

Sirio NPL S.r.l.

Italian Non-Performing Loan ABS



Ratings

Tranche	Rating	Size (EUR m)	% of GBV	% of notes	Coupon	Final maturity
Class A	BBB _{SF}	290.0	23.6%	86.6%	6m Euribor + 0.5%	Sept 2038
Class B	NR	35.0	2.9%	10.5%	6m Euribor + 9.5%	Sept 2038
Class J	NR	9.8	0.8%	2.9%	6m Euribor + 15% + Variable return	Sept 2038
Total		334.8				

Scope's quantitative analysis is based on the portfolio provided by the originators. Scope's Structured Finance Ratings constitute an opinion about relative credit risks and reflect the expected loss associated with the payments contractually promised by an instrument on a particular payment date or by its legal maturity. See Scope's website for the [SF Rating Definitions](#).

Transaction details

Transaction type	Static cash securitisation
Asset class	Non-performing loans ('NPLs')
Issue date	16 December 2020
Issuer	Sirio NPL S.r.l.
Originator and seller	Unione di Banche Italiane S.p.A. ('UBI')
Master and special servicer	Prelios Credit Servicing S.p.A. ('PRECS')
Gross-book value ('GBV')	EUR 1,228m
Portfolio cut-off date	31 December 2019
Transfer Date	4 December 2020
Key portfolio characteristics	The securitised pool is composed of senior secured (53.7%), unsecured (38.7%) and junior secured loans (7.6%). Borrowers are mainly corporates (93.0%). Secured loans are backed by residential and non-residential properties (35.3% and 64.7% of the total first-lien property value, respectively) that are concentrated in the north of Italy (51.6%) followed by central (25.2%), and southern (23.2%) regions. The issuer is entitled to all portfolio collections received since the portfolio cut-off date.
Payment frequency	Semi-annual (March and September)
Key structural features	The notes have been structured in accordance with requirements of the GACS scheme, updated in 2019. The transaction structure comprises three tranches of sequential, principal-amortising notes, an amortising liquidity reserve equal to 4% of the class A outstanding balance, and an interest rate cap spread agreement on the class A notes.
Hedging provider	Banco Santander S.A.
Other key counterparties	UBI (account bank and limited recourse loan provider) Bank of New York Mellon SA/NV, Milan Branch (agent bank and paying agent) Banca Finanziaria Internazionale S.p.A. (back-up master servicer, corporate servicer, calculation agent, noteholders' representative, monitoring agent)

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Related Research

[Italian NPL collections plateauing 10%-15% below pre-Covid levels \(January 2021\)](#)

[Italian NPL ABS: October collections show weaker than expected recovery \(December 2020\)](#)

[68% of Italian NPL securitisations set to underperform by Q1 2021 \(December 2020\)](#)

[New lockdown will trigger a plunge in Italian NPL ABS collections \(November 2020\)](#)

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Rating rationale (summary)

The rating is primarily driven by the expected recovery amounts and timing of collections from the NPL portfolio. The recovery amounts and timing assumptions consider the portfolio's characteristics as well as our economic outlook for Italy and the assessment of the special servicer's capabilities. The rating is supported by the structural protection provided to the notes, the absence of equity leakage provisions, the liquidity protection provided by the cash reserve, and the interest rate hedging agreement. The rating also addresses exposures to the key transaction counterparties.

We performed a specific analysis for recoveries, using different approaches for secured and unsecured exposures. For senior secured exposures, collections were mainly based on the most recent property appraisal values, which were stressed to account for, appraisal type, liquidity, and market value risks. Recovery timing assumptions were derived using line-by-line asset information detailing the type of legal proceeding, the court issuing the legal proceeding, and the stage of the proceeding as of the cut-off date. For unsecured and junior secured exposures, we used historical line-by-line market-wide recovery data on defaulted loans between 2000 and 2019 and considered the special servicer's capabilities when calibrating lifetime recoveries. We also analysed historical data provided by the servicer. We accounted for the current macro-economic scenario, taking a forward-looking view on the macro-economic developments.

Rating drivers and mitigants

Positive rating drivers

Structural protection. Class A noteholders are mainly protected by the subordination of class B principal and junior notes liabilities. Class B interest payments will be fully deferred if the servicer fails to meet at least 90% of business plan targets regarding cumulative collections or profits on closed positions. In addition, up to 30% of the special servicer's performance fees will be deferred subject to certain underperformance events.

Interest rate risk hedged. Interest rate risk on the class A notes is mitigated through a cap spread hedging structure, with an increasing upper bound rate applied to class A base rate, ranging from 0.6% to 3.75%, and an increasing lower bound rate ranging from 0% to 0.8%. In addition, a cap is embedded in the class A Euribor component, aligned with the upper bound rate of the cap spread. The cap spread notional schedule is above our expected amortisation profile of class A notes.

High volume of collections since cut-off date. Collections received since portfolio cut-off date amount to EUR 40m, which represents around 10% of Scope's expected lifetime collections, and they will be part of the issuer's available proceeds at the first payment date. These collections will not be considered for the calculation of the servicing fees.

Upside rating-change drivers

Rapid economic growth following the pandemic crisis. A scenario of rapid economic recovery would improve liquidity and affordability conditions and would prevent a sharp deterioration of collateral values. This could positively affect the rating, enhancing servicer performance on collection volumes.

Servicer outperformance on recovery timing. The pandemic led to a slowdown of the courts' activity. An outperformance on recovery timing could occur if courts advance on legal proceedings backlogs faster than expected.

Negative rating drivers and mitigants

Property type. The residential component of the portfolio (35.3% of total first-lien properties' valuation) is relatively low compared to peer transactions rated by Scope. The share of land and properties classified as 'other' is high compared to peer transactions (overall 24.8% of first-lien property valuations). This type of real estate assets may have high price volatility upon liquidation.

Material portion of legal proceedings in initial stages. Around 65.2% of the secured loans are in the initial legal phase or are yet to have proceedings initiated. This results in a longer expected time for collections than for loans in more advanced phases.

Pool contains loans with incomplete documentation. Contractual documentation is missing for a portion of the portfolio (around 9% of total GBV). This could cause a reduction of the recoveries or a delay in the recovery. Scope has considered this feature in its analysis by applying a further stress on the recovery amount and timing.

Downside rating-change drivers

Long lasting pandemic crisis. Recovery rates are generally highly dependent on the macroeconomic climate. Our baseline scenario foresees a 9.6% gross domestic product contraction in 2020 before rebounding with growth of 5.6% in 2021. If current crisis will last beyond our baseline scenario, liquidity conditions could deteriorate, reducing servicer performance on collection volumes. This could negatively impact the rating.

