#### **SEACEN**



#### **Stress Testing**

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#### **Agenda**

- Introduction
- Stress Testing Methodology
- BNM Reporting Requirements for Stress Testing
- Challenges in Stress Testing



Risk Issues Surrounding the Global Financial Crisis ('GFC')

#### **CORRELATION OF RISKS**

Lack of analysis and consideration on the impact of credit default and counterparty credit risk to market and liquidity risk

## MARKET LIQUIDITY ASSUMPTION

Market liquidity was assumed be available at all levels, in all time periods, for all maturities, at an appropriate price

### NON COMPREHENSIVE STRESS TESTING

Lack of spill over and second round effects and inadequate magnitude of shocks on risk parameters for stressed scenarios

## OVER RELIANCE ON RATING AGENCIES

Government and investors were over reliant on rating agencies' assessment of mortgage securities

#### **COMPLEXITY OF PRODUCTS**

Investors did not fully understand the underlying assumptions and collaterals attached to mortgage securities led to inaccurate valuation of products

#### **MODEL RISK**

Identification of wrong risk factors (e.g. ignoring basis risk) and incorrect distribution of risk parameters, i.e. volatility and correlations led to MTM losses and non-reflective VaR calculations.

#### **RELIABILITY OF DATA INPUT**

Quality of external ratings and inaccurate valuation of mortgage securities reduced the credibility of data input for VaR calculations.

## INEFFECTIVENESS OF CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

Financial Institutions did not have a comprehensive capital management programme and did not adequately link their capital management to stress testing

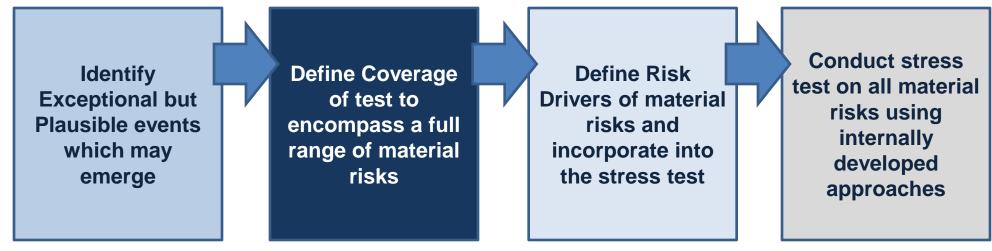
## LACK OF OVERSIGHT BY CENTRAL BANKS

Central banks lacked oversight over the dealings of the investment banks, basing information only on internally generated VaR calculations of the banks.



**Stress Testing** 

Stress testing involves identifying possible events or future changes in financial and economic conditions which could have unfavorable effects on a financial institution and its ability to withstand such changes.



Events should take into account concentrations of risks, contagion effects and failure of hedging techniques.

Stress tests should take into account the business strategy and portfolio composition of the bank

The number of Risk drivers to be stressed should be determined based on the complexity and magnitude of the portfolio to the bank

Banks are allowed to us their own approach based on a framework which should commensurate with the size and complexity of the bank



Stress Testing from a Basel II Perspective

A rigorous, forward looking stress testing is an integral part of a bank's risk management process, which enables the bank to assess the impact to its capital adequacy arising from adverse events or changes in market conditions.

# Forward-looking assessment of risk

Stress testing provides a forward looking approach to risk assessment and is an effective contingency planning tool.

# Assists in overcoming model and data limitations

Stress testing also assists banks to overcome model and historical data limitations, which may not fully capture the idiosyncrasies of adverse events

# Supports internal and external communication

Stress testing also facilitates the communication process when dealing with unexpected events

# Setting of internal targets for capital and risk taking capacities

Stress testing allows the bank to determine an appropriate internal capital target and its optimum risk taking capacity

# Integral to Capital and Liquidity Planning

Integration into the capital and liquidity contingency planning process is crucial to effective crisis management

# Allows the bank to prepare for the unexpected

Stress testing facilitates the development of response strategies, risk mitigations and contingency plans across a range of conditions



Importance of Stress Testing Post-GFC

Stress testing has become a more **crucial part** of **daily portfolio management** fuelled by **regulatory requirements** and a **weakening economic environment** following the GFC. For instance:

- In US, Supervisory Capital Assessment Program (SCAP) was conducted by Federal Reserves in 2009 with main objective to ensure that major Bank Holding Companies (BHCs) had sufficient capital to weather an adverse economic environment while maintaining capacity to lend.
- In 2011 Fed's Comprehensive Capital Analysis and Review (CCAR), stress test was conducted to assess the BHCs' capital planning processes.
- Committee of European Banking Supervisors (CEBS) conducted EU-wide stress test in 2010 involving 20 EU supervisors, 27 member states, 91 Banks representing 65% of EU banking assets.
- In 2011, the 2<sup>nd</sup> EU-wide stress test was conducted by European Banking Authority (EBA), which was established to continue CEBS 2010 stress test.



BNM's Requirements on Stress Testing

In March 2007, Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM) issued the "Guideline on Stress Testing", which provides guidance and principles on the critical areas, as well as specific requirements expected:

# Stress Testing as a Decision Making Tool

BNM stresses the importance of stress testing as a tool which should serve in the decision making and strategic management process of banks

#### **Coverage and Risk Factors**

BNM also provides broad direction in terms of coverage and risk factors required in stress tests – group wide and all material risks.

#### **Frequency of Stress Tests**

Stress testing should also be conducted based on the current circumstance of the bank, and should reflect the changing risk profile of the institution

# Magnitude of Shock and Second Round Effects

Magnitude of shock should be greater than conservative estimates over a business cycle and take into account second round effects (e.g. 1 stress factor impacting another factor)

# Governance and Oversight of the Process

The Board and Senior Management are responsible to ensure stress tests are implemented, communicated, and actioned. Regular and independent assessment of results should also be conducted.

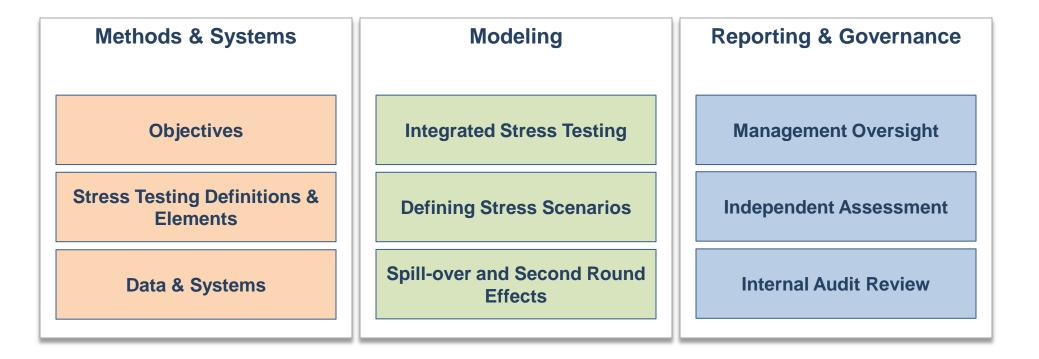
#### **Reporting to the Regulators**

Results from the stress tests should also be reported to BNM on a regular basis, and specific scenarios defined by BNM should also be tested.



Stress Testing Framework

Stress testing is used as a risk management tool for the evaluation of the potential impact on the bank's Capital, Liquidity, Profit and Asset Quality under extreme adverse but plausible events.





Methods & Systems – Objectives



Defining the objectives is the starting point of any stress test exercise:

its capital requirements at all times throughout a reasonably severe economic recession and not just adequacy of capital today

Capital

Liquidity

Evaluate the Bank's ability to meet its financial obligation at any time

Evaluate the impact of stress / testing against baseline profit as profits normally act as the first line of defense before dipping into capital

**Profit** Asset Quality

Evaluate the quality of assets in terms of financing, treasury/investment portfolios and other assets to identify existing and potential loss exposure to the Bank



Methods & Systems – Stress Testing Definitions & Elements

Methods & Systems	Modeling	Reporting & Governance
Objectives	Integrated Stress Testing	Management Oversight
Stress Testing Definitions & Elements	Defining Stress Scenarios	Independent Assessment
Data & Systems	Spill-over and Second Round Effects	Internal Audit Review

Stress testing is comprised of two distinct categories, **Scenario Based or Sensitivity Based** stress testing. The following describes the definition of the two approaches.

