BANKING SUPERVISION
First Quarter Report 2008

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I. Banking sector in the first quarter of 2008

Structure of the Serbian banking sector as at 31 March 2008

Number of banks

Following the acquisition of the National Bank of Greece, Beograd by Vojvodjanska banka a.d. Novi Sad, the number of banks operating in the Serbian market at end-Q1 2008 declined by one from a quarter earlier, down to a total of 34.

Table 1 - Number of banks

	31 Dec 2006	31 Dec 2007	31 Mar 2008
Number of banks	37	35	34

Network of banks

In late March 2008, the overall banking network included a total of 2,486 business units, branches, branch offices, teller units, agencies and exchange bureaus, which is an increase by 51 on end-Q4 2007.

Table 2 - Organizational network of banks

	I	ı	ı
Description	31 Dec 2006	31 Dec 2007	31 Mar 2008
No. of business units	82	80	74
No. of branches	413	519	535
No. of branch offices	1,387	1,544	1,583
No. of teller units	276	258	262
No. of agencies		33	31
No. of exchange bureaus		1	1
Total	2,158	2,435	2,486

Banking sector employment

In Q1, total banking-sector employment in Serbia was 30,554, which is an increase by 308 from end-Q4 2007.

The number of employees in eight banks declined (primarily in Vojvodjanska banka a.d. Novi Sad, by 227), while 26 banks increased their staff numbers (primarily Eurobank EFG stedionica a.d. Beograd – by 120 and ProCredit Bank a.d. Beograd – by 117).

Banks by type of ownership

At end-March 2008:

- 20 banks were in majority foreign ownership,
- 6 banks were in the majority ownership of domestic natural persons and legal entities,
- 8 banks were in the majority ownership of the Republic of Serbia.¹

Market share

The table below reveals market shares of banks in terms of their balance sheet totals:

	5 1									
Balance sheet	;	31 Dec 2006			31 Dec 2007			31 Mar 2008		
total in RSD bln	No. of banks	_	% share	No. of banks	in RSD mln	% share	No. of banks	in RSD mln	% share	
over 100	4	483,575	41.3	4	632,560	40.5	4	654,015	40.5	
50–100	3	183,698	15.7	8	525,822	33.7	8	571,255	35.4	
10–50	15	405,223	34.7	15	357,301	22.9	13	331,886	20.5	
under 10	15	96,775	8.3	8	46,139	2.9	9	58,287	3.6	
Total	37	1,169,271	100.0	35	1,561,822	100.0	34	1,615,443	100.0	

Table 3 - Market shares of groups of banks

Five banks with the largest end-March balance sheet total and ten banks with the largest end-March balance sheet total accounted for 46.5% and 69.3%, respectively, of the overall balance sheet total of the banking sector. HHI of concentration of balance sheet total rose on a quarter earlier (606) and equalled 622.

As at 31 March 2008, banks in majority foreign ownership accounted for RSD 1,211.9 billion or 75.0%, banks in the majority ownership of the Republic of Serbia for RSD 259.4 billion or 16.1%, and banks in majority private ownership for RSD 144.1 billion or 8.9%, of the banking sector balance sheet total.

Banking sector balance sheet

As at 31 March 2008, balance sheet total of the banking sector stood at RSD 1,615.4 billion, which is RSD 53.6 billion or 3.4% higher than in Q4 2007.

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¹ Banks in which the RS is the largest, majority or individual, direct or indirect, shareholder.

Receivables in respect of approved credits and lending (lending to domestic banks, lending to clients and interest and fees receivable) accounted for the largest part of balance sheet assets of banks (56.3%). Next in size were deposits with the National Bank of Serbia and securities refinanceable with the National Bank of Serbia (31.4%). Cash and cash equivalents made up 5.5% of balance sheet assets of the banking sector.

