

# Risk and capital management

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Our capital strength and financial flexibility enable us to profitably grow our business within the boundaries set by our risk appetite and risk tolerance.



“Our businesses are well positioned to benefit from the current market environment, while the higher interest rate environment supports recurring investment income.”

**John R. Dacey**  
Group Chief Financial Officer



“Swiss Re’s sound risk management provides resilience at times of geopolitical turbulence and economic uncertainty.”

**Patrick Raaflaub**  
Group Chief Risk Officer

## Swiss Re’s strong capital position and disciplined risk-taking enable profitable growth.

The Group’s capital position remains strong with a Group SST ratio of 306% as of 1 January 2024, reflecting positive investment and underwriting contributions.

### Financial strength

Swiss Re’s capital position remains strong with a Group Swiss Solvency Test (SST) ratio of 306% as of 1 January 2024, which is above Swiss Re’s 200–250% target Group capitalisation range. Rating agencies AM Best, Moody’s and Standard & Poor’s (S&P) rated Swiss Re’s financial strength “superior”, “excellent” and “very strong”, respectively. This capital strength enables Swiss Re to support its clients while continuing to offer an attractive dividend to shareholders.

Swiss Re’s overarching target is to maintain a very strong capital position that operates efficiently within constraints imposed by regulators and requirements from rating agencies, while giving the company maximum financial flexibility. Swiss Re’s capital allocation decisions are steered to make capital and liquidity fungible to the Group wherever possible, while complying with local regulations and client needs.

Based on the Group’s capital strength and solid earnings in 2023, the Board of Directors proposes an ordinary dividend of USD 6.80 per share for the 2023 financial year, reflecting an increase of 6% from last year’s dividend. Although declared in USD, shareholders will receive the 2024 dividend payment in CHF converted from USD.

### Liquidity

Swiss Re's core insurance and reinsurance operations generate liquidity primarily through premium income. Exposure to liquidity risk stems mainly from two sources: the need to cover potential extreme loss events, and regulatory constraints that limit the flow of funds within the Group.

The amount of liquidity held is largely determined by internal liquidity stress tests, which estimate the potential funding requirements stemming from extreme loss events. Based on these internal liquidity stress tests, it is estimated that Swiss Reinsurance Company Ltd, the most important legal entity of the Group from a liquidity perspective, currently holds significant surplus liquidity.

Swiss Re also provides FINMA, its principal regulator, with a yearly report on its liquidity position, in accordance with FINMA Circular 13/5, "Liquidity – Insurers".

### Risk Management

Group Risk Management is key to the controlled risk-taking that underpins Swiss Re's financial strength. Risk Management is mandated to ensure that the Group and its legal entities have the necessary expertise, frameworks and infrastructure to support sound risk-taking. In addition, it monitors and ensures adherence to applicable frameworks and also performs reserving and reporting activities.

Risk Management is embedded throughout Swiss Re's business. The Group has dedicated Chief Risk Officers (CRO) and risk teams for all major legal entities and regions. These are closely aligned to Swiss Re's business structure, in order to ensure effective risk oversight, but remain part of the Risk Management function under the Group CRO, thus ensuring their independence as well as a consistent Group-wide approach to overseeing and controlling risks. They are supported in this by central risk teams that provide specialised risk expertise and oversight.

The Group's risk-taking is steered by Swiss Re's Risk Appetite Framework, which consists of two interlinked components: risk appetite and risk tolerance. The risk appetite statement facilitates discussions about where and how Swiss Re should deploy its capital, liquidity and other resources under a risk-return view. The risk tolerance sets clear boundaries to risk-taking.

Swiss Re's proprietary integrated risk model provides a meaningful assessment of the risks to which the Group is exposed and represents an important tool for managing its business. It determines the capital requirements for internal purposes and forms the basis for regulatory reporting under the SST and under Solvency II for legal entities in the European Economic Area (EEA) and the United Kingdom.

Swiss Re continuously reviews and updates its risk model and parameters to reflect the Group's experience, as well as changes in the risk environment and current best practice.

### Swiss Re's risk profile

In SST 2024, Swiss Re's total risk increased to USD 20.2 billion, mainly driven by higher financial market risk. The shift led to an increase in diversification at risk category level.

The slight increase in property and casualty risk is mainly driven by higher reserve volatilities impacting the costing & reserving risk, partially offset by a reduction in natural catastrophe and cyber risks.

Higher life and health risk mainly reflects business growth in the US, resulting in higher exposure to mortality trend and lethal pandemic risk. The increase is further driven by the impact on exposure of reviewability parameter updates and lower interest rates.

Financial market risk increased significantly, mainly due to corporate bond purchases and the reduction in investment hedges.

The significant increase in credit risk is driven by new business in credit and surety, the unwinding of investment hedges and corporate bond purchases.

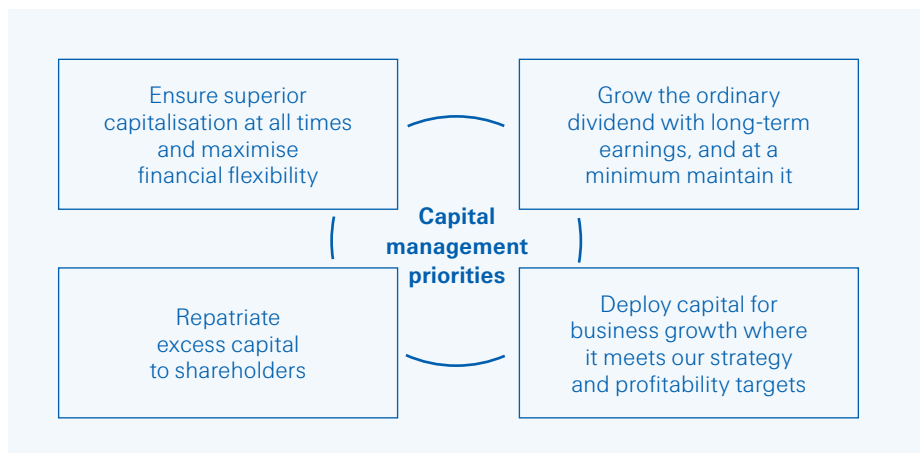
# Financial strength and capital management

## Capital position and management priorities

Swiss Re’s capital position continues to be strongly supported by solid earnings, a diversified business model, disciplined risk-taking and the benefit of higher interest rates. This enables the company to deploy capital to respond to market opportunities and therefore create sustainable long-term shareholder value by delivering an attractive ordinary dividend.

Swiss Re’s capital management priorities aim to ensure the ability to continue operations following an extremely adverse year of losses from insurance and/or financial market events. Swiss Re’s Board of Directors has defined an SST capitalisation target range of 200–250% for the Swiss Re Group.

The following subsections describe Swiss Re’s capitalisation according to the SST and the financial strength ratings.



## External dividends to shareholders

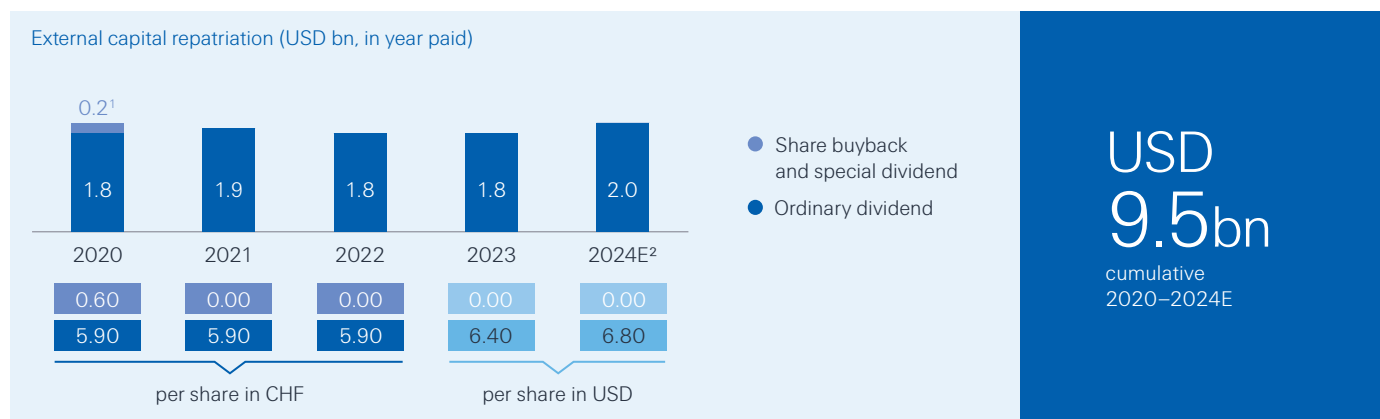
The Board of Directors proposes an ordinary dividend of USD 6.80 per share for the 2023 financial year, reflective of the Group’s improved profitability and strong capital position.

Although declared in USD, shareholders will receive the 2024 dividend payment in CHF converted from USD.

## Swiss Re Ltd subsidiaries dividends and capital allocation

Swiss Re’s peer-leading capital repatriation is supported by strong dividend payments from Swiss Re Ltd subsidiaries, in particular Swiss Reinsurance Company Ltd.

The Group also reinvested in the business by redeploying capital to support growth where it meets its strategy and profitability targets.



<sup>1</sup> Remainder of the first tranche of the 2019/2020 share buyback programme; second tranche of the 2019/2020 share buyback programme was cancelled.  
<sup>2</sup> Capital repatriation includes AGM 2024 proposal for ordinary dividend.

**Swiss Solvency Test (SST)**

Swiss Re is supervised by FINMA at the Group level as well as for its regulated legal entities domiciled in Switzerland. FINMA supervision comprises minimum solvency requirements, along with a wide range of qualitative assessments and governance standards.

Prior to SST 2024<sup>1</sup>, the ratio was calculated as SST risk-bearing capital (SST RBC) minus market value margin (MVM), divided by SST target capital (SST TC) minus market value margin.