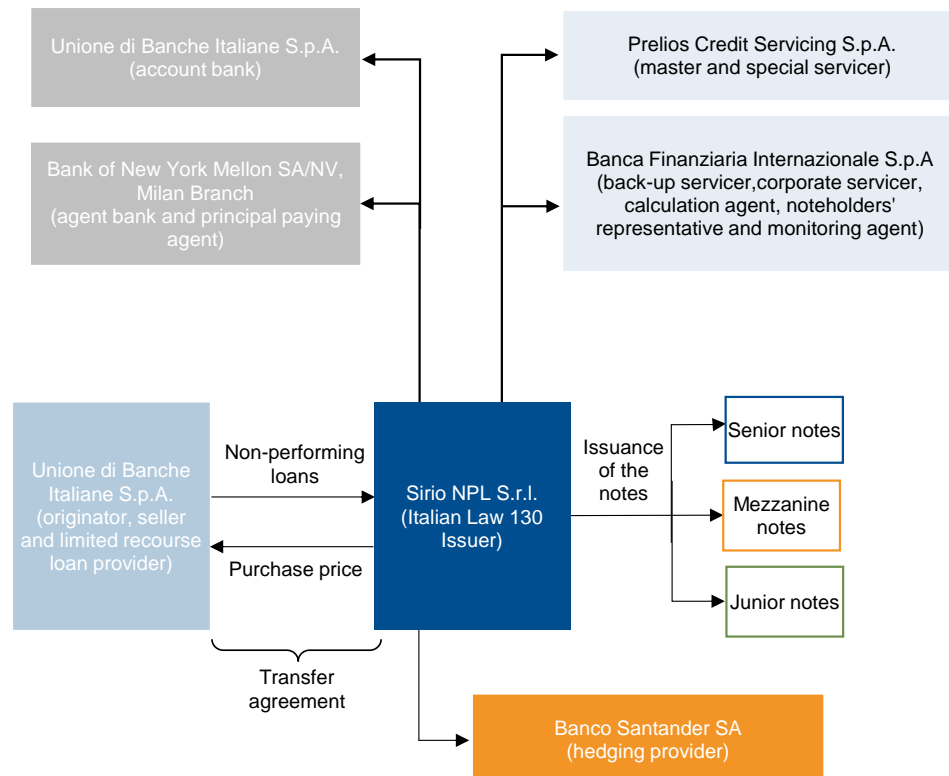
Servicer underperformance on recovery timing. Servicer performance below our base case collection timing assumptions could negatively impact the ratings.

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1. Transaction diagram

Figure 1: Transaction diagram



Sources: transaction documents, Scope Ratings.

2. Macroeconomic environment

Low economic growth poses significant challenges to NPL recovery expectations

The current significant cyclical downturn and low nominal growth expectations pose challenges for secured and unsecured NPL portfolio recoveries, as weak macroeconomic conditions may curtail demand for real estate assets as well as for workout options on unsecured business and personal loans.

Supported by growth-enhancing fiscal stimulus to address the economic and public-health consequences of this crisis, alongside accommodative borrowing and investment conditions anchored by the extraordinary interventions of the ECB, our estimate of the Italian economy's medium-run growth potential is a weak 0.7%, which compares with pre-crisis output growth that averaged 0.2% over 2010-19.

The ECB's monetary policy response and the EU Recovery Fund of EUR 750bn over 2021-26 have anchored Italy's access to capital markets at record-low rates and enabled a significant fiscal response by the Italian government to the current crisis. In 2020, Italian authorities executed meaningful budget stimulus of around 6% of GDP. The government's latest budgetary plans contained in the Documento di Economia e Finanza envisage discretionary measures in 2021 amounting to a fiscal expansion of 1.4% of GDP, including monies for southern Italian regions and support for businesses.

Under our baseline scenario, we foresee the Italian economy contracting by 9.6% in 2020 but rebounding with growth of 5.6% in 2021. This scenario assumes a firmer foothold for the recovery by the spring of 2021 after an easing of the anticipated double-dip contraction in Q4 amid a gradual re-opening of the economy. Even so, recovery in 2021 will remain uneven and subject to setbacks in the short term.

We expect GDP growth to rebound to 5.6% in 2021 after contracting by 9.6% in 2020

There are both upside and downside risks to these baseline projections for 2021. Under a stressed scenario of a full renewed lockdown by Q1 2021, we estimate a further contraction of GDP next year of 0.7%.

In addition, the prolonged crisis and loss of investment may have attenuated Italy's growth potential. Longer-term plans for reform face challenges, moreover, including from policy implementation and structural increases in public debt ratios – which restrict available fiscal space.

Italy's public debt ratio has steadily increased across multiple business cycles, from 104% of GDP at end-2001, to 135% by end-2019 and around 160% in 2020 under our baseline expectations. As we move ahead in this decade, additional shocks with potential adverse impacts on debt trajectory remain likely.

3. Special servicer review

3.1. Introduction

We conducted an operational review on the special servicer, PRECS. In Scope's view the special servicer's capabilities and processes to manage the securitised portfolio are adequate.

Our assessment of the special servicer's capabilities addresses, among other aspects, its corporate structure, business processes, collateral appraisal procedures, servicing IT systems, business discontinuity risks and transaction-specific aspects such as portfolio onboarding, asset manager allocation and asset disposal strategies (i.e., business plan). This assessment was considered when deriving our recovery rate and recovery timing assumptions for both unsecured and secured positions.

In addition, we conducted a virtual property tour on a small sample of properties from the securitised portfolio. This is part of our assessment of portfolio collateral valuations and secured recovery expectations, captured through our haircuts based on property and appraisal types.

3.2. Corporate overview

PRECS (part of Prelios Group) is a leading Italian player in the credit servicing sector, managing more than EUR 30bn GBV of assets under management ('AUM'), as of December 2019. AUM include both NPLs and unlikely to pay ('UTP') loans, representing, respectively, around two-thirds and one third of total AUM. Additionally, PRECS is servicing around 60% of public securitisations with a GACS guarantee since its introduction in 2016.

Prelios Group is fully owned by funds managed by Davidson Kempner Capital Management LP, and along with PRECS, the group comprises other companies active in the credit fund and asset management (Prelios SGR), property management (Prelios Integra), property valuations (Prelios Valuations) and brokerage & agency (Prelios Agency) sectors.

3.3. Servicing model

Servicing activities rely on proprietary bespoke tools for NPL (Phoenix platform) and UTP (Pegaso platform) management activities that support loan managers for the entire life of the recovery process, from the underwriting to the closing phase. Total staff dedicated to servicing activities includes 120 internal loan managers, 150 external loan managers and an external network of around 400 lawyers and around 450 real estate agents. Within the proprietary platforms, the servicer is also able to monitor collections performance, the status of the legal proceedings and assess future projections.

Portfolio recovery assumptions factor in our assessment of the special servicer's capabilities

PRECS is the leading special servicer in Italy by number of GACS securitisation under management

Loan managers are organised in work-out units, each of them dedicated to a specific portfolio and organised by loan type and ticket size. Each work-out unit is supervised by a team leader, a senior employee that coordinates loan managers and monitors their performance. Around 300 positions can be allocated to each loan manager and their activity is supported by external lawyers as far as concern judicial processes and real estate consultant regarding auction sales and voluntary disposal of real estate guarantees.

