Sustainability considerations in Latvijas Banka

Krist na Boj re 17 January 2024 Bratislava





Developments in the macroprudential toolkit

Borrower-based measures: the Green Factor



Rationale behind

Housing stock in Latvia overall is quite old

Less than 15% of total buildings are efficient in terms of energy efficiency certificates (EEC) grades (C+)

Increased demand towards cheaper and older housing

Rising interest rates, continuously high prices for the new housing, limited availability of new and renovated housing

Slow construction and renovation

Structural factors contribute to the small amount of construction of new buildings - as well as renovation of the existing buildings has been insufficient

Risks

This deficiency can lead to collateral risks and solvency risk of borrowers as well to risk of formation of stranded assets given the climate related targets – affects financial institutions and borrowers

Adjustments in the BBMs framework for loans acquiring energy efficient housing – in force as of 1 January 2024



Energy efficiency certificates (EEC)

- As of now only 15% of the housing stock
- Not only new (A and A+), but also supports renovation (B and C)



Debt-service-to-income (DSTI)

- Higher interest rates DSTI more binding
- Saved costs towards heating redirected to debt servicing



Debt-to-income (DTI)

- Calibrated proportional to DSTI
- Up to 8 for greater policy support
- Lower interest rates DTI more binding

Thank you for your attention!