



MitigationMomentum

NAMA Financial Component: A Portfolio Guarantee Scheme (PGS)

ECN/TGP-EEDP workshop, June 25 2015

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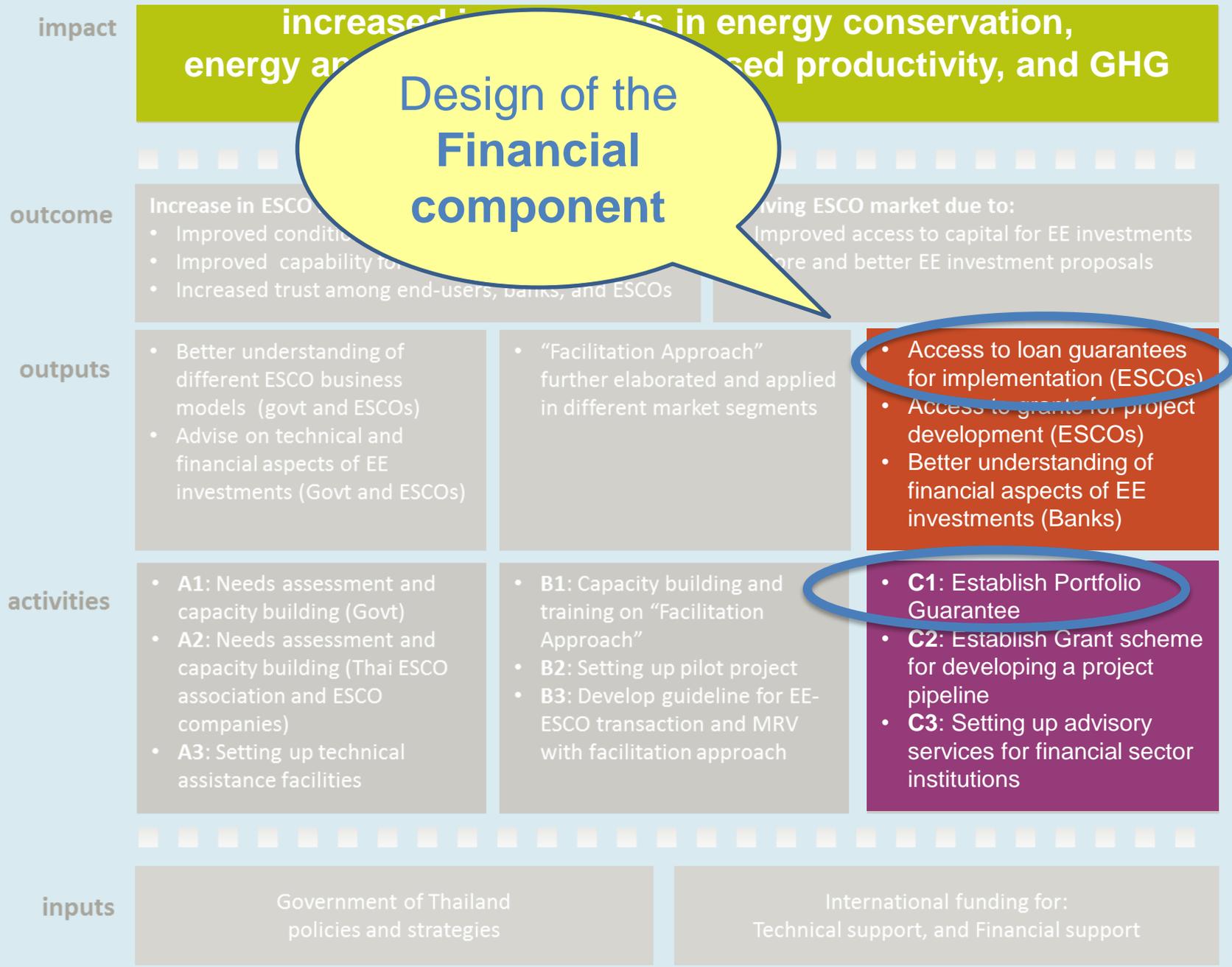
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1) Introduction: what is a guarantee mechanism?

