



## Notification template for Article 131 of the Capital Requirements Directive (CRD) – Other Systemically Important Institutions (O-SIIs)

Template for notifying the European Central Bank (ECB) and the European Systemic Risk Board (ESRB) of the setting or resetting of an O-SII buffer under Article 131(7) CRD and of the identity of O-SIIs under Article 131(12) CRD

Please send/upload this template to:

- macropru.notifications@ecb.europa.eu when notifying the ECB (under Article 5 of the Single Supervisory Mechanism (SSM) Regulation<sup>1</sup>);
- <u>DARWIN/ASTRA</u> when notifying the ESRB.

The ESRB will forward this notification to the European Commission, to the European Banking Authority (EBA) and to the competent and designated authorities of the Member States concerned without delay and will publicly disclose the names of the O-SIIs on its website. This notification will be made public by the ESRB once the relevant authorities have adopted and published the notified macroprudential measure<sup>2</sup>.

E-mailing/uploading this template to the above addresses constitutes official notification; no further official letter is required. To facilitate the work of the notified authorities, please send the notification template in a format that allows the information to be read electronically.

1. Notifying national authority				
1.1 Name of the notifying authority	Central Bank of Iceland			
1.2 Country of the notifying authority	Iceland			
Description of the measure  On which institution(s) is the measure applied (name and Legal Entity Identifier).				
	(LEI) code)?			
2.1a Institution or group of	Is the measure applied at:			
	- The highest level of consolidation?			
institutions concerned	- A sub-consolidated level?			
	- An individual level?			
	Name of institution	LEI	Consolidation level	
	Arion banki hf.	RIL4VBPDB0M7Z3K XSF19	highest level of consolidation	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Council Regulation (EU) No 1024/2013 of 15 October 2013 conferring specific tasks on the European Central Bank concerning policies relating to the prudential supervision of credit institutions (OJ L 287, 29.10.2013, p. 63).

<sup>2</sup> On request by the notifying authority, it may be agreed with the Head of the ESRB Secretariat that this notification, or a part thereof, should not be published for reasons of confidentiality or financial stability.

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	Íslandsbanki hf.	549300PZMFIQR79Q 0T97	highest level of consolidation	
	Landsbankinn hf.	549300TLZPT6JELD WM92	highest level of consolidation	
2.1b Changes to the list of institutions concerned	Please indicate under 2.1a any changes to the list as compared to the last notification, and provide an explanation, if applicable.			
	No changes.	phased in huffer (in 0/) appli	ad to the institution(s)?	
	Name of institution	phased-in buffer (in %) appli  New O-SII buffer	Previous O-SII buffer	
	Arion banki hf.	2%	2%	
2.2 Level of the buffer	Íslandsbanki hf.	2%	2%	
applied	Landsbankinn hf.	2%	2%	
		ne and LEI code of the ultimat		
	the concerned institution	Il cases the ultimate parent in	estitutions.	
2.3 Name of the ultimate EU parent institution			institution	
•				
	If any of the O-SIIs identified is a parent institution and the buffer is applied at a (sub)consolidated level, please name the subsidiaries of the institution that are notified as O-SIIs (please give names and LEI codes).  N/A.			
	Name of parent O-SII	Name of O-SII subsidiary	LEI of O-SII subsidiary	v
2.4 Names of subsidiaries	identified			
3. Timing for the measu				