Table 4 – **Banking sector balance sheet** (in RSD mln)

(וווו מפא ווווו)	31 Dec 2	2006	31 Dec	2007	31 Mar 2	008	Growth
	Amount	Share in %	Amount	Share in %	Amount	Share in %	indices for 2008
ASSETS							
Cash and cash equivalents	77,815	6.7	104,981	6.7	89,041	5.5	85
Deposits with the central bank and securities refinanceable with the central bank	406,735	34.8	489,902	31.4	507,606	31.4	104
Interest and fees receivable	4,347	0.4	5,982	0.4	6,955	0.4	116
Lending to domestic banks	32,415	2.8	43,261	2.8	45,173	2.8	100
Lending to clients	545,059	46.6	812,647	52.0	857,489	53.1	106
Securities and other tradable investment	8,584	0.7	6,544	0.4	8,191	0.5	125
Investment in securities held to maturity	6,948	0.6	12,020	0.8	13,134	0.8	109
Share in capital and other securities available for sale	15,284	1.3	7,045	0.5	6,313	0.4	90
Fixed assets intended for sale and assets from discontinued operations	394	0.0	334	0.0	336	0.0	101
Rebate on profit tax	253	0.0	523	0.0	884	0.1	169
Goodwill		0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	
Intangible investments	5,907	0.5	6,156	0.4	6,291	0.4	102
Investment real estate	4,266	0.4	4,398	0.3	4,435	0.3	101
Fixed assets	47,038	4.0	53,160	3.4	53,452	3.3	101
Other assets, prepayments and accrued income	11,748	1.0	12,343	0.8	13,431	0.8	109
Deferred tax assets	2,478	0.2	2,526	0.2	2,712	0.2	107
Losses in excess of capital		0.0		0.0		0.0	
TOTAL	1,169,271	100.0	1,561,822	100.0	1,615,443	100.0	103
LIABILITIES							
Liabilities to domestic banks	63,352	5.4	79,693	5.1	89,917	5.6	110
Liabilities to clients	817,704	69.9	1,048,075	67.1	1,040,704	64.4	99
Liabilities in respect of interest and fees	980	0.1	2,786	0.2	1,560	0.1	56
Liabilities in respect of securities	10	0.0	2,610	0.2	2,683	0.2	103
Liabilities from profit	196	0.0	270	0.0	205	0.0	76
Liabilities in respect of current tax on profit	525	0.0	376	0.0	0	0.0	0
Liabilities in respect of fixed assets intended for sale and assets from discontinued operations	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0
Other operating liabilities	8,630	0.7	10,710	0.7	13,657	0.8	127
Provisioning	9,376	8.0	11,345	0.7	11,422	0.7	101
Other liabilities, accruals and deferred income	51,511	4.4	77,031	4.9	89,689	5.6	117
Deferred tax liabilities	699	0.1	557	0.0	624	0.0	112
LIABILITIES	952,983	81.5	1,233,452	79.0	1,250,461	77.4	101
Capital	216,288	18.5	328,370	21.0	364,982	22.6	111

	31 Dec 2	2006	31 Dec	2007	31 Mar 2	Growth	
	Amount	Share in %	Amount	Share in %	Amount	Share in %	indices for 2008
equity and other capital	182,562	15.6	272,723	17.5	298,936	18.5	110
reserves	30,464	2.6	47,636	3.1	53,576	3.3	112
accumulated profit/loss	3,262	0.3	8,011	0.5	12,470	0.8	156
TOTAL	1,169,271	100.0	1,561,822	100.0	1,615,443	100.0	103
OFF-BALANCE SHEET ITEMS	1,163,308		1,579,674		1,796,651		114

Borrowed funds made up 77.4% of banking sector balance sheet liabilities, while capital accounted for the remaining 22.6%. Deposit potential accounted for the largest portion of borrowed funds, with 61.1% of total liabilities.

Banks' capital reached RSD 365 billion (rising by RSD 37 billion or 11.1% on end-2007). Item "equity and other capital" rose by 9.6% from end-2007 to RSD 299 billion.

After rising by RSD 217.0 billion on end-2007, off-balance sheet items of banks reached RSD 1,796.7 billion. The largest single component under off-balance sheet items was "other off-balance sheet assets", which made up 48.2% of total off-balance sheet items. Second in size was item "receivables in respect of bonds issued against foreign currency savings", accounting for 13.9% of total off-balance sheet items.

