambros Bank in London between 1977 and 1984 and was regional director for Denmark and Iceland for two years. In 1984 he started working for Götabanken in London and was transferred to the bank's Stockholm operation in 1989 where he was head of the international finance division until 1991. From 1991 to 1999 he worked for Swedbank, where his roles included director and head of the bank's large corporate business. In 1999 to 2002 he worked for both Unibank (as head of Sweden) and Nordea (as Head of Private Banking, Sweden). From 2002-2011 Måns worked for Swedish Export Credit Corporation (SEK) as executive director and head of corporate and structured finance. He was also a member of SEK's Executive Committee.

**Guðrún Björnsdóttir, Alternate Director**

Guðrún graduated with a cand. oecon. degree in business administration from the University of Iceland in 1995, majoring in finance. Between 1994 and 1996 Guðrún worked in the finance division at Össur hf. and was chief financial officer at Valeik ehf. from 1997 to 1999. Guðrún has been the managing director of Icelandic Student Services since 1999. She has served on the board of directors of the University of Iceland Press and is now a board member of the Association of Independent Schools (SSSk) and Háskólabíó. Guðrún replaced Theodór S. Sigurbergsson at a Board meeting on 11 October 2011.

**Theodór S. Sigurbergsson ex-Director**

Theodór was appointed to the Board at the AGM on 24 March 2011. He resigned on 5 September 2011.

### **Other Alternate Directors:**

#### **Gudjón Ólafur Jónsson**

Attorney at Law at JP Attorneys. Alternate for Måns Höglund.

#### **Thóra Hallgrímsdóttir**

Attorney at Law. Alternate for Jón G. Briem.

#### **Jóhannes Rúnar Jóhannsson**

He was appointed as an Alternate to the Board at the AGM on 24 March 2011. He resigned on 5 September 2011. He was an Alternate for Theodór S. Sigurbergsson.

#### **Sigurbjörn Gunnarsson**

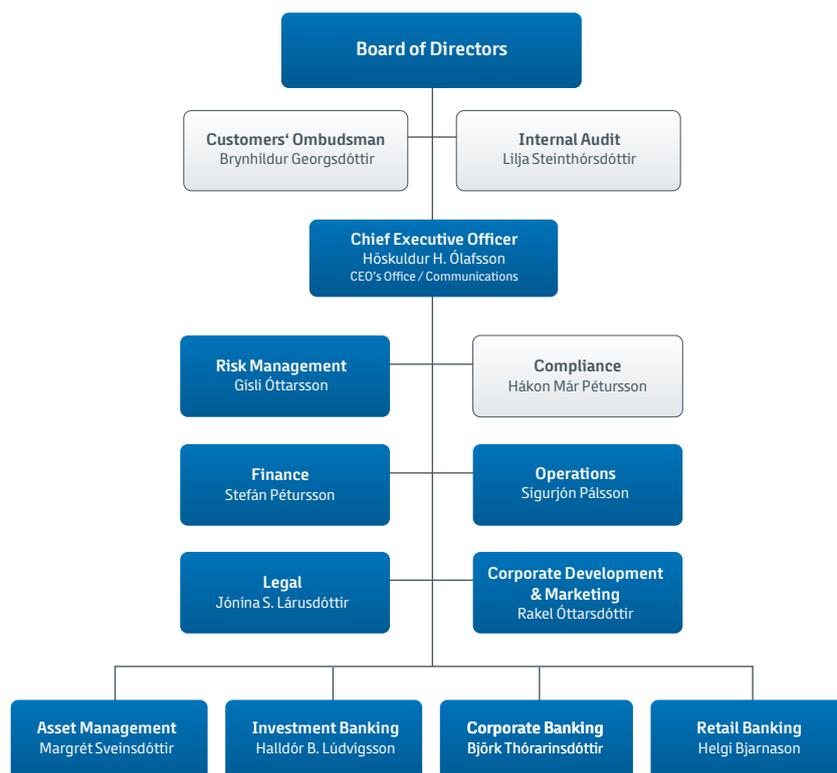
He was appointed as an Alternate to the Board at the AGM on 24 March 2011. He resigned on 18 November 2011. He was an Alternate for Agnar Kofoed-Hansen.

#### **Una Eythórsdóttir**

She was appointed as an Alternate to the Board at the AGM on 24 March 2011. Una resigned on 18 November 2011. She was an Alternate for Guðrún Jónsdóttir.

# Senior Management

## Organizational chart



### Höskuldur H. Ólafsson Chief Executive Officer

Höskuldur joined Arion Bank in June 2010. Höskuldur came from Valitor hf. - VISA Iceland, where he had been CEO since 2006. Prior to that he worked at the Icelandic transportation company Eimskip for almost 20 years and held a range of management positions, including that of deputy CEO. He has also served on the boards of directors of numerous companies and organizations in Iceland and abroad. Höskuldur graduated with a cand. oecon. degree in business administration from the University of Iceland in 1987.