After data acquisition and portfolio allocation, the loan manager defines the most suitable resolution strategy based on specific loan and borrower characteristics. First, the loan manager will attempt to reach an out-of-court solution with the borrower. The servicer will start a judicial procedure if an agreement with the borrower is not reached and if economically convenient. However, the loan manager will continue to pursue an out-of-court solution during the judicial process. Other recovery strategies adopted by the loan managers comprise credit sales, repayment plans, voluntary real estate disposals and discounted pay-offs.

4. Portfolio characteristics

4.1. Representations and warranties

The representations and warranties on the receivables provided by the originators are generally aligned with market standards, with some exceptions. Relevant representations are the following:

- All loans are denominated in euros and governed by Italian law.
- All receivables are valid for transfer without any limitations and free encumbrances and enforceable to the extent of their GBV.
- Borrowers have been reported by the originator as defaulted by the Credit Bureau of the Bank of Italy as of the transfer date.
- To the knowledge of each originator, all real estate assets are located in Italy and are existing.
- As of the cut-off date, individual borrowers were resident in Italy and corporate borrowers have their registered office in Italy (with a 5% tolerance level).
- To the knowledge of the originator, borrowers are not employees, managers or directors of the originators.

The following standard representations and warranties have not been included:

- Bankruptcy proceedings related to bankrupt debtors are ongoing as of the cut-off date.
- All information provided in the transaction's data tape is true, complete and accurate (only some fields have been covered by the representation).

4.2. Loans with incomplete documentation

The originator has represented that, as of the cut-off date, for a portion of the portfolio the original loan contract and/or the letter of default are missing (around 9% of the total GBV).

There could be a delay on the recovery process of those receivables for which the original loan contract is missing as the court would require a certified copy of the original contract before activating any judicial procedures. We have considered this feature in our analysis by applying a three-months stress to the recovery timing assumption.

Representations and warranties are standard with some exceptions

For those loans for which the letter of default is not available, the servicer will not be able to start the judicial recovery procedure. Therefore, it will either pursue an out-of-court recovery strategy or join a judicial recovery procedure started by other parties. We assumed no collections will be received from these loans.

4.3. Key portfolio stratifications

Figure 2 provides a high-level view on portfolio characteristics as of the cut-off date. Detailed loan-level portfolio stratifications are provided in Figures 3-12 and in Appendix I.

Figure 2: Portfolio summary

	All	Senior secured	Junior secured	Unsecured
Number of loans	22,471	3,023	1,004	18,444
Number of borrowers	14,313			
Gross book value (EUR m)	1,228.1	659.1	93.5	475.5
% of gross book value		53.7%	7.6%	38.7%
Cash in court (% of GBV)	1.4%			
Collections since cut-off date (% of GBV)	3.3%			
Weighted average seasoning (years)	3.4	3.3	3.8	3.5
Collateral values (EUR m)		965.4	326.0	

Sources: transaction data tape, calculations by Scope Ratings

We adjusted the pool's gross book value using information on collections and sold properties since the cut-off date. The analysis excluded portfolio's loans, which we assumed to be closed, based on collections already received (EUR 40.0m) and estimated cash-in-court (EUR 16.9m relative to first-lien property value).

These adjustments reduced the portfolio's gross book value from EUR 1,228m to EUR 1,073m. Collections received since the cut-off date will be part of the issuer's available proceeds at the first payment date. We assumed cash-in-court would be received within three years after the closing date.

Our analysis is performed on a loan-by-loan level, considering all information provided to us in the context of the transaction as well as publicly available information. Loans are defined as 'senior secured' if they are guaranteed by first-lien mortgages, 'junior secured' if they are guaranteed by second or lower-lien mortgages, 'unsecured' otherwise. Unless otherwise stated, unsecured loans include junior secured loans.

Stratification data reported below reflect our aggregation by loans and may be based on conservative mapping assumptions applied to address missing data.

Figure 3: Distribution by borrower type (% of GBV)

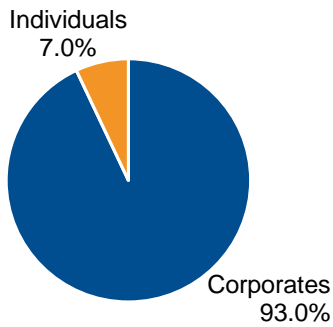


Figure 4: Distribution by loan type (% of GBV)

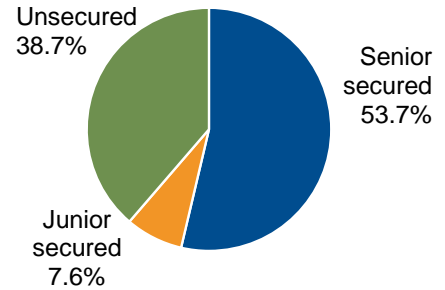


Figure 5: Distribution by recovery procedure (% of GBV)



Figure 6: Distribution by recovery stage (secured loans, % of GBV)

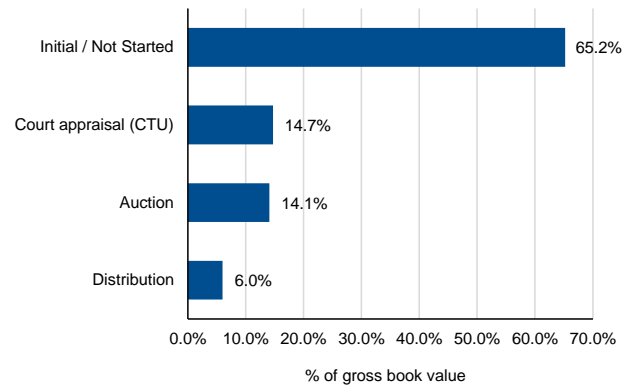


Figure 7: Distribution by court bucket (% of GBV)

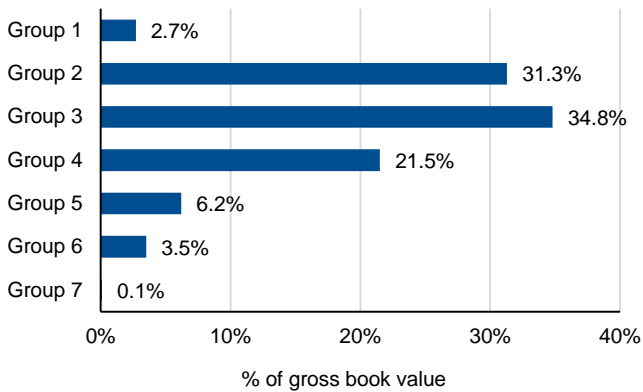


Figure 8: Unsecured and junior secured seasoning (% of GBV)