- A financial instrument to encourage commercial banks to provide medium- and long-term loans with more relaxed requirements than they would otherwise require – lower collateral, lower interest rates.
- Offers a kind of insurance to lenders for the non-payment of a loan by a borrower. Guarantees can therefore encourage lending when a financial institution considers the risk of non-payment too high.
- Typically guarantees are partial credit guarantees, meaning they cover a portion of an outstanding loan amount (50-80 %) for each individual loan. This ensures that the financial institutions still retain some risk which helps to maintain good lending practices.

1) Introduction: why we explore a guarantee mechanism as part of the NAMA?

- There are many economically viable opportunities for improving energy efficiency. These require investments in equipment, either directly by the end-users or through ESCOs.
- Banks are reluctant to provide loans for the implementation of energy efficiency projects, because they perceive the risk of these loans not being paid back as high. They have strict lending conditions (incl. high collateral requirements)
- What would be an efficient way for the Thai government to stimulate banks to provide loans for energy efficiency projects?
- We are exploring how Thailand can introduce a guarantee mechanism to improve the access to capital for ESCOs and energy end-users wanting to implement EE projects

1) Introduction: why we explore a guarantee mechanism as part of the NAMA?

- **American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE):** undertook a review of 24 EE loan programs and found extremely **low default rates ranging from 0-3%** throughout the life of the financing program.
- **Hungary EE guarantee fund (HEECP):** financed by GEF and World Bank. By the end of 2006, the US\$55 million loan portfolio that HEECP covered was supported with US\$17 million of guarantees represented US\$93 million worth of energy efficiency investments including a total of 331 energy efficiency projects. **No defaults recorded in EE portfolio.**
- **Lithuania EE and housing pilot project:** World Bank \$10 million loan between 1996-2001 for EE projects. **No defaults recorded.**
- **China Utility Based EE Program (CUEEP):** assumed default rates of 4% for entire program at start of project. **Only 6 major defaults in 330 projects implemented.**
- **Bulgarian EE Fund (BEEF):** World Bank grant of \$10 million. Loan facility and guarantee facility set up. Defaults were reduced to zero. **A number of payment delays but no defaults.**
- **Central & Eastern Europe Commercializing EE Finance Program (CEEFP):** IFC/GEF provided \$50m to support partial Risk Guarantee. **The default rate was less than 0.5% over the course of the program.**

