


# DEEP DIVE ASIA



**Thursday 2nd December 2021**

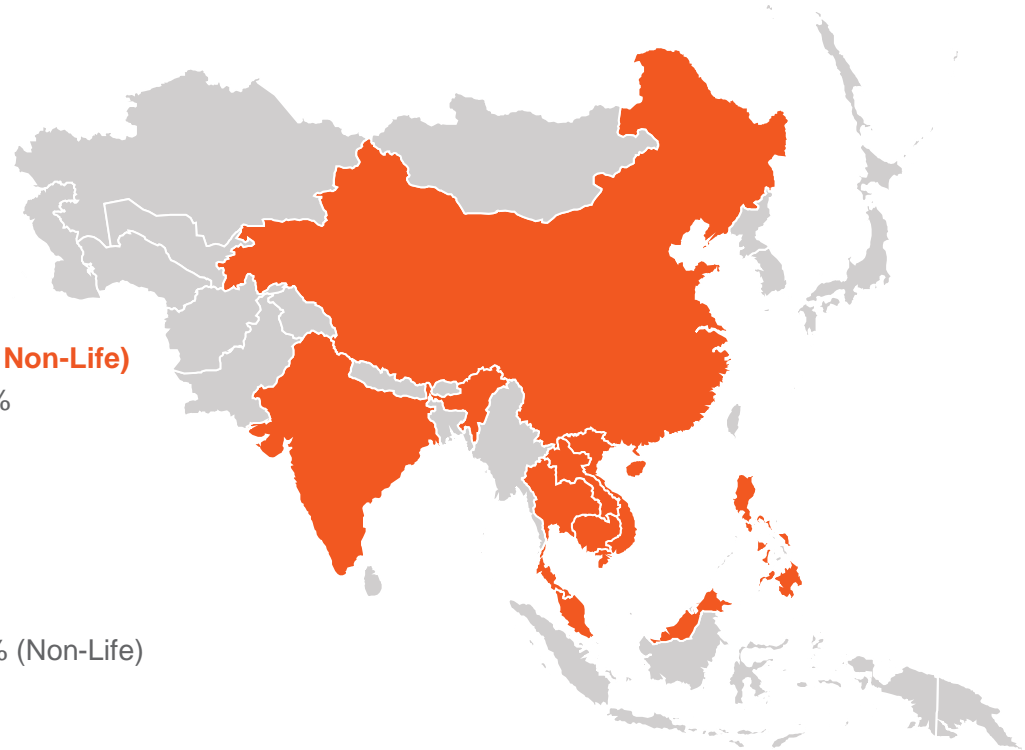
**FOCUS ON CHINA**

ageas®

- 
- I. 20 years of value creation in Asia
  - II. A closer look on China
  - III. Core financials TPL

**20 years of  
value creation  
in Asia**

# A franchise that started exactly 20 years ago



## China (#6)

**2001** Taiping Life – 24.90%

- Gross Inflows: EUR 19.5 bn
- Life Technical Liabilities: EUR 75.2 bn
- Shareholders' Equity: EUR 8.5 bn

**2020** Taiping Re – 24.99%

- Gross Inflows: EUR 2.2 bn
- Life Technical Liabilities: EUR 2.7 bn
- Shareholders' Equity: EUR 1.2 bn



## Malaysia & Singapore (#4 Life / #1 Non-Life)

**2001** Maybank Ageas Holdings – 30.95%

- Gross Inflows: EUR 2.2 bn
- Life Technical Liabilities: EUR 5.9 bn
- Shareholders' Equity: EUR 1.5 bn



## Thailand (#3 Life / #5 Non-life)

**2004** Muang Thai – 30.87% (Life) & 14.87% (Non-Life)

- Gross Inflows: EUR 2.5 bn
- Life Technical Liabilities: EUR 12.9 bn
- Shareholders' Equity: EUR 4.2 bn
- Active in Cambodia & Laos



## India (#18 Life / #11 Non-Life)

**2008** Ageas Federal (Life) – 49%

**2019** Royal Sundaram General (Non-Life) – 40%

- Gross Inflows: EUR 565 mio (Life: EUR 220mio; Non-Life: EUR 345 mio)
- Life Technical Liabilities: EUR 1.2bn
- Shareholders' Equity: EUR 260 mio



## Vietnam (#6)

**2015** MB Ageas Life – 32%

- Gross Inflows: EUR 130 mio
- Life Technical Liabilities: EUR 74 mio
- Shareholders' Equity: EUR 53 mio



## Philippines (#15)

**2015** EastWest Ageas Life – 50%+1 share

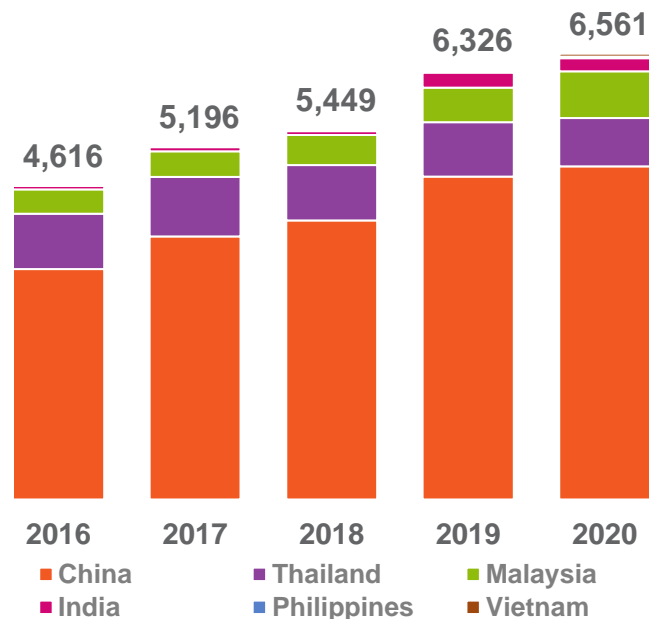
- Gross Inflows: EUR 49 mio
- Life Technical Liabilities: EUR 75 mio
- Shareholders' Equity: EUR 108 mio



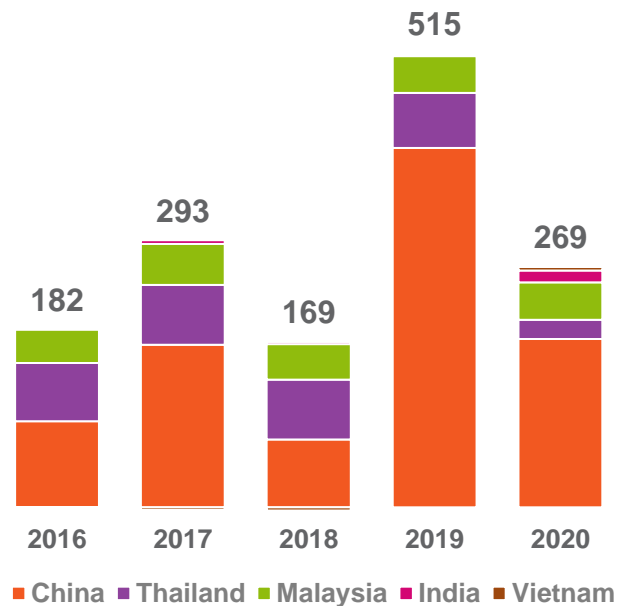
Note: Information based on FY2020 results. All figures are at 100%.

# Companies at different level of development

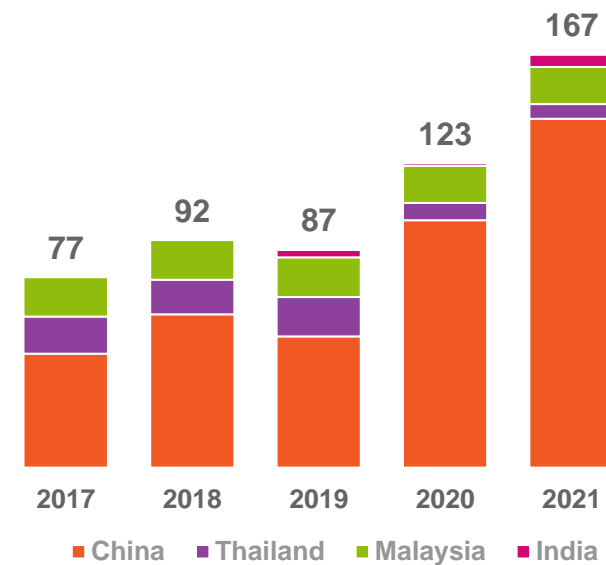
Gross Inflows @Ageas' stake  
EUR, mio



IFRS Net Result @Ageas' stake  
EUR, mio



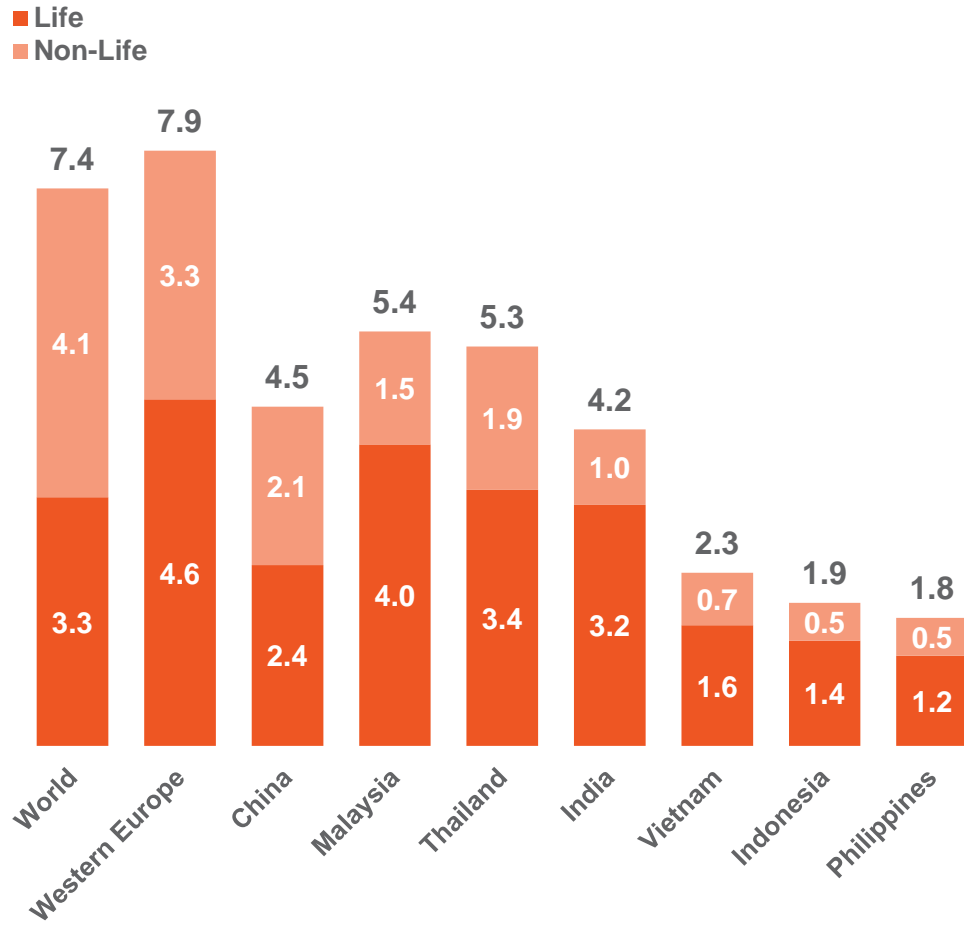
Net Dividend Upstream @Ageas' stake  
EUR, mio



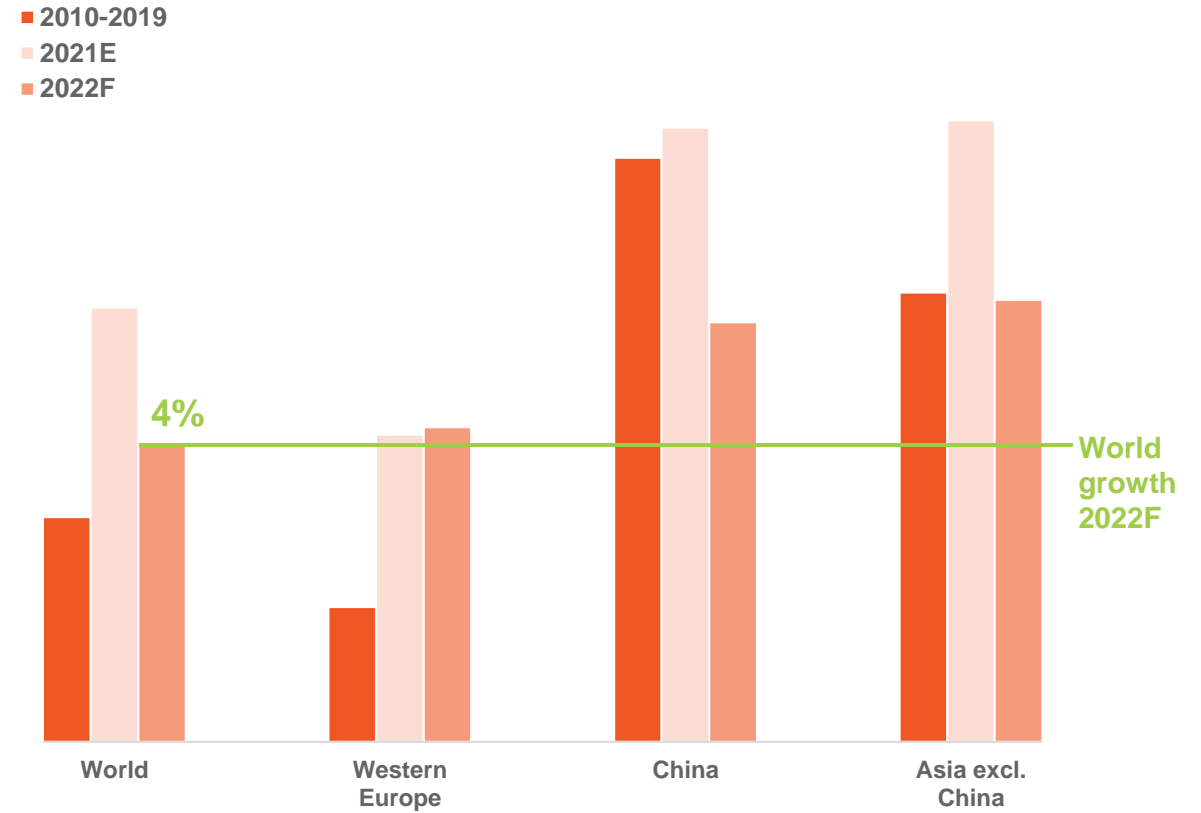
## Companies at different levels of development