Lending activity

The table below gives an overview of changes in the composition of bank lending:

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 $^{^{\}rm 2}$ Received guarantees and other warranties, funds from custody operations and other off-balance sheet assets.

Table 5 - Bank lending activity

(in RSD million)

	31 Dec	2006	31 Dec	2007	31 Mar	2008	Growth	Growth
Sector	Amount	Share in %	Amount	Share in %	Amount	Share in %	indices in 2008	indices for 2007
ENTERPRISES	322,972	59.2	437,387	57.5	478,285	57.5	109	135
HOUSEHOLDS	195,873	35.9	302,543	39.8	329,179	39.6	109	155
Housing construction	47,334	8.7	89,434	11.8	105,620	12.7	118	189
PUBLIC SECTOR	21,644	4.0	13,928	1.8	15,953	1.9	115	64
SCG	220	0.0	1	0.0	1	0.0	83	0
Republic of Serbia	16,693	3.1	7,035	0.9	8,726	1.0	124	42
Local government	4,731	0.9	6,892	0.9	7,226	0.9	105	146
OTHER FINANCIAL ORGANIZATIONS	756	0.1	1,219	0.1	1,658	0.2	136	161
NON-PROFIT INSTITUTIONS	4,236	0.8	5,828	0.8	6,631	0.8	114	138
TOTAL	545,481	100.0	760,905	100.0	831,706	100.0	109	139

In Q1 2008, bank lending rose by RSD 70.8 billion or 9.3%.

In terms of sectoral distribution, lending to enterprises (57.5%) and lending to households (39.6%) were dominant, as the increase in these two categories (by RSD 40.9 billion and RSD 26.6 billion, respectively) accounted for the bulk of growth in Q1 2008.

The share of the first five and the first ten banks in terms of the value of approved loans in total bank lending was 44.9% and 67.8%, respectively. HHI of credit concentration equalled 593.

Deposit activity

The table below gives a breakdown of deposits by sector:

Table 6 – Deposit activity of banks

(in RSD million)

	31 Dec 2006			31	0. 200 200.			31 Dec 2007			Growth
Sector	dinars	foreign currency	total	dinars	foreign currency	total	dinars	foreign currency	total	indices in 2008	indices for 2007
Total deposits	227,382	438,908	666,290	343,997	616,164	960,161	319,093	667,829	986,922	103	144
Banks	25,102	73,122	98,224	30,216	93,438	123,654	33,454	83,835	117,289	95	126
Public enterprises	24,619	9,402	34,021	31,860	7,826	39,686	27,482	18,478	45,960	116	117
Other enterprises	105,344	72,489	177,833	185,090	105,610	290,700	158,237	124,012	282,249	97	163
Public sector	21,103	723	21,826	26,552	883	27,435	31,100	835	31,935	116	126
SCG	226	32	258	21	0	21	93	0	93	448	8
RS	6,778	682	7,460	15,512	846	16,358	15,684	790	16,474	101	219

0.1	31	Dec 200)6	31 Dec 2007			31 Dec 2007 31 Mar 2008					31 Mar 2008		Growth
Sector	dinars	foreign currency	total	dinars	foreign currency	total	dinars	foreign currency	total	indices in 2008	indices for 2007			
Local govt.	14,099	9	14,108	11,019	37	11,056	15,324	45	15,369	139	78			
Other clients	11,507	2,362	13,869	13,248	2,503	15,751	14,788	2,841	17,629	112	114			
Foreign legal entities and natural persons	2,736	19,639	22,375	6,427	24,580	31,007	3,367	27,244	30,611	99	139			
Households	33,523	260,746	294,269	46,781	381,439	428,220	47,210	410,446	457,656	107	146			
Other	3,448	425	3,873	3,823	-115	3,708	3,455	138	3,594	97	96			

The largest share of deposits referred to household deposits (46.4%), followed by enterprise deposits (33.2%) and bank deposits (11.9%).

