



## PRESS RELEASE

### PUBLICATION OF BDCB ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STABILITY REPORT 2025

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1. Brunei Darussalam Central Bank (BDCB) today released its 2025 Annual Report and Financial Stability Report.

#### [BDCB Annual Report \(AR\) 2025](#)

2. The BDCB AR 2025 highlights BDCB's key initiatives in fulfilling its mandates, advancing policy development and setting future priorities. Key highlights include:
  - a) Brunei Darussalam's economy grew by 0.7% in 2025, supported by stronger performance in the oil and gas sector, while inflation remained low and stable, easing by 0.3%.
  - b) BDCB further enhanced liquidity management through revisions to the Minimum Cash Balance requirement and the introduction of additional tenors for BDCB I-Bills, providing banks with greater flexibility in managing liquidity.
  - c) BDCB continued to strengthen its regulatory and supervisory framework through key notices and guidelines covering licensing examinations, technology risk management, and anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing (AML/CFT). Supervisory oversight was further reinforced through risk-based onsite inspections and offsite assessments, the implementation of an Early Warning Indicators framework, and crisis simulations and cybersecurity exercises. Box article 1, "Strengthening Crisis Preparedness and Resolution Readiness to Safeguard Financial Stability", highlights key takeaways from the crisis simulation exercise.
  - d) Significant progress was made in strengthening the national payments infrastructure through the introduction of a new requirement for the adoption of the National QR Code Standard, which will be fully implemented by January 2027, as well as regulatory approval for the operation of "tarus", a real-time payment platform. These initiatives marked important milestones towards a more efficient and interoperable payments ecosystem.
  - e) To promote the sustainable finance agenda, BDCB launched the Brunei Darussalam Sustainable Finance Roadmap (SFR), which serves as a strategic guide for the nation's financial sector to integrate environmental, social and governance (ESG) and sustainable considerations. The key features are highlighted in box article 2, "A Closer Look at the Sustainable Finance Roadmap".

- f) Preparations have also begun for the next Financial Sector Blueprint (FSBP) covering the period 2026 to 2035. Further information on this effort is provided in box article 5, **“Shaping the Future of the Financial Sector”**.
  - g) BDCB announced a new series of Brunei currency notes featuring enhanced security features as part of its continued efforts to safeguard the integrity and security of the nation’s currency. Read more on the security features in box article 3 **“Announcement of the New Family Banknotes Series”**.
  - h) BDCB continued to strengthen its regional and international engagements, including through its role as Chair of the ASEAN Taxonomy Board, which saw the launch of ASEAN Taxonomy Version 4. The fifth Bilateral Roundtable between BDCB and the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) further strengthened cooperation between the two authorities, including through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding to establish a reciprocal cross-border collateral arrangement.
3. The AR 2025 also includes BDCB’s Audited Financial Statements for the financial year ended 31 December 2025.

#### [Financial Stability Report \[FSR\] 2025](#)

4. The FSR 2025 presents BDCB’s assessment of Brunei Darussalam’s financial system in 2025. The report highlights that the financial system remained resilient despite heightened external uncertainties and geopolitical developments affecting the global economic and financial outlook. Against this backdrop, BDCB remains committed to safeguarding a safe, sound, and resilient financial system through vigilant monitoring and proactive supervision.
5. Highlights of the FSR 2025 include:
- a) Total financial system assets grew by 2.6% to BND25.9 billion in 2025, with the banking sector remaining the dominant segment, representing over 80% of total assets. Banks remained well-capitalised and highly liquid, with buffers well above regulatory requirements.
  - b) Within the banking sector, credit growth remained strong, driven mainly by corporate financing, while household borrowing stayed moderate. Credit quality continued to improve, reflecting prudent lending practices. The sector remained profitable, although earnings moderated amid a lower global interest rate environment.
  - c) The non-banking sector remained resilient, with takaful and insurance companies maintaining strong solvency. The capital market also recorded steady growth, supported by assets under management above BND1 billion in 2025.
  - d) Growth in QR and e-money transactions, alongside increasing adoption of *“tarus”*, highlights the rising role of digital payments in Brunei Darussalam’s financial system.

6. The FSR 2025 also features special articles that provide insights into emerging risks and key financial sector developments, including:
  - a) The introduction of the biannual **Systemic Risk Perception Survey** in 2025 strengthened financial surveillance by capturing forward-looking risk perceptions across a broader range of supervised financial institutions, including banks, insurance companies, takaful operators, and capital market licensees. The findings point to a modest improvement in overall risk sentiment, although concerns remain in areas such as cybersecurity, fiscal development, and financial sector profitability.
  - b) An assessment of the potential **implications of US-linked policy uncertainty for Brunei Darussalam's economy and financial system**, including the key transmission channels through energy prices, trade activity, and financial market conditions. While direct exposure is limited, indirect effects through these channels could still pose risks to financial stability, warranting continued vigilance. Nevertheless, the financial system remains resilient, supported by strong prudential safeguards, sound fundamentals, and ongoing supervisory oversight.
  - c) The introduction of the new liquidity standard, **Liquidity Coverage Ratio [LCR]**, in promoting banks' short-term liquidity resilience. The LCR requires banks to hold sufficient high quality liquid assets against cash outflows to survive a significant stress scenario lasting 30 calendar days. Notably, the banking system continues to record LCR levels well above the regulatory requirement.
  - d) Enhancements were introduced to the **Market Conduct Framework**, providing insights into efforts aimed at promoting fair, transparent, and responsible practices across the financial sector, thereby strengthening consumer protection and reinforcing public confidence.
7. The full [BDCB Annual Report 2025](#) and [Financial Stability Report 2025](#) are available on the BDCB website at [www.bdcg.gov.bn](http://www.bdcg.gov.bn).

**Brunei Darussalam Central Bank**

Reference: BDCB/COMMS/3

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