- Mix of greenfield and cash generating companies
- Top line growth emerging rapidly
- Net profit contribution following shortly after
  - Growth profile = volatility in results
  - Vietnam profitable in year 3, from a greenfield start
- Only recent start-ups in Vietnam and the Philippines not yet cash generating
  - Earlier JV's self-funding + contributing to cash upstream

### Premiums as a % of GDP in 2020



### Real GDP growth

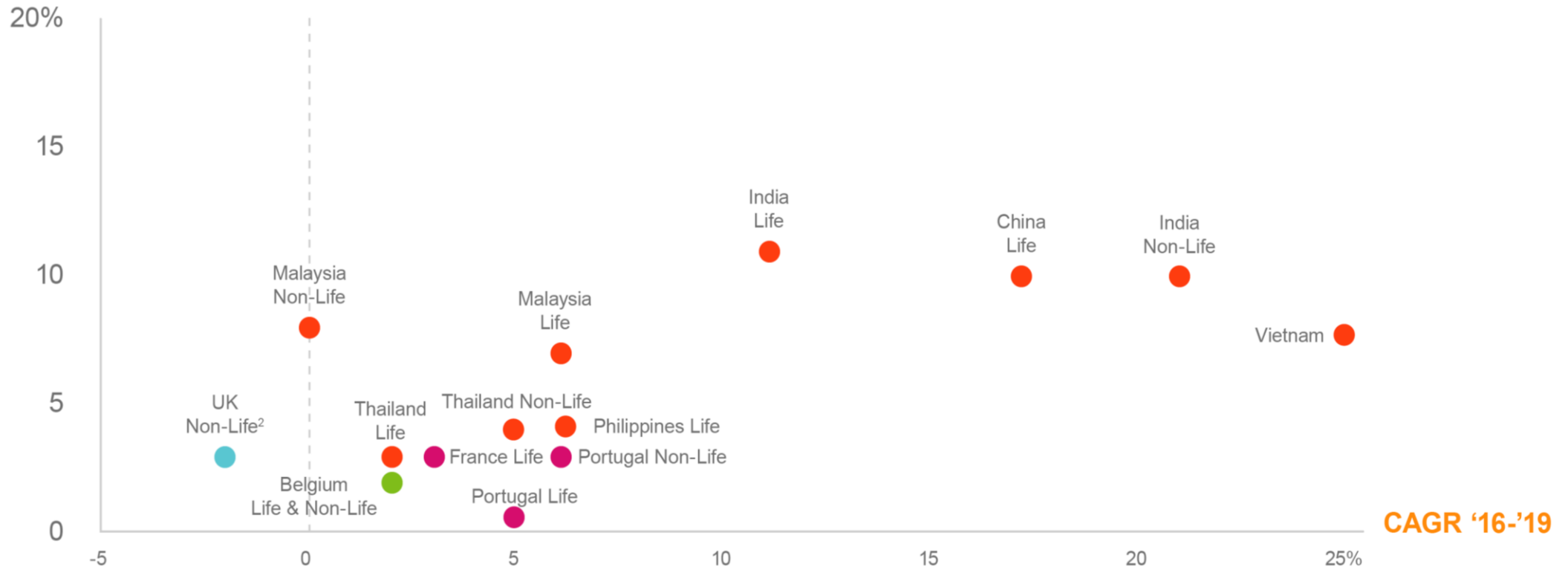


Source: Swiss Re

# Potential for the future

## Insurance premium

'20-'24 CAGR



Source: GlobalData; National insurance associations



## Potential for the future

- Confident on valuable long-term picture on China, supported by middle class and income development
- Short term growth could be under pressure

## Overview of critical success factors for a partnership

**Our approach  
to  
partnerships is  
both unique  
and effective**



## Overview of critical success factors for a partnership

- A careful, methodical and robust two-way selection process
- Alignment of interest, both in the short and long term
- Shared ambitions, visions and values
- Continuously evolving to remain attractive
- Local autonomy and empowerment are critical factors in the long-term health of the partnership
- Impact 24 closely aligned with each JV
  - Value added in innovation, knowledge sharing, R&D, co-investment
  - Workstreams started with respect to distribution diversification, protection products, health, platforms/eco system, ESG

## Management participation next to Board representation

### Part of the local management structure

#### China

Representative Office;

Country Manager, Chief Representative, Shanghai Representative Office

Taiping Life; Chief Actuary, Deputy Chief Financial Officer,

Taiping Asset Management; Chief Risk Officer

Taiping Reinsurance; Assistant General Manager

Taiping Financial Services; Senior Expert

#### Thailand

Muang Thai Life; Chief Bancassurance Officer, Deputy Chief Financial Officer / CIO and Chief Actuary, Senior Executive Vice President

Muang Thai Insurance; Deputy Chief Financial Officer / CIO and Chief Actuary MTL serves on MTI management committee

#### The Philippines

Troo; President & Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial & Risk Officer, Chief Strategy and Business Development Officer, Chief Distribution Officer

#### Malaysia

Maybank Ageas Holdings; Chief Risk Officer, Head, Customer Advocacy

Etiqa Insurance, Singapore; Chief Risk Officer

#### India

Ageas Federal Life; Chief Transformation Officer, Chief Risk Officer

Royal Sundaram; Chief Risk Officer, Chief Digital Officer

#### Vietnam

MB Ageas Life; First Deputy General Director, Chief Financial Officer, Chief Actuary & Risk Officer, Chief Operating Officer

## Management participation next to Board representation

- Extensive interaction all the way down, through Ageas executive and management committee, and Hong Kong regional office
- Ageas' Exco members participate to local Boards
- Ageas well represented in local management teams
  - “Senior Country Officer” as first point of contact for strategic issues and shareholder support
  - Key roles are agreed by JV agreements with Ageas, focus on Risk and Actuarial functions
  - Other roles evolving over time, determined by strategic goals, needs and respective skill sets
  - Ageas secondees are part of, not separate to, the local management structure reporting

# A closer look on China

## Taiping Life Partnership with Ageas since 2001



**中国太平**  
**CHINA TAIPING**

State-owned enterprise,  
a State Council owned insurance group



### A greenfield start in November 2001

250 Employees  
500 Agents  
4 offices in 4 cities

No customers

### To today

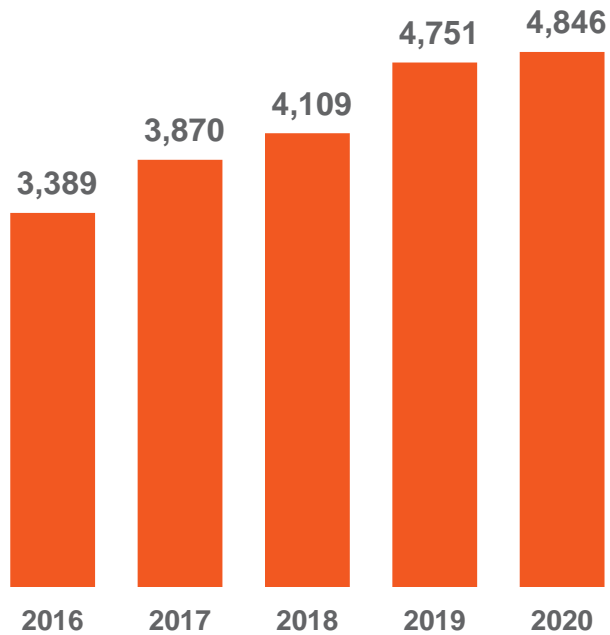
19,000+ employees  
370,000+ agents

1,400 branches and sale offices

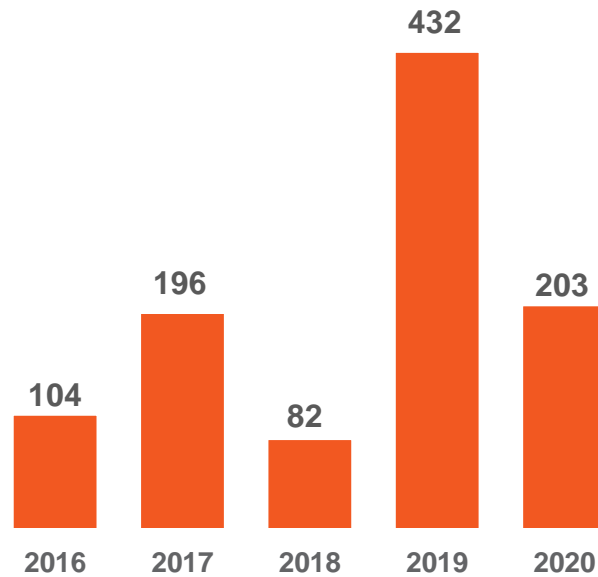
15 mio customers

# Consistent, stable growth that fuels a strong pattern of dividend flows

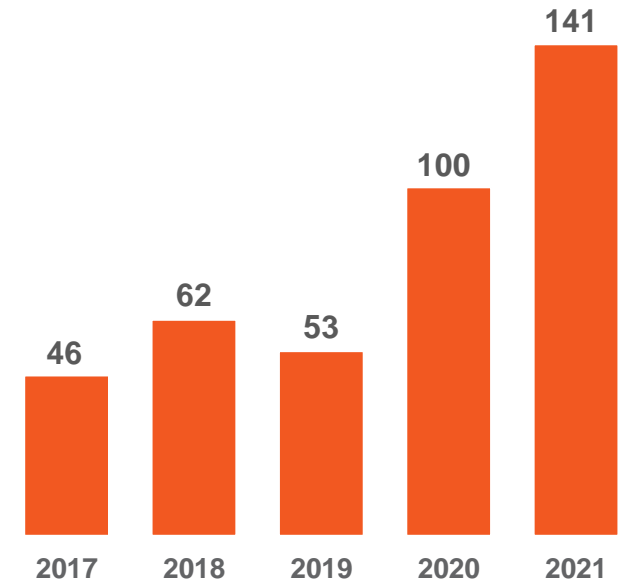
IFRS Gross Inflows @Ageas' stake  
EUR, mio