Foreign currency deposits made up 67.7% and dinar deposits 32.3% of total deposits. Short-term time deposits (52.1%) were dominant, followed by demand deposits (40.2%).

Total deposits grew by RSD 26.8 billion or 2.8% in Q1 2008. Of total deposits, foreign currency deposits accounted for RSD 51.7 billion (after rising by 8.4%).

Breakdown by sector shows that household deposits increased most in Q1 2008 – by RSD 29.4 billion or 6.9%.

The share of the first five and the first ten banks in terms of the size of their deposits in total banking sector deposits was 49.9% and 72.1%, respectively. HHI of deposit concentration stood at 709 (50 units higher than in Q4 2007).

External borrowing by the banking sector

Total external borrowing by the banking sector (credits from foreign banks and foreign legal entities and natural persons) amounted to RSD 115.3 billion, of which 99.1% referred to foreign owned banks and to borrowing maturing in over one year. During Q1 2008, external credits of banks dropped by RSD 18.4 billion (13.9%), while their share in total balance sheet liabilities of the banking sector declined from 8.6% (31 December 2007) down to 7.1%.

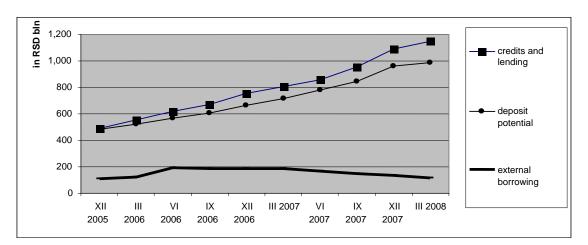


Chart 1 - Credits³, deposits and borrowing by banks

Banking sector risks

1. Credit risk

Quality of balance-sheet and off-balance sheet assets

In order to ensure adequate and efficient risk management by banks, in its Decision on the Classification of Bank Balance Sheet Assets and Off-Balance Sheet Items, the National Bank of Serbia prescribed that banks should classify all receivables that carry credit risk into five categories depending on the assessed level of collectibility of receivables and financial standing of the borrower, and that they should do so on a quarterly basis. This means that banks are to classify receivables that constitute risk-weighted balance sheet and off-balance sheet assets (hereinafter: BA and OA), i.e. not only credits but also other items of balance sheet assets and certain off-balance sheet items, as defined in the above Decision.

The table below gives an overview of the quality of banking sector assets, as defined above, on 31 March 2008.

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³ Including NBS repo lending.

Table 7 – **Quality of banking sector assets** (in RSD million)

		A+B	C + D + E	TOTAL
Total BA and OA	1			3,525,963
Gross risk-weighted assets	2	1,010,851	488,090	1,498,941
Share in gross risk-weighted assets	3	67.4%	32.6%	100.0%
Reductions (total)	4=5+6+7	362,388	231,781	594,169
collateral*	5	331,715	138,181	469,896
special provisioning against income	6	9,808	83,508	93,316
special provisioning against capital	7	20,865	10,092	30,957
Net risk-weighted assets	8=2-4	648,463	256,309	904,772
Share in net risk-weighted assets	9	71.7%	28.3%	100.0%

^{*} Reductions do not represent the total value of collateral, but only a part of such value, in line with the prescribed conversion factor which is used as the basis for calculating provisions for potential losses.

Overall balance sheet assets and off-balance sheet items came to RSD 3,525,963 million as at 31 March 2008, of which RSD 1,498,941 million or 42.5% referred to total gross risk-weighted assets (balance sheet assets and off-balance sheet items). In Q1 2008, the share of total gross risk-weighted assets in categories C, D and E increased from 30.4% at end-Q4 2007 to 32.6%.

If collaterals that serve as security are included, receivables classified in categories C, D and E accounted for RSD 138,181 million. In order to safeguard against potential losses in respect of receivables from borrowers classified in categories C, D and E, banks created special provisions of a total of RSD 93,600 million against their income and capital. Thus, taking into account the above items, the share of net risk-weighted BA and OA classified in categories C, D and E in net risk-weighted BA and OA came to 28.3% relative to 24.7% at end-Q4 2007. Despite the growth trend, however, the level of regulatory capital is sufficiently high to absorb any potential losses on lending.