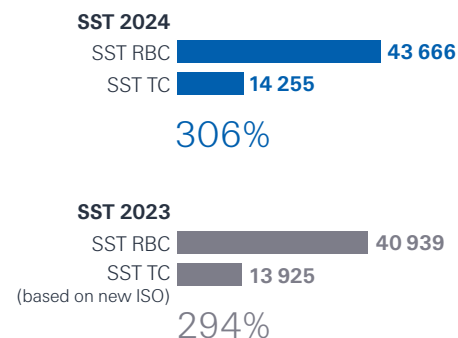
In accordance with the update of the Insurance Supervision Ordinance (ISO) regulation with effect from 1 January 2024, the SST 2024 ratio is calculated as SST risk-bearing capital divided by SST target capital, with both components having new definitions:

- SST RBC is lower under the new ISO because it includes a deduction for market value margin.
- SST TC is lower under the new ISO because market value margin is not included any more.

These changes have no impact on the value of the SST ratio.

The Group SST 2024 report will be filed with FINMA in April 2024. Accordingly, the information presented on the following pages is based on currently available information and may differ from the final Group SST 2024 figures.

Swiss Re maintains a strong capital position, with the Group SST 2024 ratio increasing by 12pp to 306% compared with SST 2023. The increase was mainly



driven by positive investment and underwriting contributions, as well as higher short-term interest rates, partially offset by dividends, subordinated debt buyback and higher financial market risk.

**Swiss Re Group SST Ratio<sup>1</sup>**

USD millions	SST 2023 as reported	SST 2023 based on new ISO	SST 2024	Change (SST 2024 vs SST 2023 based on new ISO)
SST risk-bearing capital	48 774	40 939	43 666	2 727
SST target capital	21 760	13 925	14 255	330
Market value margin	7 835	-	-	-
<b>SST ratio</b>	<b>294%</b>	<b>294%</b>	<b>306%</b>	<b>12pp</b>

**SST risk-bearing capital (SST RBC)**

SST RBC is derived from the market conform value of assets minus market conform value of liabilities before MVM and SST capital costs, which is adjusted for the items in the table below.

Changes to the SST net asset value mainly include economic capital generation or depletion due to underwriting and investment activities, foreign exchange movements, capital management actions (such as dividend payments and the change

in projected dividend payments) as well as the change in market value margin. The increase in SST NAV to USD 37.4 billion was mainly driven by positive investment and underwriting contribution, partially offset by dividends.

**SST risk-bearing capital**

USD millions	SST 2023 based on new ISO	SST 2024	Change
Market conform value of assets minus market conform value of liabilities before MVM and SST capital costs	44 717	47 750	3 033
<b>Market value margin</b>	<b>-7 835</b>	<b>-7 875</b>	<b>-39</b>
Market conform value of assets minus market conform value of liabilities	36 881	39 875	2 994
<b>Deductions</b>	<b>-2 399</b>	<b>-2 480</b>	<b>-81</b>
SST net asset value	34 482	37 395	2 912
<b>Tier 1 risk-absorbing capital instruments counted towards core capital</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
SST core capital	34 482	37 395	2 912
<b>Supplementary capital</b>	<b>6 456</b>	<b>6 271</b>	<b>-185</b>
SST risk-bearing capital	40 939	43 666	2 727

<sup>1</sup> The "Swiss Re Group SST Ratio" table shows the SST ratio calculation as reported for SST 2023 (the SST ratio calculation as of 1 January 2023) using the previous definitions of SST risk-bearing capital and SST target capital, as well as the SST 2023 ratio calculation based on the new ISO using the new definitions, which are restated for comparison purposes only.

The overall contribution from underwriting activities was positive, mainly reflecting favourable underwriting results from Property & Casualty Reinsurance and Corporate Solutions. This was partially offset by negative underwriting performance from Life & Health Reinsurance and Group items:

- The Property & Casualty Reinsurance positive underwriting contribution was mainly driven by strong renewals outcome and reserve releases in property and specialty. This was partially offset by reserve strengthening in US casualty, and natural catastrophe losses such as the earthquake in Turkey and Syria, cyclone Gabrielle and flooding in New Zealand.
- The Life & Health Reinsurance negative underwriting contribution was mainly driven by unfavourable assumption changes, and elevated mortality experience in the US. This was partially offset by transactional business.
- The Corporate Solutions positive underwriting contribution mainly reflected a robust underwriting result due to a steadily improved portfolio resilience driven by stringent portfolio steering and disciplined underwriting, supported by lower overall large losses and favourable experience variances in property and specialty.
- The Group items negative underwriting contribution was mainly related to adverse assumption updates and experience variances in iptiQ as well as unfavourable run-off business and increased Group overhead expenses.

The positive investment contribution was mainly driven by outperformance in credit products and favourable interest rates impact.

Foreign exchange impacts were positive, mostly driven by the depreciation of the US dollar against major currencies.

Deductions mainly reflect projected dividends (to be paid in 2024, subject to AGM 2024 approval) as well as deferred and transactional real estate-specific taxes.

The decrease in supplementary capital was mainly driven by the buyback of subordinated debt instruments that are eligible supplementary capital under SST, partially offset by the issuance of a new supplementary capital instrument and market value movements.

The market value margin is added as a liability in accordance with Art. 30 para. 2 ISO. Market value margin remained stable, as the impact of lower interest rates in most major currencies was offset by parameter updates in mortality trend and critical illness.

#### SST target capital (SST TC)

Swiss Re uses an internal risk model to determine the economic capital required to support the risks on the Group's book, as well as to allocate risk-taking capacity to the different lines of business. The model also provides the basis for capital cost allocation, which is used for pricing, profitability evaluation and compensation decisions. In addition to these internal purposes, the model is used to determine regulatory capital requirements under economic solvency frameworks such as SST and Solvency II.

In 2017, FINMA approved Swiss Re's internal model and its components for SST reporting purposes under their revised model review process.

Since SST 2023, the following major model change has been implemented and approved by FINMA for SST 2024.

- Risk exposures for financial market risk and for default-related effects that were previously based on Swiss Re's internal Economic Value Management view have now been linked to SST quantities. This change does not have a significant impact on the solvency ratio.

The risk exposure basis for SST is a projection for the period from 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024, and is based on the economic balance sheet as of 31 December 2023 and adjustments to reflect 1 January 2024 business shifts.

To derive SST target capital, total risk is adjusted for the line item "Other impacts" as shown below. "Other impacts" mainly reflect the impact from business development in the forecasting period.

SST target capital increased to USD 14.3 billion, driven by the increase in total risk (see Risk assessment, page 59 for details), partially offset by higher short-term interest rates.

#### SST Target Capital

USD millions	SST 2023 based on new ISO	SST 2024	Change
<b>Total risk</b>	<b>18 974</b>	<b>20 210</b>	<b>1 236</b>
Other impacts	-5 049	-5 955	-906
<b>SST target capital</b>	<b>13 925</b>	<b>14 255</b>	<b>330</b>



### Rating agencies

Rating agencies assign credit ratings to the Swiss Re Group and its rated subsidiaries and their respective obligations. The agencies evaluate Swiss Re based on a set of criteria that include an assessment of its capital adequacy, governance and risk management. Each rating agency uses a different methodology for this assessment.

AM Best, Moody's and S&P rate Swiss Re's financial strength based upon quantitative inputs and an interactive dialogue. The insurance financial strength ratings are shown in the table below.

On 1 November 2023, S&P published a credit opinion with a AA- financial strength of Swiss Re and its core subsidiaries. The outlook on the rating is "stable". The rating reflects Swiss Re's leading position in the non-life and life reinsurance market with a renowned brand, diversified product suite and very strong capital adequacy.

On 18 December 2023, Moody's re-affirmed the Aa3 insurance financial strength rating of Swiss Re and its core subsidiaries with a stable outlook. The rating reflects Swiss Re's excellent market

position, high degree of geographic and business diversification, very strong capital adequacy, conservative investment portfolio and very good financial flexibility.

On 6 September 2023, AM Best confirmed the Swiss Re Group financial strength rating of A+ (Superior) with stable outlook. The rating reflects AM Best's assessment of Swiss Re's balance sheet strength as "strongest", strong operating performance, very favourable business profile and very strong enterprise risk management.

### Swiss Re's financial strength ratings

As of 31 December 2023	Financial strength rating	Outlook	Last update
Standard & Poor's	AA-	Stable	1 November 2023
Moody's	Aa3	Stable	18 December 2023
AM Best	A+	Stable	6 September 2023

### Funding activities

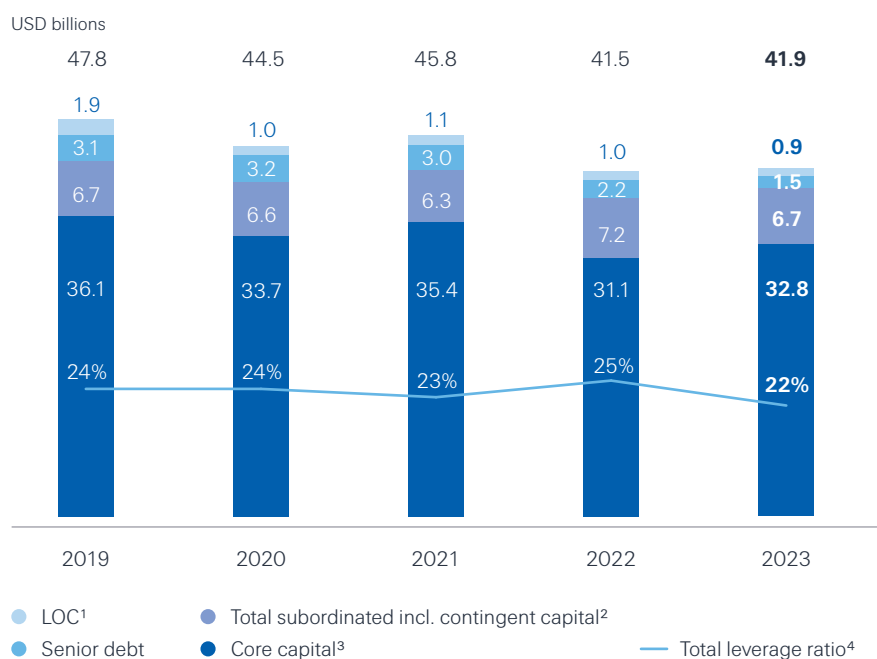
The Group seeks to maximise financial flexibility by maintaining strong access to diversified sources of funding and a prudent approach to leverage.

Swiss Re drew down the last USD 0.8 billion of its pre-funded subordinated debt facilities in May 2023.