#### Category Description Approach

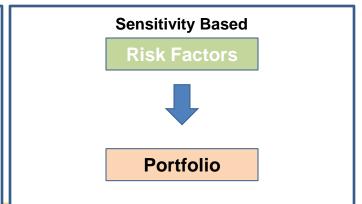
#### Scenario Based

- Scenario based approach moves multiple risk factors based on a constructed or defined scenario (e.g. equity, interest rates, ratings downgrade, GDP)
- Scenarios can be historical or hypothetical in nature.
- Scenarios can be portfolio driven (portfolio vulnerabilities defined first) or event driven (events drive risk factors to stress).

# Portfolio Portfolio Event Risk Factors Risk Factors Event Risk Factors

#### Sensitivity Based

- Sensitivity Based stress testing moves a particular risk factor or a small number of closely related risk factors (e.g. parallel yield curve shock)
- Is relatively quicker and can be used to form a "First approximation" of impact on portfolio.

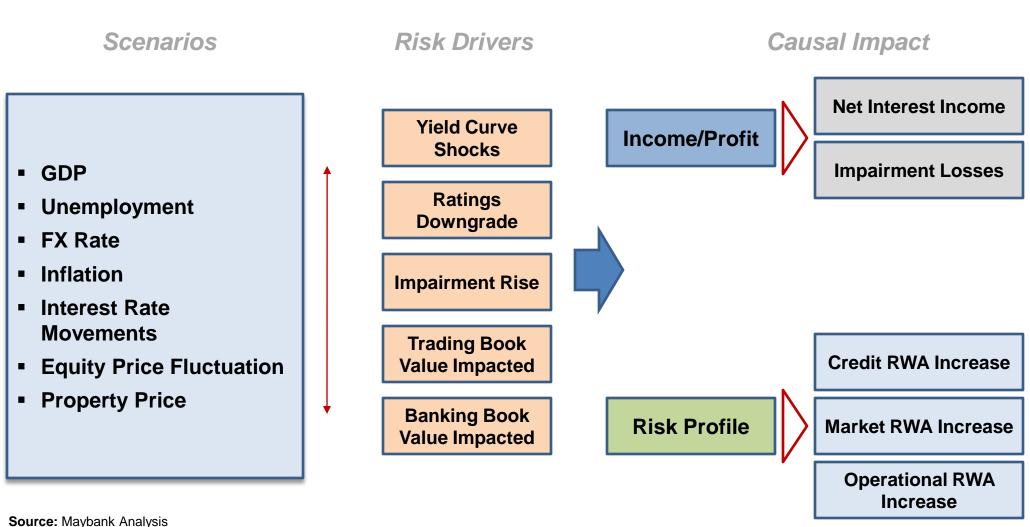




Methods & Systems – Stress Testing Definitions & Elements



In the scenario based approach, scenarios and its risk drivers are defined to determine what the causal impact of the risk drivers are on the bank's portfolio, profit or risk profile:



Methods & Systems – Stress Testing Definitions & Elements

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The following are some examples of scenario setting, loss quantification approaches and action plans taken during a typical stress testing exercise:

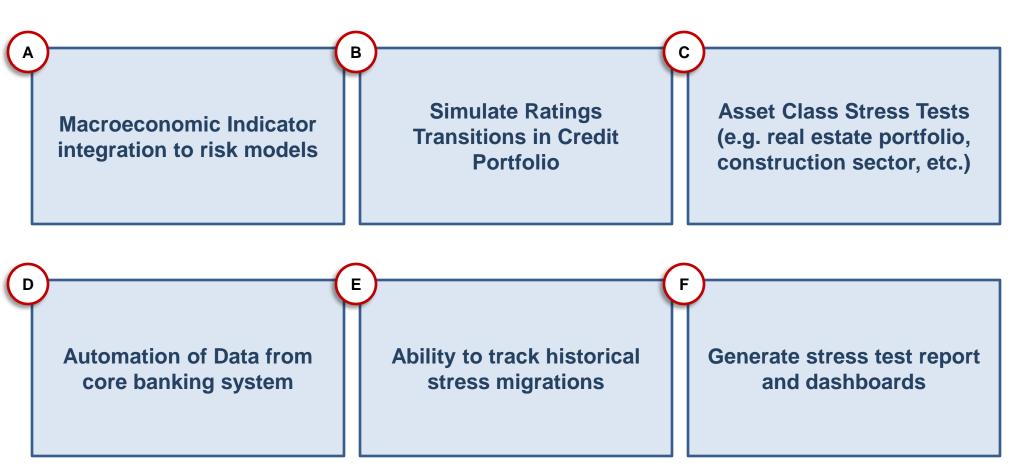
Scenario Setting	Loss Quantification	Results and Action Steps
Historical scenarios  ■ Asian Financial Crisis 97-98  ■ Credit Crisis 2008	Pillar 1 stress tests ■ Stress the IRB parameters (PD, EAD, LGD) ■ Bottom-up and/or top-down approach	Review by experts  Discuss with Business Discuss with Finance Discuss with Capital Management
<ul> <li>Hypothetical scenarios</li> <li>Judgment-driven</li> <li>Inputs from experts required</li> <li>Could be a mix of historical and hypothetical scenarios (hybrids)</li> </ul>	Pillar 2 stress tests ■ Stress testing all material risks ■ Aggregation of results (Pillar 1 and Pillar 2 risks)	Communication with stakeholders (Board, Senior Management and Regulators)  Nature of risk profiles Potential downside losses (risk appetite) Inputs for capital planning for 3-5 years Limit setting Contingency planning in event stress event occurs
<ul> <li>Impact on key macroeconomic indicators (GDP, interest rates, FX, inflation, unemployment)</li> <li>Use regression analyses to establish relationships</li> <li>Use historical analyses to establish correlation to losses</li> </ul>	Implications on Profit and Loss, Asset Quality and Capital Adequacy  Impairment losses Trading losses RWAs, Expected Losses	



Methods & Systems – Data & Systems

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Stress testing can be a time consuming process, some organizations have automated this process through systems. Typical stress testing automation encompasses the following capabilities:

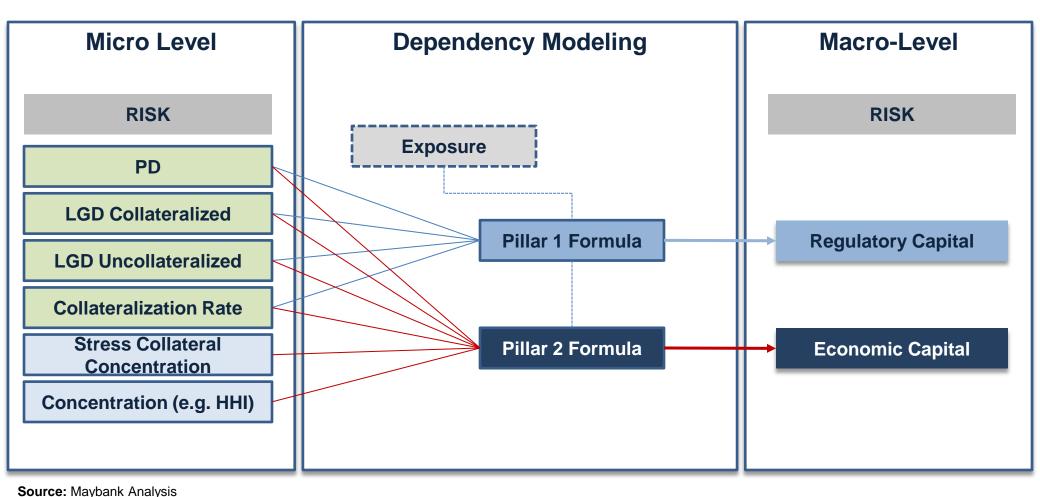




Modeling – Integrated Stress Testing (Capital)



Part of the Pillar 2 requirements for banks' **Internal Capital Adequacy Assessment Process** 'ICAAP', banks are required to **integrate their stress testing process into their planning**. The following approach can be adopted for this purpose:



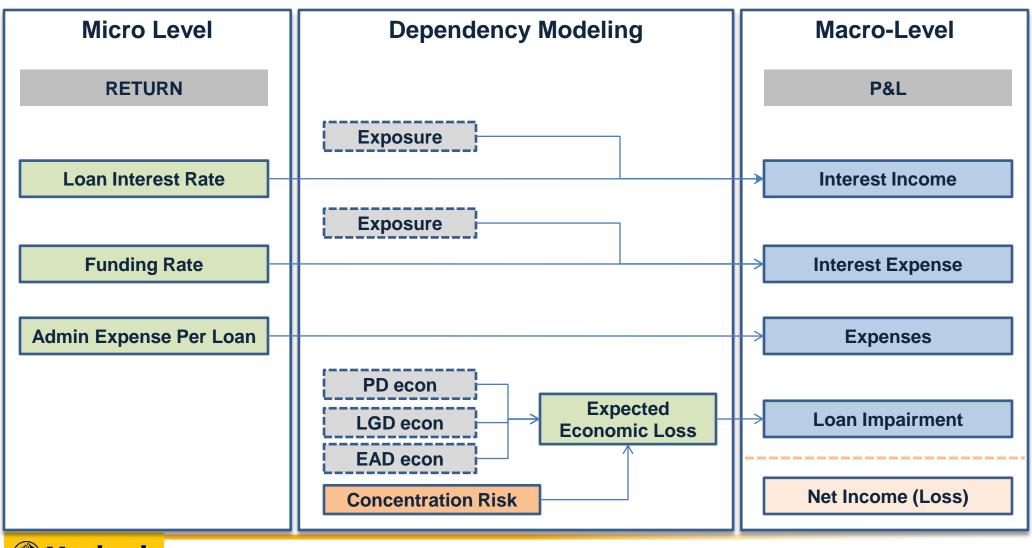
Source. Maybank Analysis



Modeling – Integrated Stress Testing (P&L)



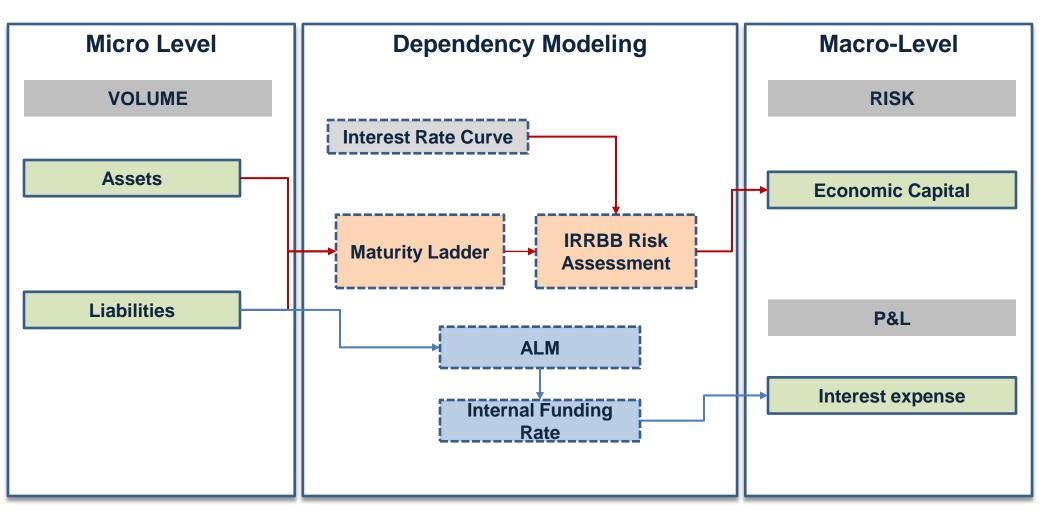
The same dependency modeling approach can be used to model stresses on the P&L of the bank as well, an example of this approach is described:



Modeling – Integrated Stress Testing (ALM Risk)



ALM risks are mainly related to interest rate risks, and in a broader sense, also applies to liquidity risk. Interest Rate Risk in the Banking Book ('IRRBB') can be modeled using the following approach:





Modeling – Defining the Stress Scenario





Illustration: Scenario - Double-dip Recession

#### **Market & Credit Risk**

Economic Recession causes drops in corporate revenues and slower economic Activities.

Export-oriented firms suffer more as sources of income decline.

Unemployment rises.

Corporate ratings are downgraded.

NPLs may rise, Specific provisions/ Impairment Losses increase.

Interest Rate Risk in Banking Book

Impact is on Bank's Net Interest Income (gain or loss)

Increase in Deposit Rates

Increase in BLR.