IFRS Net Result @Ageas' stake  
EUR, mio

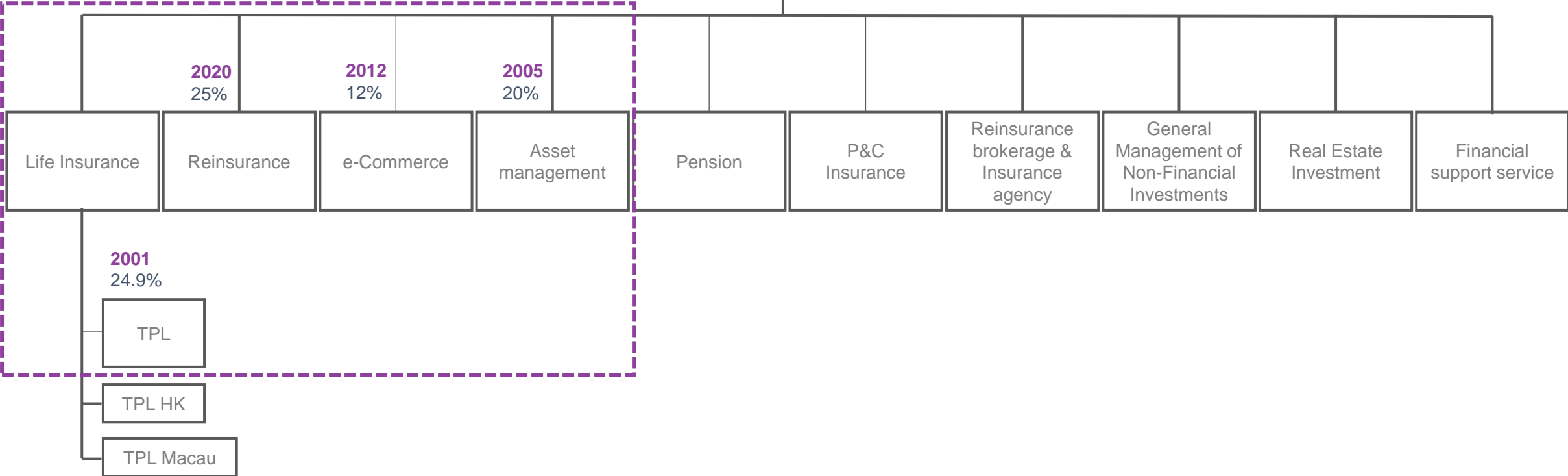


Net Dividend Upstream @Ageas' stake  
EUR, mio



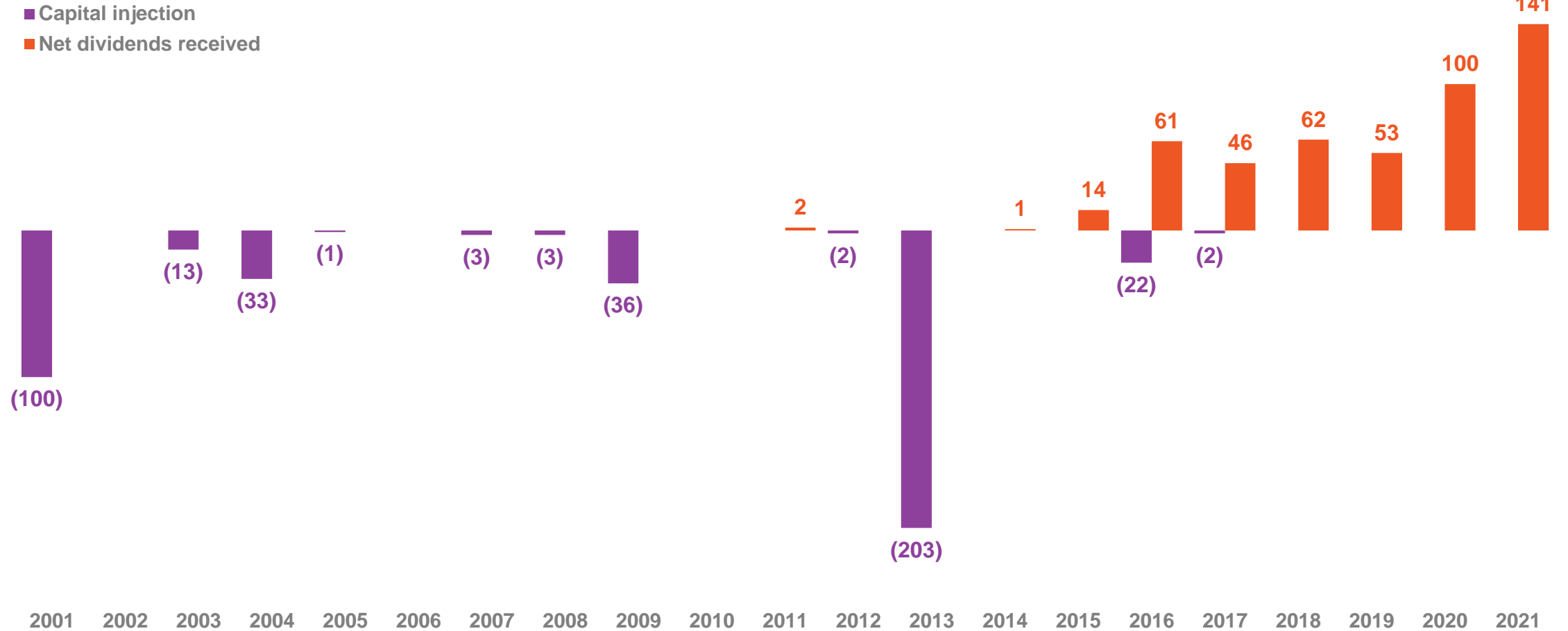


# Partnership in several entities – strengthened over the years



# TPL profitable since 2006 and consistent positive cash flows since 2014

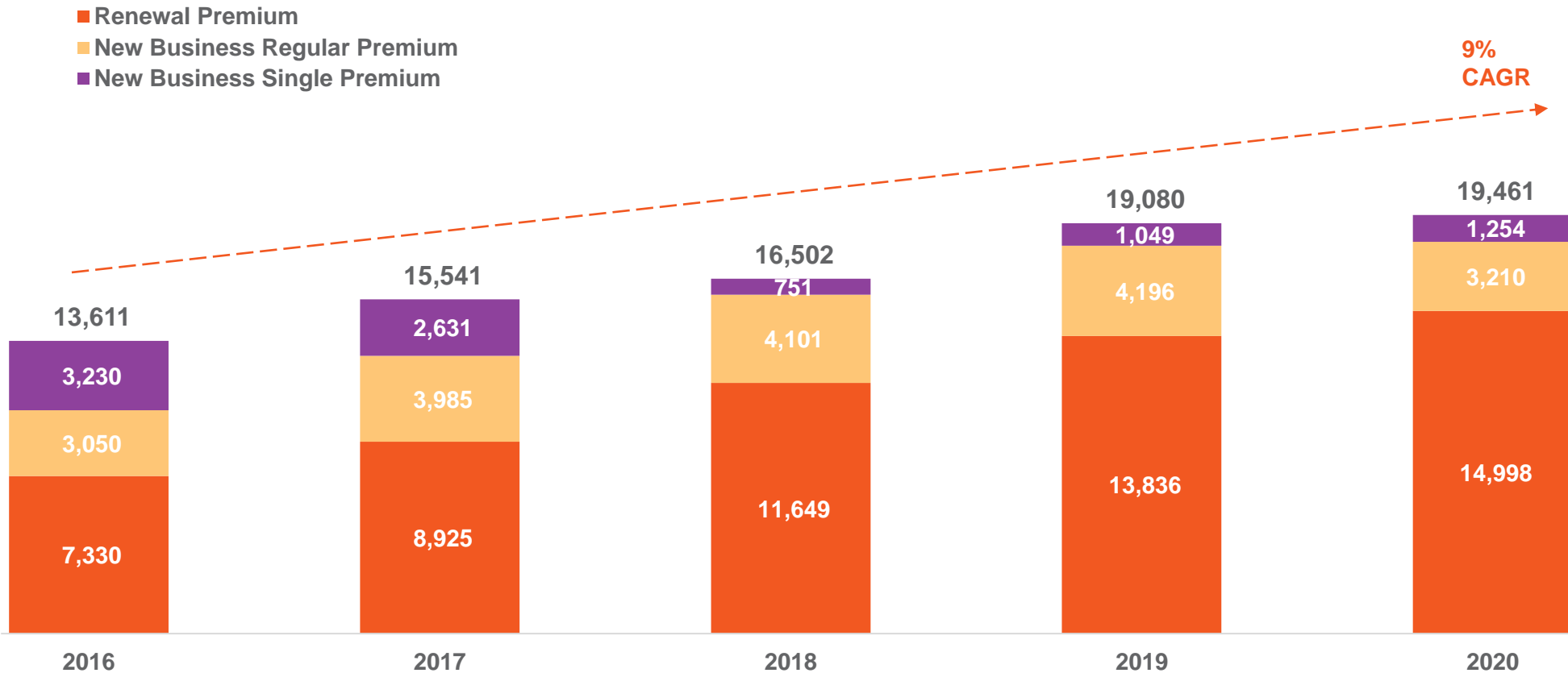
## Capital injection and net dividends received. EUR, mio



Note: Cashflows from China, not including Taiping Re

## Inflow growth driven by renewals and regular premium

Life Gross Inflow by Premium @100%. EUR, mio

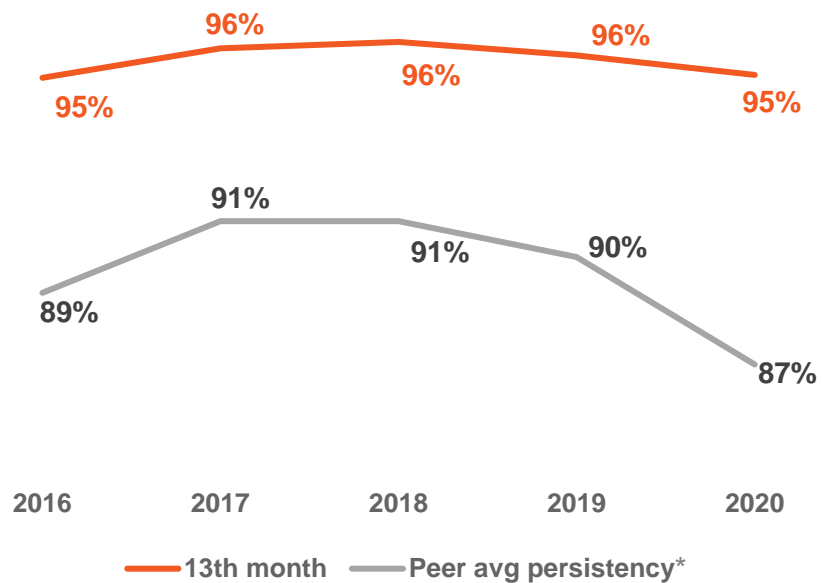


## Inflow growth driven by renewals and regular premium

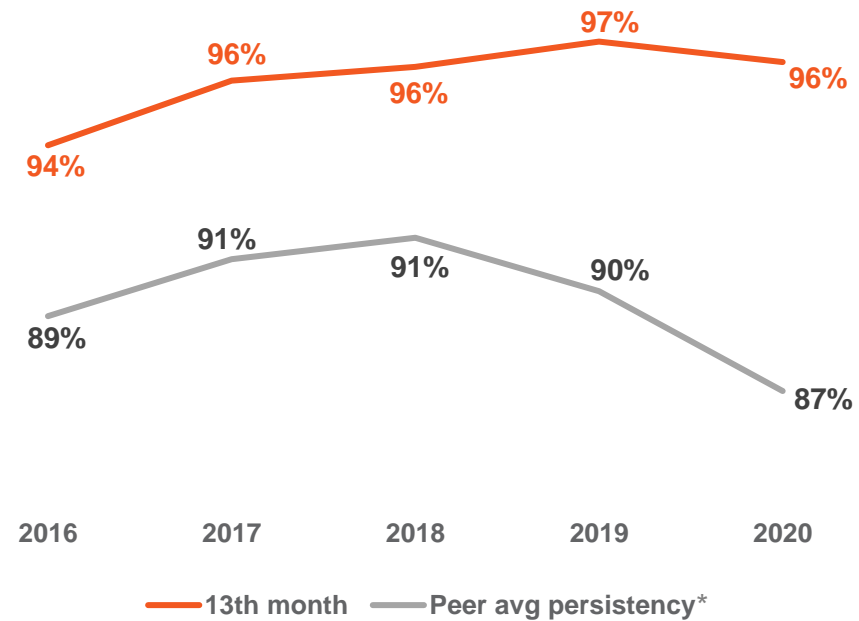
- Strong growth pattern despite COVID disruptions in 2019-2020.
- Decrease of single premium sales, now largely tactical sales used in the bancassurance channel, and also to help drive the expense margin
- Regular premiums account for 72% of new business, driving the book
- Renewals doubled in 4 years, driven by high persistency

# Market leading persistency ratio

## Agency Persistency



## Banca Persistency

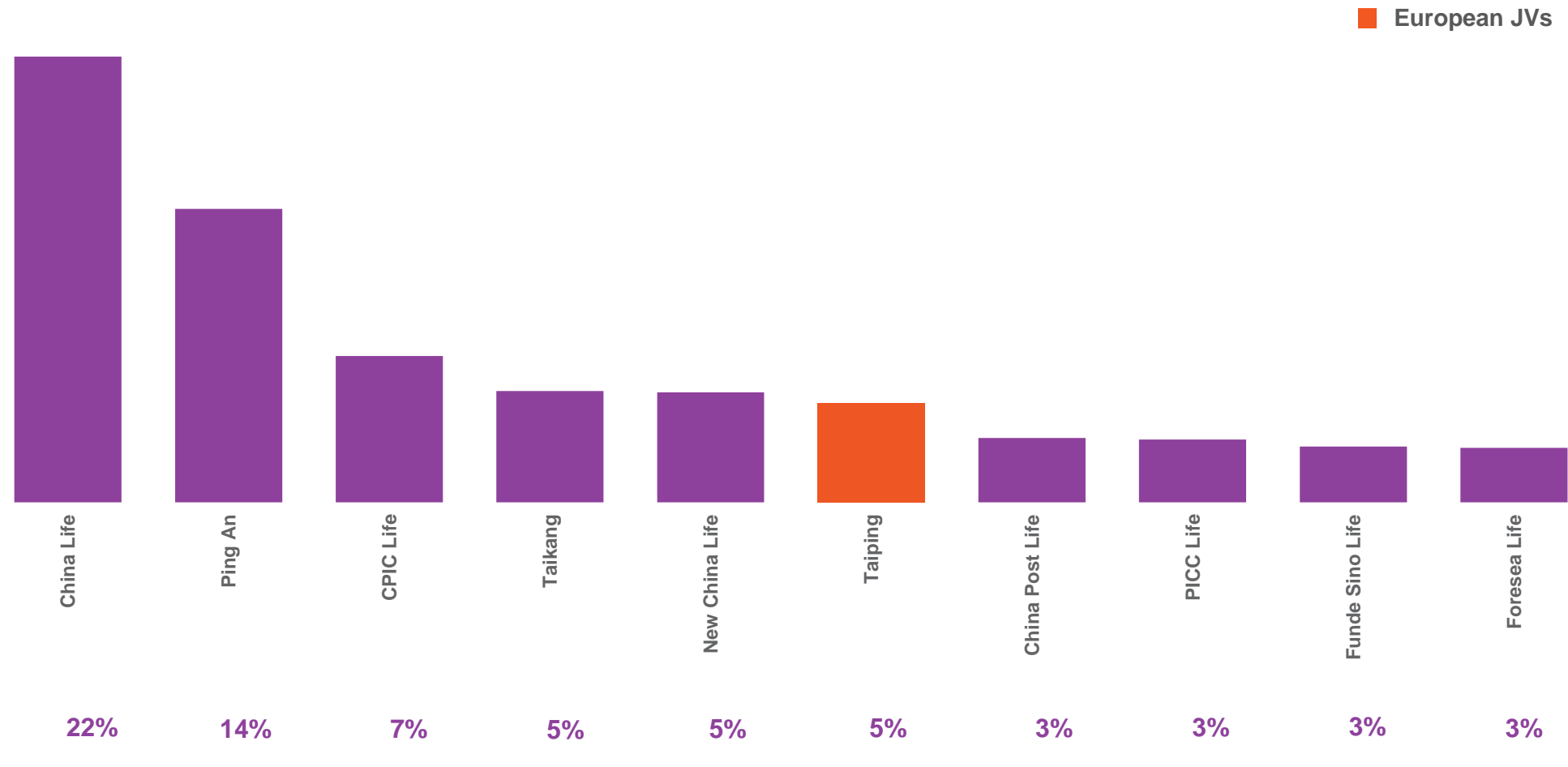


Note: \*Peers: Ping An Life, China Life, China Pacific Life, PICC Life and New China Life.