3.1 Timing for the decision	What is the date of the official decision? For SSM countries when notifying the ECB: provide the date on which the decision referred to in Article 5 of the Single Supervisory Mechanism Regulation (SSMR) will be taken.  06/12/2022					
3.2 Timing for publication	What is the date of publication of the notified measure? 07/12/2022					
3.3 Disclosure	Information about the strategy for if the communicating the notified measure to the market.  All information on decisions regarding capital buffers is available on the Central Bank's website, see here: <a href="https://www.cb.is/financial-stability/macroprudential-policy/capital-buffers/">https://www.cb.is/financial-stability/macroprudential-policy/capital-buffers/</a>					
3.4 Timing for application	What is the intended date of application of the measure? 07/12/2022					
3.5 Phasing in	What is the intended time N/A Name of institution	Da	te1 Date			Date5
3.6 Review of the measure	When will the measure be reviewed (Article 131, paragraphs (6) and (12), specify that the buffer, the identification of O-SIIs and their allocation to subcategories must be reviewed at least annually)?  The measure will likely be reviewed during Q3 of 2023.					
4. Reason for O-SII identi	fication and activation of	f the O-SI	I buffer			
4.1 Scores of institutions or group of institutions concerned, as per EBA guidelines on the assessment of O-SIIs (Article 131.3 CRD)	Please list here the name identified based on  a. size;  b. importance for the capturing substite.  c. complexity, inclusactivity;  d. interconnected in system.  Name of institution  Arion banki hf.  Íslandsbanki hf.  Landsbankinn hf.	es, overall he econor tutability/fi	scores and my of the rel inancial insti	evant Mem tution infra	ber State or t structure; from cross-bo	ne Union, order

	Please provide other relevant information (indicator values, methodology,
	calculations and formulas, data sources, information set used for denominators) in a separate Excel file.  The methodology of identifying systemic importance of institutions in Iceland is based on the EBA guidelines on the assessment of O-SIIs. One additional indicator is used to highlight the importance of the FX market for the Icelandic economy. The additional indicator, FX market turnover, is measured as the share of FX market transactions of the institution to total transactions from 1. January to
	31 December of the preceding year. The indicator is included in the Importance
	category.  Please provide information on:
4.2 Methodology and	<ul> <li>a. whether you followed the EBA guidelines on the assessment of O-SIIs;</li> <li>b. which threshold score has been set to identify O-SIIs;</li> <li>c. whether relevant entities with relative total assets not in excess of 0.02% have been excluded from the identification process;</li> <li>d. the names and scores of all relevant entities not excluded from the identification process (could be sent in a separate Excel file, see 4.1);</li> <li>e. whether non-bank institutions have been included in the calculations.</li> <li>A. The Central Bank of Iceland uses the EBA guidelines to assess O-SIIs in</li> </ul>
indicators used for	Iceland. Mandatory indicators in the EBA guidelines are used with the addition of
designation of the O-SII	one optional indicator under the Importance category.
(Article 131.3)	B. In order to take into account the specificities of the banking sector in Iceland and the resulting statistical distribution of the scores, also ensuring the homogeneity of the group of O-SIIs designated in this way the threshold has been set at 425 basis points.
	C. No institutions are excluded from the identification process.
	D. Scores of relevant institutions not identified as O-SII are not published.
	E. The Housing Financing Fund is included in the calculations, but not identified
	as O-SII as the institution falls out of scope of the buffer requirement.
	Have any of the institutions listed in 2.1 been identified by applying supervisory judgement as laid down in EBA guidelines on the assessment of O-SIIs? If yes, please list the respective institutions and provide information on:
4.3 Supervisory judgement	<ul> <li>a. which of the optional indicators have been used to justify the supervisory assessment decisions, if any, and what the scores were;</li> <li>b. why these optional indicators are relevant for the Member State;</li> <li>c. why the bank is systemically important in terms of those particular optional indicators.</li> </ul>
	N/A
	Please provide information on the criteria and indicators used to calibrate the level of the O-SII buffer requirement and the mapping to institution-specific buffer requirements.
4.4 Calibrating the O-SII buffer	As all institutions identified as O-SII are well above the threshold, recommended by EBA guidelines, and have very similar importance to the Icelandic financial system and economy. A 2% buffer has therefore been applied to all O-SII banks. If the need arises a bucketing approach will be considered in line with the approach EBA has proposed.
A F F# addition	Please provide a justification for why the O-SII buffer is considered likely to be effective and proportionate to mitigate the risk.
4.5 Effectiveness and proportionality of measure	The combined size of the three institutions identified as O-SII represents about 80% of the assets of the domestic financial sector. The banks provide important services to the real economy, both to companies and households.
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The O-SII buffer applicable to Icelandic banks was calibrated accounting for the banks' systemic importance. The structure of the Icelandic financial sector is such that there are three very large and systemically important institutions that dominate the market with four very small savings and loans banks, mostly operating in rural areas, one small commercial bank and a few small financing companies. The failure of one of the O-SII could have widespread negative effects and result in contagion effects to other banks, due to deteriorating credit ratings, and access to foreign financial markets might be affected.