Swiss Re continues to take a prudent approach to leverage. In this context, after re-assessing its capital and leverage position, Swiss Re undertook an opportunistic repurchase of USD 1.5 billion of subordinated notes in October 2023.

As a result of the aforementioned activities, as of 31 December 2023, the Group's SST ratio remained very strong while its total leverage ratio calculated based on its EVM framework reduced by 3pts to 22%, further enhancing the Group's financial flexibility.

### Group available capital and leverage



<sup>1</sup> Utilised unsecured LOC and related instruments.

<sup>2</sup> Funded subordinated debt and contingent capital instruments, excluding non-recourse positions.

<sup>3</sup> Core capital of the Swiss Re Group is defined as economic net worth (ENW).

<sup>4</sup> Total funded senior and subordinated debt and contingent capital, excluding non-recourse position but including utilised LOCs, divided by total capitalisation.

# Liquidity management

The active management of liquidity risks ensures the Group's ability to satisfy its financial obligations.

**As a re/insurance group, Swiss Re's core business generates liquidity primarily through premium income. The Group's exposure to liquidity risk stems mainly from two sources: the need to cover potential extreme loss events and regulatory constraints that limit the flow of funds within the organisation.**

A range of liquidity policies and measures are in place to manage these risks, in particular to ensure that:

- sufficient liquidity is held to meet funding requirements under current conditions as well as adverse circumstances;
- diversified sources are used to meet the Group's residual funding needs;
- long-term liquidity needs are taken into account in the Group's planning process and in asset-liability management.

## Liquidity risk management

Swiss Re's core liquidity policy is to retain access to sufficient liquidity in the form of unencumbered liquid assets, cash and pre-funded facilities to meet potential funding requirements arising from a range of possible stress events. To allow for regulatory restrictions on intra-Group funding, liquidity is managed from a legal entity perspective. The amount of liquidity held is determined by internal liquidity stress tests, which estimate the potential funding requirements stemming from extreme loss events.

The funding requirements under stress include:

- cash and collateral outflows, as well as potential capital and funding support required by subsidiaries as a result of loss events;
- repayment or loss of all maturing unsecured debt and credit facilities;
- additional collateral requirements associated with a potential ratings downgrade of Swiss Re;
- further contingent funding requirements related to asset downgrades;
- other large committed payments, such as expenses, commissions and tax.

The stress tests also assume that funding from assets is subject to conservative asset liquidation assumptions, intra-Group funding is not available if subject to regulatory approval, no new unsecured funding is available and funding from new re/insurance business is reduced.

The primary liquidity stress test is based on a one-year time horizon and a loss event corresponding to 99% tail value at risk (see page 59).

Swiss Re's liquidity stress tests are reviewed regularly and their main assumptions are approved by the Group Executive Committee. Swiss Re provides FINMA with a yearly report on its liquidity position, in accordance with FINMA Circular 13/5, "Liquidity – Insurers".

## Liquidity position of Swiss Reinsurance Company Ltd (SRZ)

From a liquidity perspective, SRZ is the most important legal entity of the Group. The estimated total liquidity sources in SRZ assumed to be available within one year in stressed conditions, net of short-term loans from Swiss Re Ltd and securities lending, amounted to USD 28.2 billion as of 31 December 2023, compared with USD 25.0 billion as of 31 December 2022.

Based on the internal liquidity stress tests described above, Swiss Re estimates that SRZ holds surplus liquidity after dividends payable to Swiss Re Ltd. In 2023, the amount of surplus liquidity increased. This was largely driven by sizeable operating cash flows, partly offset by the buying back of subordinated debt in October.

# Risk management

Risk Management provides independent oversight and applies an integrated approach to managing current and emerging risks.

**Embedded throughout the business, the Group Risk Management function ensures an integrated approach to managing current and emerging threats. Risk Management plays a key role in business strategy and planning, where Swiss Re's risk appetite framework facilitates risk-return discussions and sets boundaries to Group-wide risk-taking.**

Taking and managing risk is central to Swiss Re's business. All risk-related activities, regardless of the legal entity in which they are undertaken, are subject to the Group's risk management framework. This framework sets out how Swiss Re organises and applies its risk management practices to ensure that all activities are conducted in line with the principles and limits mandated by the Group Risk Policy.

The framework comprises the following major elements:

- Risk policy and risk governance documentation
- Key risk management principles
- Risk culture and behaviour
- Organisation of risk management, including responsibilities at Board and executive level
- Risk control framework
- Management of risk categories
- Risk appetite framework, including limits

Swiss Re applies a differentiated governance approach at legal entity level, depending on the materiality of individual entities. Major legal entities within the Group that are designated as significant legal entities, are subject to enhanced governance, which includes the following requirements:

- Establish bylaws and terms of reference, outlining the roles and responsibilities of both the board and management.
- Establish an Audit Committee.
- Designate a Chief Risk Officer and Chief Financial Officer.

Swiss Re’s risk management framework is set out in risk governance documentation at Group and legal entity level. Risk governance is the subset of corporate governance that describes the risk management framework and documents risk management practices. Group-level risk documents form the basis for all risk governance across Swiss Re. Additional risk governance for legal entities is prepared as an addendum to the Group or parent entity document.

Group risk governance documents are organised hierarchically across five levels, which are mirrored by equivalent documents at legal entity (LE) level:

- SRL Bylaws and the charter for the Group Board’s Risk Committee outline the ultimate authority for risk management, assigning responsibilities to the Group Board of Directors and the Group Executive Committee.
- The Group Risk Policy is defined by the Group Board of Directors and articulates Swiss Re’s risk appetite framework (risk appetite and tolerance) as well as fundamental risk and capital structure principles.
- The Group Risk Management Standards outline how the Group organises and applies its risk management practices.
- Risk category standards describe how risk practices are implemented for a specific category.
- The lowest level comprises risk management methodology and process documentation.

### Key risk management principles

Swiss Re’s risk management is based on four fundamental principles. These apply consistently across all risk categories at Group and legal entity level:

- **Controlled risk-taking** – Financial strength and sustainable value creation are central to Swiss Re’s value proposition. The Group thus operates within a clearly defined risk policy and risk control framework.
- **Clear accountability** – Swiss Re’s operations are based on the principle of delegated and clearly defined authority. Individuals are accountable for the risks they take on, and their incentives are aligned with Swiss Re’s overall business objectives.
- **Independent risk controlling** – Dedicated units within Risk Management control all risk-taking activities. These are supported by Compliance and Group Internal Audit functions.
- **Open risk culture** – Risk transparency, knowledge sharing and responsiveness to change are integral to the risk control process. The central goal of risk transparency is to create a culture of mutual trust and reduce the likelihood of surprises in the source and potential magnitude of losses.

### Three lines of control

In line with the principle of independent risk controlling, Swiss Re organises risk controlling along three lines, with progressive levels of independence. This approach is designed to achieve a strong, coherent and Group-wide risk culture built on the principles of ownership and accountability.

- The first line comprises the day-to-day risk control activities performed by risk takers in the business as well as in corporate functions, including proactive identification of risks, as well as establishing and operating an effective control system.
- Independent oversight performed by the Risk Management and Compliance functions represents the second line of control.
- The third line consists of independent audits of processes and procedures carried out by Group Internal Audit or by external auditors.

### Risk governance documentation hierarchy



### **Risk culture**

Swiss Re fosters and maintains a strong risk culture to promote risk awareness and discipline across all its activities. This risk culture stands for the risk and control-related values, knowledge and behaviour shared by all employees. Its principal components are summarised in a framework that builds on the Group's Code of Conduct as well as on the risk management principles set forth in the Group Risk Policy.

The risk culture framework serves to promote rigour and discipline, and influence appropriate risk-taking behaviour: risk takers are expected to exhibit in four key aspects, which are assessed annually for all employees in the performance and compensation process:

- Leadership in providing clear vision and direction
- Consideration of risk in decision-making and incentives
- Clearly defined roles and responsibilities around risk control and transparent flow of risk information
- Risk management skills and knowledge

Swiss Re's risk culture provides the foundation for the efficient and effective application of its Group-wide risk management framework. Group Risk Management reinforces the risk culture by ensuring risk transparency and fostering open discussion and challenge in the Group's risk-taking and risk management processes.

Key risk takers across Swiss Re are a particular focus in promoting good risk and control-related behaviours. The relevant positions are identified in a regular process, and those who hold them are subject to additional behavioural objectives and assessments.

Training of risk management professionals is an integral element of Swiss Re's risk management strategy. Risk training needs are identified for each employee and all new staff complete special induction training as well as mandatory training courses on risk awareness.

**Organisation of risk management**

The Board of Directors of Swiss Re Ltd (the Group Board) is ultimately responsible for Swiss Re’s overall risk governance principles and policies. It approves the Group’s risk strategy and Group Risk Policy, which defines Swiss Re’s risk appetite and tolerance, key principles for risk-taking and control, and key capital structuring principles based on endorsement by the Risk Committee. The Group Board mainly performs risk oversight and governance through its Risk Committee and its Audit Committee:

- **The Risk Committee** – Assists the Board in ensuring the Group’s risk management and control framework, risk appetite and risk-taking principles are adequate, aligned with the business strategy and properly applied. In this role, it reviews risk aspects related to underwriting activities, new products and strategic initiatives, and is responsible for overseeing the Group’s capital allocation and funding activities.

The Risk Committee’s responsibilities include reviewing the Group Risk Policy and endorsing it for approval to the Group Board of Directors, as well as reviewing risk limits established to control risk tolerance, monitoring their usage and deciding on actions following any breaches. In addition, the Risk Committee reviews and discusses with the Group Chief Risk Officer the most important risk exposures, critical principles used in internal risk measurement, the valuation risk of assets and liabilities, and the capital and liquidity adequacy assessment.

- **The Audit Committee** – Assists the Board in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities relating to the integrity of the Group’s and the company’s financial statements and compliance with legal and regulatory requirements. It serves as an independent monitor of the Group’s financial reporting process and system of internal controls. The Audit Committee also reviews legal, regulatory and operational risks, as well as compliance matters. It also reviews fraud risk, as well as related controls.

The Group Executive Committee has delegated various risk management responsibilities to the Group Chief Risk Officer (Group CRO). The Group CRO is responsible for providing the Group Board and Group Executive Committee with independent assurance that all of Swiss Re’s risks are being appropriately modelled, governed and managed, and that adequate controls are in place. As part of executing these responsibilities, the Group CRO is charged with establishing the Group’s risk management framework for all risk categories.