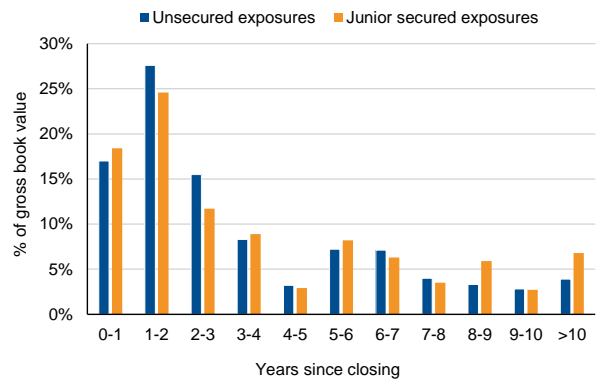


Figure 9: Distribution by collateral type (% of collateral)

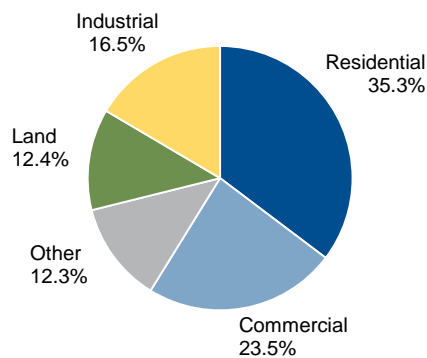


Figure 10: Distribution by valuation type (% of collateral)

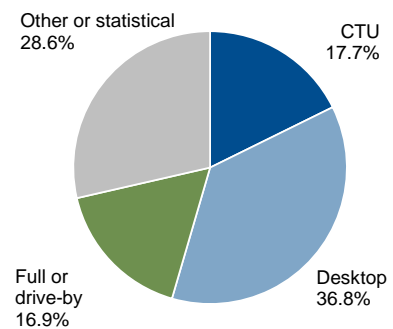


Figure 11: Distribution by collateral location (% of collateral)

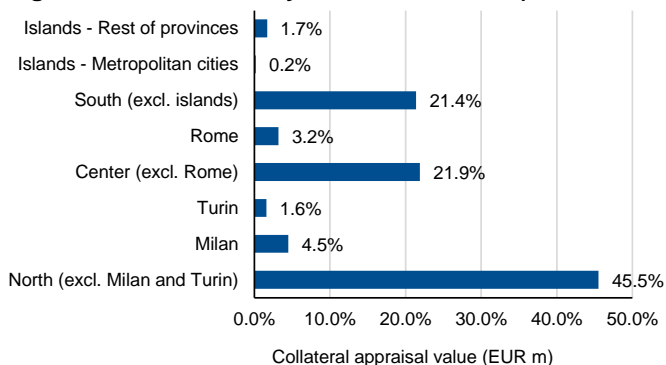
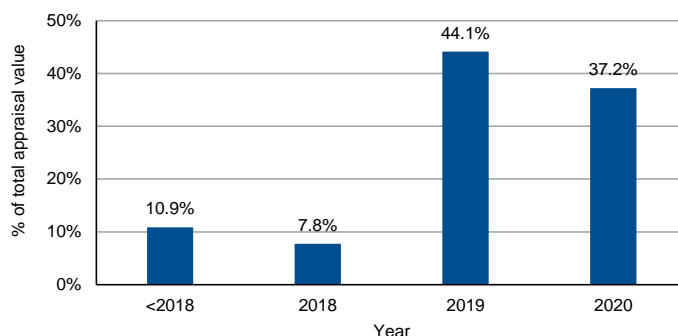


Figure 12: Distribution by valuation date (% of collateral)



Sources: transaction data tape, calculations by Scope Ratings

5. Portfolio analysis

Under our NPL ABS rating methodology, we test the resilience of a rated instrument against deterministic, rating-conditional stresses. We apply higher stresses as the instrument's rating becomes higher. Figure 5 summarises the stressed recovery rate assumptions applied for the analysis of the class A.

Figure 13: Summary of assumptions

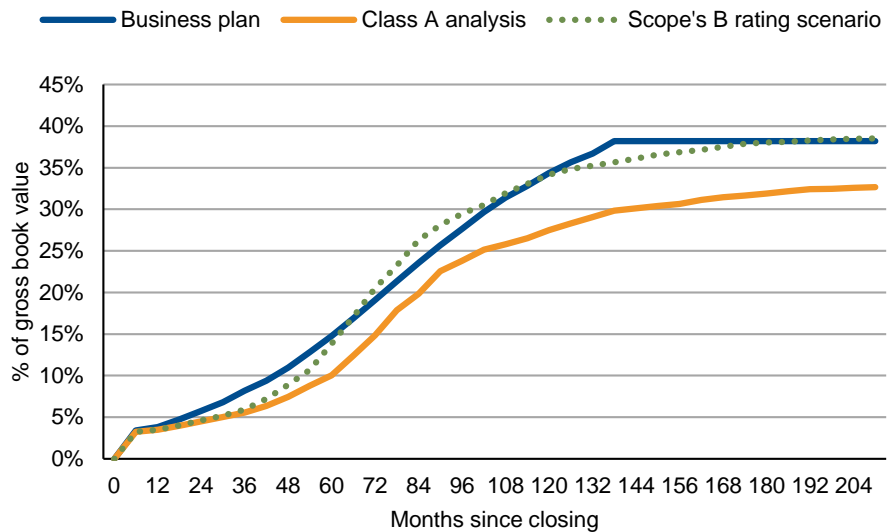
	Class A analysis
Secured recovery rate (% of secured GBV)	50.2
Unsecured recovery rate (% of unsecured GBV)	12.9
Total recovery rate (% of total GBV)	32.9
Secured collections weighted average life (years)	7.6
Unsecured collections weighted average life (years)	4.3
Total collections weighted average life (WAL)	6.8

Sources: Scope Ratings

Stressed class A recovery rate assumptions are about 14% below business plan target

Figure 14 compares our lifetime gross collections and recovery timing assumptions for the entire portfolio with the servicer business plan. These assumptions are derived by blending secured and unsecured recovery expectations. Our assumptions on the recovery rate for class A is about 14% below business plan target and involve a longer period (WAL of 6.8 years for the class A analysis vs. WAL of about 6 years from the business plan).