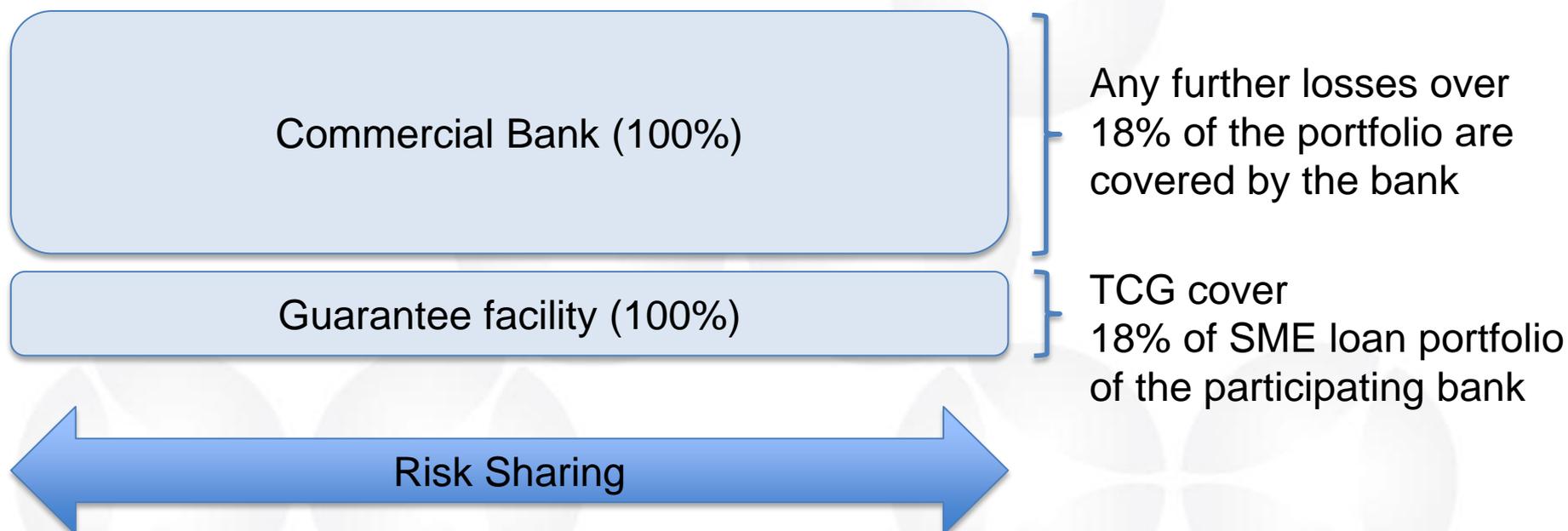
Very low default rates

2) Portfolio Guarantee Scheme (PGS)

Overview

Product of the Thai Credit Guarantee Corporation (TCG) since 2009.

Provides an assurance to banks that, up to a specified percentage, 100% of their SME loan portfolio is protected against non-repayment by the borrower