The Group CRO is a member of the Group Executive Committee and reports directly to the Group CEO. He also advises the Group Chairman and the Group Board of Directors, including its respective committees, in particular the Risk Committee, on significant matters arising in his area of responsibility. In addition, the Group CRO is also an Executive Committee member and CRO of SRZ, which is the main operating carrier for Swiss Re.

**Key Risk Management bodies and responsibilities**

**Group Board of Directors**

- Responsible for the Group’s governance principles and policies
- Mainly performs risk oversight and governance through its Risk Committee and Audit Committee

**Group Executive Committee**

- Develops and implements the risk management framework
- Sets and monitors risk capacity limits
- Some responsibilities delegated to Group CRO

**Group CRO**

- Principal independent risk controller
- Heads the Risk Management function
- Member of Group Executive Committee
- Advises Chairman and Board on risk matters

**Global Risk Management units**

- Oversight of financial market, credit and liquidity risk
- Shared risk expertise: risk modelling and governance, as well as political, sustainability and emerging risks
- Strategic control services: operational and regulatory risk management

**Group Internal Audit**

- Independent risk controller
- Assesses adequacy and effectiveness of internal control systems

**Compliance**

- Compliance with applicable laws, Code of Conduct
- Manages compliance risks

**Business-level management**

- Manages underwriting decisions and operational risks in its business scope

**Business-level CROs**

- Expertise and resources for the control of insurance and operational risks within their business scope
- P&C and L&H Reinsurance Risk Management performs Group-level accumulation control for all P&C and L&H risks
- Supported by functional, regional & legal entity CROs
- Report to Group CRO and to business-level CEO

**Legal entity management**

- Manages underwriting decisions and operational risks

**Legal entity CROs**

- Responsible for risk oversight and establishing risk governance in their respective legal entities
- Supported by subsidiary CROs as well as dedicated risk teams

The Group CRO leads the independent Risk Management function, which is responsible for risk oversight and control across Swiss Re. Risk Management provides assurance to executive management and boards of directors at all levels of Swiss Re that risk-taking is well controlled, in line with risk appetite, and complies with all internal and external regulations. The Risk Management function thus forms an integral part of Swiss Re's business model and risk management framework.

Swiss Re's Risk Management function comprises global departments that provide specialised risk expertise and oversight, as well as business-level risk departments for P&C Reinsurance, L&H Reinsurance, Corporate Solutions and Global Clients & Solutions. In addition, the Risk Management function also includes the specialised risk, insurance and economic expertise and research of the Swiss Re Institute.

The global risk management departments oversee Group liquidity and capital adequacy and maintain the Group frameworks for controlling these risks throughout Swiss Re. They also support CROs at Group and legal entity level in discharging their oversight responsibilities. They do so by providing services, such as:

- Financial risk management
- Specialised risk category expertise and accumulation control
- Risk modelling and analytics
- Regulatory relations management
- Maintaining the central risk governance framework

The business-level Risk Management departments provide the expertise and resources for the control of insurance and operational risks within their respective business scope, and are also in charge of actuarial reserving and monitoring reserve holdings in their business areas. The heads of these departments have a dual role, as they also serve as CROs of their respective Business Units. P&C and L&H Reinsurance Risk Management also perform Group-level accumulation control for P&C and L&H risks, respectively, in addition to their Business Unit-specific responsibilities.

The business-level Risk Management departments are supported by functional and regional CROs, as well as by legal entity

risk teams led by dedicated CROs who report directly or indirectly to their top-level entity CRO, with a secondary reporting line to their legal entity CEO. These legal entity CROs are responsible for risk oversight in their entities, as well as for establishing the proper risk governance to ensure efficient risk identification, assessment and control. They are assisted by subsidiary CROs who are responsible for overseeing risk management issues that arise at regional or subsidiary level.

While the Risk Management organisation is closely aligned to Swiss Re's business structure, in order to ensure effective risk oversight, all embedded teams and CROs remain part of the Group Risk Management function under the Group CRO, thus ensuring their independence as well as a consistent Group-wide approach to overseeing and controlling risks.

Risk management activities are complemented by Swiss Re's Group Internal Audit and Compliance units:

- Group Internal Audit performs independent, objective assessments of the adequacy and effectiveness of internal control systems. It evaluates the execution of processes within Swiss Re, including those within Risk Management.
- The Compliance function oversees Swiss Re's compliance with applicable laws, regulations, and rules – primarily in relation to compliance risks – and the Code of Conduct. It also assists the Group Board of Directors, the Group Executive Committee and other management bodies in identifying, mitigating and managing compliance risks.

#### Risk control framework

Swiss Re operates within a clearly defined risk control framework. This is set out in the Group Risk Management Standards and comprises a body of standards that establishes an internal control system for taking and managing risk. These standards set responsibilities for risk takers and risk controllers. The risk control framework defines key tasks, which are the core components of Swiss Re's risk management cycle:

- **Limit setting and monitoring** – Allows Swiss Re to control its risk-taking decisions and total risk accumulations, including the passive risk the company is exposed to through its operations.

- **Risk oversight of plan** – Ensures that the risk implications of plans are understood and determines whether business and investment plans adhere to the internal risk appetite framework, including risk appetite and tolerance.
- **Risk identification and exposure quantification** – Ensures that all risks to which Swiss Re is exposed are transparent in order to make them controllable and manageable.
- **Risk assessment** – Enables Swiss Re to understand the magnitude and nature of its risks through quantitative and qualitative analysis, ensuring that the company operates within its risk appetite.
- **Risk reporting** – Creates internal risk transparency and enables Swiss Re to meet external disclosure requirements.

Swiss Re has implemented a principle-based integrated internal control system to mitigate identified operational risks including financial reporting and compliance risks, as well as risks that could impair the effectiveness and efficiency of operations. This control system represents a subset of Swiss Re's risk control framework and is based on international standards established by the Committee of Sponsoring Organisations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). It is applied on multiple organisational levels, including Group, functions, regions and legal entities.

#### Risk transfer

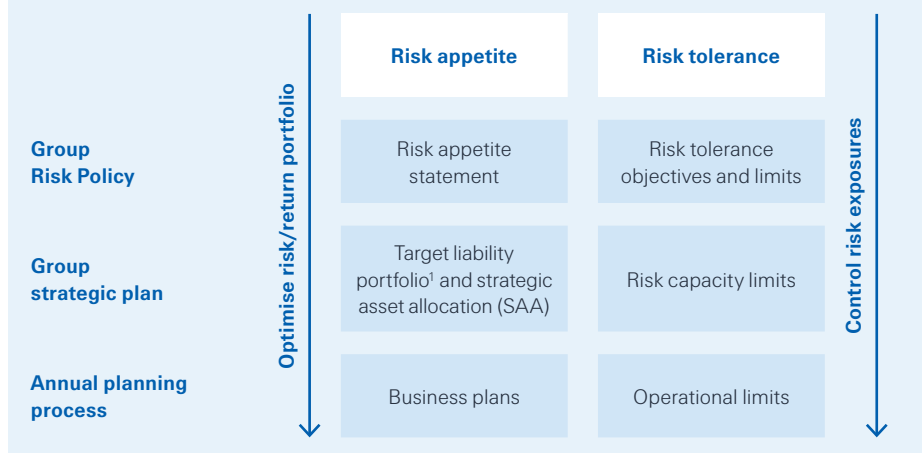
To efficiently manage capital across the Group and ensure that risk-taking in individual legal entities is well diversified, the Group employs internal retrocession and funding agreements. These serve to improve the fungibility of capital and consequently, Group-wide diversification. In addition, the Group aims to maximise the amount of funds available centrally by optimising the excess capital held within its subsidiaries and branches.

Swiss Re also manages and mitigates insurance risk through external retrocession, insurance risk swaps or by transferring risk to capital markets through insurance-linked securities, industry loss warranties or other derivatives. This provides protection against extreme catastrophic events, further diversifies risk, stabilises economic results and releases underwriting capacity.



## Risk Appetite Framework

The Risk Appetite Framework establishes the overall approach through which Swiss Re practices controlled risk-taking throughout the Group. The framework is set out in the Group Risk Policy and consists of two interlinked components: risk appetite and risk tolerance.



In addition, Swiss Re uses financial market derivative instruments as well as financial market securities to hedge financial market and credit risks arising from investments and insurance liabilities. Interest rate risk from insurance liabilities is managed through investments in fixed income instruments whose pricing is sensitive to changes in government yields, such as government bonds.

### Risk appetite framework

In the context of business strategy and planning, the risk appetite statement facilitates discussions about where and how Swiss Re should deploy its capital, liquidity and other resources under a risk-return view, while the risk tolerance sets clear boundaries to risk-taking.

During strategic planning and target setting, Risk Management provides an opinion on the proposed strategy and targets to the Group Executive Committee, and ultimately the Group Board of Directors. The opinion focusses on the risk impact of the proposed strategy and the risks related to its implementation. The strategic plan, risk appetite and capital allocation ambition are expressed in a target portfolio for the Group's assets and liabilities, which should ultimately deliver the Group's targeted performance.

Swiss Re's risk appetite outlines the Group's

own principles on acceptable risks and provides key directions for risk-taking and risk controlling as part of implementing Swiss Re's strategy: achieving targeted performance, providing liquidity and financial flexibility, managing capital adequacy, and protecting and growing franchise value.

The Group Board of Directors further details Swiss Re's risk appetite through its approval of Swiss Re Group's underwriting plan and asset management SAA, as well as the Group's capital and financial plan.

Swiss Re's internal risk tolerance describes the extent to which the Group and SRZ Boards of Directors have authorised executive management to assume risk. It represents the amount of risk that Swiss Re is willing to accept within the constraints imposed by its capital and liquidity resources, its strategy, and the regulatory and rating agency environment within which it operates.

Swiss Re's internal risk tolerance is based on the following objectives:

- To maintain Group capital at a level that safeguards respectability with clients and regulators.

- To ensure the resilience of SRZ as the main operating entity from a capital and liquidity perspective.
- To avoid material operational risks that could subject the Group to large operational losses with corresponding consequences from an economic, reputational or regulatory perspective.