# From start-up to top 6 Life insurer in 20 years

Top 10 life insurers in China by inflows, YTD Sep'21. EUR, bn

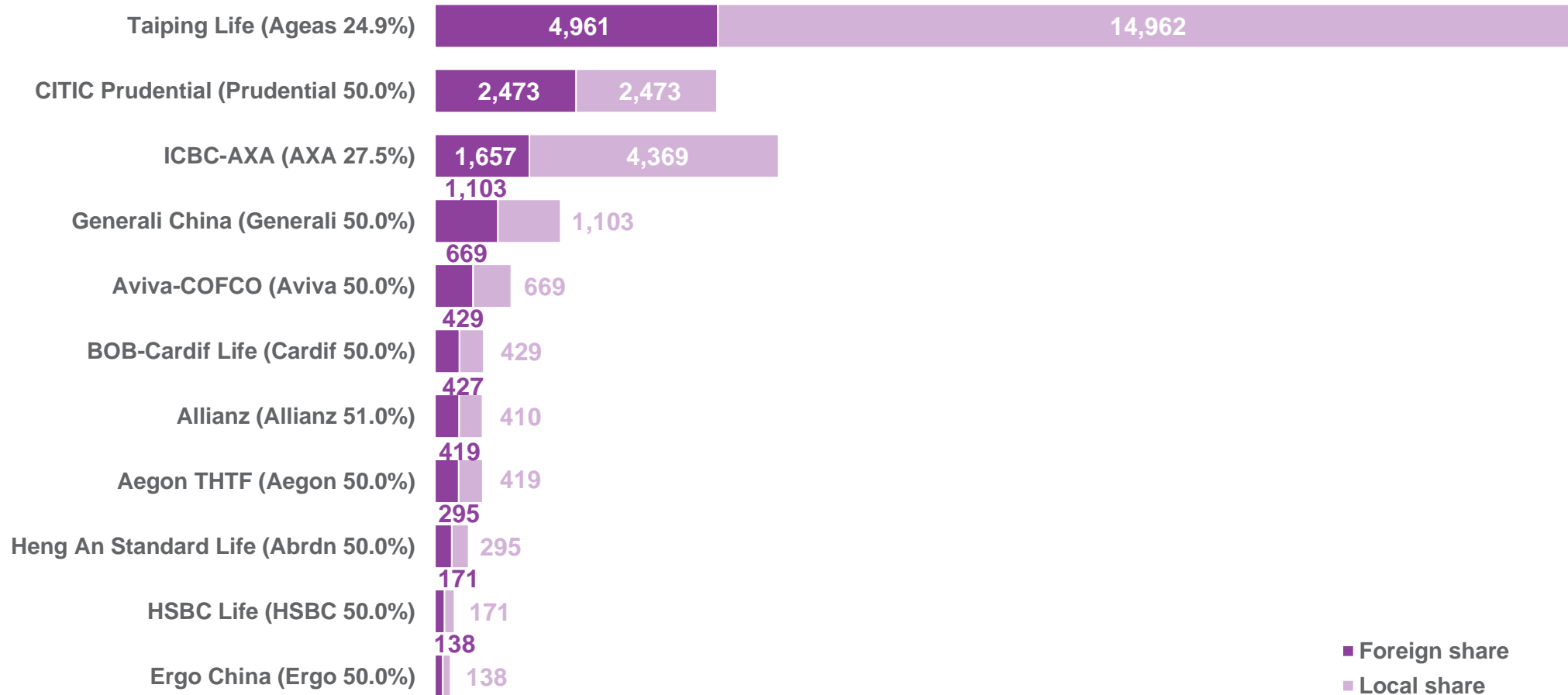


Market share  
YTD Sep'21

# Ageas has by far the largest presence of European insurers in China

## 25% stake created possibility to obtain national mandate

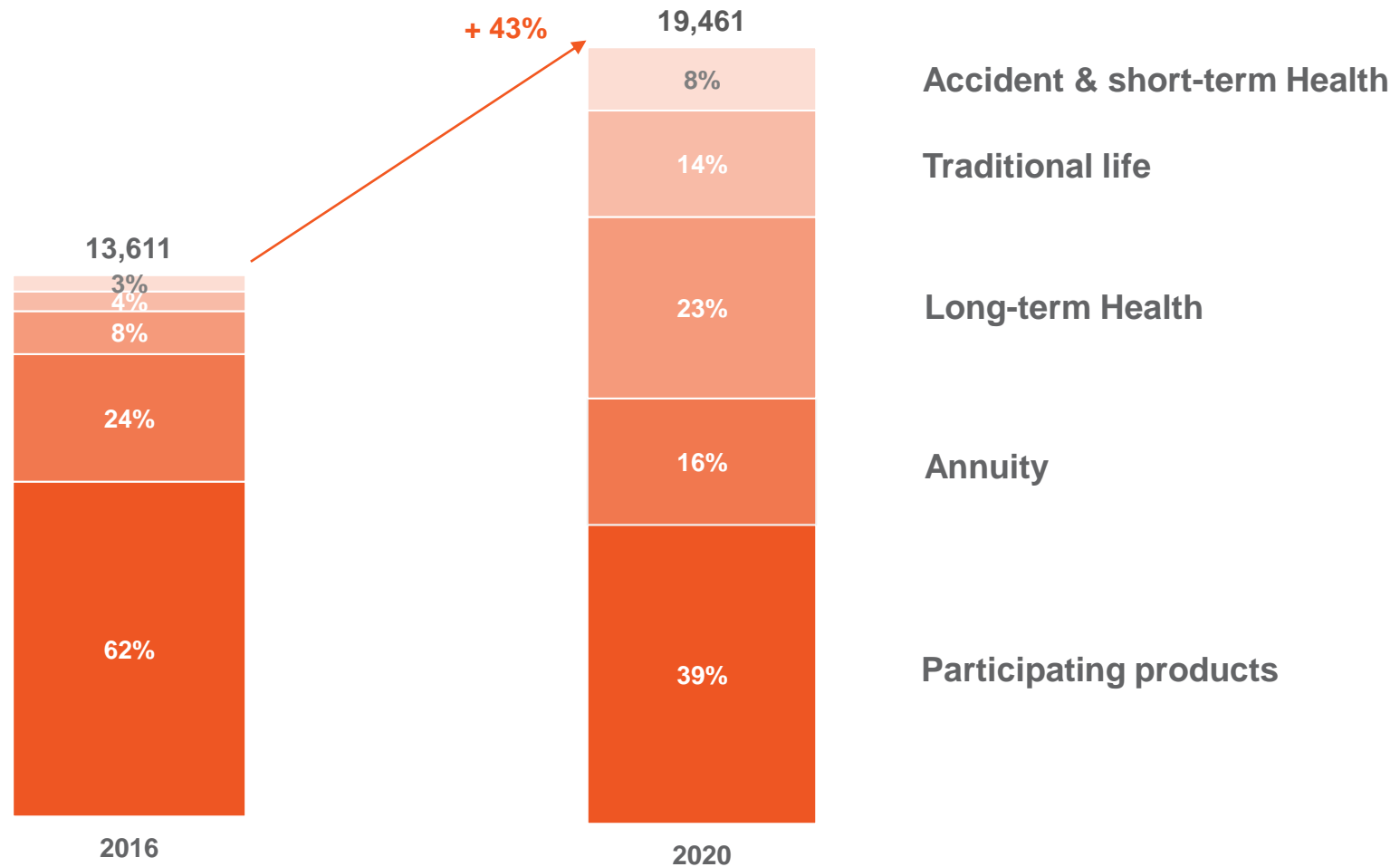
European life JV's in China by inflow, 2020. EUR, mio





# Breakdown of premium

Premiums by product, @100%. EUR, mio



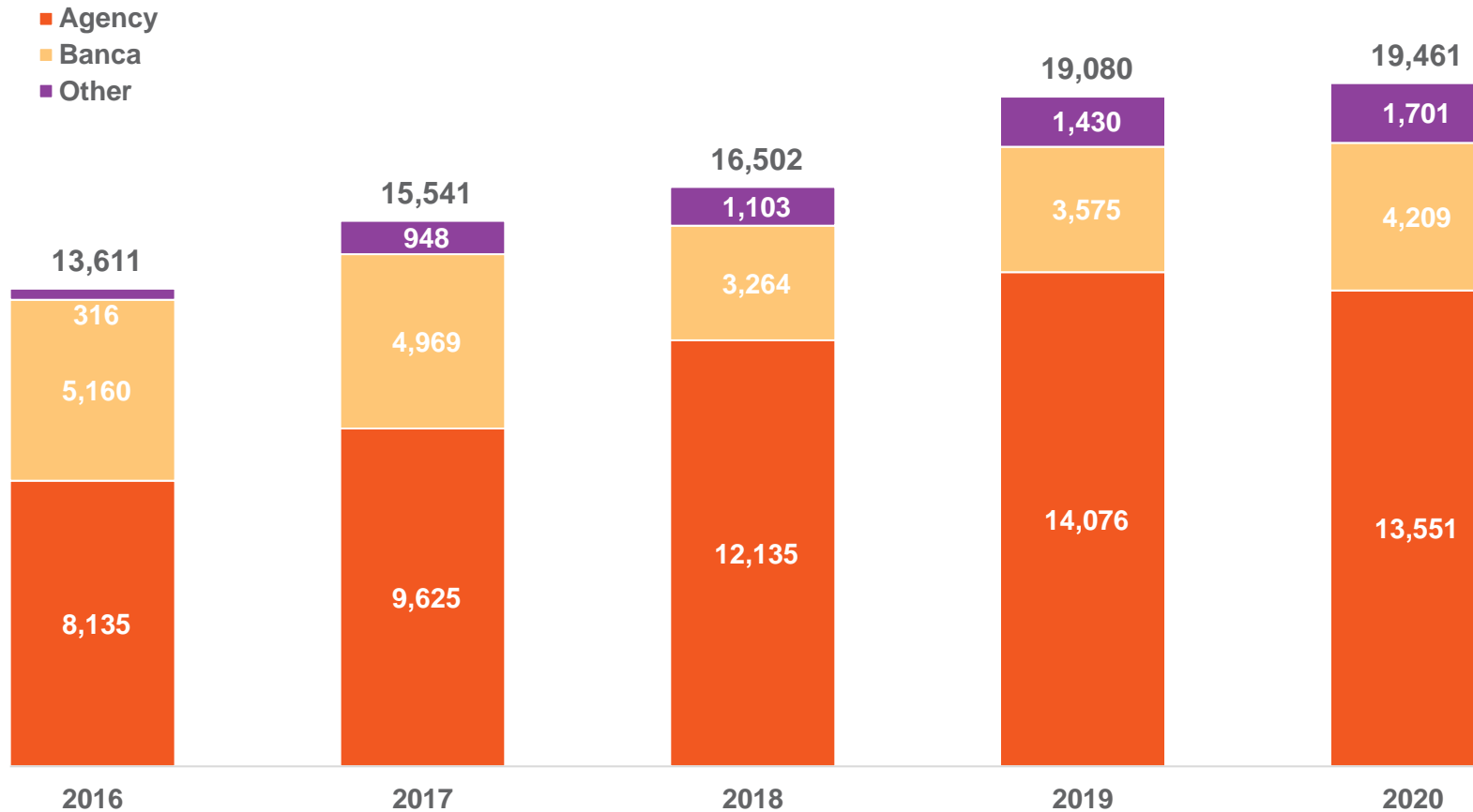


## Breakdown of premium

- **Accident & short-term Health:** Products paying lump sums or medical expense reimbursement (up to limits) on occurrence of accident and/or sickness
- **Traditional Life:** Whole life / endowment products with main benefits payable upon either death or maturity
- **Long-term Health:** Critical illness products providing a lump sum cash benefit upon diagnosis of specific diseases
- **Annuity:** Mostly annuity-certain (i.e., fixed term benefits) saving products with survival benefits as well as death benefits. Lower risk than traditional European annuity products
- **Participating products:** Whole life / endowment products with main benefits payable upon either death or maturity, with least 70% share of the profits coming from mortality, expenses and investment profits on the Participating fund