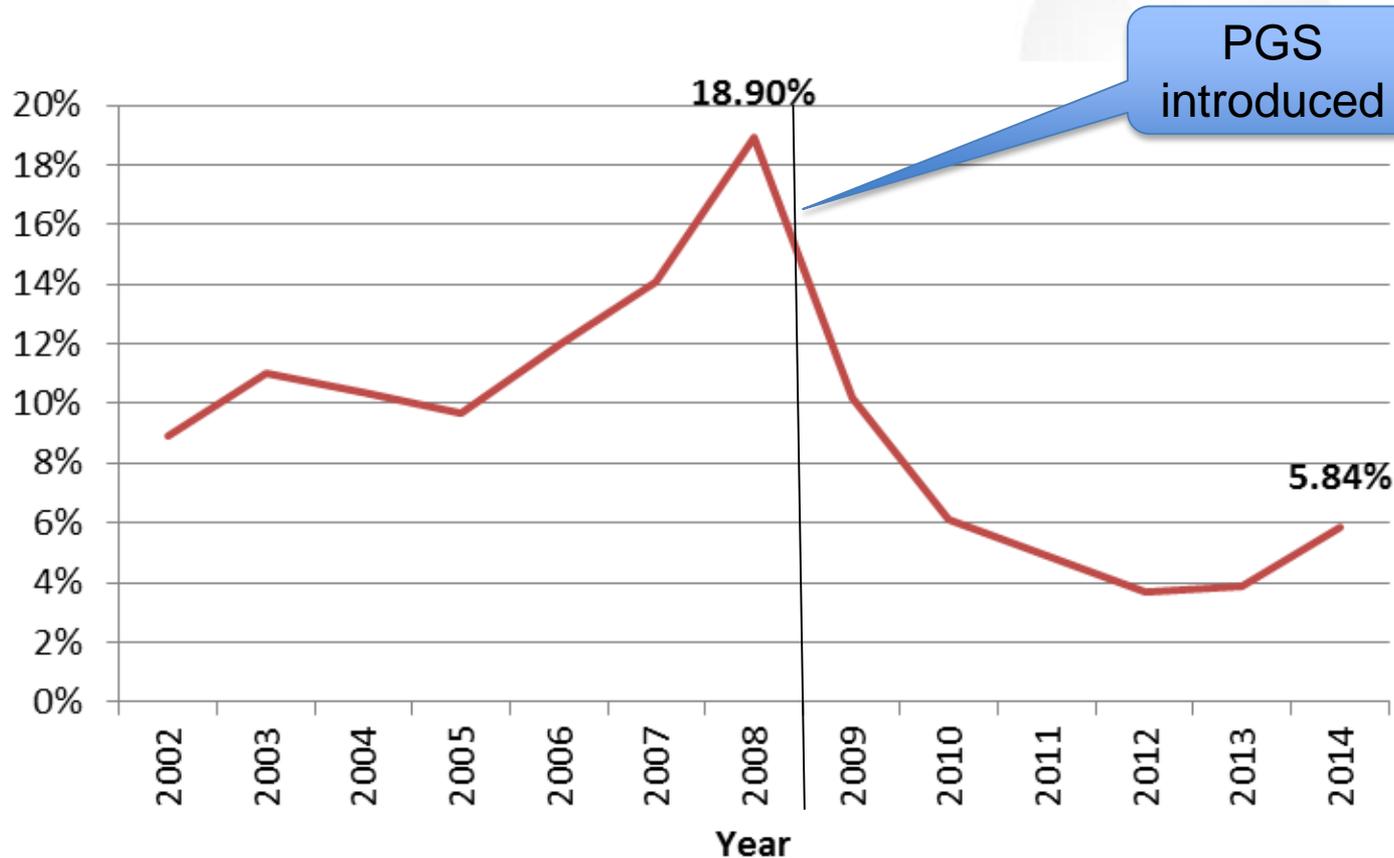




2) Portfolio Guarantee Scheme (PGS)

Why a PGS in the NAMA?

Non-performing guarantees have reduced significantly since introduction of PGS by TCG.

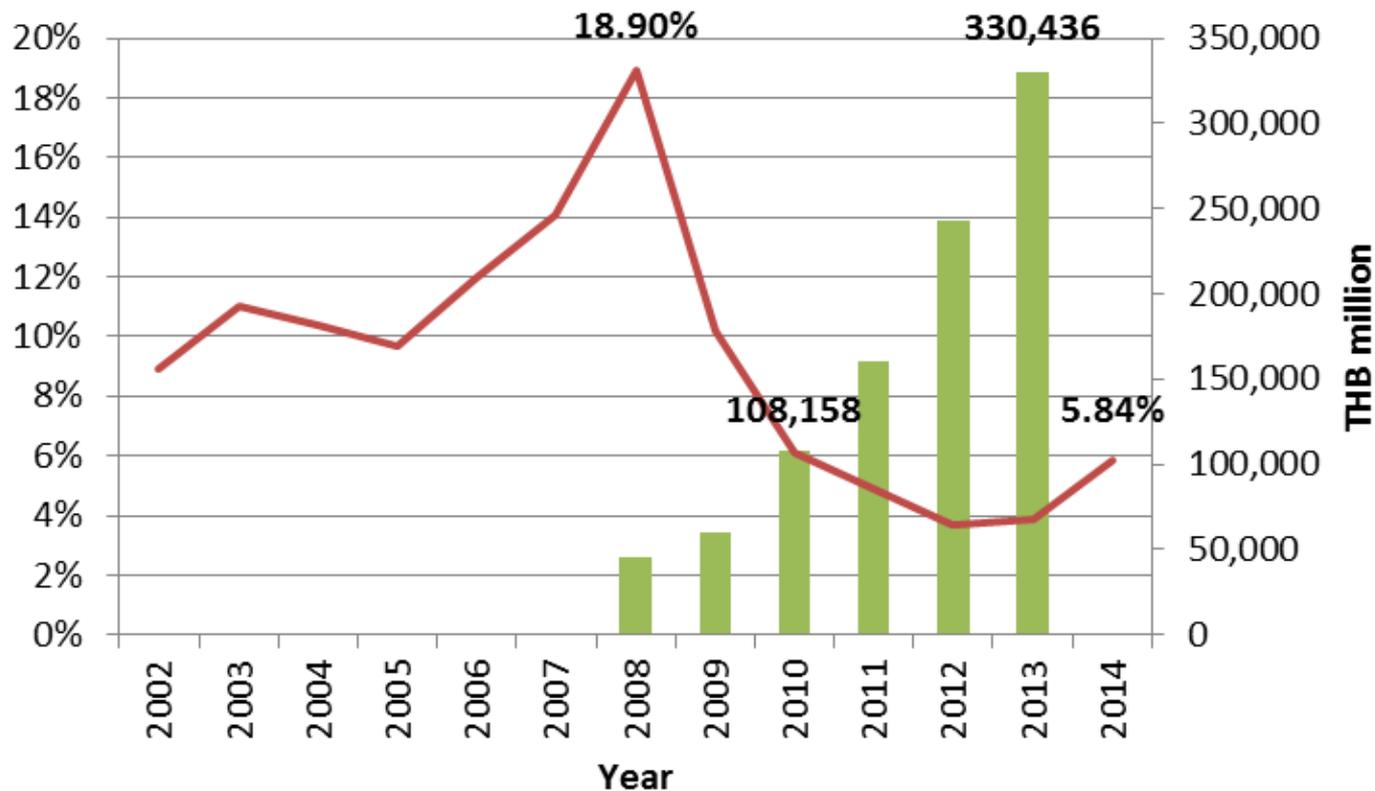




2) Portfolio Guarantee Scheme (PGS)