To meet the first objective, the Risk Policy defines internal respectability limits to ensure that the Group has enough resources to meet capital requirements at Group level, as well as respectability and liquidity requirements for all legal entities. These limits ensure that Swiss Re has adequate capital and liquidity above minimum requirements to be considered a respectable counterparty by external stakeholders. To meet the second objective, Swiss Re's risk tolerance criteria include internal resilience limits for SRZ to ensure that the main operating entity is able to withstand capital and liquidity stresses. To meet the third objective, the Group has established a Group-wide risk matrix methodology in which key operational risks are assessed against an acceptable level of expected losses. Any operational risk exposure that exceeds the Group's internal operational risk tolerance is subject to a mitigation plan that is monitored by the Group Risk Committee.

Internal risk tolerance respectability criteria for the Swiss Re Group are set out in the Group Risk Policy. The Group and SRZ Boards are responsible for approving the risk tolerance criteria, as well as for monitoring and reviewing risk tolerance. Breaches or anticipated breaches of limits established to control the risk tolerance criteria must be communicated to the Risk Committee.

Swiss Re's risk-taking is governed by a limit framework in order to ensure that accumulation risk and large losses remain at an acceptable level, as well as to steer the allocation of available risk capacity. The limit framework is rooted in the risk appetite and risk tolerance objectives set in the Group Risk Policy, and helps to translate these objectives into concrete, measurable criteria. In addition, lower-level limits are implemented to allocate scarce capacity. The limit framework also allows for risk monitoring and thus supports risk controlling during the execution of the plan.

<sup>1</sup> From 1 January 2024, the target liability portfolio is replaced with the Group Underwriting Plan.



# Risk assessment

In SST 2024, total risk increased to USD 20.2 billion, mainly driven by higher financial market risk.

**Swiss Re's internal model provides a meaningful assessment of the risks to which the company is exposed and is an important tool for managing the business.**


Swiss Re is exposed to insurance and financial risks that are calculated in its internal risk model, as well as other risks that are not explicitly part of the economic capital requirement but are actively monitored and controlled due to their significance for Swiss Re. These include operational, liquidity, model, valuation, regulatory, political, strategic and sustainability risks.

Property and casualty risk is mainly driven by underlying risks inherent in the business Swiss Re underwrites, in particular non-life claims inflation, natural catastrophe, man-made, and costing and reserving risk. The main drivers of life and health insurance risk are lethal pandemic and mortality trend risk.

The Group's financial risk derives from financial market risk as well as from credit risk. Key drivers of financial market risk are credit spread and equity risk. Credit risk is mainly driven by the credit and surety business, and by default risk on capital market products.

Total risk is based on 99% tail value-at-risk (tail VaR) and represents the average unexpected loss that occurs with a frequency of less than once in 100 years over a one-year time horizon.

Total risk increased to USD 20.2 billion, mainly driven by higher financial market risk. The shift led to an increase in diversification at risk category level.

 For more information about Swiss Re's internal risk model, see the Internal control system and risk model section of the Financial Report, which is available online.

## Group capital requirement based on one-year 99% tail VaR

USD millions	SST 2023 <sup>1</sup>	SST 2024	Change	Cross reference information
Property and casualty	13 679	13 788	109	see page 62
Life and health	9 310	9 866	556	see page 63
Financial market	7 882	9 729	1 848	see page 64
Credit <sup>2</sup>	3 056	3 464	408	see page 65
Diversification	-14 953	-16 638	-1 684	
<b>Total risk</b>	<b>18 974</b>	<b>20 210</b>	<b>1 236</b>	

<sup>1</sup> The update to the ISO as of 1 January 2024 does not impact the SST 2023 capital requirements in this table.

<sup>2</sup> Credit comprises credit default and credit migration risk from both asset management and underwriting. It excludes credit spread risk, which is part of financial market risk.

Swiss Re's internal model takes account of the accumulation and diversification between individual risks. The effect of diversification at the risk category level, shown in the table above, represents the difference between total risk (the Group's 99% tail VaR) and the sum of standalone tail VaR amounts for the individual risk categories. This amount does not reflect diversification within risk categories. The extent of diversification is largely determined by the selected level of aggregation – the higher the aggregation level, the lower the diversification effect.

## Alternative risk measurements<sup>1</sup> for Swiss Re Group

USD millions	SST 2023 <sup>2</sup>	SST 2024	Change in %
<b>99% VaR</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>15.8</b>	+6%
<b>99.5% VaR</b>	<b>17.1</b>	<b>18.2</b>	+7%

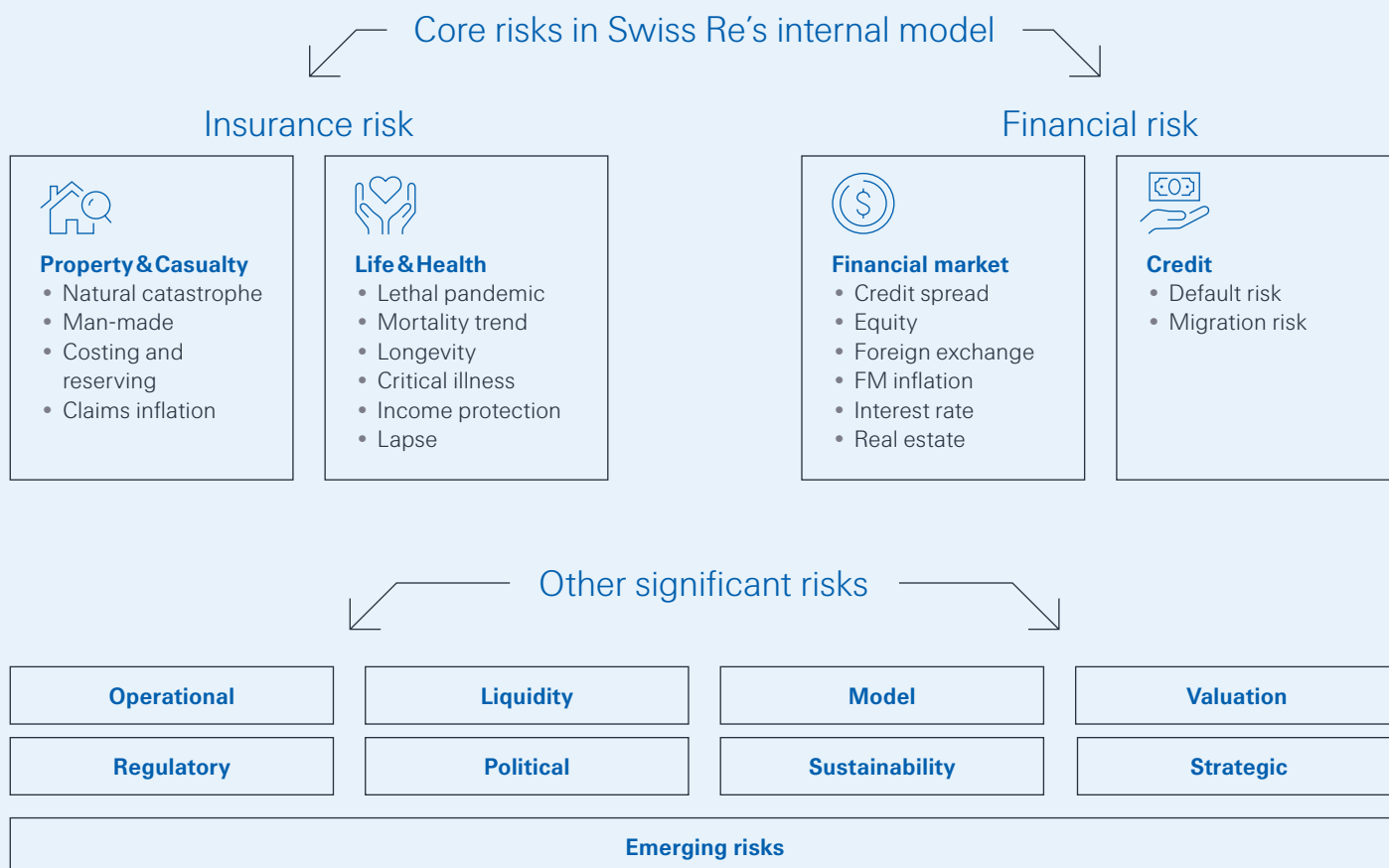
<sup>1</sup> For the alternative risk measurements, the same risk exposure and data basis is applied as for the SST calculation.

<sup>2</sup> The update to the ISO as of 1 January 2024 does not impact the SST 2023 alternative risk measurements in this table.

Alternative risk measurements – 99% and 99.5% VaR – increased to USD 15.8 billion and USD 18.2 billion, respectively.

## Swiss Re's risk landscape

The risk categories shown in the table below are discussed on the following pages. Swiss Re identifies and evaluates emerging threats across these categories through a systematic framework that includes the assessment of potential surprise factors that could affect known loss potentials. Liquidity risk management is discussed on page 52.



**Swiss Re is exposed to a broad landscape of risks. These include risks that are actively taken as part of insurance or asset management operations, and are calculated in the internal risk model as part of the Group's economic capital requirement as well as to allocate risk-taking capacity:**

- **Property and Casualty (P&C) insurance risk** arises from coverage provided for property, liability, motor and accident risks, as well as for specialty risks such as engineering, agriculture, aviation, marine and cyber. It includes underlying risks inherent in the business Swiss Re underwrites, such as inflation or uncertainty in pricing and reserving.
- **Life and Health (L&H) insurance risk** arises from coverage provided for mortality (death), longevity (annuity) and morbidity (illness and disability). In addition to potential shock events (such as a severe pandemic), it includes underlying risks inherent in life and health contracts that arise when mortality, morbidity or lapse experience deviates from expectations.
- **Financial market (FM) risk** represents the potential impact on assets or liabilities that may arise from movements in financial market prices or rates, such as equity prices, interest rates, credit spreads, hedge fund prices, real estate prices, commodity prices or foreign exchange rates. Financial market risk originates from two main sources: investment activities and the sensitivity of the economic value of liabilities to financial market fluctuations.
- **Credit risk** reflects the potential financial loss that may arise due to diminished creditworthiness or default of counterparties of Swiss Re or of third parties. Credit risk arises from investment and treasury activities, structured transactions and retrocession, as well as from liabilities underwritten by credit and surety insurance units.