Capital buffers reduce the risk of failure of systemically important institutions and thus the probability of negative effects on the real economy.

Given the above considerations and the assessment of systemic importance according to the EBA guidelines, a 2% CET1 level of the O-SII buffer is considered effective and proportionate for all three banks identified as O-SIIs.

## 5. Sufficiency, consistency and non-overlap of the policy response

## 5.1 Sufficiency of the policy response

For a macroprudential policy to be 'sufficient', the policy responses must be deemed to significantly mitigate, or reduce the build-up of, risks over an appropriate time horizon with a limited unintended impact on the general economy.

Note that the ESRB will use the assessment of the macroprudential stance as relevant input in assessing the sufficiency of the macroprudential policy in the Member State.

Please provide any additional information that the ESRB should consider in assessing the sufficiency of the policy response.

The Central Bank of Iceland deems the buffer requirements sufficient to significantly mitigate the systemic risks of systemic importance. The buffer is intended to mitigate the potential contagion risks and moral hazard related to systemic importance and is sufficient at present, considering the specificities of the Icelandic banking sector and economy. During the time the buffer has been in effect, no unintended effects have been observed, e.g., regarding excessive deleveraging, search for yield or increased risk taking or leakages to the non-bank sector.

## 5.2 Consistency of application of the policy response

For a macroprudential policy to be 'consistent', the policy instruments meet their respective objectives, as outlined in ESRB/2013/1³, and must be implemented in accordance with the common principles set out in the relevant legal texts.

Note that the ESRB assessment of consistency will consider whether the same systemic risks are addressed in a similar way across and within the Member States over time.

Please provide any additional information that the ESRB should consider in assessing the consistency of the policy response.

The Central Bank of Iceland considers the approach used to identify systemically important banks in Iceland to be consistent and in line with relevant legal requirements and guidelines, e.g., the relevant Icelandic legislation implementing CRD and EBA guidelines no. EBA/GL/2014/10. The increased capital requirements associated with the systemic importance mitigates the risk of contagion by bolstering the resilience of systemically important banks. As all three systemically important banks in Iceland adhere to similar business plans and are

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Recommendation of the European Systemic Risk Board of 4 April 2013 on intermediate objectives and instruments of macro-prudential policy (ESRB/2013/1) (OJ C 170, 15.6.2013, p. 1)