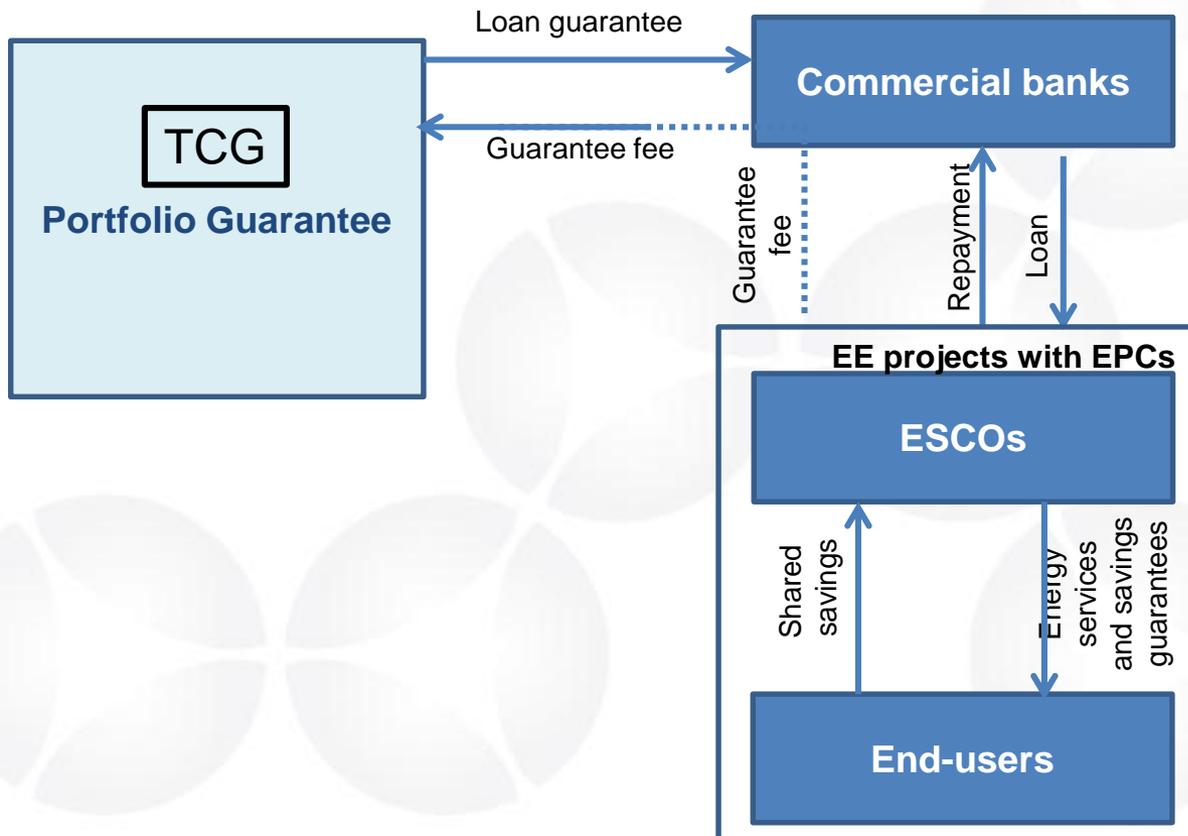
Why a PGS in the NAMA?

Combined with sharp increase in the accumulated approved guarantees.