1.2. Non performing loans - NPL

According to Credit Bureau⁴ data on the stock of debt on bank credits⁵ and overdue obligations (over 90 days), the balance is as follows:

⁴ Of the Serbian Banking Association.

⁵ Total loans approved (gross, prior to deduction of allowances for impairment) with overdue interest and fees for legal entities and calculated interest and fees for private individuals.

Table 8 – **Overdue obligations (over 90 days)** (in RSD million)

	Outstanding		excess of 90 ays	Share of total credits in default	Share of the amount of default
	debt	Total credits	Amount in default	in outstanding debt	in outstanding debt
1	2	3	4	5=3/2	6=4/2
31 Mar 2007	660,921.26	29,920.17	21,462.73	4.53	3.25
30 Jun 2007	749,173.13	35,136.20	24,435.84	4.69	3.26
30 Sep 2007	809,418.81	42,054.16	27,175.11	5.20	3.36
31 Dec 2007	865,448.63	44,213.77	28,121.03	5.11	3.25
31 Mar 2008	1,008,261.67	44,077.30	27,867.37	4.37	2.76

In Q1 2008, collectibility of receivables improved and the level of credits in default declined by 14%.

2. Liquidity risk

The table below gives an overview of daily liquidity ratios of banks as at 31 March 2008:

Table 10 – **Bank liquidity** (in RSD thousand)

Banks	Gyro- account balances	Calculated required reserves	Difference (2-3)	Deposited excess liquidity	Liquidity loans against collateral of securities
Total in RS	32,624,339	41,788,583	-9,164,244	3,219,500	950,000

Of the total number of banks, 19 banks used required reserve assets in the total amount of RSD 10,728 million or 25.7% of total calculated required reserves of such banks. One bank used liquidity loans.

During the quarter under review, the liquidity ratio of individual banks remained within prescribed limits.

3. Foreign exchange risk

An analysis of foreign currency positions of the banking sector as at 31 March 2008 shows that total open foreign currency position was RSD 39.5

billion, which is RSD 0.2 billion lower than at the end of Q4 2007. Thus, foreign exchange risk exposure of the banking sector declined from a quarter earlier, and the foreign exchange risk ratio equalled 13.8% (compared to 14.8% in Q4 2007).

Table 11 – Foreign exchange risk of banks (in RSD million)

Open po	osition in JR	Open po	sition in SD	Open po	sition in HF	in	position other rencies		position gold	Total open position		Total open foreign currency
long	short	long	short	long	short	long	short	long	short	long	short	position
					•	•		•				
24,719	7,869	2,779	494	2,167	970	416	73	58	-	30,139	9,406	39,545

Capital adequacy

Regulatory capital of banks increased in Q1 2008 by RSD 19.9 billion or 7.4%. This was mainly due to an increase in core capital (by RSD 24.2 billion or 8.8%), including primarily equity capital (by RSD 11.7 billion) and issue premium (by RSD 14.4 billion).

Subject to regulations, banks are required to maintain their capital adequacy ratio at no less than 12% of risk-weighted assets.

The table below shows the value of the capital adequacy ratio of banks at the end of Q1 2008:

Table 12 - Capital adequacy ratio by group of banks

Capital adequacy ratio	Number of banks	Share in overall balance sheet total (in %)		
Under 20%	5	29.5		
From 20 to 30%	11	34.3		
From 30 to 50%	14	34.0		
Over 50%	4	2.2		
Total	34	100.0		

The average capital adequacy ratio for the banking system equalled 27.4%.