# Agency network main distribution channel

Life Gross Inflow by Distribution Channel @100%. EUR, mio

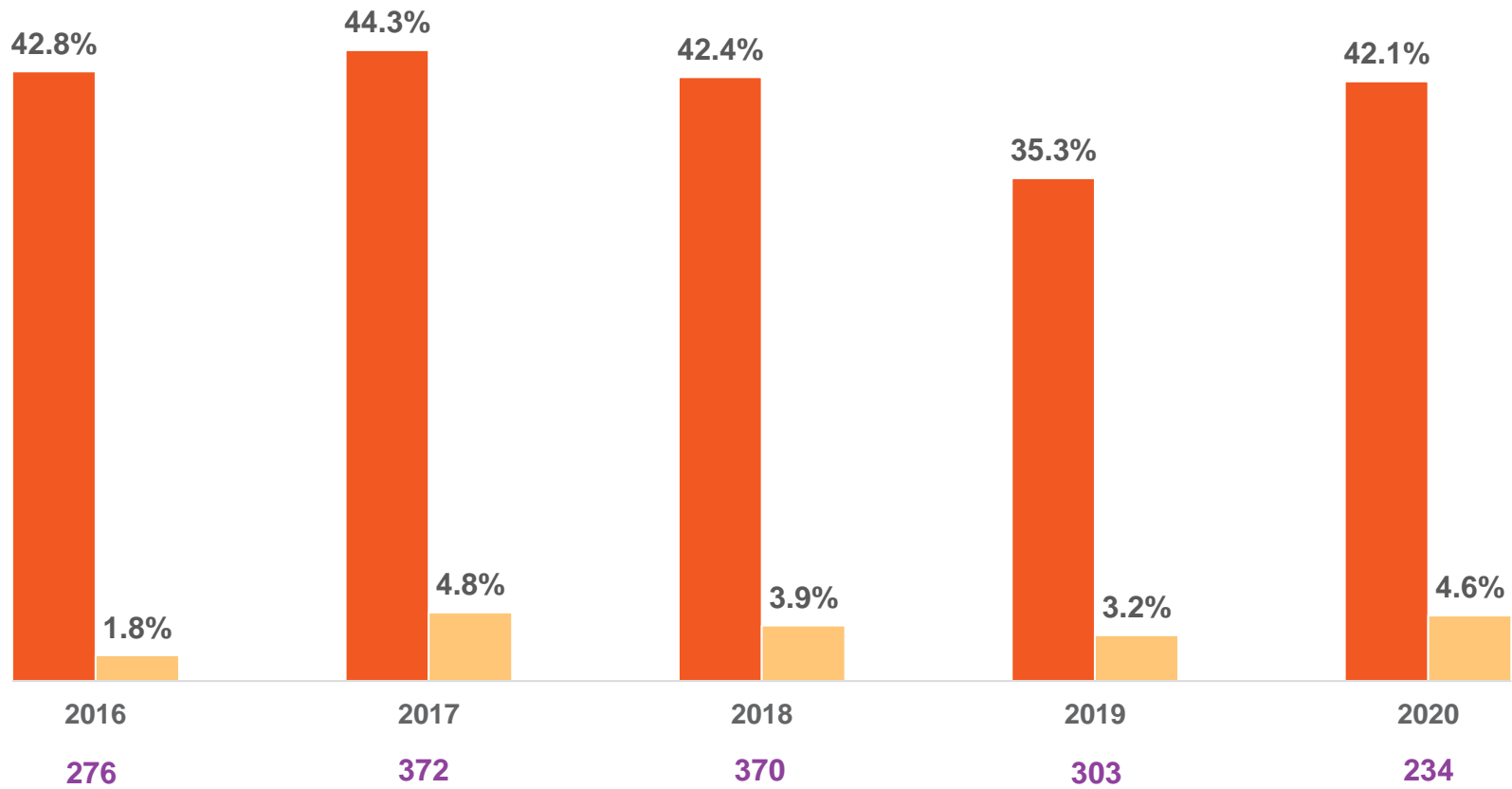




# Inflow growth supported by high value agency network

### NBV margin per segment

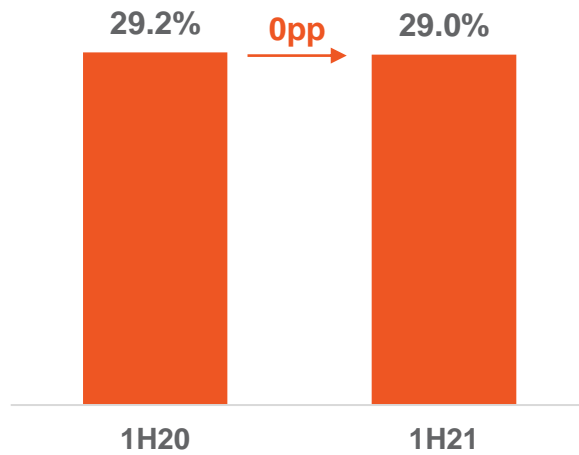
- Agency
- Banca



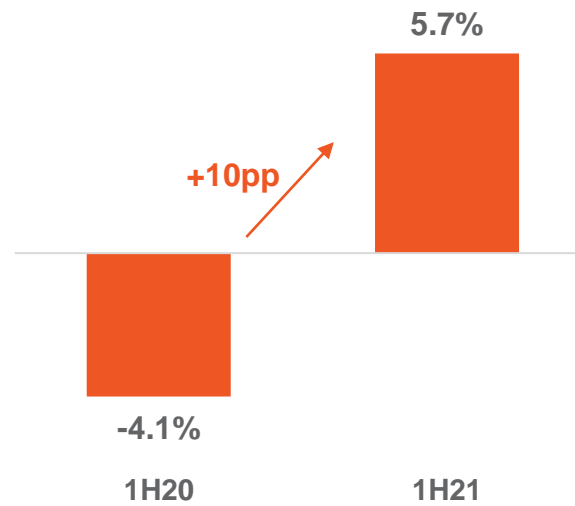
NBV @Ageas stake  
EUR, mio

# Strong focus on improving business profitability in the banca channel

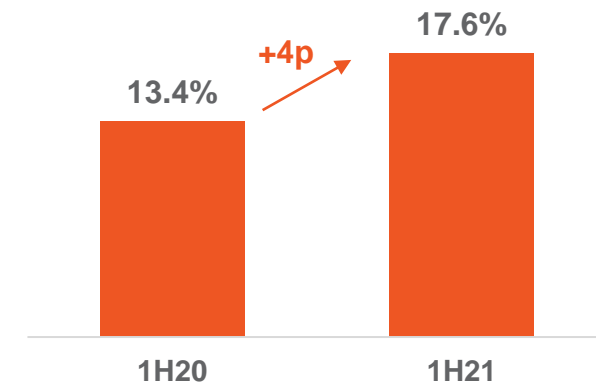
### Agency NBV margin



### Bancassurance NBV margin



### NBV margin



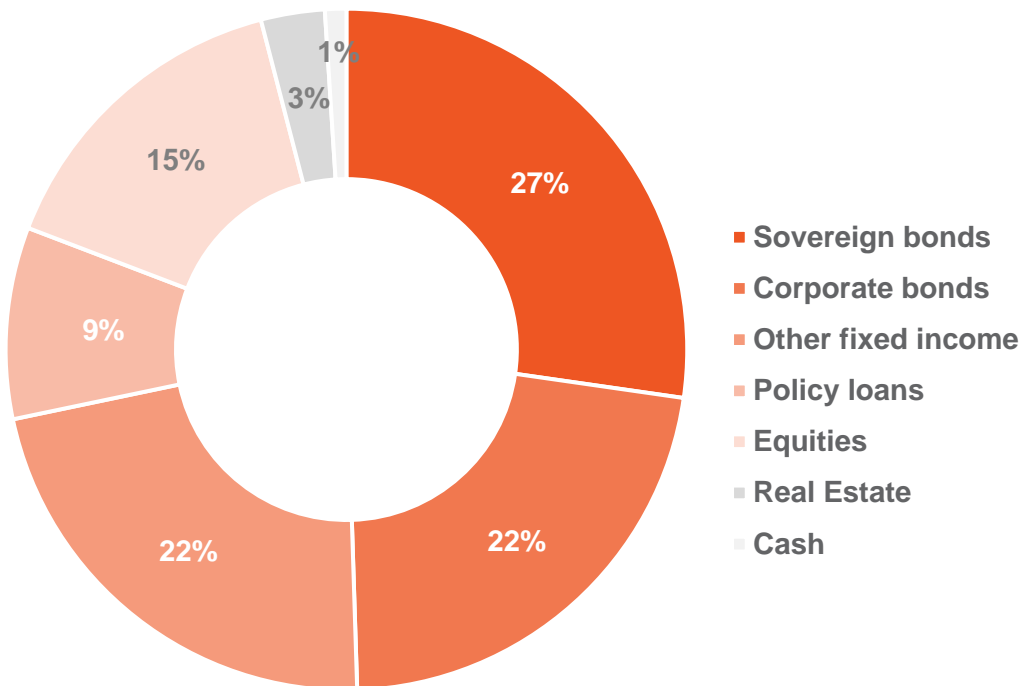
NBV margin H1 traditionally lower than H2 due to higher volumes sales during the opening campaigns

## Inflow growth supported by high value agency network

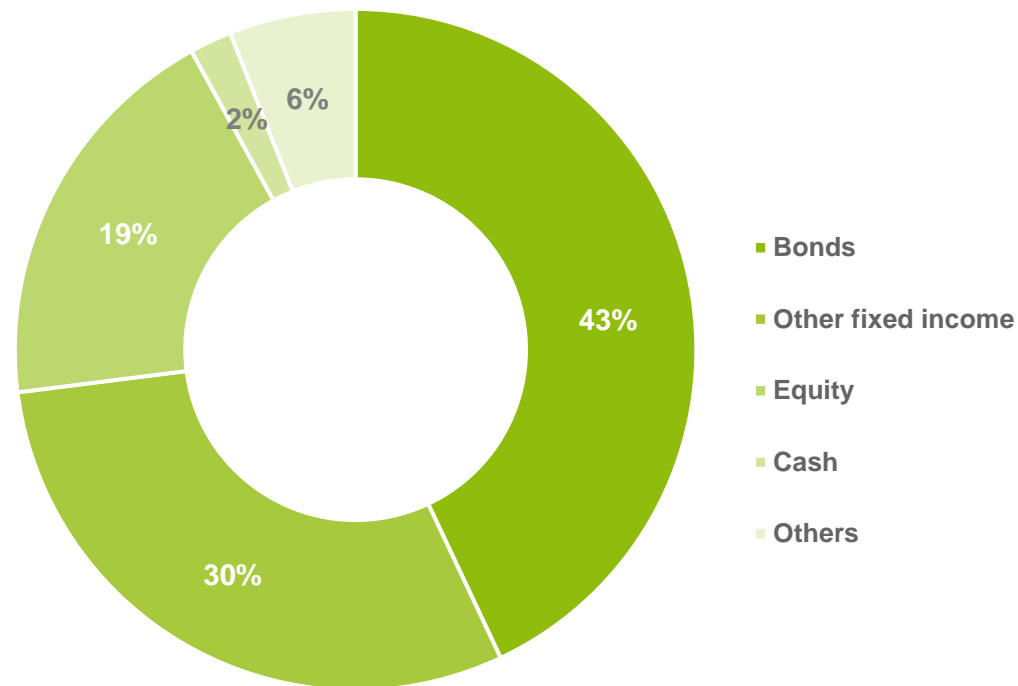
- Agency is main driver of inflows with c. 400k dedicated agents
  - Total agency force stable (1H21 vs. 1H20)
  - Strong focus on high-performance agents
  - Number of agents with FYRP over RMB 1 mio up 50%+ (1H21 vs. 1H20)
  - Agents focus on selling high margin products whereas banca tends to focus on volume
  - Average tenure of agents > 3 years (20% < 1 year, 20% 1-2 years, 40% 3-5 years, 20% > 5 years)
- Strong focus on improving business profitability in the banca channel
  - Increased focus on regular premium and long-term payment
  - H1 NBV margin traditionally lower due to higher sales volumes during the beginning of the year “opening campaigns”
- Other channels mainly e-marketing and telemarketing - niche market distribution strategy

# TPL's asset allocation is more conservative than peers\*

TPL Asset Mix



Market Asset Mix



\*Peers: Ping An Life, China Life, China Pacific Life, PICC Life and New China Life

## TPL's asset allocation is more conservative than peers

- Biggest part of assets allocated to fixed income
  - 83.5% domestic - with 99.8% being rated AAA under local rating standards
  - 91.5% of the international bonds are investment grade
  - Bonds assessed against TPAM internal rating system built on international norms and developed with Ageas technical support
- Typically, higher allocation to equities than in Europe but below peers' norms
  - Fundamental research and value investment
  - Addresses the fundamental duration mismatch inherent to young insurance market with no cash-outflows – still 3, 4 years before market reaches a tipping point
  - A third of the equity portfolio is high dividend that are not actively traded
- Alternative investment\*: high credit rating with 97.2% of financial investment debt products rated AAA
- Limited exposure to real estate
  - Real estate is largely own use office buildings in key cities
  - Virtually no exposure to property development and none to Evergrande

Note: \*Mainly infrastructure and property development debt plans and trust products

## High quality growth strategy based on 8 goals

- 1 Steady growth of **premium income**
- 2 Continuous optimization of **business structure**
- 3 Industry-leading **quality**
- 4 **NBV growth** rate outperforming the market
- 5 Steady increase in **NBV margin**
- 6 Increase quality of **agency force**
- 7 Market-leading **persistence**
- 8 Industry-leading **ROE**



## High quality growth strategy based on 8 goals

- Close alignment between partners
- Sole KPI is value creation
  - Steady growth, at least in line with market, but not trade off on value
  - Focus on higher margin regular premium products while maintaining high persistency ratios
  - Enhanced training of agency force
- Continuous improvement in risk management and operational efficiencies
- Consistently rated by the CBIRC amongst the best-in-class insurers
  - Integrated risk rating A for 14 consecutive quarters
  - Top 3 in SAMRA – assessing completeness and effectiveness of governance structures
  - 90+ rating in ALM capability management