3) Need and use of donor funds

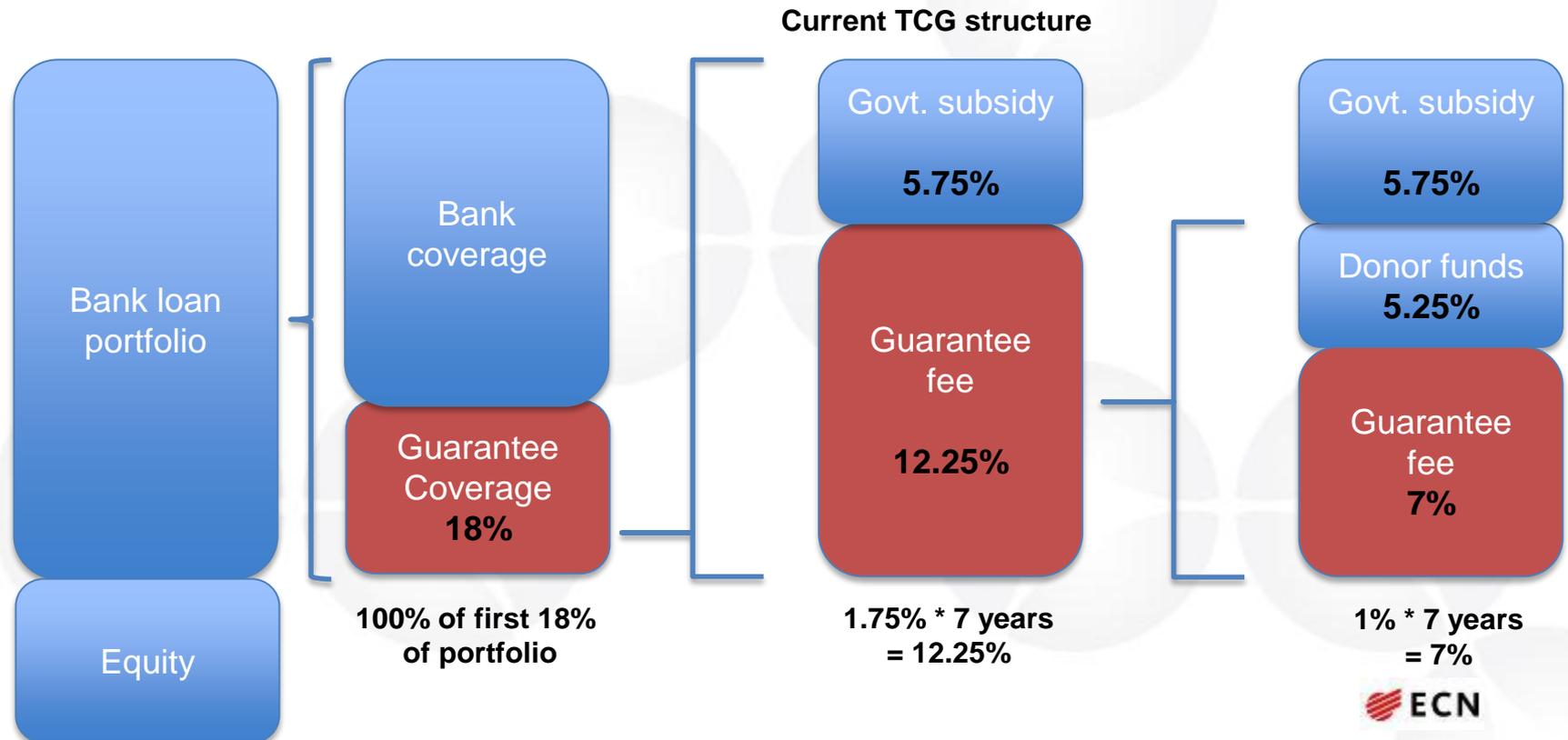
- A guarantee is not for free. There is a cost to the ESCO or end-user: a guarantee fee
- Is this cost reasonable? Does it present a barrier for projects?



3) Need and use of donor funds

Subsidising the guarantee fee:

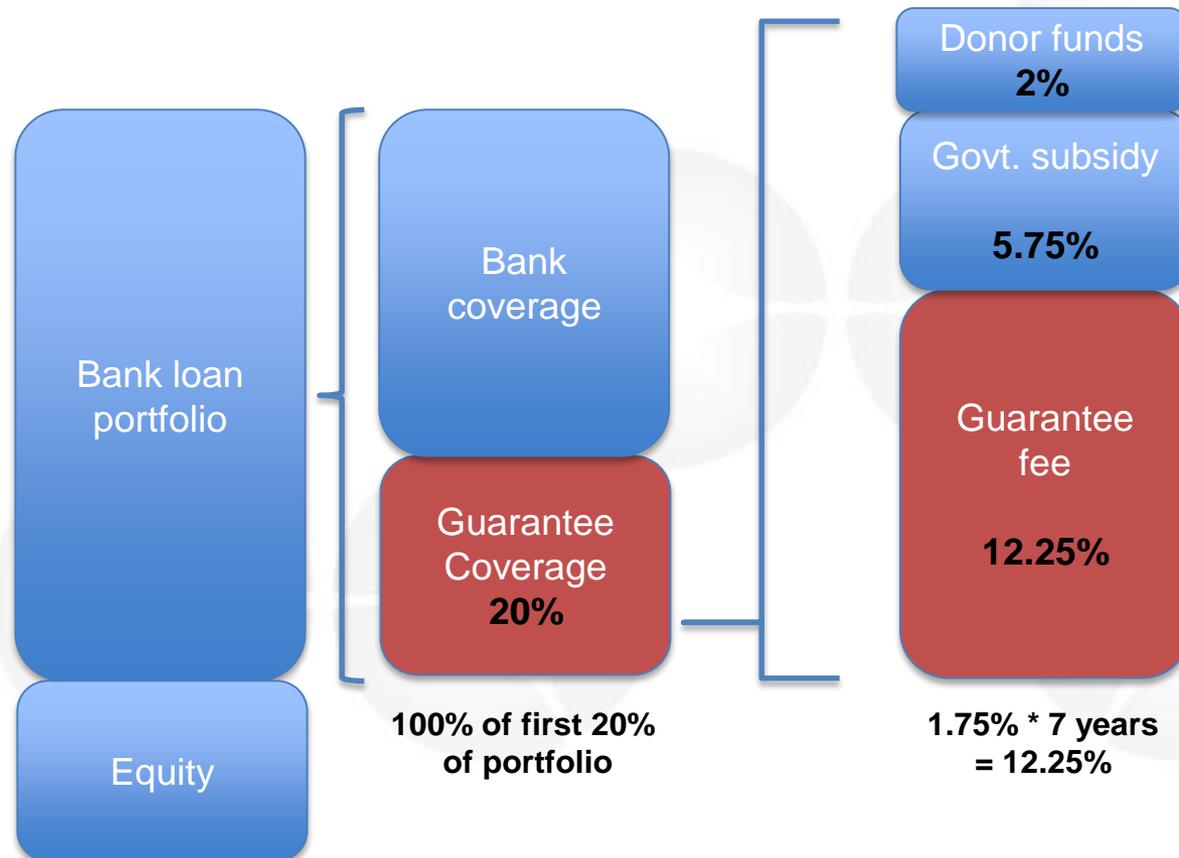
- Fee is 1.75% annually over 7 years with existing TCG product. Fees are usually lower for EE guarantees (approximately 1%)
- Ease the financial burden for the borrower i.e. the ESCO or end-user. This will make small improvements to IRR and NPV.



3) Need and use of donor funds

Increasing the guarantee coverage:

- Coverage is currently 18% with current TCG scheme for SMEs.
- Increase the guarantee coverage (e.g. 20%) and reduce risk to the bank.



4) Key takeaways and discussion points

- A guarantee mechanism can improve the access to capital for ESCOs and energy end-users wanting to implement EE projects
- A Portfolio Guarantee Scheme (PGS) is an innovative mechanism to address the barrier of a lack of access to capital for EE projects
 - The PGS has a proven track record in Thailand in scaling up commercial bank lending to SMEs
- Subsidizing the guarantee fee could reduce the financial burden to ESCOs or end-users.
- Increasing the coverage ratio could reduce the risk to the commercial bank and stimulate increased loans to EE projects.



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Thank you!

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Supported by:



Federal Ministry
for the Environment, Nature Conservation,
Building and Nuclear Safety

based on a decision of the German Bundestag

What criteria should a guarantee mechanism satisfy to be suitable for a NAMA?

Sustainability: NAMA funds provide support for a limited duration and used to start a mechanism that can be sustained once the support is no longer available.

Leveraging: NAMA funds should mobilise as much private investment as possible.