Banking sector profitability indicators

The table below gives an overview of profitability indicators:

Table 13 – Movements in banks' profitability

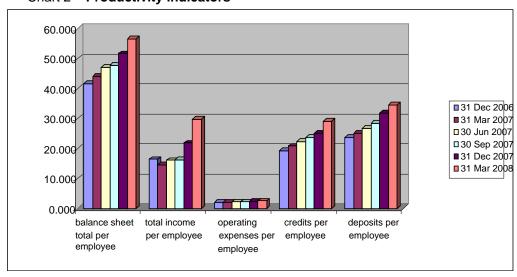
		-			
	1				
Banking sector	Gross income/ balance sheet assets	Net interest income/ balance sheet assets	Operating expenses/ balance sheet assets	Operating expenses/ net income from interest and fees	Financial result (in RSD thousand)
31 Dec 2006	39.46	4.13	5.20	86.30	16,530,318
31 Dec 2007	42.31	3.97	4.54	79.09	23,473,323
31 Mar 2008	52.61	4.91	4.62	67.23	11,023,161

Banking sector	ROA (%)	ROE (%)	NIM (%)	
31 Dec 2006	1.70	9.67	7.46	
31 Dec 2007	1.70	8.54	6.54	
31 Mar 2008	2.77	12.72	6.89	

Banking sector productivity indicators

Values of balance sheet assets, deposits and credits per employee as well as total income and operating expenses per employee increased in Q1 2008 on a quarter earlier. An overview of the above indicators is given in the chart below.

Chart 2 - Productivity indicators



⁶ All indicators are calculated at annual level.

Aggregate statement of income and expenses

In Q1 2008, the banking sector recorded (pre-tax) profit of RSD 11,023 million. A total of 26 banks recorded a positive financial result, while 8 banks recorded operating losses.

The 3.9% depreciation of the dinar against the euro triggered a change in the composition of income and expenses. Income from change in the value of assets and liabilities increased, reaching a share of 13.7% (based on foreign currency clause indexed lending). On the expenses side, growth was recorded for exchange rate losses (share of 65.8%). The net effect of exchange rate gains/losses was negative at RSD 13.7 billion.

Table 14 – **Aggregate statement of income and expenses** (in RSD million)

Item	1 Jan – 31 Dec 06	1 Jan – 31 Dec 07	1 Jan – 31 Mar 08
NET INTEREST INCOME	48,245	63,404	19,820
Interest income	76,937	106,942	35,139
Interest expenses	28,692	43,538	15,319
NET PROFIT/LOSS IN RESPECT OF FEES AND COMMISSIONS	22,178	27,451	7,923
Fee and commission income	28,372	34,433	9,579
Fee and commission expenses	6,194	6,983	1,656
NET PROFIT/LOSS IN RESPECT OF INTEREST, FEES AND COMMISSIONS	70,423	90,854	27,743
NET PROFIT FROM SALE OF SECURITIES	981	3,293	666
Profit in respect of securities	1,766	3,295	690
Losses in respect of securities	785	2	24
NET EXCHANGE RATE GAINS/LOSSES	10,543	6,959	-13,708
INCOME FROM DIVIDENDS AND STAKES	185	1,081	0
OTHER OPERATING INCOME	65,316	53,445	19,114
EXPENSES IN RESPECT OF INDIRECT WRITE-OFFS AND PROVISIONING	61,938	61,149	21,150
OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES	64,174	72,712	18,780
NET INCOME/EXPENSES IN RESPECT OF CHANGE IN THE VALUE OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES	- 4,805	1,702	17,139
Gains from change in the value of assets and liabilities	14,602	64,271	29,093
Losses from change in the value of assets and liabilities	19,407	62,569	11,954
OPERATING PROFIT/LOSS	16,530	23,473	11,023
NET EXTRAORDINARY INCOME/EXPENSES			
Extraordinary income*			
Extraordinary expenses*			
Profit from discontinued operations **	0	0	0
Losses from discontinued operations**	0	0	0
PROFIT/LOSSES BEFORE TAX	16,530	23,473	11,023

^{*} Items abolished from balance sheet forms as of 31 December 2006.

^{**} Newly introduced items.

II. Regulatory activity of the National Bank of Serbia

During Q1 2008, the National Bank of Serbia neither amended the existing nor enacted any new regulations coming under its regulatory remit (in the field of banking supervision).