Figure 14: Business plan's gross cumulative recoveries vs. Scope's assumptions



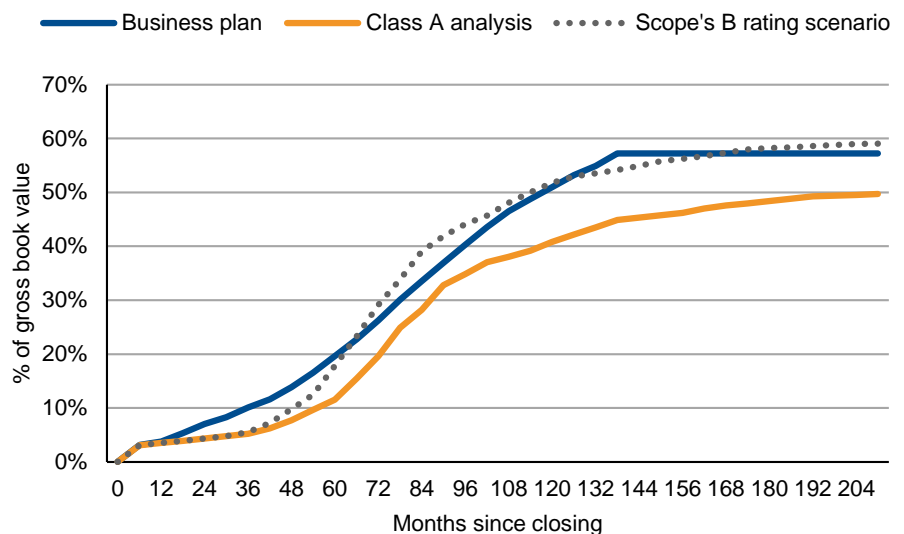
Sources: Servicer business plan, Scope Ratings

Valuation haircuts address forward-looking market value and liquidity risks

5.1. Analysis of secured portfolio segment

Figure 15 shows our lifetime gross collections vectors for the secured segment compared to those from the servicer's business plan. Our analytical approach consists of estimating the security's current value based on property appraisals and then applying security-value haircuts to capture forward-looking market value and liquidity risks. Recovery timing assumptions are mainly determined by the efficiency of the assigned court (based on historical data on the length of the proceedings), the type and stage of legal proceeding. Our analysis also considers concentration risk and the servicer's business plan.

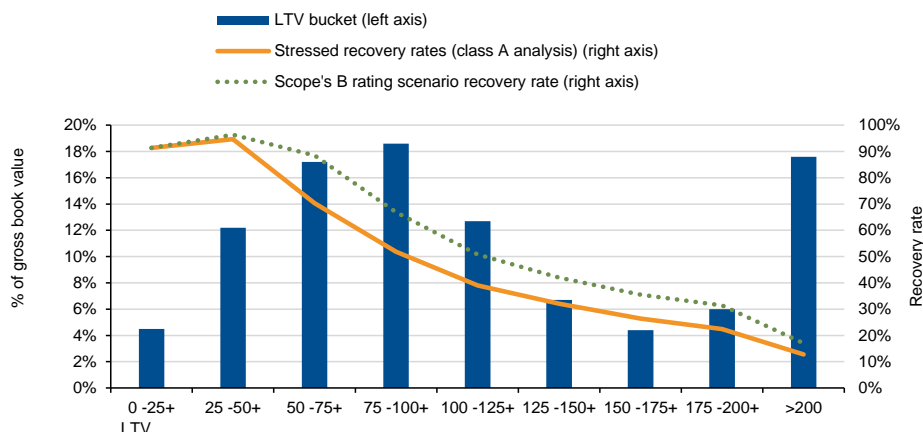
Figure 15: Business plan's gross cumulative recoveries for secured loans vs. Scope's assumptions



Sources: Servicer business plan, Scope Ratings

Figure 16 shows the secured loans' distribution by loan-to-value (LTV) bucket as well as our recovery rate assumptions for each LTV bucket, under our rating-conditional stresses applied for the class A and the base case scenario (B rating scenario)

Figure 16: Secured loans' distribution by LTV and Scope's expected secured recoveries



Sources: transaction data tape, calculation by Scope Ratings

Appraisal type haircuts range between 0% and 20%

5.1.1. Valuations analysis

We applied rating-conditional haircuts ranging from 0% to 20%, reflecting our view of the level of quality and accuracy of each valuation type: full or drive-by valuations are generally more accurate than desktop or CTU valuations.

Figure 17: Scope's transaction-specific valuation haircuts

Valuation type	% of collateral value	Class A analysis haircut
Full or drive-by	16.9%	-
Desktop	36.8%	5%
CTU	17.7%	10%
Other or statistical	28.6%	10% - 20%

Sources: Transaction data tape; calculations and/or assumptions by Scope Ratings

5.1.2. Property market value assumptions

Figure 18 details our assumptions about property price changes over the transaction's life commensurate with class A rating. These assumptions are i) specific to the transaction and to the geographical area; ii) based on an analysis of historical property price volatility; and iii) based on fundamental metrics relating to property affordability, property profitability, private sector indebtedness, the credit cycle, population dynamics and long-term macroeconomic performance.

Figure 18: Scope's transaction-specific price change assumptions

Region	North						Centre			South			Islands	
	Milan	Turin	Genoa	Bologna	Venice	Others	Rome	Florence	Others	Naples	Bari	Others	Metropolitan cities	Rest of provinces
Class A analysis	-13%	-11%	-11%	-11%	-13%	-13%	-17%	-15%	-15%	-13%	-13%	-15%	-13%	-15%
Portfolio distribution (%)	4.5	1.6	0.9	0.4	0.0	44.2	3.2	0.1	21.8	2.1	0.7	18.6	0.2	1.7

Sources: Transaction data tape; calculations and/or assumptions by Scope Ratings

Property type haircuts range between 40% and 50%

5.1.3. Collateral liquidity risk

Asset liquidity risk is captured through additional fire-sale haircuts applied to collateral valuations. Figure 19 shows the rating-conditional haircuts applied for the class A analysis. These assumptions are based on historical distressed property sales data (including those provided by the servicer) and reflect our view that non-residential properties tend to be less liquid, resulting in higher distressed-sale discounts.

Figure 19: Scope's transaction-specific fire-sale discount assumptions

Collateral type	% of collateral value	Class A analysis haircut
Residential	35.3%	40%
Non-residential	64.7%	45% - 50%

Sources: Transaction data tape; calculations and/or assumptions by Scope Ratings

5.1.4. Concentration risk

We addressed borrower concentration risk by applying a 10% rating-conditional recovery haircut to the 10 largest borrowers for the class A notes analysis. The largest 10 and 100 borrowers account for 7.8% and 30.3% of the portfolio's gross book value, respectively.

5.1.5. Residual claims after security enforcement

A secured creditor may initiate enforcement actions against a debtor if the sale proceeds of the mortgaged property are insufficient to repay the related outstanding debt. Secured creditors generally rank as unsecured creditors for amounts that have not been satisfied with the security's enforcement. The creditor's right to recover its claim arises with an enforceable title (i.e., a judgment or an agreement signed before a public notary).

Partial credit to residual claims after security enforcement for loans to individuals

Based on servicers' historical data, we gave credit to residual claims on 10% of the loans to individuals. Recovery strategies do not typically focus on collecting residual claims, as the relevant costs may be higher than the potential proceeds. On the other hand, residual claims can be enforced in a profitable way for some individual borrowers, as the elapsed time after a default may have a positive impact. An individual may, for example, find new sources of income over time and become solvent again. Therefore, the servicer may opt to maximise recoveries when it is cost-efficient to do so, even after the security has been enforced. For corporate loans, we gave no credit to potential further recoveries on residual claims after the security has been enforced.

