



ANNUAL FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

FY 2024 Highlights

Profit After Tax

FY24: M465m
FY23: M443m

5%

Return on Equity

FY24: 22.7%
FY23: 25.3%

2.6%

Dividend Per Share

FY24: 1 454 Cents
FY23: 1 212 Cents

20%

Cost-to-Income Ratio

FY24: 52.2
FY23: 52.9

0.7%

Capital Tier I Ratio

FY24: 12.4%
FY23: 12.6%

0.2%

Credit Loss Ratio

FY24: 2.2
FY23: 1.9

0.3%

Results Overview:

Remarkable resilience against the backdrop of constrained economic growth and internal pressures.

Standard Lesotho Bank (SLB or the Bank) remained resolute and delivered a good set of financial results, demonstrating the resilience of our franchise amid a challenging macroeconomic environment. Profit after tax (PAT) grew by 5% against the prior year to M465million. This represents a good outcome relative to the previous year's performance. This has further translated into a healthy Return on Equity (ROE) of 22.7% and a commendable improvement of dividend per share from 1 212 cents to 1 454 cents.

Total balance sheet maintained a strong financial position of M15.2billion (2023: M15.2billion). The Bank continued to partner for growth with its customers and was able to increase loans and advances by 11% from M5.3billion as at end of 2023 to M5.9billion as at end of 2024.

Social, Economic and Environmental (SEE) Impact

The Bank was also successful in making a profound difference in the socioeconomic conditions of the country as part of its broader purpose. The following are some of the key milestones achieved:

Social Contribution:

The Bank has committed to uplifting the lives of Basotho through a number of social responsibility initiatives in key areas such as health, education, and welfare. In the area of health, our flagship project is the investment of over M1.9 million towards the construction of the first ever palliative care centre in Lesotho, where construction is currently underway.

Economic Impact:

The Bank declared and paid a total dividend of M300million to the shareholders during the financial year ended 31st December 2024. This was an improvement of 20% compared to M250m paid in 2023 and by extension a pleasing contribution to the Government of Lesotho (GoL) fiscus of M29million given the 9.65% shareholding that the GoL has in Standard Lesotho Bank.

Another local shareholder is Lesotho Unit Trust with 10.35% shareholding and based on a total M300-million dividend, there was a M31million return in the local economy.

The Bank was awarded a certificate of appreciation by the Revenue Services Lesotho for being the most compliant corporate citizen. In 2024, the total corporate tax and other taxes paid by the Bank was M329million, further contributing to the country's economy.

Environmental Impact:

We continue to practice environmentally friendly lending practices, where all our loans to major infrastructure projects comply fully with the Equator Principles. We champion Sustainable Development Goal 13 on Climate Action through our support to the National Tree Planting Day, where we have supported the planting of over 100,000 trees in the year under review, underpinning our resolve towards reducing the carbon footprint in Lesotho.

Appreciation

On behalf of the Board of Directors, we would like to thank all our stakeholders including our shareholders and regulators, who supported us throughout the year despite the tough macroeconomic environment. Our customers stood by our side and more evidently placed confidence in us as their trusted financial services provider. We thank them most sincerely for their understanding, support, and loyalty.

We also wish to express immeasurable gratitude to the leadership and the entire staff of the Bank for their relentless efforts in making sure that we remain true to our purpose, vision, value propositions, and execution on strategy with excellence. The stated efforts enabled the Bank to continue to navigate through an extremely tough trading environment. We are optimistic that we have built the necessary resilience and the Bank shall continue to be a key partner in growing the economy of Lesotho going into the future.

Thank you all for your unwavering support of making the Standard Lesotho Bank brand, the most preferred in our Nation and beyond. Once again, we remain committed to contributing to the economic growth of Lesotho.

Ms. Neo Poulou
Board Chairperson
20 March 2025

Mr. Samuel Seboka
Chief Executive
20 March 2025



Income Statement for the year ended 31 December 2024

	2024 M'000	2023 Restated ¹ M'000
Net interest income	852 282	796 454
Interest income	1 345 232	1 147 507
Interest expense	(492 950)	(351 043)
Non-interest revenue	846 260	768 143
Net Fee and commission revenue	464 350	412 228
Fee and commission revenue	588 723	517 937
Fee and commission expense	(124 373)	(105 709)
Trading revenue	81 733	106 804
Other revenue	31 424	18 471
Other gains on financial instruments	268 753	230 640
Total income	1 698 542	1 564 597
Credit impairment charges	(127 710)	(98 045)
Income before operating expenses	1 570 832	1 466 552
Operating expenses	(886 776)	(836 033)
Net income before capital items	684 056	630 519
Non-trading and capital related items	603	494
Net income before indirect taxation	684 659	631 013
Indirect tax	(58 437)	(52 408)
Profit before direct taxation	626 222	578 605
Direct tax	(161 205)	(135 537)
Profit for the year	465 017	443 069
Earnings per share		
Basic earnings per ordinary share(cents)	2 255	2 148



Statement of Financial Position as at 31 December 2024

	2024 M'000	2023 Restated ¹ M'000	1st January 2023 Restated ¹ M'000
Assets			
Cash and balances with central bank	1 444 737	696 998	952 890
Trading securities	105 459	38 935	955 091
Derivative assets	26 859	7 635	42 820
Financial investments	4 806 354	4 038 718	2 800 223
Loans and advances	8 002 670	9 656 193	5 332 284
Loans and advances to customers	5 646 596	5 107 591	4 630 462
Loans and advances to banks	2 356 074	4 548 602	701 822
Deferred taxation	79 780	84 886	67 365
Current Tax Asset	17 711	-	38 166
Receivables and Other assets	306 021	270 606	204 686
Property, equipment and right of use assets	228 482	192 612	181 269
Intangible assets	193 880	219 987	247 959
Total Assets	15 211 953	15 206 571	10 822 752

	2024 M'000	2023 Restated ¹ M'000	1st January 2023 Restated ¹ M'000
Equity and Liabilities			
Equity	2 015 939	1 852 524	1 648 921
Ordinary share capital	20 625	20 625	20 625
Reserves	161 297	162 899	152 364
Retained Income	1 834 017	1 669 000	1 475 932
Liabilities			
Derivative liabilities	19 950	1 225	19 370
Deposits and debt funding	12 538 653	12 389 240	8 657 314
Deposits from customers	11 421 684	11 105 979	8 315 992
Deposits from banks	1 116 969	1 283 261	341 322
Current tax liabilities	-	89 891	2 346
Provisions and other liabilities	637 411	873 691	494 801
Total liabilities	13 196 014	13 354 047	9 173 831
Total equity and liabilities	15 211 953	15 206 571	10 822 752