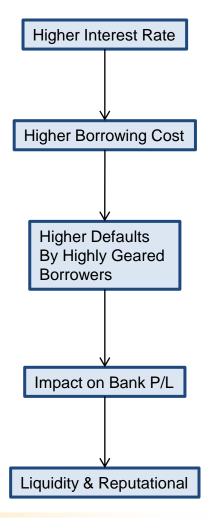
Impact on both Trading Book/ Banking Book is assessed. Liquidity Risk & Reputational Risk

Maybank's external ratings maybe reviewed.

Implications on liquidity, if any, to be assessed.

Reputational Risk – damage may occur as confidence in bank is affected.

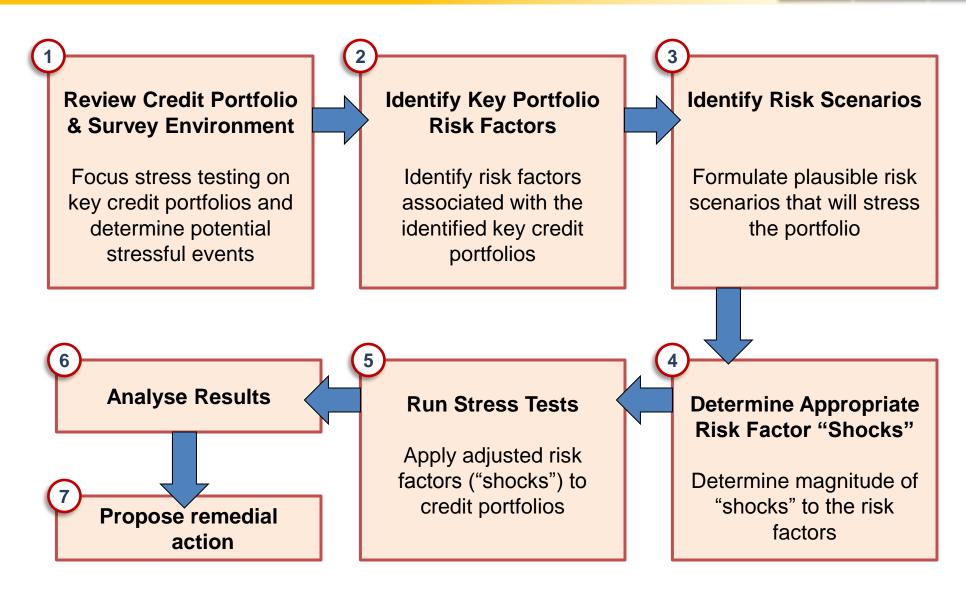
Potential withdrawals of deposits.





Modeling – Credit Risk Stress Test Example







Modeling – Spill Over & Second Round Effects



Another key area which BNM requires is the inclusion of **spill-over and second round effects**. This is intended to address impacts of adverse condition of **one risk factor on multiple other risk factors** (e.g. oil price hikes will impact energy dependent industries).

First Round Effect
is the best
estimate of how a
scenario will play
out

Second Round
estimates the
changes in the
trajectory of
economic and
financial variables



For individual players, it could mean behavioral or strategic effects e.g. price or volume adjustments

For systems of players, it could mean contagion effects e.g. flight to quality, liquidity shortage

For participants, it could be ratings downgrades, which drive up funding costs

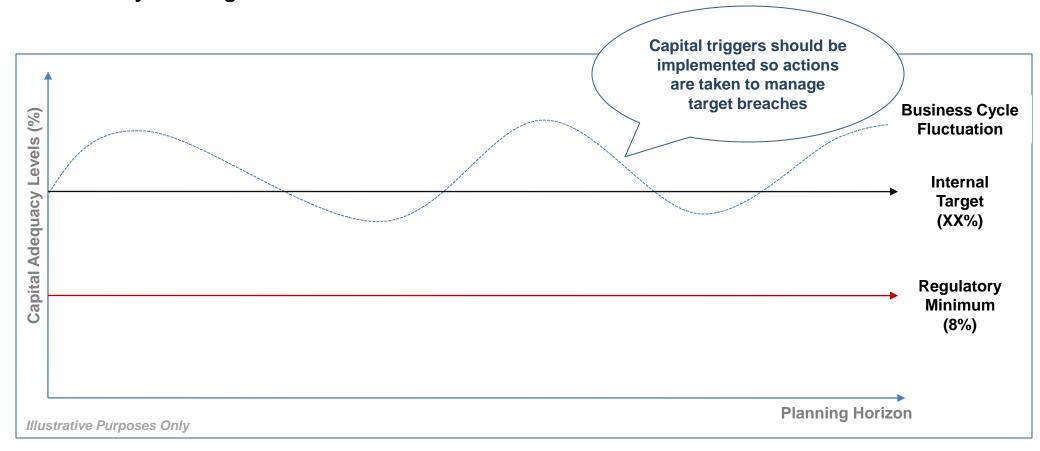
For regulators, it could mean policy adjustments, which lead to capital penalties e.g. Basel III