5.1.6. Tribunal efficiency

We applied line-by-line time-to-recovery assumptions considering the court in charge of the proceedings, the type of legal proceeding (i.e., bankruptcy or non-bankruptcy), and the current stage of the proceeding.

Courts concentrated within group 2 and 3, with below average court timing

The total length of the recovery processes is mainly determined by the efficiency of the assigned court and the type of legal proceeding. To reflect this, we grouped Italian courts into seven categories, based on public data on the average length of bankruptcy and foreclosure proceedings between 2015 and 2019 (Figure 20). We applied a rating-conditional timing stress for both bankruptcy and non-bankruptcy procedures: 3.3 years and 1.6 year were respectively added to the total legal procedures' length for the class A analysis.

Figure 20: Total length of the recovery process by court group in years

Court group	Bankruptcy proceedings	Non-bankruptcy proceedings	Percentage of courts*
1	4	2	2.7%
2	6	3	31.3%
3	8	4	34.8%
4	10	5	21.5%
5	12	6	6.2%
6	14	7	3.5%
7	18	9	0.1%

* Percentages incorporate our assumptions with reference to courts not included in available information.

5.2. Analysis of unsecured portfolio segment

Unsecured portfolio analysis is based on statistical data

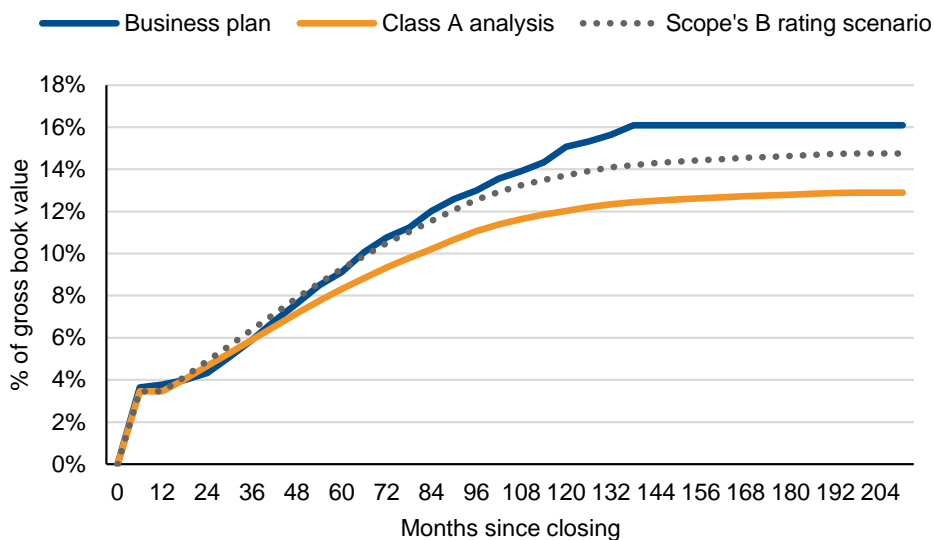
Our unsecured recovery assumptions are primarily based on market-wide historical data on unsecured recovery rates. We also considered servicer-specific historical recovery data, as well as our view on the quality of the servicer’s recovery procedures.

Transaction-specific assumptions reflect the key characteristics of the unsecured portfolio segment, such as debtor types (i.e., individual or corporate) and the type of recovery procedure. For instance, bankruptcy proceedings are generally slower and typically result in lower recoveries than non-bankruptcy proceedings.

Ageing of the unsecured portfolio drives recoveries

Finally, transaction-specific assumptions are re-calibrated to reflect the ageing of the unsecured portfolio segment, as we consider aged unsecured NPLs to have a lower likelihood of recovery. The unsecured loans in the portfolio (including also junior secured loans) are classified as defaulted for a weighted average of 3.5 years, which is below average to transaction peer levels.

Figure 21: Servicer’s unsecured¹ recoveries vs. Scope’s assumptions



Sources: Servicer’s business plan, Scope Ratings

¹ The comparison considers unsecured and junior secured loans as per servicer’s business plan.

Non-timely payment of class A interest would trigger accelerated waterfall

6. Key structural features

The structure comprises three classes of notes with fully sequential principal amortisation: senior class A, mezzanine class B, and junior class J.

Class A will pay a floating rate indexed to six-month Euribor plus a margin of 0.5%. Class B will pay a floating rate indexed to six-month Euribor plus a margin of 9.5%. The Class B interest (and a portion of the special servicer fees) are subordinated to class A principal payments if certain under-performance events are triggered.

The GACS guarantee ensures interest and principal are paid by the final maturity of the class A notes. Our rating on the class A notes does not consider the coverage of the GACS guarantee but considers its potential cost (i.e., GACS premium) if the guarantee is added to the structure.

Non-timely payment of interest on the senior notes (unless the GACS guarantee is in place), among other events such as the issuer's unlawfulness, would accelerate the repayment of class A through the full subordination of class B payments.

6.1. Combined priority of payments

The issuer's available funds (i.e., collection amounts received from the portfolio, the cash reserve, payments received under the interest rate cap agreement, insurance payments and indemnity payments from the originators) will be used in the following simplified order of priority:

Figure 22: Simplified priority of payments and available funds

Pre-enforcement priority of payments	
1)	Servicer expenses and senior servicer fees
2)	Limited-recourse loan interest
3)	GACS guarantee premium
4)	Class A interest
5)	Cash reserve replenishment
6)	Limited-recourse loan principal
7)	Class B interest ² (provided that no interest subordination event has occurred)
8)	Class A principal
9)	Class B interest (upon occurrence of the interest subordination event)
10)	Class B principal and servicer mezzanine fees (provided that a servicer underperformance event has occurred)
11)	Class J interest
12)	Class J principal and servicer junior fees (provided that a servicer underperformance event has occurred)
13)	Any residual amount as class J variable return

Source: Transaction documents and Scope Ratings

Class B interest subordination event is aligned with the updated requirements of the 2019 GACS Scheme

6.2. Interest subordination event

The occurrence of an interest subordination event results in class B interest being paid under item 9 of the waterfall above. An interest subordination event occurs if i) the cumulative net collection ratio³ ('CCR') falls below 90% of the servicer's business plan targets; ii) the NPV cumulative profitability ratio⁴ ('NPVPR') falls below 90%; or iii) any

² Euribor component, if positive, is paid under item 9 of the priority of payments

³ 'Cumulative net collection ratio' is defined as the ratio between: i) the cumulative net collections; and ii) the net expected cumulative collections. Net collections are calculated as the difference between gross collections and recovery expenses, excluding servicing fees.