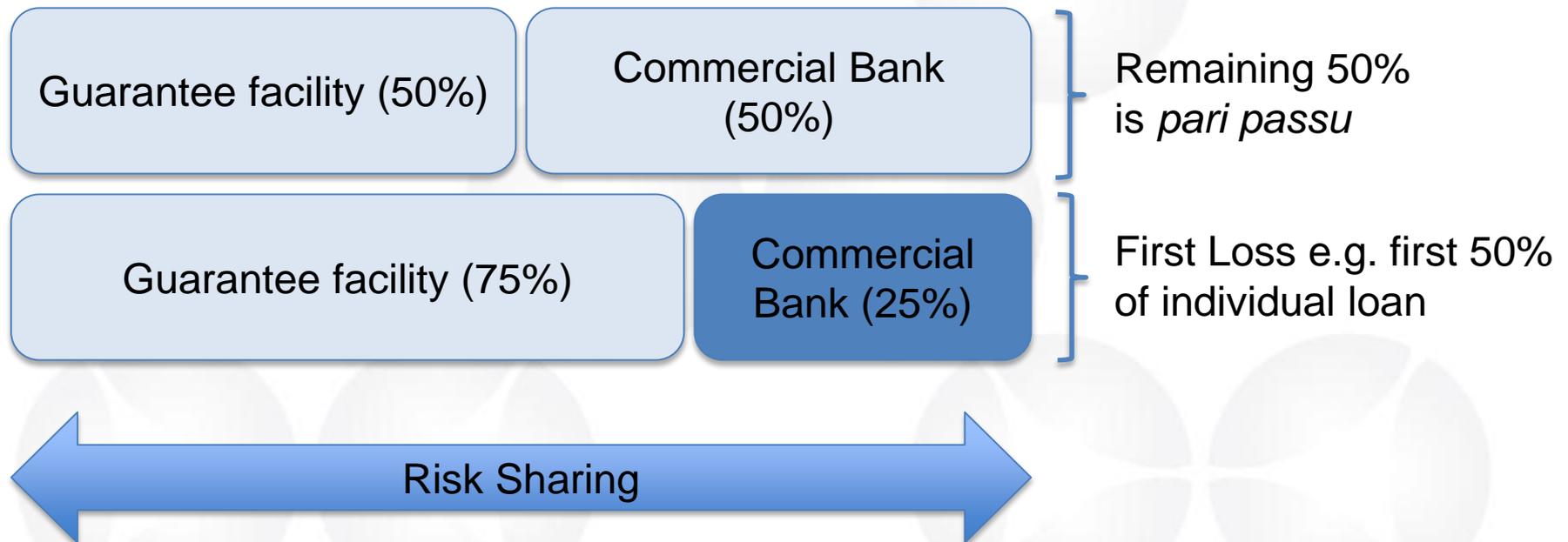
Efficiency: NAMA funds should reduce the costs and risk of financing projects.

Transformational impact: initiate a structural change in attractiveness of energy efficiency investments.

2) Potential guarantee mechanisms: Partial Credit Guarantee (PCG)

Overview

Provides an assurance to banks that a certain percentage of an individual EE loan is protected against non-repayment by the borrower (termed a “first loss” guarantee).



2) Potential guarantee mechanisms: Partial Credit Guarantee (PCG)

Pros:

- **Risk reduction:** addresses the risk that banks take when they provide loans to ESCOs/end-users, and assures that part (or all) of a loan will be paid back.
- **Allows for longer-term lending:** the guarantee can be structured so that coverage increases during later years of the loan.

Cons:

- **Lack of experience:** not easy to assess how much money needs to be held in reserve to cover potential claims.
- **Only part of the solution:** additional efforts are needed to convince banks to make a more realistic (and favourable) assessments of risks and requirements for loan applications (especially for longer-term projects)

2) Potential guarantee mechanisms: Partial Credit Guarantee (PCG)

International experiences: outcomes of the CHUEE PCG

Pros:

- Loan guarantees issued for 148 ESCOs between 2004-2009
- Totaled USD 69 million supporting USD 123 million in EPC project investments
- Attracted local partner banks of IFC to finance EE projects

Cons:

- Limited number of ESCOs and SMEs accessed loans: still high collateral requirements
- Many ESCOs only accessed the guarantee once to gain credibility in the marketplace. They paid a guarantee fee, but did not see any reduction in collateral requirements