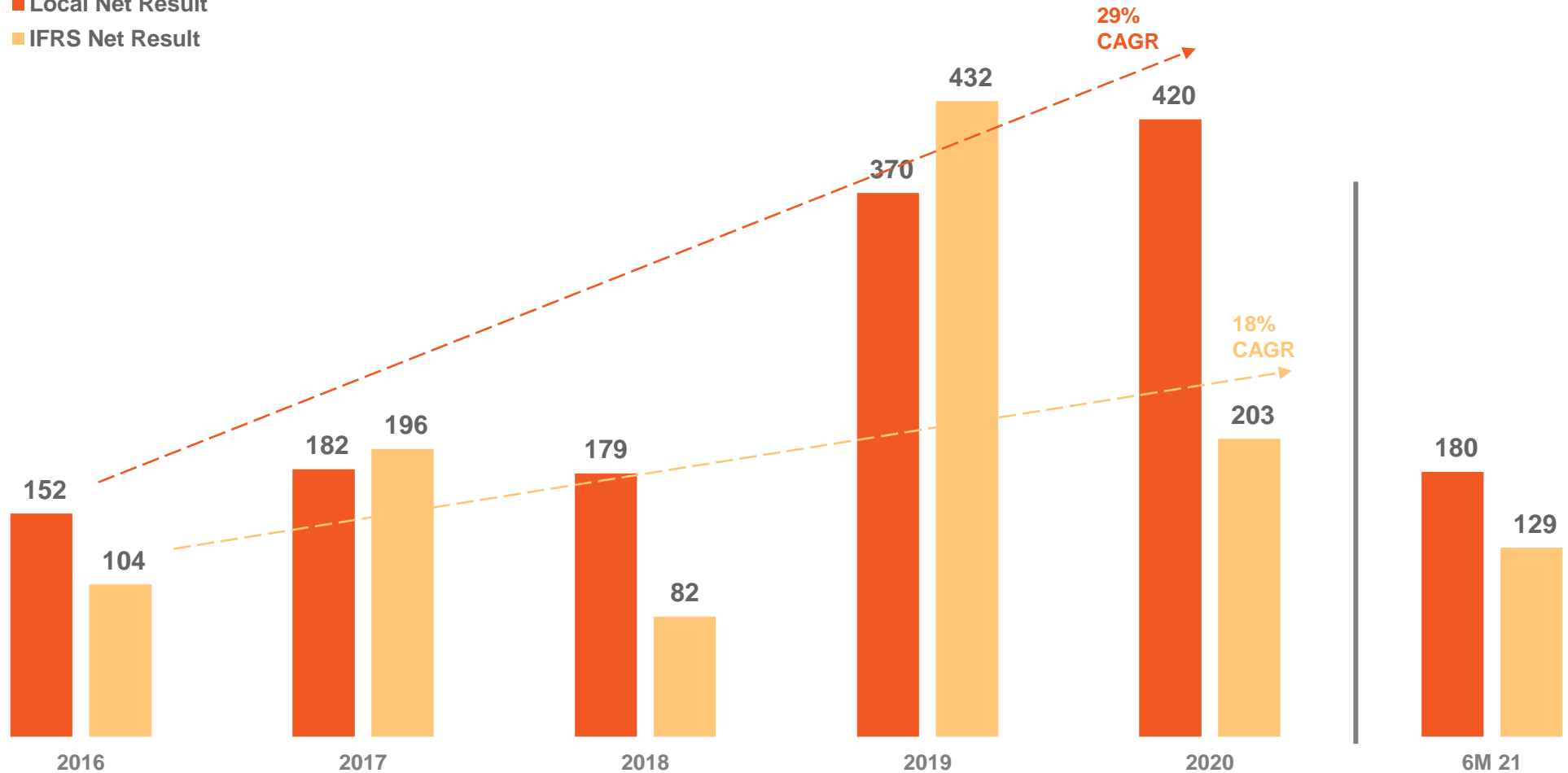


**Core financials**  
**TPL**

# Translation to IFRS framework adding extra layer of prudence

## Local vs IFRS Net Result @Ageas stake. EUR, million

- Local Net Result
- IFRS Net Result



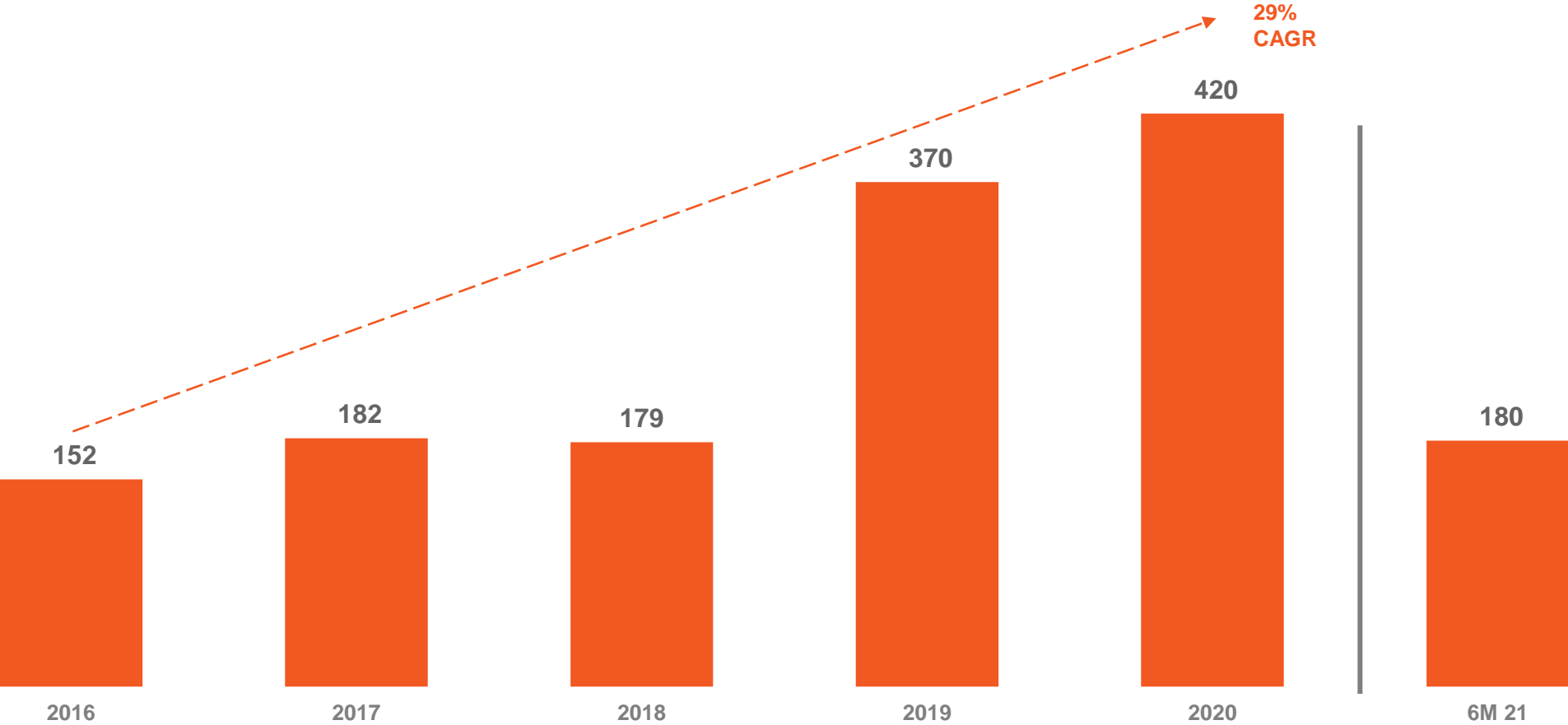
## Translation to IFRS framework adding extra layer of prudence

- Trend and CAGR positive, but quite volatile, with noticeable difference between IFRS and CAS result
- CAS drives dividend and free cash flows out of China
- IFRS result structurally more conservative due to accounting adjustments
  - Equity impairment rules - equities impaired faster and with higher frequency
    - IFRS: quarterly assessment, 25% threshold or 365 days below acquisition value
    - CAS: semi-annual assessment, 50% threshold or 365 days below acquisition value
  - Reclassification of HFT (fair value through P&L) to AFS - MTM booking reversed
  - Reclassification of property valuation from fair value through P&L to historical amortized cost
- Accounting adjustments translate into additional unrealized capital gains compared to CAS balance sheet
- Asymmetry through IFRS adjustments expected to largely disappear with implementation IFRS 17/9 in 2023

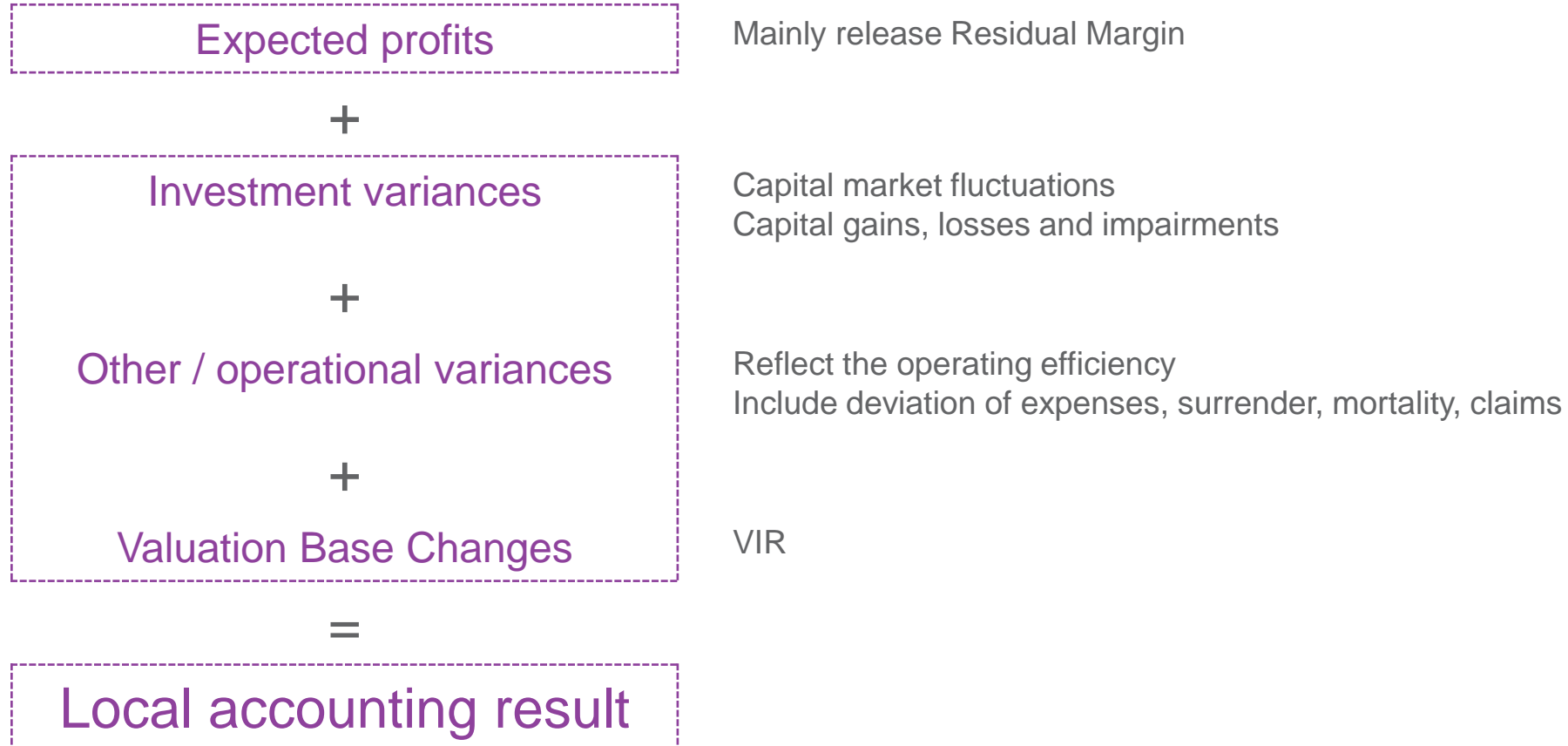


# Stable underlying release of residual margin and some volatile components

Local Net Result @Ageas stake. EUR, million



## Local accounting result mix of stable basis and volatile elements



## Local accounting result mix of stable basis and volatile elements

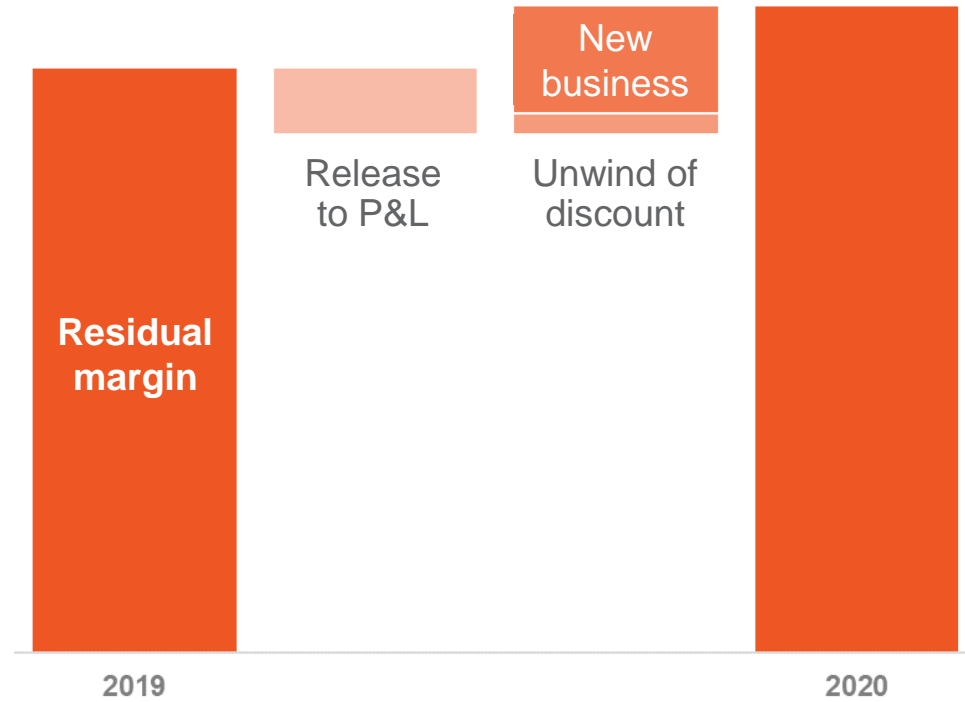
- Expected profit mainly determined by the concept of the release of residual margin; the release of an additional risk margin minus liability revaluation effects
- Investment variances capture the difference between the actual investment income realised over the reporting period and the investment assumptions made in determining the expected profit.
  - Most important component: realisation of capital gains and losses and impairments
- Non-investment variances capture mainly difference between actual experiences and operational performance over the year (expenses, lapse, mortality, etc) versus assumptions made in expected profit
- VIR effect captured under valuation base changes