⁴ 'NPV cumulative profitability ratio' is defined as the ratio between: i) the sum of the present value of the net collections for all receivables relating to exhausted debt relationships; and ii) the sum of the target price (based on the servicer's initial business plan) of all receivables relating to exhausted debt relationships.

amount of class A interest is unpaid.

An interest subordination event is curable, according to the following rules:

1. If, on a subsequent payment date, the CCR is between 90% and 100%, class B interest accruing on that payment date will be payable senior to the class A principal repayment. These mechanisms are aligned with the requirements of the 2019 updated GACS Scheme⁵.
2. If, on a subsequent payment date, the CCR returns to 100% or above, due and unpaid class B interest is paid senior to class A principal.

6.3. Servicing fee structure and alignment of interests

6.3.1. Servicing fees and servicer underperformance event

The servicing fee structure links the level of fees paid to the servicer with the portfolio's performance, mitigating potential conflicts of interest between the servicer and noteholders. The special servicer will be entitled to both an annual base fee and a performance fee.

The exact level of fees is subject to the GBV size and the type of recovery strategy (judicial vs. extra-judicial). Extra-judicial strategies and lower tickets generally bear higher performance fees relative to collection amounts. Considering the portfolio composition, we assumed an average performance fee of 3.7% and 7.5% (plus VAT) for secured and unsecured exposures, respectively.

The occurrence of a servicer underperformance event results in 5%-20% of the servicer performance fees being subordinated to class A principal payments, based on the level of underperformance. This portion is then paid under items 10 and 12 of the above simplified priority of payments, as mezzanine or junior servicing fees, respectively. A servicer underperformance event occurs either if the CCR or the NPVPR falls below a given threshold, as shown in Figure 23.

Figure 23: Servicing fee subordination mechanism

CCR lower than 85% or NPVPR lower than 80%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20.0% as servicer mezzanine fee • 10.0% as servicer junior fee
CCR lower than 90% or NPVPR lower than 85%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 17.5% as servicer mezzanine fee • 2.5% as servicer junior fee
CCR lower than 95% or NPVPR lower than 90%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5.0% as servicer mezzanine fee • 0.0% as servicer junior fee

An underperformance event is curable if on any subsequent payment date, both the CCR and the NPVPR return above 100%. As a consequence, all mezzanine and junior servicer fees accrued and subordinated in previous periods would be paid senior (item 1 of the above waterfall).

6.3.2. Servicer monitoring

An overview of the servicer's activities and calculations, prepared by the monitoring agent, mitigates operational risks and moral hazard that could negatively impact noteholder interests.

Servicing fee structures
reasonably align the interests of
the servicer and the noteholders

Monitoring function protects
noteholders' interests

⁵ Italian law decree No. 18 of 14 February 2016 converted into law No. 49 of 8 April 2016, subsequently amended and supplemented under Italian law decree No. 22 of 25 March 2019, converted into Italian law No. 41 of 20 May 2019.

The servicer is responsible for the servicing, administration, and collection of receivables as well as the management of legal proceedings. The monitoring agent will verify the calculations of key performance ratios and amounts payable by the issuer and check a random sample of loans.

The monitoring agent will report to a committee that represents the interests of both junior and mezzanine noteholders. The committee can authorise the revocation and replacement of the special servicer upon a servicer termination event. The monitoring agent can also authorise the sale of the receivables (acting upon instructions of the committee), the closure of debt positions, and the payment of additional costs and expenses related to recovery activities.

6.3.3. Special servicer termination events

In the event of a special servicer termination event, the monitoring agent will assist the issuer to find a suitable replacement for the special servicer.

A special servicer termination event includes i) insolvency; ii) an unremedied breach of obligations; iii) failure to pay any amount due to the issuer within two business days from the collections' reconciliation date; iv) an unremedied breach of representation and warranties; v) loss of legally eligibility to perform obligations under the servicing agreement; vi) after 30 months since closing, the occurrence of two consecutive underperformance event; and vii) following the enforcement of the GACS guarantee, if the cumulative net collection ratio has been lower than 100% for two consecutive collection dates.

6.4. Liquidity protection

A cash reserve will be funded at closing through a limited-recourse loan provided by UBI. The cash reserve target amount at each payment date will be equal to 4.0% of the total outstanding balance of class A notes.

The cash reserve is available to cover any shortfalls in interest payments on the class A notes as well as any items senior to them in the priority of payments. Following the implementation of the GACS guarantee, any liquidity shortfalls will primarily be covered by the guarantor, with the cash reserve mainly mitigating the time it takes between the draw on the guarantee and the actual payment.

6.5. Interest rate hedge

Due to the non-performing nature of the securitised portfolio, the issuer will not receive regular cash flows and the collections will not be linked to any defined interest rate. On the liability side, the issuer will pay a floating coupon on the notes, defined as six-month Euribor plus a 0.5% margin on the class A and an 9.5% margin on class B. The coupon on class A is floored at zero.

An interest rate cap spread mitigates the risk of increased liabilities on the class A notes due to a rise in Euribor (Figure 24). The base rate on the class A notes will be capped with an upper bound rate ranging from 0.60% in March 2021 to 3.75% until March 2036, while it will be floored with a lower bound rate ranging from 0% at the issue date to 0.80% until March 2036. Under the cap agreement, the issuer receives the difference, if positive, between six-month Euribor and the lower bound rate and pays the difference, if positive, between six-month Euribor and the upper bound rate, following a pre-defined notional schedule. In addition, a cap is embedded in the class A Euribor component, aligned with the upper bound rate of the cap spread.

The notional schedule of the cap spread on class A notes is aligned with our expected class A amortisation profile (see Figure 25). A delay in recoveries beyond our class A recovery timing vector would increase interest rate risk exposure, as it would create a gap

Cash reserve provides liquidity protection to class A notes

Interest rate risk on class A notes is mitigated through a cap spread structure and a cap embedded in the notes

between the transaction's cap notional amount and the class A notes' outstanding principal.