The risk landscape also includes other risks that are not explicitly part of the Group's economic capital requirement but are actively monitored and controlled due to their significance for Swiss Re:

- **Operational risk** represents the potential economic, reputational or compliance impact of inadequate or failed internal processes, people and systems, or from external events, including legal risk and the risk of a material misstatement in financial reporting. Swiss Re has implemented a capital model for operational risk, which is used for Solvency II purposes.
- **Liquidity risk** represents the possibility that Swiss Re will not be able to meet expected and unexpected cash flow and collateral needs without affecting either daily operations or Swiss Re's financial condition.
- **Model risk** reflects the potential impact of model errors or the inappropriate use of model outputs. It may arise from data errors or limitations, operational or simulation errors, or limitations in model specification, calibration or implementation. Model risk may also be caused by insufficient knowledge of the model and its limitations, in particular by management and other decision makers.
- **Valuation risk** represents uncertainty around the appropriate value of assets or liabilities. It may arise from product complexity, parameter uncertainty, quality and consistency of data, valuation methodology or changes in market conditions and liquidity. Swiss Re is exposed to financial valuation risk from investment assets it holds as well as reserve valuation risk from insurance liabilities that result from the coverage it underwrites.
- **Regulatory risk** arises from changes to insurance regulations and supervisory regimes as well as from interactions with regulatory authorities of the jurisdictions in which Swiss Re operates.
- **Political risk** comprises the consequences of political events or actions that could have an adverse impact on Swiss Re's business or operations.
- **Sustainability risk** comprises the environmental, social and governance risks that may arise from individual business transactions or the way Swiss Re conducts its operations.
- **Strategic risk** represents the possibility that poor strategic decision making, execution or response to industry changes or competitor actions could harm Swiss Re's competitive position and thus its franchise value.

Some of these risks are reflected indirectly in the risk model, as their realisations may be contained in the historical data and scenarios used to calibrate some of the risk factors. In addition, output from the model is used in measuring liquidity risk under stressed conditions.

As separate risk categories, these risks are an integral part of Swiss Re's risk landscape. They are monitored and managed within the Risk Management organisation, and included in risk reports to executive management and the Board at the Group and legal entity level.

Across all risk categories, Swiss Re actively identifies emerging risks and threats as part of its risk identification process; this includes new risks as well as changes to previously known risks that could create new risk exposures or increase the potential exposure or interdependency between existing risks.

Reputational risk is not considered a separate risk category but rather represents a possible consequence of any risk type in addition to the potential financial and compliance impact.

# Insurance risk

**Insurance risk management involves identifying, assessing and controlling risks that Swiss Re takes through its underwriting activities, including related risks such as lapse, inflation or uncertainty in pricing and reserving. Risk Management also provides independent assurance throughout the business cycle, starting with the annual business planning process. It reviews underwriting standards, costing models and large or complex transactions, as well as monitoring exposures, reserves and limits.**

Swiss Re's Group limit framework includes risk limits for major insurance exposures that guard against risk accumulations and ensure that risk-taking remains within Swiss Re's risk tolerance. These limits are approved by the Group Executive Committee. At business unit and legal entity level, capacity and underwriting limits are assigned to steer the business, and ensure adherence to the Group's risk limits and SST capitalisation targets.

Regular internal reports ensure transparency across the Group, providing management with quantitative and qualitative risk assessments. Swiss Re's

insurance risk landscape and related governance processes are regularly discussed and reviewed by the Group CRO and his leadership team, as well as by dedicated insurance risk oversight bodies that assist and advise the Group CRO.

Swiss Re also manages and mitigates insurance risk through external retrocession, insurance risk swaps or by transferring risk to capital markets. This provides protection against extreme catastrophic events, further diversifies risk, stabilises economic results and releases underwriting capacity.

## Property and casualty risk

+1%

Change since SST 2023



### Risk developments

The slight increase in property and casualty risk is mainly driven by higher reserve volatilities impacting the costing and reserving risk, partially offset by a reduction in natural catastrophe and cyber risks.

### Management

Legal entity CROs are responsible for overseeing all property and casualty exposures written in their areas. In addition, Group Risk Management monitors and controls accumulated exposures across Swiss Re to ensure that they remain within the defined risk tolerance level.

The first line of control for property and casualty risks lies within the teams that underwrite those risks. In general, complex transactions must be reviewed by at least two authorised individuals and are subject to authority limits. Each underwriter is assigned an individual authority based on technical skills and experience. In addition, capacity limits are allocated to local teams; any business that exceeds this authority or is otherwise complex or unusual triggers an escalation process that extends up to the Group Executive Committee. Certain single

risks and specified renewable treaty classes with non-material changes can be authorised by only one individual underwriter with the necessary authority – but these risks and treaties are subject to checks after acceptance.

All transactions that could materially impact the risk at the Group level or for key legal entities require independent review and sign-off by Risk Management before they are authorised. This is part of a three-signature principle, under which key transactions must be approved by market units, Underwriting and Risk Management. For transactions of defined types and within defined limits, this may be applied through the approval of underwriting or pricing guidelines. For other transactions, the signatures must be secured through an individual review.

Swiss Re's limit framework for property and casualty exposures includes risk limits for major natural catastrophe scenarios and other key risks, such as terrorism, claims inflation, reserving and liability.

### Insurance risk stress tests with a 200-year return period

Annualised unexpected loss, 99.5% VaR in USD millions <sup>1</sup>	SST 2024
Atlantic hurricane	5 893
Californian earthquake	4 243
European windstorm	2 977
Japanese earthquake	2 602
Lethal pandemic	3 778

<sup>1</sup> Excluding the impact of earned premiums for the business written and reinstatement premiums that could be triggered as a result of the event.

In SST 2024, the largest natural catastrophe exposure for the Swiss Re Group derives from the Atlantic hurricane scenario with a USD 5.9 billion loss. The lethal pandemic loss is estimated to be at USD 3.8 billion.

#### Life and health risk

+6%

Change since SST 2023



#### Risk developments

Higher life and health risk mainly reflects business growth in the US resulting in higher exposure to mortality trend and lethal pandemic risk. The increase is further driven by the impact on exposure of reviewability parameter updates and lower interest rates.

#### Management

Legal entity CROs are responsible for overseeing all life and health exposures written in their respective areas. Accumulated exposures across Swiss Re are monitored and controlled by Group Risk Management to ensure that they remain at an acceptable level for the Group.

Costing actuaries and underwriters represent the first line of control for life and health risks. All transactions that could materially change risk at the Group level or for key legal entities require independent

review and sign-off by Risk Management before they can be authorised. This is part of a three-signature principle, under which key transactions must be approved by the Chief Pricing Office and Risk Management in addition to market units. For transactions of defined types and within defined limits, this may be applied through the approval of underwriting or pricing guidelines. For other transactions, the approval must be secured through a review of the individual transaction.

Swiss Re's limit framework for life and health exposures includes risk limits for key risks, such as life (mortality trend and longevity combined), lethal pandemic, mortality trend, lapse, critical illness and income protection. Market exposure limits are in place for catastrophe and stop-loss business. Swiss Re pays particular attention to densely populated areas and applies limits for individual buildings to guard against risk exposure accumulations.

## Financial risk

**Financial risk management involves identifying, assessing and controlling risks inherent in the financial markets as well as counterparty credit risks, while monitoring compliance with Swiss Re's risk appetite and risk management standards.**

Swiss Re's central Solvency & Financial Risk Management team oversees all activities that generate financial market or credit risk. Its mandate covers internally and externally managed assets, strategic participations, treasury activities, and credit and market risks that derive from Swiss Re's underwriting and retrocession activities, including structured transactions, credit insurance and surety business. The Head of Solvency & Financial Risk Management reports to the Group Chief Risk Officer, with a secondary reporting line to the Group Chief Investment Officer.

Solvency & Financial Risk Management controls exposure accumulation for financial market and credit risks. In addition, the team is responsible for assurance activities related to asset valuation and financial risk models, as well as for reporting Swiss Re's financial risks. These responsibilities are exercised through defined governance processes, including regular reviews by Swiss Re's Group Investment Committee and other financial risk oversight bodies.

All activities with financial market and credit risk are subject to limits at various levels of the organisation (eg Group, legal entities and lines of business). At the highest level, the Group Board of Directors sets a financial risk concentration limit which defines how much of the Group's risk exposure can derive from financial risk. The Group Executive Committee approves the limits, through the endorsement of the

Group Asset Liability Committee and Group Underwriting Committee, respectively, for financial market and credit risk at the Group level. Where required, additional risk limits are established by Risk Management for legal entities, key business lines, individual counterparties and countries. Furthermore, as part of the planning process, the risk-taking functions employ capacity limits to control the amount of risk. Limits may be expressed in terms of notional value of policies, losses in a stress scenario, value at risk based on historic market moves, linear sensitivities to a particular risk factor or different methodologies of exposure aggregation.

### Financial market risk

**+23%**

Change since SST 2023



### Risk developments

Financial market risk increased significantly, mainly due to corporate bond purchases and the reduction in investment hedges.

### Management

Financial market risk is monitored and controlled by dedicated experts within the Group's Solvency & Financial Risk Management team. Solvency & Financial Risk Management regularly reports on key financial market risks and risk aggregations, as well as on specific limits for internally and externally managed investment mandates. These reports track exposures, document limit usage and provide information on key risks that could affect the portfolio. The reports are

presented and discussed with those responsible for the relevant business line in Swiss Re's Financial Market Risk Council.

The reporting process is complemented by regular risk discussions between Solvency & Financial Risk Management, Asset Management and the Group's external investment managers, as well as by regular interactions with other key units that take financial market risk, such as Principal Investments and Acquisitions, Treasury and the respective business teams that write transactions.

Financial market SST ratio sensitivities

Impact on SST ratio		SST 2024
Interest rates	+50bps	12pp
Interest rates	-50bps	-13pp
Credit spreads	+50bps	-8pp
Credit spreads	-50bps	8pp
Equity values	+25%	0pp
Equity values	-25%	0pp
Real estate values	+25%	8pp
Real estate values	-25%	-8pp

Among the financial market sensitivities shown above, the Group SST ratio is most sensitive to a 50-basis-point decrease in interest rates, which would result in an estimated decrease in the SST ratio of 13 percentage points. The SST 2024 ratio is insensitive to equity shocks, because their relative impact on the numerator (SST RBC) and on the denominator (SST TC) is about the same.