# Residual margin best indicator to project long-term Life insurance profit

At issuance of the policy



Over the life-time of the policy



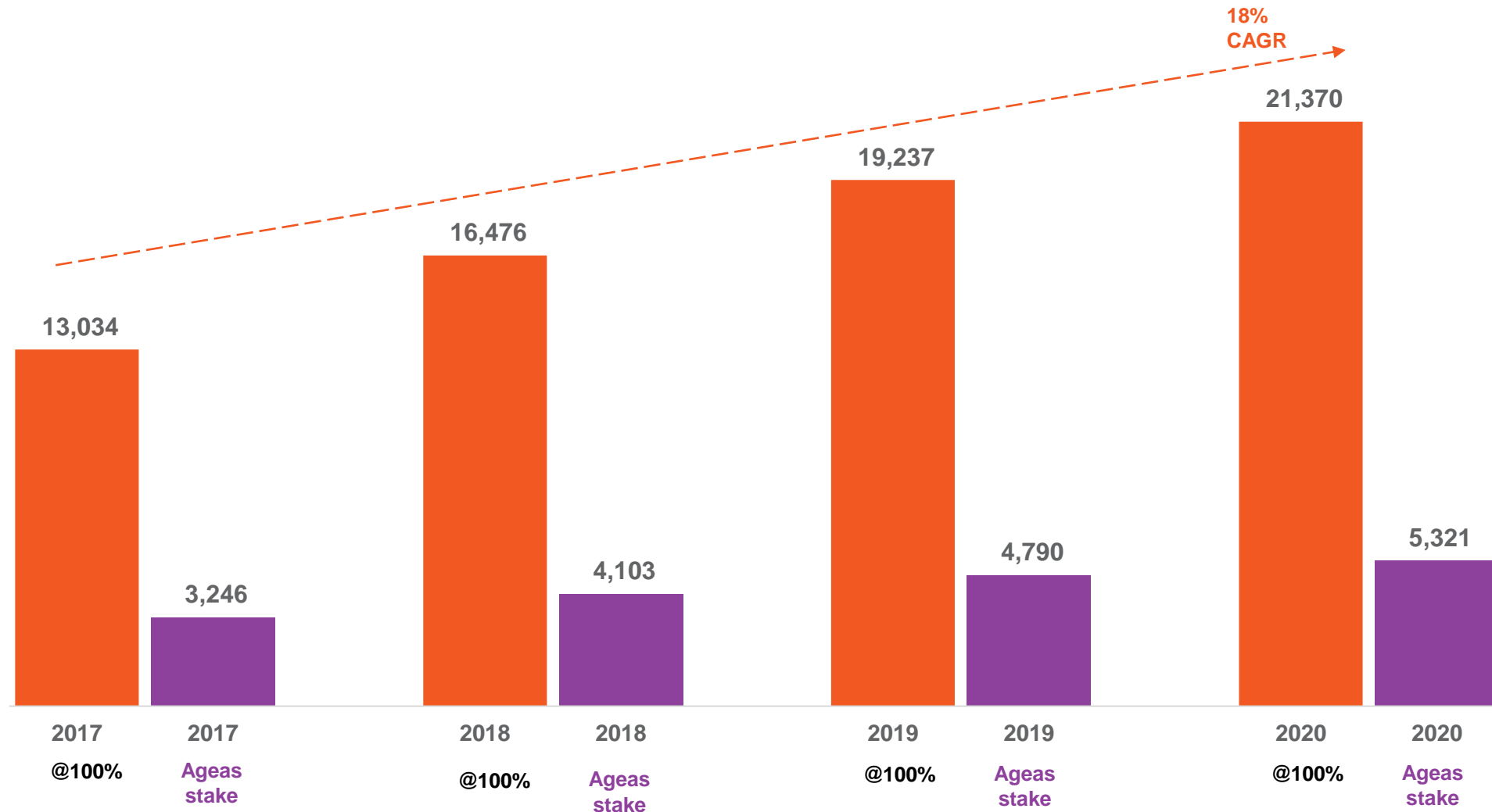


## Residual margin best indicator to project long-term Life insurance profit

- Captures best estimate of present value of profits, representing future profit potential, and is determined at issuance of a policy
- Not recognized as one-off profit at issuance and therefore not included in CAS Equity
- Amortized through P&L
  - Major source of the accounting profit
  - Immune to capital market fluctuations
  - Providing a stable long-term future profit
  - Comparable to release of CSM under IFRS 17
- The roll forward year on year driven by:
  - Yearly release flowing into P&L is determined by the duration – currently roughly around 11 years
  - Discount rate unwind based on an assumption of around 3.5% - slowly decreasing because of lower interest rates
  - Margins created by new business
- Residual margin > twice CAS Net Equity
- Both liability and its amortization through P&L gradually increasing over the years

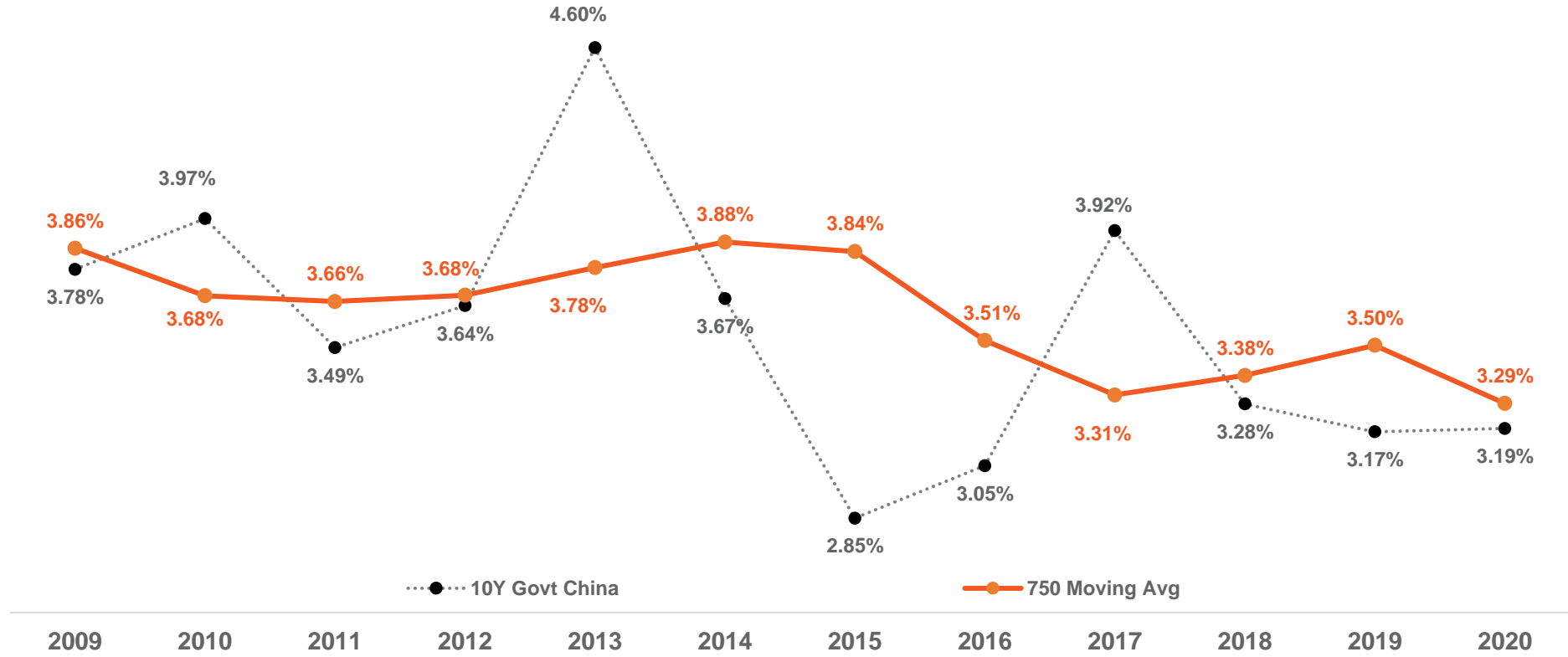
## Residual margin representing future profit potential gradually increasing

Residual Margin @100%. EUR, million



# VIR overestimates interest rate impact, while preserving future margins

10Y Govt rate & 750 Moving avg rate



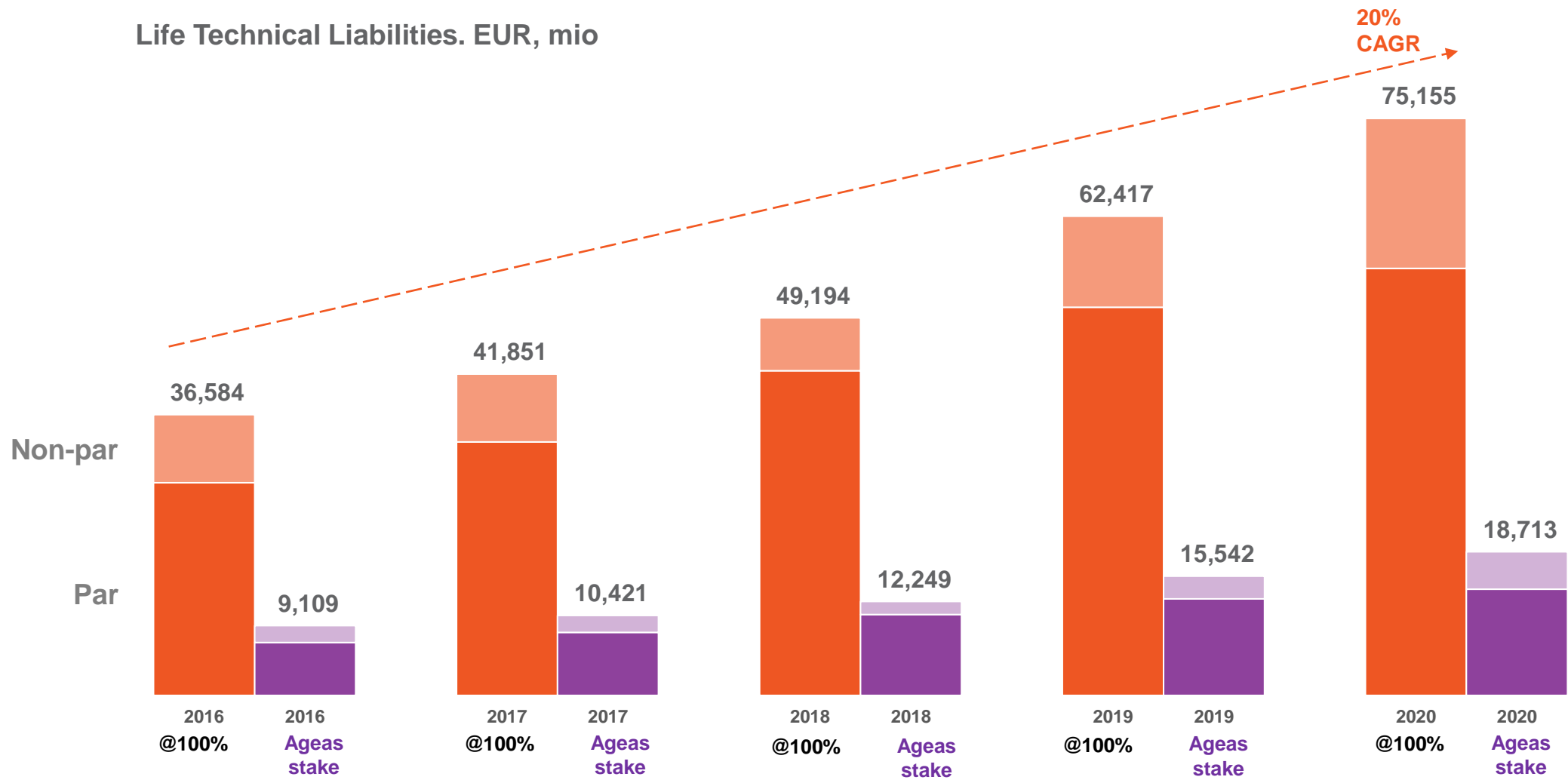
Impact on net result @ ageas stake  
EUR, million