Figure 24: Cap spread on class A notes

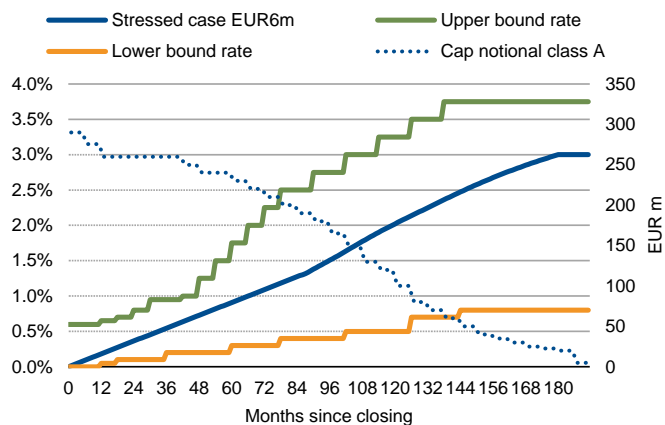
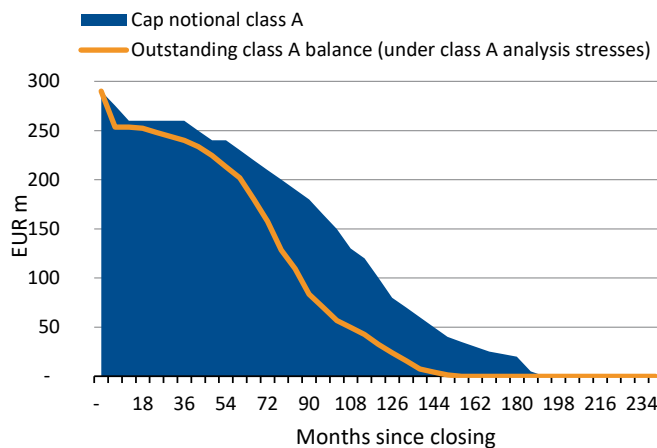


Figure 25: Cap notional vs outstanding class A notes



Sources: Transaction documents, Bloomberg and Scope Ratings

Our cash flow analysis considers the structural features of the transaction

Our rating reflects expected loss over the instrument's weighted average life

No mechanistic rating cap linked to sovereign risk

Counterparty risk does not limit the transaction's rating

7. Cash flow analysis and rating stability

Scope analysed the transaction's specific cash flow characteristics. Rating-conditional gross recovery vectors reflect Scope's asset assumptions. The analysis considers the capital structure, the coupon payable on the notes and the hedging structure, as well as, the servicing fees structure, the transaction senior fees and legal costs, the latter assumed to be equivalent to 9% of gross collections.

The rating assigned to the class A notes reflects the expected losses over the instruments' weighted average life commensurate with the Scope's idealised expected loss table.

We tested the resilience of the rating against deviations from expected recovery rates and recovery timing. This analysis has the sole purpose of illustrating the sensitivity of the rating to input assumptions and is not indicative of expected or likely scenarios. We tested the sensitivity of the analysis to deviations from the main input assumptions: i) recovery rate level; and ii) recovery timing.

For class A, the following shows how the results change compared to the assigned credit rating in the event of:

- a decrease of the portfolio's recovery rate by 10%, minus one notch.
- an increase in the recovery lag by one year, zero notches.

8. Sovereign risk

Sovereign risk does not limit the rating. The risks of an institutional framework meltdown, legal insecurity, or currency convertibility problems due to an Italian exit from the euro area, a scenario, which Scope views as highly unlikely, are not material for the notes' rating.

9. Counterparty risk

In our view, none of the counterparty exposures constrain the rating achievable by this transaction. We considered counterparty substitution provisions in the transaction and, when available, Scope's ratings or other public ratings on the counterparties. We also considered eligible investment criteria in the transaction documents for cash amounts held by the issuer.

The transaction is mainly exposed to counterparty risk from the following counterparties: i) UBI as originator, regarding representations and warranties, limited-recourse loan provider and account bank; ii) PRECS as master and special servicer; iii) Bank of New York Mellon SA/NV, Milan Branch as agent bank and principal paying agent; iv) Banca Finanziaria Internazionale S.p.A. as back-up master servicer, corporate servicer, calculation agent, noteholders' representative and monitoring agent; and v) Banco Santander S.A. as cap counterparty.

9.1. Servicer disruption risk

A servicer disruption event may have a negative impact on the transaction's performance. The transaction incorporates servicer-monitoring that mitigates operational risk, and a back-up master servicer appointed at closing and special servicer replacement arrangements that mitigate disruption risk.

9.2. Commingling risk

Commingling risk is limited, as debtors will be instructed to pay directly into an account held in the name of the issuer. In limited cases, in which the servicer receives payments from a debtor, the servicer will transfer the amounts within two business days from the payment reconciliation. In case the originators receive payments from debtors, they will transfer these amounts into the collection account within ten business days.

9.3. Claw-back risk

The sellers have provided on the issue date: i) a solvency certificate signed by a representative duly authorised and ii) a certificate from the chamber of commerce confirming that the relevant seller is not subject to any insolvency or similar proceedings. This mitigates claw-back risk, as the issuer should be able to prove it was unaware of the seller's insolvency as of the transfer date.

Assignments of receivables made under the Italian Securitisation Law are subject to claw-back in the following events:

- (i) pursuant to article 67, paragraph 1, of the Italian Bankruptcy Law, if the bankruptcy declaration of the relevant originator is made within six months from the purchase of the relevant portfolio of receivables, provided the receivables' sale price exceeds their value by more than 25% and the issuer cannot prove it was unaware of the originator's insolvency, or
- (ii) pursuant to article 67, paragraph 2, of the Italian Bankruptcy Law, if the adjudication of bankruptcy of the relevant originator is made within three months from the purchase of the relevant portfolio of receivables, provided the receivables' sale price does not exceed their value by more than 25% and the originator's insolvency receiver can prove the issuer was aware of the originator's insolvency.

9.4. Enforcement of representations and warranties

The issuer will rely on the representations and warranties, limited by time and amount, provided by the originators in the transfer agreement. If a breach of a representation and warranty materially and adversely affects a loan's value, the originators may be obliged to indemnify the issuer for damages within 10 business days following the expiry of the period of opposition or within 10 business days following the reach of an agreement after the arise of a challenge or within 10 business days after court's decision in case of challenge without a subsequent agreement.

However, the above-mentioned representations and warranties are only enforceable by the issuer within 18 months from the issue date.

Limited commingling risk

Limited claw-back risk

Representations and warranties limited by time and amount



The total indemnity amount will be capped to a maximum of 25% of the portfolio purchase price. Furthermore, the indemnity amounts will be payable only above a minimum amount threshold of EUR 1,000,000 on an aggregate basis, and EUR 20,000 on a single-loss basis, once the aggregated minimum amount threshold is reached.

10. Legal structure

10.1. Legal framework

The transaction documents are governed by Italian Law, whereas English Law governs the interest cap agreement and the deed of charge.

The transaction is fully governed by the terms in the documentation and any changes are subject to the counterparties' consent.

10.2. Use of legal opinions

Scope had access to the legal opinions produced for the issuer, which provide comfort on the legally valid, binding and enforceable nature of the contracts.

11. Monitoring

Scope will monitor this transaction based on the performance reports, updated loan by loan reports, as well as on public information. The rating will be monitored on an ongoing basis.

Scope analysts are available to discuss all the details surrounding the rating analysis, the risks to which this transaction is exposed and the ongoing monitoring of the transaction.

12. Applied methodology

For the analysis of the transaction Scope applied its Non-Performing Loan ABS Rating Methodology and the Methodology for Counterparty Risk in Structured Finance, both available on www.scoperatings.com.

Transaction documents governed by Italian and English Law

Ongoing rating monitoring

Scope analysts are available to discuss all the details of the rating analysis



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