Credit risk stress test with a 200-year return period

Annualised unexpected loss, 99.5% VaR in USD million <sup>1</sup>	SST 2024
Credit default <sup>1</sup>	2 657

<sup>1</sup> Excluding the impact of earned premiums for the business written and reinstatement premiums that could be triggered as a result of the event.

**Credit risk**

+13%

Change since SST 2023



**Risk developments**

The significant increase in credit risk is driven by new business in credit and surety, the unwinding of investment hedges and corporate bond purchases.

**Management**

Credit risk is monitored and controlled by experts within the Solvency & Financial Risk Management team. Solvency & Financial Risk Management regularly monitors and reports on counterparty credit quality, credit exposures and limits. In addition, the team compiles a watch list of cases that merit close attention. These reports are presented and discussed at the Credit Council.

The reporting process is supported by a Group-wide credit exposure information system that contains all relevant data, including counterparty details, ratings, credit risk exposures, credit limits and watch lists. Key credit practitioners across Swiss Re have access to this system, thus providing the necessary transparency to implement specific exposure management strategies for individual counterparties, industry sectors and geographic regions.

Credit risks are aggregated by country in order to monitor and control risk accumulation to specific risk drivers, such as economic, sovereign and political risks.

## Management of other significant risks

### Operational risk

The Group has implemented an internal control system to mitigate operational risks through three lines of control. This system assigns primary responsibility for identifying and managing operational risks to individual risk takers (first line of control), with independent oversight and control by the Risk Management and Compliance functions (second line of control) as well as Group Internal Audit (third line of control). Members of the Executive Committee are required to certify the effectiveness of the internal control system for their area of responsibility on a quarterly basis.

Operational risk is inherent within Swiss Re's business processes. As the company does not receive an explicit financial return for such risks, the approach to managing operational risk differs from the approach applied to other risk categories. The purpose of operational risk management is not to eliminate risks but rather to identify and cost-effectively mitigate operational risks that approach or exceed Swiss Re's tolerance.

Risk Management is responsible for monitoring and controlling operational risks based on a centrally coordinated methodology. This includes a pre-defined taxonomy that is used for identifying, classifying and reporting operational risks, as well as a matrix in which risks are assessed according to their estimated probability and impact. Risks are assessed for their residual economic, financial reporting, reputational and compliance impact, taking into account existing mitigation and controls.

The matrix is also used to assess residual exposures against Swiss Re's internal tolerance limits for operational risk. This limit represents the level of operational risk that the Board of Directors and executive management teams are willing to accept. Material risks that exceed or are approaching risk tolerance are reported to executive management and boards at the Group and legal entity level. In addition, executive management is required to implement mitigation strategies for all risks that are outside of operational risk limits in order to bring them back within internal tolerance limits.

Cyber risk and information security are a key focus of Swiss Re's operational risk controls. The Group performs an annual cyber risk assessment to determine the current maturity of controls; this is based on internationally recognised standards. The results of the assessment are shared with senior management, and mitigation activities to improve Swiss Re's cyber security resilience are coordinated by the Chief Security Officer.

Operational events and issues are recorded and managed in a central Operational Risk Management system in order to address the identified problems and avoid the recurrence of similar events. The results are reviewed by the relevant CRO and reported to the company's management team and Board of Directors.

The pace of digital transformation has accelerated, driven by strategic initiatives that aim to scale up Swiss Re's offering of data-driven services and solutions, diversify the portfolio of products and distributors, as well as to automate and streamline financial reporting processes in preparation for IFRS 17.

These factors, alongside increasing geopolitical instability, have brought into focus risks around key people dependency, information security and third-party governance. These risks are being actively mitigated and closely monitored at executive management level.

### Model risk

Swiss Re uses models throughout its business processes and operations, in particular to price insurance products, value financial assets and liabilities, assess reserves and portfolio cash flows, and estimate risk and capital requirements. Model owners have primary responsibility for model-related risks and are required to adhere to a robust tool development process, including testing, peer review, documentation and sign-off. A similar process also applies to model maintenance.

Swiss Re's model governance is based on Group-wide standards for model assurance. These standards seek to ensure that each model has a clear scope, is based on sound mathematical and scientific concepts, has been implemented correctly and produces appropriate results given the stated purpose. Furthermore, the calibration of model parameters (and the data on which the calibration relies) must be trustworthy, while expert judgments are required to be sensible, documented and evidenced.

Analytical or financial models that are used for costing, valuation and risk capital calculations are governed by Swiss Re's Group Model Risk Management Standards. Material models used for costing, valuation of reserves and assets as well as Swiss Re's internal risk model are validated by dedicated teams within Risk Management. These teams provide independent assurance that the framework has been adhered to, and also conduct independent validations. Swiss Re's internal risk model is also subject to regulatory scrutiny.

Model-related incidents are captured within Swiss Re's operational risk framework. In addition, material model developments, incidents and risks are reported in regular risk updates to executive management and the boards of directors at the Group and legal entity level.

### Valuation risk

Financial valuation risk is managed by internal and external portfolio managers, who ensure that valuations remain in line with the market. In addition, Swiss Re has a function within Financial Risk Management that independently assesses valuations and valuation techniques. This team performs independent price verification for financial risk positions to confirm that valuations are reasonable and ensure there are no material misstatements of fair value in Swiss Re's financial reports. The results of the independent price verification process are reviewed by the Asset Valuation Committee. In addition, Swiss Re's external auditor conducts quarterly reviews as well as a comprehensive year-end audit of controls, methodology and results.



Reserve valuation risk is managed by Swiss Re's Actuarial Control function, with dedicated teams for property and casualty, and life and health valuation. These teams ensure that Swiss Re's reserve-setting process uses an appropriate governance framework, including defined accountabilities and decision-making processes for risk takers (as the first line of control) as well as for Actuarial Control. The framework ensures that there is independent assurance on the data, assumptions, models and processes used for valuation purposes. It also includes an independent assessment of the reserves to ensure that their level remains within a range of possible best estimates. Regular deep-dive investigations are performed into selected portfolios in order to review the appropriateness of both the reserves and the applied reserving approach. In addition, Swiss Re's external auditor conducts quarterly reviews as well as a comprehensive year-end audit of controls, methodology and results.

### Regulatory risk

Regulatory developments and related risks that may affect Swiss Re and its subsidiaries or branches are identified, assessed and monitored as part of regular oversight activities. Swiss Re is actively engaged in a dialogue with relevant regulators to improve mutual understanding of the implications arising from new regulatory proposals. Periodic reports and recommendations on regulatory issues are provided to executive management and the Board of Directors at the Group and legal entity level.

The regulatory environment of the insurance industry continues to evolve on the national, regional and international level. While some regulatory changes create new business opportunities, others come with significant costs and business restrictions. Growing regulatory complexity, increased protectionism and a fragile global economy are persistent themes affecting regulation and the way Swiss Re operates worldwide.

Regulatory efforts are becoming increasingly forward-looking, aimed at a broad range of emerging risks, both actual and perceived. If new regulation is not based on clearly understood risks with a view to materiality and proportionality, and if the resulting requirements are not harmonised with international standards and best practices, this may create an excessive burden for global insurers and lead to higher costs for policyholders. It remains a key priority for Swiss Re to highlight to regulators the negative impacts of market access restrictions or impediments to global risk diversification. At the same time, such risks are mitigated by seeking solutions that reduce the negative impact on Swiss Re and its clients.

Several regulators – particularly in Europe and Asia, and more recently in the Americas – have developed specific expectations of how climate risks should be managed, and are implementing risk management guidelines and mandatory disclosure requirements. There is a risk that regulators single out climate-related and other sustainability risks, and move away from purely risk-based solvency requirements. Regulations in different jurisdictions continue to develop at various speeds and are not necessarily aligned.

Swiss Re continues to advocate for a harmonised and gradual implementation of these requirements. New regulations should be in line with international standards and with widely accepted disclosure frameworks in order to avoid regulatory fragmentation and ensure that requirements are appropriate. The new global standards by the International Sustainability Standards Board support greater alignment across jurisdictions.

Swiss Re consistently highlights the benefits of its industry's global business model. It advocates for the removal or reduction of market access barriers, so that policyholders, governments, taxpayers and national economies can fully benefit from international diversification and thus have access to reliable, sound and affordable risk cover and transfer.

### Political risk

Political developments can threaten Swiss Re's operating model but also open up new business opportunities for developing the business. The Group adopts a holistic view of political risk and analyses developments in various markets and jurisdictions, as well as cross-border issues such as war, terrorism, energy-related issues and international trade controls.

Swiss Re's Political Risk Management function exercises oversight and control functions for named political risks (eg political risk insurance) by monitoring political risk exposures, and providing recommendations on particular transaction referrals and risk reporting. In addition, Political Risk Management sets political country risk ratings that cover political, war and security-related country risks, and are used to support risk control activities and inform underwriting and other decision-making processes of the Group.


Swiss Re regularly identifies and assesses the impact of political risk on its business. It builds relationships that expand the company's access to information and intelligence, and enhances its methodologies and standards. For example, Swiss Re participates in specialist events hosted by institutions such as industry and risk management associations, and maintains relationships with political risk specialists in other industries, think tanks and universities, as well as with governmental and non-governmental organisations.

### Sustainability risk

Swiss Re's continued business success depends on the successful management of sustainability risks, thus helping to maintain the trust of its stakeholders. The Group has a long-standing commitment to sustainable business practices, active corporate citizenship, as well as good, transparent governance.

Potential sustainability risks are mitigated through clear corporate values, active dialogue and engagement with affected external stakeholders, and robust internal controls. These include a Group-wide framework for environmental, social/human rights and governance risks, the ESG Risk Framework. This framework is used to identify and address sustainability risks across Swiss Re's business activities where information granularity is available and allows for a meaningful ESG risk assessment. It comprises sustainability-related policies – with pre-defined restrictions, underwriting criteria and quality standards – as well as a central due diligence process for related transactional risks.

Sustainability risks are monitored and managed by dedicated Swiss Re experts who are also responsible for maintaining the ESG Risk Framework. In addition, this unit supports Swiss Re's management and business strategy through tailored risk assessments and risk portfolio reviews. It fosters risk awareness through internal training and facilitates development of innovative solutions to address sustainability issues. Finally, it represents and advocates Swiss Re's position on selected sustainability risk topics to external stakeholders.