## Business segments

### **Björk Thórarinsdóttir**

#### **Managing Director of Corporate Banking**

Björk joined the corporate banking division of Búnadarbanki Íslands (later Kaupthing Bank) in 2001. In 2009 she was appointed managing director of Corporate Banking at Arion Bank. Björk was previously a specialist and financial director at Baxter International in the United States and later in Germany from 1991-1996. In 1997-1998 she was financial director of Philips Consumer Communications in France, before moving to Silfurtún in Iceland and Silverton in Norway in 1998-2000 as financial director. She was elected as chairman of the board of directors of Valitor hf. in January 2010. Björk graduated with a cand. oecon. degree in business administration from the University of Iceland in 1990.



### **Halldór Bjarkar Lúdvígsson**

#### **Managing Director of Investment Banking**

Halldór was appointed managing director of Corporate Finance at Arion Bank in December 2009. He became managing director of Investment Banking in September 2011. Between 1992 and 2005 Halldór held a number of management positions, including the position of CEO at Maritech A/S, an international company which sells technical solutions for the fishing industry. In 2005 Halldór joined the corporate banking division of Kaupthing Bank where he supervised lending activities in Scandinavia. Halldór joined Kaupthing's Resolution Committee in 2008 as managing director of the bank's Nordic asset portfolio. Halldór has served on the boards of a number of companies. Halldór graduated with a degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Iceland in 1991 and a BSc in computer studies in 1992 from the same university.



### **Helgi Bjarnason**

#### **Managing Director of Retail Banking**

Helgi joined Arion Bank as managing director of Operations in October 2010. He was appointed managing director of Retail Banking in October 2011. From 1997 to 2006 Helgi worked as an actuary at Okkar Life Insurance. In 2006, Helgi started work at Sjóvá Almennar Insurance and served as managing director of the life insurance company in addition to being vice-president of the damage insurance company. Helgi has served on various boards of directors, such as the Association of Icelandic Actuaries, the Confederation of Employers, the Icelandic Financial Services Association, and he is currently chairman of the board of directors of Okkar Life Insurance. Helgi graduated from the faculty of mathematics at the University of Iceland in 1992 and completed a cand. act. degree in actuarial mathematics from the University of Copenhagen in 1997.



**Margrét Sveinsdóttir****Managing Director of Asset Management**

Margrét has been managing director of Asset Management at Arion Bank since February 2009. Margrét has more than 20 years' experience in the financial sector, having worked in credit analysis, customer relationship management and asset management. She started her career in the corporate banking division of the Industrial Bank of Iceland in 1985. Margrét then moved on to Íslandsbanki Securities Ltd, later the asset management division of Glitnir, where she was head of securities brokerage and advisory. In 2007 she became head of financial institutions client relations at Glitnir. Margrét has served on a number of boards of directors, including: The Depositors' and Investors' Guarantee Fund on behalf of SFF, Okkar Life Insurance and several funds in Luxembourg. She has also contributed to several books and magazines on asset management services, investments and financial planning. Margrét graduated with an MBA from Babson College in Massachusetts in 1990. She also has a cand. oecon. degree in business administration from the University of Iceland and is a certified stockbroker

**Support Units****Jónína S. Lárusdóttir****Managing Director of Legal**

Jónína was appointed managing director of the Legal division in November 2010. In 1996, Jónína started working for the A&P law firm, but moved to the Ministry of Commerce in 2000 where she was a specialist in the financial markets department. She was appointed director of the general office of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce in 2004. In 2007 she became permanent secretary of the Ministry of Commerce, now the Ministry of Economic Affairs, where she worked until she joined Arion Bank. Jónína has served on and chaired numerous committees and has worked as a lecturer in several institutions, including the faculty of law at the University of Iceland. She was chairman of the Depositors' and Investors' Guarantee Fund in 2003 and 2004. Jónína graduated from the faculty of law at the University of Iceland in 1996 and qualified as a district court attorney the following year. In 2000, Jónína completed a Master's from the London School of Economics and Political Science.

**Rakel Óttarsdóttir****Managing Director of Corporate Development & Marketing**

Rakel joined Kaupthing Bank in 2005 as an account manager in IT. In 2010 she became head of Arion Bank's Project Office. In December 2011, Rakel was appointed managing director of Corporate Development & Marketing at Arion Bank. Rakel previously worked as a software designer and later as head of development at TM Software - Libra, a financial services software company. Rakel graduated with an MBA from Duke University in North Carolina in 2002 and a BSc in computer science from the University of Iceland in 1997.



