

Embedded value

Embedded value methodology and assumptions

The methodology used to calculate embedded value and the manner of determining embedded value assumptions at the latest year-end (or interim period where relevant) is consistent with the prior year unless explicitly noted in this disclosure.

Methodology

The European Insurance CFO Forum Market Consistent Embedded Value Principles (Copyright © Stitching CFO Forum Foundation 2008) issued in June 2008 and updated in May 2016 by the CFO Forum ("the Principles" or "MCEV principles") have been used as the basis for preparing the MCEV disclosure information for the covered business. We have not changed our MCEV methodology in light of the May 2016 updates to the CFO Forum MCEV principles, which allows (but does not require) the alignment of MCEV and Solvency II methodologies and assumptions.

Apart from Principle 14, the Principles have been materially complied with in the preparation of MCEV information at the latest year-end (or interim period where relevant). Principle 14 requires the use of a swap curve as the reference curve, however a government bond curve has been used predominantly as the reference curve in South Africa for consistency with the current regulatory solvency reporting regime (based on the Prudential Standards) which uses a government bond curve as the default risk-free rate. Where the liabilities are hedged with swaps, the risk-free rate will remain the swap rate. This is however only a small percentage of covered business. The reference curve and resulting embedded value is still considered to be market consistent as it is derived directly from market indicators. Namibia and Eswatini use the same reference curves as South Africa.

The covered business within certain African entities (Kenya, Uganda, Malawi, Eswatini, Ghana and Botswana) has been included in MCEV at their respective ANW values only. No VIF for these entities has been recognised. However, the VNB for these entities has been calculated allowing for VIF.

The covered business includes, where material, any contracts that are regarded by local insurance supervisors as long term life insurance business, and other business, where material, directly related to such long term life insurance business where the profits are included in the IFRS long term business profits in the primary financial statements. For the life businesses in entities where the covered business is not material, the treatment within this supplementary information is the same as in the primary IFRS financial statements (i.e. expected future profits for this business are not capitalised for MCEV reporting purposes). Due to the lack of ability to access capital by way of dividends, our business in Zimbabwe is managed on a ring-fenced basis. It has been excluded from the Group's key performance indicators for the current and prior periods.

Some types of business are legally written by a life company but are classified as asset management under IFRS because 'long term business' only serves as a wrapper. This business is excluded from covered business.

The EV consists of the sum of the ANW excluding intangibles and goodwill, plus the VIF on covered business. The ANW consists of the free surplus and the required capital to support the business. The VIF on covered business consists of the present value of future profits (PVFP), less the time value of financial options and guarantees, less frictional costs of required capital, less cost of non-hedgeable risk (CNHR).

The ANW is the market value of shareholder assets with respect to covered business after allowing for liabilities on an IFRS basis after the removal of intangibles. The liability to repay and finance the subordinated debt allocated to the covered business has been allowed for in the ANW.

The required capital is determined with reference to internal management objectives, based on regulatory capital requirements calculated in line with Prudential Standards.

The PVFP is calculated as the discounted value of future distributable earnings (taking account of local statutory reserving requirements) that are expected to emerge from the in-force covered business, including the value of contractual renewal of in-force business, on a best estimate basis where assumed earned rates of return and discount rates are equal to the risk-free reference rates.

Allowance is made in the determination of EV for the potential impact of variability of investment returns (i.e. asymmetric impact) on future shareholder cash flows of policyholder financial options and guarantees within the in-force covered business. The time value of financial options and guarantees describes that part of the value of financial options and guarantees that arises from the variability of future investment returns on assets to the extent that it is not already included in the local statutory reserves. The full market consistent value of financial options and guarantees is already reflected in the local statutory reserves, so no additional allowance is required. The calculation of the value of financial options and guarantees (including the allowance in ANW and VIF components of EV) is based on market consistent stochastic modelling techniques. In the generated economic scenarios, allowance is made, where appropriate, for the effect of dynamic management and/or policyholder actions in different circumstances.

An allowance has been made for the frictional costs in respect of the taxation on investment return and investment costs on the assets backing the required capital for covered business, where material. The run-off pattern of the required capital is projected on an approximate basis over the lifetime of the underlying risks and run-offs are consistent with those used in regulatory reporting.

An allowance is made in the CNHR to reflect uncertainty in the best estimate of shareholder cash flows as a result of both symmetric and asymmetric non-hedgeable risks since these risks cannot be hedged in deep and liquid capital markets and are managed, inter alia, by holding risk capital. CNHR is calculated using a cost of capital approach, i.e. it is determined as the present value of capital charges for all future non-hedgeable risk capital requirements. A cost of capital charge of 2.0% has been applied to non-hedgeable capital over the life of the contracts. The risks considered include mortality and morbidity, persistency and expense risk (among others), but excludes market risks.

For participating business, the method of valuation makes assumptions about future bonus rates and the determination of profit allocation between policyholders and shareholders. These assumptions are made on a basis consistent with other projection assumptions, especially the projected future risk-free investment returns, established Company practice (with due consideration of the PPFM for South African business), past external communication, any payout smoothing strategy, local market practice, regulatory/contractual restrictions and bonus participation rules. Where current benefit levels are higher than can be supported by the existing fund assets together with projected investment returns, a downward 'glide path' in benefit levels is projected so that the policyholder fund would be exhausted on payment of the last benefit.

In valuing shareholders' cash flows, allowance is made in the cash flow projections for taxes in the relevant jurisdiction affecting the covered business. Tax assumptions are based on best estimate assumptions, applying current local corporate tax legislation and practice together with known future changes and taking credit for any deferred tax assets. The value of deferred tax assets is partly recognised in the EV. Typically those tax assets are expected to be utilised in future by being offset against expected tax liabilities that are generated on expected profits emerging from in-force business.

The market consistent VNB measures the value of the future profits expected to emerge from all new business sold, and in certain cases from premium increases to existing contracts, during the reporting period after allowance for the time value of financial options and guarantees, frictional costs and the cost of residual non-hedgeable risks associated with writing the new business. VNB includes contractual renewals and voluntary increments that are not allowed for in PVFP. Where increases are allowed for in PVFP, variations from this expectation are classified as experience variance, rather than new business. The key principles applied in calculating VNB are noted below:

- Economic assumptions at the start of the reporting period are used, except for OMLACSA's non-profit annuity products where point of sale assumptions are used that are consistent with the pricing basis.
- Demographic and operating assumptions at the end of the reporting period are used.
- VNB is calculated at point of sale and rolled forward to the end of the reporting period.
- Generally a stand-alone approach is used unless a marginal approach would better reflect the additional value to shareholders created through the activity of writing new business.
- Expense allowances include all acquisition expenses, including any acquisition expense overruns. Strategic business development expenses are excluded.
- VNB is calculated net of tax, reinsurance and non-controlling interests.
- Economic and operating variances are not attributed to VNB.
- PVNBP is calculated at point of sale using premiums before reinsurance and applying a valuation approach that is consistent with the calculation of VNB.