 For more information on the ESG Framework and Swiss Re's sustainability practices in general, see the 2023 Sustainability Report.

### Strategic risk

Overall responsibility for managing strategic risk lies with the Group Board, which establishes Swiss Re's overall strategy. The Boards of legal entities are responsible for the strategic risk inherent in their specific strategy development and execution. Strategic risks are addressed by examining multi-year scenarios, considering the related risks, as well as monitoring the implementation of the chosen strategy year by year in terms of the annual business plan.

As part of their independent oversight role, Risk Management, Compliance and Group Internal Audit are responsible for controlling the risk-taking arising from the implementation of the strategy.

### Emerging risk

Anticipating possible developments in the risk landscape is a central element of Enterprise Risk Management. Swiss Re promotes pre-emptive thinking on risk in all areas of the business in order to reduce uncertainty and diminish the volatility of the Group's results, while also identifying new business opportunities and raising awareness for emerging risks.

For this purpose, Swiss Re's risk identification processes are supported by a systematic framework that identifies, assesses and monitors emerging risks and opportunities across all areas of Swiss Re's risk landscape. This framework combines a bottom-up approach driven by employee input with regional and product-specific expertise on emerging risk. The resulting information is complemented with insights from external organisations such as think tanks, academic networks and international organisations, as well as from interaction with clients.

Findings, including a prioritised overview of newly identified emerging risks and an estimate of their potential impact on Swiss Re's business, are reported to senior management, the respective business steering functions and other internal stakeholders.

Swiss Re also publishes an annual emerging risk report (Swiss Re SONAR) to raise awareness within the Group and across the industry, and initiate a risk dialogue with key external stakeholders. To advance risk awareness across the industry and beyond, Swiss Re maintains regular exchanges on emerging risks with its clients and continues to participate actively in strategic risk initiatives such as the CRO Forum's Emerging Risk Initiative and the International Risk Governance Council.

The following emerging risks are deemed particularly important for Swiss Re's business:

#### Digitalisation risks

Digitalisation continues to reshape markets. Across industries and organisations, artificial intelligence (AI) and other ground-breaking digital applications are being adopted at astonishing speed and ever-growing range. The digital transformation is revolutionising value creation and brings many new opportunities for the insurance industry and its clients. However, it also opens up new vulnerabilities and risks for them.

#### *Potential business impact*

Intangible assets, such as digital data, constitute a growing share of economic value. For companies, including for Swiss Re, digital applications open up new, fast and cost-efficient avenues in areas such as client interaction and analytics. Being innovative by nature, all these new services also come with challenges in terms of investment, skills, strategy, acceptance etc. For example, the current rise of generative AI tests insurance operations in terms of data use, intellectual property or cyber security. Emerging risks from digitalisation can also impact claims and loss trends in underwriting portfolios.

#### *Mitigation measures*

Swiss Re monitors, assesses and implements digital technology developments through dedicated R&D and risk management functions. New digital applications and data services are run through a digital governance framework, which defines processes, responsibilities and tools to evaluate and mitigate risks for technology and data-driven solutions across the organisation. Swiss Re Institute researches and publishes on digitalisation and its risks regularly. Swiss Re constantly translates its digital competence and risk insights into services and offerings for its clients.

#### *Global supply chain risk*

Markets, industrial production and trade rely on globalised supply chains. Disruptions have become more likely, with higher and longer business impacts due to increased interdependencies and economic pressure. Risk factors such as extreme weather events, critical waterway blockages, geopolitical conflicts, terrorism and pandemic lockdowns can cause huge delays and accumulate with cascading effects.

#### *Potential business impact*

Due to the interdependence of industries, economies and services, supply chain risk can have an impact on business interruption covers, but may also potentially affect – directly or indirectly – a wide range of insurance business and an insurer's operations.

#### *Mitigation measures*

Swiss Re offers clients (insurers and corporates) bespoke supply chain risk data and modelling that can show interdependencies and risk propagation, and quantify impacts for hazardous events throughout a network. Through Risk Data Services (RDS), Corporate Solutions offers corporate clients bespoke risk insights, enabling assessments, mitigation strategies and options to improve supply chain resilience.

#### *Widening protection gaps*

Globally widening protection gaps in natural catastrophe, crop, mortality or health insurance are particularly prominent in emerging markets. Their growing populations are vulnerable to the environmental impact of climate change but large parts of these populations do not have access to – or the means to pay for – traditional risk transfer solutions.

#### *Potential business impact*

Protection gaps reflect market potentials or untapped opportunities for insurers and reinsurers to provide financial resilience. It is thus a key business focus for Swiss Re to understand the reasons for these gaps and find ways to mitigate the resulting risk exposures.

#### *Mitigation measures*

Swiss Re's Public Sector Solutions team works with governments and other stakeholders to build public-private partnerships. Together, they develop innovative solutions, such as parametric insurance, to mitigate increasing natural catastrophe exposures and other threats for largely unprotected populations.



For more information about emerging risk, see the Swiss Re SONAR report.

# Cautionary note on forward-looking statements

Certain statements and illustrations contained herein are forward-looking. These statements (including as to plans, objectives, targets, and trends) and illustrations provide current expectations of future events based on certain assumptions and include any statement that does not directly relate to a historical fact or current fact.

Forward-looking statements typically are identified by words or phrases such as “anticipate”, “target”, “aim”, “assume”, “believe”, “continue”, “estimate”, “expect”, “foresee”, “intend” and similar expressions, or by future or conditional verbs such as “will”, “may”, “should”, “would” and “could”. These forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors, which may cause Swiss Re’s (the “Group”) actual results of operations, financial condition, solvency ratios, capital or liquidity positions or prospects to be materially different from any future results of operations, financial condition, solvency ratios, capital or liquidity positions or prospects expressed or implied by such statements or cause the Group to not achieve its published targets. Such factors include, among others:

- macro-economic events or developments including inflation rates, increased volatility of, and/or disruption in, global capital, credit, foreign exchange and other markets and their impact on the respective prices, interest and exchange rates and other benchmarks of such markets;
- elevated geopolitical risks or tensions which may consist of conflicts arising in and between, or otherwise impacting, countries that are operationally and/or financially material to the Group or significant elections that may result in domestic and/or regional political tensions as well as contributing to or causing macro-economic events or developments as described above;
- the frequency, severity and development of, and losses associated with, insured claim events, particularly natural catastrophes, human-made disasters, pandemics, social inflation litigation, acts of terrorism or acts of war, including the ongoing war in Ukraine as well as conflicts in the Middle East, and any associated governmental and other measures such as sanctions, expropriations and seizures of assets as well as the economic consequences of the foregoing;
- the Group’s adherence to standards related to environmental, social and governance (“ESG”), sustainability and corporate social responsibility (“CSR”) matters and ability to fully achieve goals, targets, ambitions or stakeholder expectations related to such matters;
- the Group’s ability to achieve its strategic objectives;
- legal actions or regulatory investigations or actions, including in respect of industry requirements or business conduct rules of general applicability, the intensity and frequency of which may also increase as a result of social inflation;
- central bank intervention in the financial markets, trade wars or other protectionist measures relating to international trade arrangements, adverse geopolitical events, domestic political upheavals or other developments that adversely impact global economic conditions;

- mortality, morbidity and longevity experience;
- the cyclicity of the reinsurance sector;
- the Group's ability to maintain sufficient liquidity and access to capital markets, including sufficient liquidity to cover potential recapture of reinsurance agreements, early calls of debt or debt-like arrangements and collateral calls due to actual or perceived deterioration of the Group's financial strength or otherwise;
- the Group's inability to realise amounts on sales of securities on the Group's balance sheet equivalent to their values recorded for accounting purposes;
- the Group's inability to generate sufficient investment income from its investment portfolio, including as a result of fluctuations in the equity and fixed income markets, the composition of the investment portfolio or otherwise;
- changes in legislation and regulation or the interpretations thereof by regulators and courts, affecting the Group or its ceding companies, including as a result of comprehensive reform or shifts away from multilateral approaches to regulation of global operations;
- matters negatively affecting the reputation of the Group, its board of directors or its management;
- the lowering, loss or giving up of one of the financial strength or other ratings of one or more companies in the Group, and developments adversely affecting its ability to achieve improved ratings;
- uncertainties in estimating reserves, including differences between actual claims experience and underwriting and reserving assumptions, including in Life & Health and in Property & Casualty Reinsurance due to higher costs caused by pandemic-related or inflation and supply chain issues;
- changes in our policy renewal and lapse rates and their impact on the Group's business;
- the outcome of tax audits, the ability to realise tax loss carryforwards and the ability to realise deferred tax assets (including by reason of the mix of earnings in a jurisdiction or deemed change of control), which could negatively impact future earnings, and the overall impact of changes in tax regimes on the Group's business model;
- changes in accounting estimates or assumptions that affect reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues or expenses, including contingent assets and liabilities as well as changes in accounting standards, practices or policies, including the Group's decision to transition from US GAAP to IFRS beginning 1 January 2024;
- strengthening or weakening of foreign currencies;
- reforms of, or other potential changes to, benchmark reference rates;
- failure of the Group's hedging arrangements to be effective;
- significant investments, acquisitions or dispositions, and any delays, unforeseen liabilities or other costs, lower-than-expected benefits, impairments, ratings action or other issues experienced in connection with any such transactions;
- extraordinary events affecting the Group's clients and other counterparties, such as bankruptcies, liquidations and other credit-related events;
- changing levels of competition in the markets and geographies in which the Group competes;
- the effects of business disruption due to terrorist attacks, cyberattacks, natural catastrophes, public health emergencies, hostilities or other events;
- limitations on the ability of the Group's subsidiaries to pay dividends or make other distributions; and
- operational factors, including the efficacy of risk management or the transition to IFRS as well as other internal procedures in anticipating and managing the foregoing risks.

These factors are not exhaustive. The Group operates in a continually changing environment and new risks emerge continually. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on forward-looking statements. The Group undertakes no obligation to publicly revise or update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

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Design:  
Swiss Re Corporate Real Estate & Services/  
Media Services, Zurich

The web version of the  
Annual Report 2023 is available at:  
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