Reporting & Governance – Management Oversight



Results of **stress testing** should be **integrated** into the bank's ICAAP **and monitored** to ensure that the bank maintains **capital buffers in excess** of the required regulatory minimum and be able to withstand **economic cycle troughs**:



Source: Maybank Analysis



Reporting & Governance – Independent Assessment and Audit Review

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BNM requires that the Stress Testing Programme have in place **effective** and **independent Board and Senior Management oversight** and involvement in the stress test programme.

#### The Board

The Board is required to approve the policies and procedures related to stress testing and ensure the process is consistent with the capital strength, management expertise and risk profile.

# Risk Management Committee

The Risk Management Committee provides oversight and ensures that the scenarios and assumptions used in the stress test is plausible and consistent with the bank's risk profile.

#### Senior Management

Senior management should be actively involved in the stress testing process, and is responsible for the development and communication of the stress test and results to the Board and RMC.

# Validation Team and Internal Audit

Regular and independent assessment and validation should be conducted by units independent from the process, and ensure the quality and effectiveness of the programme.

Reporting audit results of the Stress Test Programme to the Board



#### **Challenges in Stress Testing**

Potential Issues & Challenges

(1/3)

The following are some potential issues & challenges which may arise during the stress testing process:

**Area of Concern** 

#### Challenges

#### **Potential Solutions**

#### Meaningful Scenario Formulation

- Generation of new scenario largely recession-related
- Formulation of scenario which is relevant to the bank's core activities
- Enterprise-wide stress testing, relevancy of the scenario to geographically different portfolios -- with different systemic risk
- Building Scenario Library tracking of global events
- To conduct standalone stress testing based on the local scenario to reflect the systemic risk

Risk Parameter-ization

- Lacking of model/quantitative method to translate scenario into risk parameters (e.g. PD, LGD)
- Mostly based on expert judgment and sometimes broad assumptions.
- Investment in modeling methodology – cost vs. benefit study
- Working closely with the Economist on the macroeconomic projection to improve estimation



#### **Challenges in Stress Testing**

Potential Issues & Challenges

(2/3)

The following are some potential issues & challenges which may arise during the stress testing process:

**Area of Concern** 

#### Challenges

#### **Potential Solutions**

# Defining and Quantifying Assumptions

- Challenging to determine degree of severity used for stress testing.
- Mostly external data used for this purpose.
- Severity level mild, moderate, severe based on internal loss experience/expert judgment
- 'Back-test' stress results with actual performance during periods of stress

# Integrated Stress Testing

- Aggregation of risks and incorporating correlation and diversification effects challenging.
- Coordination across entities and line of businesses.
- Integrating stress testing to business and strategic planning process.

- Use correlation matrices, factor models, or multi-step Monte Carlo simulations using copulas
- Organize working group committee, with representatives from different entity/risk and/or business unit



#### **Challenges in Stress Testing**

Potential Issues & Challenges

(3/3)

The following are some potential issues & challenges which may arise during the stress testing process:

**Area of Concern** 

Challenges

**Potential Solutions** 

# Data and Technology challenges

- Integrating accurate risk data in a timely manner across organization
- Lacking of internal historical data to establish the relationship of portfolio and economic condition for modeling of econometrics.
- Absence of robust infrastructure which is flexible to accommodate different stress test
- The need to churn out stress test result fast within a short period for decision making – time consuming.

- Automation cost benefit study.
- Ensure data management is well developed, and data integrity is prioritized.
- Implement 'single-source of truth' principle in data management.
- To ride on external historical data as proxy to build the econometric model.



# Questions & Answers