### **Sigurjón Pálsson**

#### **Managing Director of Operations**

Sigurjón joined Kaupthing's investment banking division in 2005. He became the head of the Recovery team at Arion Bank in 2009. Sigurjón was appointed the managing director of Operations in October 2011. Prior to 2004 Sigurjón held various management positions with the Icelandic contractor Ístak, including the management of infrastructure projects and the construction of industrial buildings. He was also the head of IT while managing these projects. Sigurjón has served on the board of directors of various companies in Iceland and abroad. Sigurjón graduated with a master's degree in logistics and supply chain management from MIT in 2005. He completed a master's degree in 1998 in construction management from KTH in Stockholm, Sweden, and in 1996 graduated as a civil engineer from the University of Iceland.



### **Stefán Pétursson**

#### **Chief Financial Officer**

Stefán was appointed chief financial officer at Arion Bank in August 2010. In 1986 to 1989 Stefán worked as head of administration at the Icelandic Fisheries Laboratories Institute. After completing his studies in the US, Stefán joined Landsvirkjun. He began as head of funding but later took over as treasurer and finally CFO, a position he held from 2002. Stefán was on leave from Landsvirkjun in 2008 while serving as the CEO of the investment company HydroKraft Invest hf. Stefán has held a number of directorship positions and other positions of responsibility in recent years. He is currently a member of the board of Landfestar hf. and The Depositors' and Investors' Guarantee Fund on behalf of SFF. Stefán graduated with an MBA from Babson College in Massachusetts in 1991 and a cand. oecon. degree from the faculty of business of the University of Iceland in 1986.



## **Internal Control**

### **Gisli S. Óttarsson PhD**

#### **Chief Risk Officer**

Gisli joined Kaupthing Bank's risk management division as head of research and development in January 2006. In April 2009 Gisli became the chief risk officer of Arion Bank. From 1994 to 2001 Gisli worked for Mechanical Dynamics Inc. (Ann Arbor, MI, USA) as a software architect and development manager for the multibody dynamics and motion analysis software ADAMS. From 2001 to 2006 he was a software designer and adviser for the engineering software company MSC.Software (Santa Ana, CA, USA). Gisli received an MSc in applied mechanics in 1989 and a PhD in mechanical engineering in 1994, both from the University of Michigan. In 1988, Gisli received a BSc in civil engineering from the University of Iceland.



**Hákon Már Pétursson****Compliance Officer**

Hákon joined Arion Bank in April 2011 as the Bank's compliance officer. From 2006 to 2009 he worked as a specialist in the Securities Market division at the Financial Supervisory Authority of Iceland (FME). During this time, he was the FME's representative on various expert groups, including the Takeover Directive expert group and the MiFID expert group at the Committee of European Securities Regulators (CESR). In 2009, he started working for Kvasir Legal as a specialist in financial services and financial restructuring. Hákon has also been a guest lecturer at the faculty of law of the University of Iceland and the University of Reykjavik. Hákon graduated from the faculty of law at the University of Iceland in 2007.

**Lilja Steinhórsdóttir****Chief Audit Executive**

Lilja joined Kaupthing Bank in late 2006 as chief audit executive. She became Arion Bank's chief audit executive in October 2008. Before Lilja joined Kaupthing Bank she was the chief auditor at the Central Bank of Iceland for eight years. She established an accounting firm in Akureyri in 1986 and headed it for 13 years when it was sold to Deloitte. She is a member of the Institute of State Authorized Public Accountants and has served on the audit committee on behalf of the organization. She also served on the audit committee of Icelandic Banks' Data Centre from 1998 to 2010, first on behalf of the Central Bank and then Arion Bank. Lilja gained an MBA degree from the University of Edinburgh in 1998. She qualified as a chartered accountant in 1984 and graduated with a cand. oecón. degree in business administration from the University of Iceland in 1980.

**Customers' Ombudsman****Brynhildur Georgsdóttir****Customers' Ombudsman**

Brynhildur joined the Bank as customers' ombudsman in early 2009. Between 1994 and 1997 she worked as representative for the County Commissioner of Vestmannaeyjar. She then worked as chief of vehicle registration at The Road Traffic Directorate from 1997 until 2006, where her job involved being part of the organization's management team, preparing laws and directives, communicating with the authorities and liaising with international organizations. Before she joined the Bank in 2009 she worked for the town of Mosfellsbaer as chief of administration, town clerk and deputy to the mayor. She has been chairwoman of the unemployment complaints committee at the Ministry of Social Affairs since May 2008. Brynhildur graduated with a degree in law from the University of Iceland in 1994 and gained an MBA from the same university in 2008.



**Arion Bank – Annual Report 2011**

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