Non-Financial Risk Management Insights Series
Issue # 1 – Risk Taxonomy and Risk Identification

A thorough analysis of a bank’s risk profile that takes into consideration its business model and strategic direction is a fundamental prerequisite of an effective risk and control management framework; it necessitates a comprehensive risk taxonomy and a dynamic Risk Identification process.
We are pleased to welcome you to our Non-Financial Risk (NFR) Insights series. The series serves as a continuation of our original Point of View: The pressing case to design and implement a Non-Financial Risk Management Framework.¹ Each release will focus on one of the implementation categories:

¹ www.deloitte.com/de/nfr
Introduction
In the post-financial crisis era, most unexpected losses in financial institutions have emanated from non-financial risks. In general, risks have not been effectively controlled and in some cases, risks have not been identified, measured, or supported by models and capital. Institutions will therefore need to take a more holistic and systematic approach to identifying, assessing, and mitigating risks, including relatively new risk types and risks with increased focus (e.g., conduct-, cyber- and model-risk).

Identifying and managing all risks relevant to the organization, based on a strong risk taxonomy that comprehensively covers financial and non-financial risks is a prerequisite to implementing a sound risk management framework.

A comprehensive risk inventory developed through a consistent, dynamic and well-governed Risk Identification process can help inform and enhance capital adequacy, strategic planning, stress testing and other downstream risk management processes and capabilities.

Regulatory expectations
In Europe, Risk Identification is a key component of ICAAP and ILAAP; the Supervisory Board of the ECB has published specific expectations, including:

- Institutions should implement a regular process for comprehensively identifying all material risks across legal entities, business lines, and exposures at least annually
- Institutions should define an internal risk taxonomy and maintain a complete risk inventory
- The Risk Inventory should incorporate an inherent risk assessment as well as a definition of materiality and involve the management body

Challenges
It is particularly difficult to identify new and emerging material risks. It is in these cases that a dynamic Risk Identification process is most helpful and indeed necessary. The experience with operational risks is that banks’ data capabilities can inhibit timely identification and mitigation of new and emerging risk types; similar challenges can be extrapolated to other non-financial risks.

Our approach
Deloitte’s Non-Financial Risk Management Framework provides guidelines for implementing a robust Risk Identification process, as well as a comprehensive risk taxonomy informed by extensive experience of risk identification exercises across a wide range of banks (cf. Fig. 1).

Fig. 1 – Deloitte has developed a set of tools and frameworks to help implement an effective and dynamic Risk Identification process

---

1 Cf. ECB Supervisory Board, Multi-year plan on SSM Guides on ICAAP and ILAAP; February. 2017.

---
A key aspect of a successful Risk Identification implementation is compiling risk events consistently across the institution, and for all risk types along the risk taxonomy, into a structured inventory to establish a comprehensive view of all risk events, including hard-to-quantify risks (e.g., strategic risk events). For this purpose, Deloitte has developed a tool-kit for compiling and evaluating risks through a systematic assessment process.

Furthermore, our Risk Identification approach and tools can be linked to an organization-wide risk assessment, for which it is essential to consider quantitative (e.g., P&L impact) and qualitative factors and effectiveness of controls. Our experience shows that the involvement of all three lines of defense and senior management is necessary in order to ensure an adequate review, while simultaneously raising awareness in the organization.

In general, risk practitioners will need to work more closely with business line representatives to leverage insights gained from a holistic Risk Identification approach and to strengthen downstream capabilities, such as strategic planning, stress testing, and capital adequacy.

### Maturity model and prevailing practices

We have observed differing degrees in sophistication about Risk Identification; most firms are still at the “Lagging” and “Moderate” levels of maturity (cf. Fig. 2).

### Conclusion

Our structured Risk Identification approach strengthens the monitoring, detection, and management of non-financial risks and is designed to establish a basis for an effective risk and control management framework. Enhancing risk management capabilities to address newer non-financial risks starting with a holistic Risk Identification process is a key component of what we envision will be a common practice in future risk management frameworks.  

The next release of the Non-Financial Risk Management Insight Series will focus on Risk Appetite.

---

Deloitte GmbH Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft ("Deloitte") as the responsible entity with respect to the German Data Protection Act and, to the extent legally permitted, its affiliated companies and its legal practice (Deloitte Legal Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft mbH) use your data for individual contractual relationships as well as for own marketing purposes. You may object to the use of your data for marketing purposes at any time by sending a notice to Deloitte, Business Development, Kurfürstendamm 23, 10719 Berlin or kontakt@deloitte.de. This will incur no additional costs beyond the usual tariffs.

This communication contains general information only not suitable for addressing the particular circumstances of any individual case and is not intended to be used as a basis for commercial decisions or decisions of any other kind. None of Deloitte GmbH Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft or Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited, its member firms, or their related entities (collectively, the "Deloitte network") is, by means of this communication, rendering professional advice or services. No entity in the Deloitte network shall be responsible for any loss whatsoever sustained by any person who relies on this communication.

Deloitte refers to one or more of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited, a UK private company limited by guarantee ("DTTL"), its network of member firms, and their related entities. DTTL and each of its member firms are legally separate and independent entities. DTTL (also referred to as "Deloitte Global") does not provide services to clients. Please see www.deloitte.com/de/UeberUns for a more detailed description of DTTL and its member firms.

Deloitte provides audit, risk advisory, tax, financial advisory and consulting services to public and private clients spanning multiple industries; legal advisory services in Germany are provided by Deloitte Legal. With a globally connected network of member firms in more than 150 countries, Deloitte brings world-class capabilities and high-quality service to clients, delivering the insights they need to address their most complex business challenges. Deloitte's more than 263,900 professionals are committed to making an impact that matters.