	equivalent in size the capital requirement due to systemic importance is also equivalent.		
5.3 Non-overlap of the policy response	For a policy instrument to be 'non-overlapping', it should aim to address a systemic risk that either differs from a risk addressed by other active tools in the same Member State, or be complementary to another tool in that Member State which addresses the same systemic risk.  - Are other policy instruments used to address the same systemic risk?		
	If yes, please explain the need for more than one instrument to address the same systemic risk and how the different instruments interact with each other.		
	No other measures are used to address the systemic risks related to systemic importance of financial institutions.		
6. Cross-border and cros	ss-sector impact of the measure		
	Assessment of the cross-border effects of implementation of the measure.		
	a. Assessment of the spillover channels operating via risk adjustment and		
	regulatory arbitrage. The relevant indicators provided in Chapter 11 of the		
	ESRB Handbook on Operationalising Macroprudential Policy in the Banking		
	Sector <sup>5</sup> and the Framework to assess cross-border spillover effects of		
	macroprudential policies of the ECB Task Force on cross-border spillover		
6.4. A	effects of macroprudential measures can be used.		
6.1 Assessment of cross- border effects and the likely	b. Assessment of the:		
impact on the Internal Market	○ cross-border effects of implementation of the measure in your own		
(Recommendation	jurisdiction (inward spillovers);		
ESRB/2015/2 <sup>4</sup> )	o cross-border effects on other Member States and on the Single		
	Market of the measure (outward spillovers);		
	o overall impact on the Single Market of implementation of the		
	measure.		
	Since Icelandic banks have very limited operations in member states of the EU, this measure is very unlikely to have any cross-border effects or impact on the internal market. Also, since the buffer has been in effect since 2016 and remains unchanged.		
	Referring to your Member State's specific characteristics, what is the scope for "leakages and regulatory arbitrage" in your own jurisdiction (i.e. circumvention of the measure/leakages to other parts of the financial sector)?		
6.2 Appearant of last and	Is there scope for "leakages and regulatory arbitrage" in other jurisdictions?		
6.2 Assessment of leakages and regulatory arbitrage within the notifying Member State	Possible leakages are very unlikely. Since the O-SII buffer is applied at the highest consolidation level there are no risks of shifts in activity w.r.t. geographical location within groups. Also, the risk of reduced operations in order to be not classified as O-SII does not apply in Iceland since the reduction in operations would need to be extremely large. The banks affected by the measure already maintain the 2% CET1 capital to meet the O-SII buffer as it was introduced in full on 1 April 2016. The impact of the application of the O-SII buffer, at this time, is therefore assessed to be neutral w.r.t. lending growth and		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Recommendation of the European Systemic Risk Board of 15 December 2015 on the assessment of cross-border effects of and voluntary reciprocity for macroprudential policy measures (ESRB/2015/3) (OJ C 97, 12.3.2016, p. 9). <sup>5</sup>Available on the ESRB's website at www.esrb.europa.eu.

	has not been observed since to the introduction, increase				
7. Combinations and into	eractions with other measure	es			
7.1 Combinations between G-	If both G-SII and O-SII criteri which of the two buffers is th N/A		e institution at c	onsolidated level	
SII and O-SII buffers	Name of institution	O-SII bu	ıffer	G-SII buffer	
(Article 131.14)		%		%	
		%		%	
	A	%	12 11	%	
	Are any of the institutions identified as O-SIIs subject to a systemic risk buffer?  If yes, please provide the following information:  a. What is/are the systemic risk buffer rates(s)?  b. At what level is/are the systemic risk buffer rate(s) applied (i.e. consolidation level and/or individual)?  c. Is the sum of the systemic risk buffer rate(s) and the O-SII buffer rate (o				
	the higher of the G-SII and O-SII buffer rates, if a group is subject to a C SII buffer and to an O-SII buffer at consolidated level) to which the saminstitution is subject over 5%?				
7.2 Combinations with systemic risk buffers	Name of institution	SyRB rate	SyRB application level	Sum of G-SII/O- SII and SyRB rates	
(SyRBs) (Article 131.15 CRD)	Arion banki hf.	3%	Consolidation level, domestic exposures only	5%	
	Íslandsbanki hf.	3%	Consolidation level, domestic exposures only	5%	
	Landsbankinn hf.	3%	Consolidation level, domestic exposures only	5%	
		%		%	
		%		%	
		%		%	
		%		%	
7.3 O-SII requirement for a subsidiary (Article 131.8 CRD)	If the O-SII is a subsidiary of buffer on a consolidated bas consolidated basis of the part Does the cap for the subsidial buffer based on the domestic N/A	is, what is the G-SII rent institution? ary prevent the impl	or O-SII buffer	rate on a	
	Name of O-SII subsidiary	Name of the EU par subsidi		Buffer applicable to O- SII EU parent	
				%	
				%	
				%	

8. Miscellaneous	
8.1 Contact person(s)/mailbox at notifying authority	Contact person(s) (name, phone number and e-mail address) and mailbox for further inquiries.
	Mr. Einar Jón Erlingsson
	Tel: +354 569 9600 - einar.jon.erlingsson@sedlabanki.is
	Mr. Jón Magnús Hannesson
	Tel: +354 569 9600 – jon.magnus.hannesson@sedlabanki.is
8.2 Any other relevant information	
8.3 Date of the notification	Please provide the date on which this notification was uploaded/sent.
	07/12/2022