Record Nr. UNINA9910787952003321

Titolo The Republic of Kazakhstan : : Financial System Stability Assessment

Pubbl/distr/stampa Washington, D.C.:,: International Monetary Fund,, 2014

ISBN 1-4983-2861-X

1-4843-8470-9 1-4983-7236-8

Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (96 p.)

Collana IMF Staff Country Reports

Disciplina 332.110958705

Soggetti Banks and banking - Kazakhstan

Finance - Kazakhstan Banks and Banking Public Finance

Industries: Financial Services Money and Monetary Policy

Banks

Depository Institutions Micro Finance Institutions

Mortgages

Social Security and Public Pensions

Financial Institutions and Services: Government Policy and Regulation Monetary Policy, Central Banking, and the Supply of Money and Credit:

General Banking Finance Pensions

Financial services law & regulation

Monetary economics Nonperforming loans Pension spending

Capital adequacy requirements

Commercial banks Financial institutions

Credit Money Loans

Financial regulation and supervision

Expenditure

Banks and banking Asset requirements Kazakhstan, Republic of

Lingua di pubblicazione

Inglese

Formato

Materiale a stampa

Livello bibliografico

Monografia

Note generali

Description based upon print version of record.

Nota di contenuto

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Sommario/riassunto

This Financial System Stability Assessment highlights that the global financial crisis exposed serious bank vulnerabilities in Kazakhstan. The authorities successfully contained the ensuing systemic crisis, however, left unaddressed important weaknesses that continue to linger. The government has nationalized three of the largest banks and restructured their external obligations, thus preventing a collapse of the banking system. The banks' solvency situation is adequate but somewhat fragile as a result of legacy problems. A faster transition to risk-based oversight is needed. The relative vulnerability of banks to shocks warrants increased emphasis on risk. This can be achieved

through the adoption of more advanced risk-assessment tools and a more extensive use of stress test results for risk analysis. The financial safety net and resolution framework were upgraded during the crisis but need further adjustments. The government amended the resolution framework in 2009 to incorporate several desirable features such as restructuring, purchase and assumption, and bridge bank. However, during the crisis it bypassed the use of sequential crisis management tools and nationalized banks and restructured their external liabilities. The resolution framework suffers from the absence of special authority and requires the approval of depositors and creditors. Adjustments to the Emergency Liquidity Assistance framework are needed to limit its availability to solvent institutions.