(77) (75) 12 54 (116)



# Discount rate volatility on increasing Non-Par liabilities

Life Technical Liabilities. EUR, mio

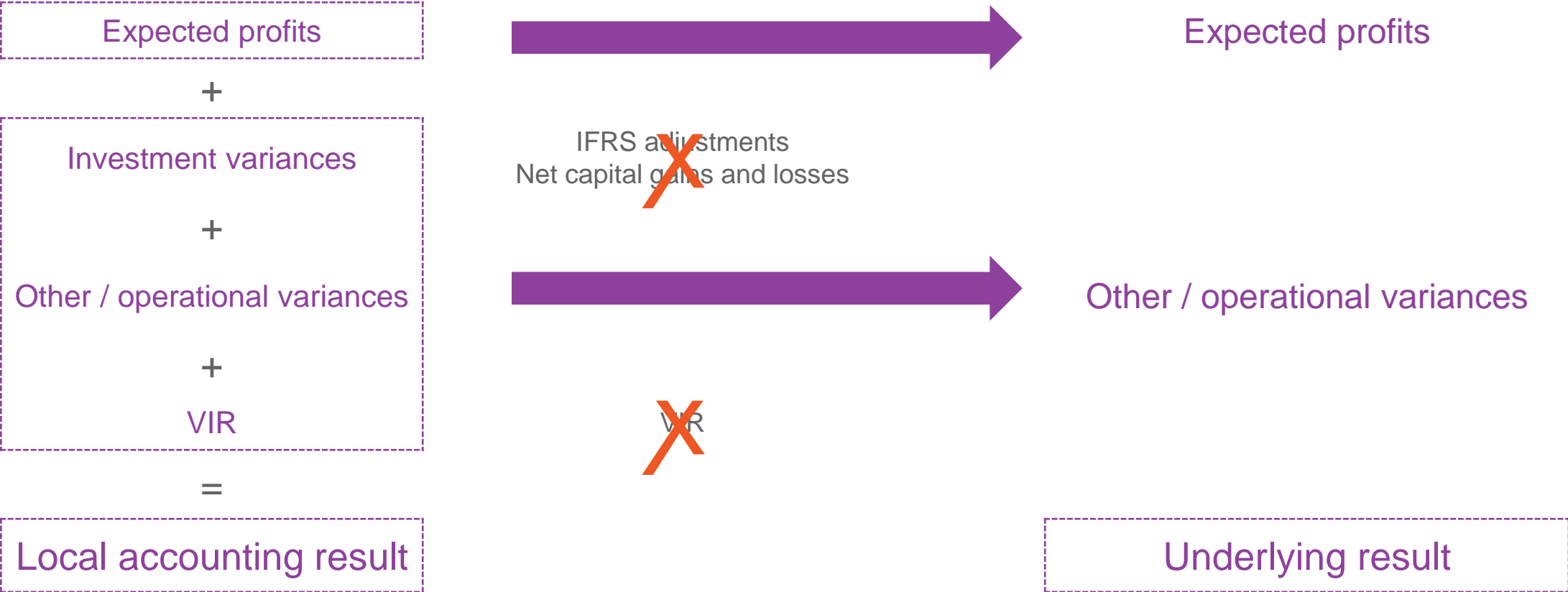


## VIR overestimates interest rate impact, while preserving future margins

- VIR impact essentially captures the cumulative positive or negative impact on earnings in the future, resulting from the change in reinvestment yields caused by interest rate movements
- VIR is calculated as the 750-day average yield curve, used to discount the Non-Par liabilities whereas vast majority of assets backing Non-Par liabilities are HTM. Cost of lower interest rate immediately hits P&L while investment income coming only gradually into P&L
- At constant rates and with delay, liabilities ultimately valued at market rates - no residual ALM risk
- The one-off recognition of VIR through earnings comes in exchange for keeping the future margins relatively stable
- Effective impact depends both on curve shape effects as well as volume of Non-Par liabilities on the balance sheet and hence is not obvious to exactly predict - volume in Non-Par has been growing over the years to around 30% of liabilities
- Ideally VIR should be amortized over the life span of the book to capture the true impact on recurring earnings
- VIR impact quite conservative, certainly partially artificial and will largely disappear under IFRS 17

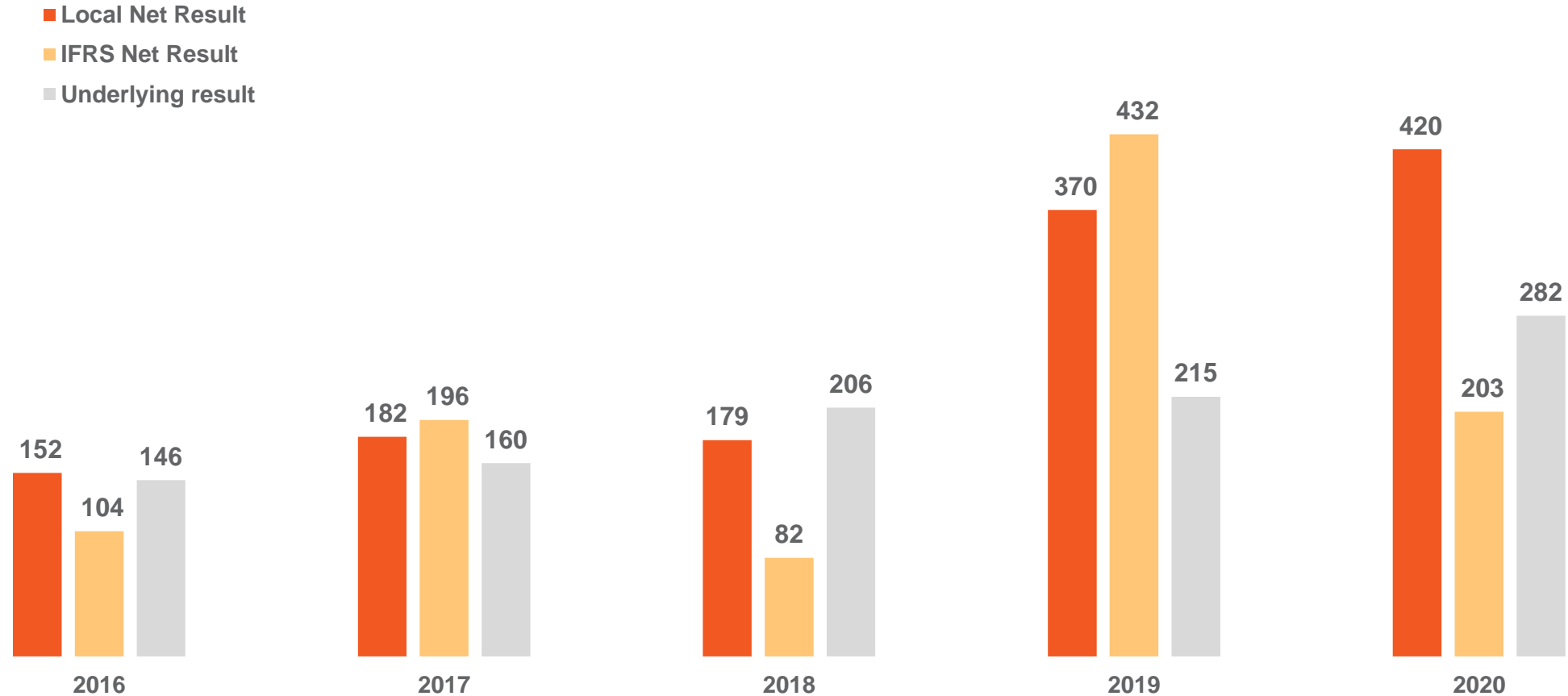


# Underlying IFRS result good proxy for operational performance



## Underlying IFRS result good proxy for operational performance

Local vs IFRS vs Underlying Result @Ageas' stake. EUR, mio

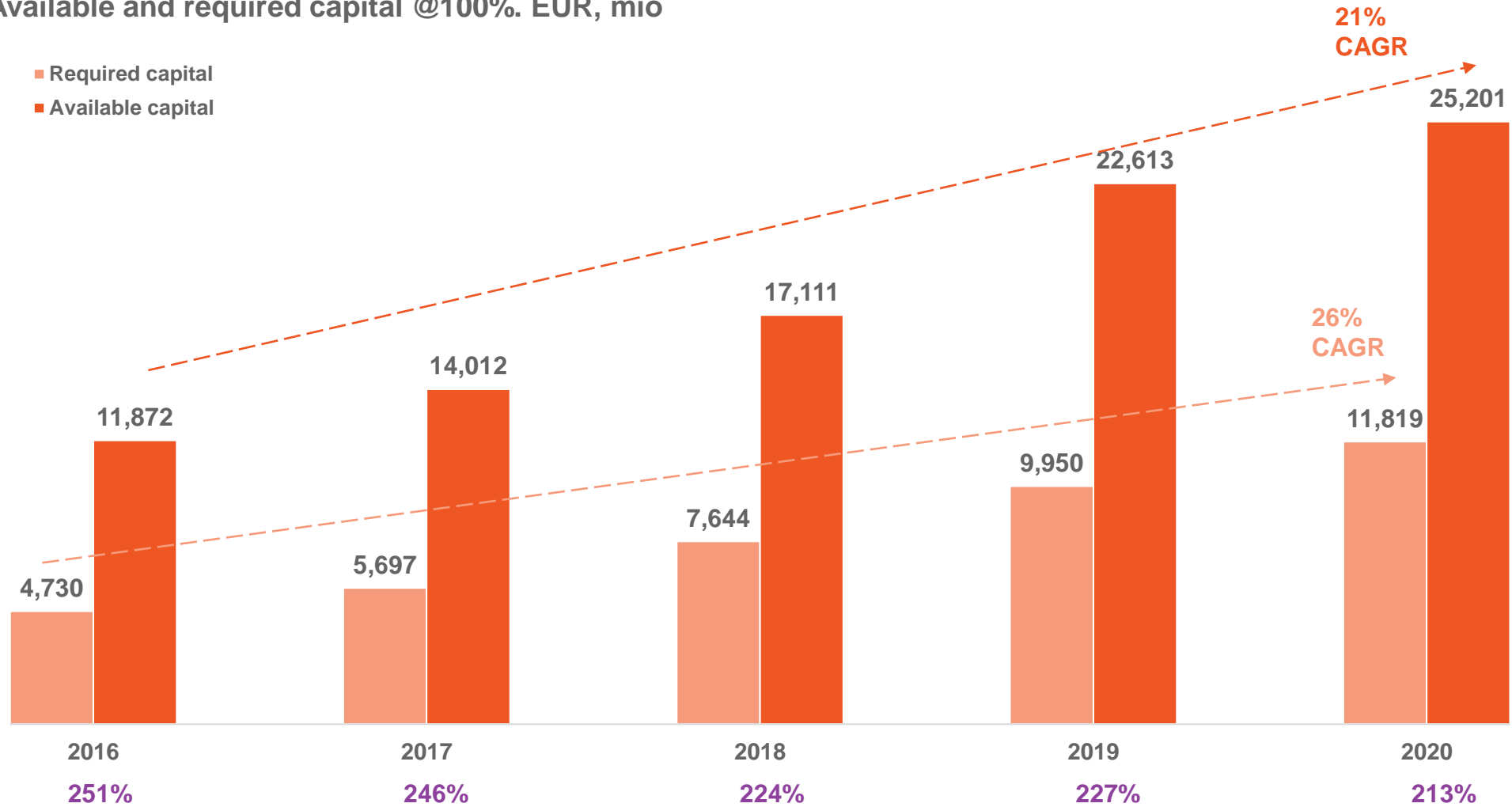




# Solvency available capital

Available and required capital @100%. EUR, mio

- Required capital
- Available capital



Comprehensive local Solvency



## Solvency available capital

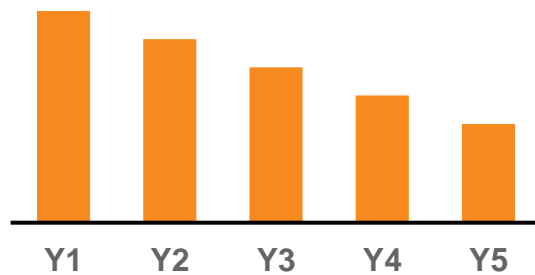
- Total available capital CAGR after dividend payment of 21%
- Awaiting clarity on C-ROSS phase II, not concerned given TPL's asset quality
- Most relevant points that have been in debate for the last months
  - 750-day averaging currently used for liability valuation on the par book and the non-par book. Shortening of period creates more volatility. No material changes expected on asset side. ALM discipline would pay off
  - Recognition of residual margin in core solvency capital would be limited – no limitation for comprehensive solvency ratio

# EV – Best proxy for economic value of already underwritten business

$$\text{Value of In-force Business (VIF)} + \text{Adjusted Net Asset} = \text{Embedded value}$$

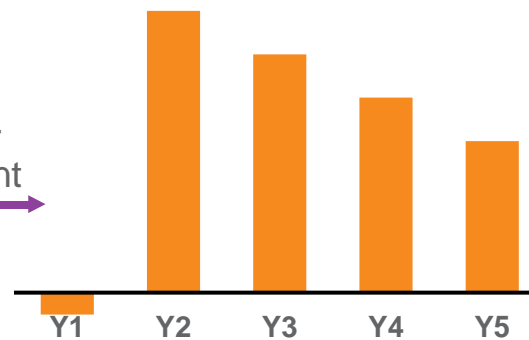
## Link between EV, solvency-based adjustments and profits

### Accounting profits



Solvency-adjustment

### Solvency-adjusted distributable profits



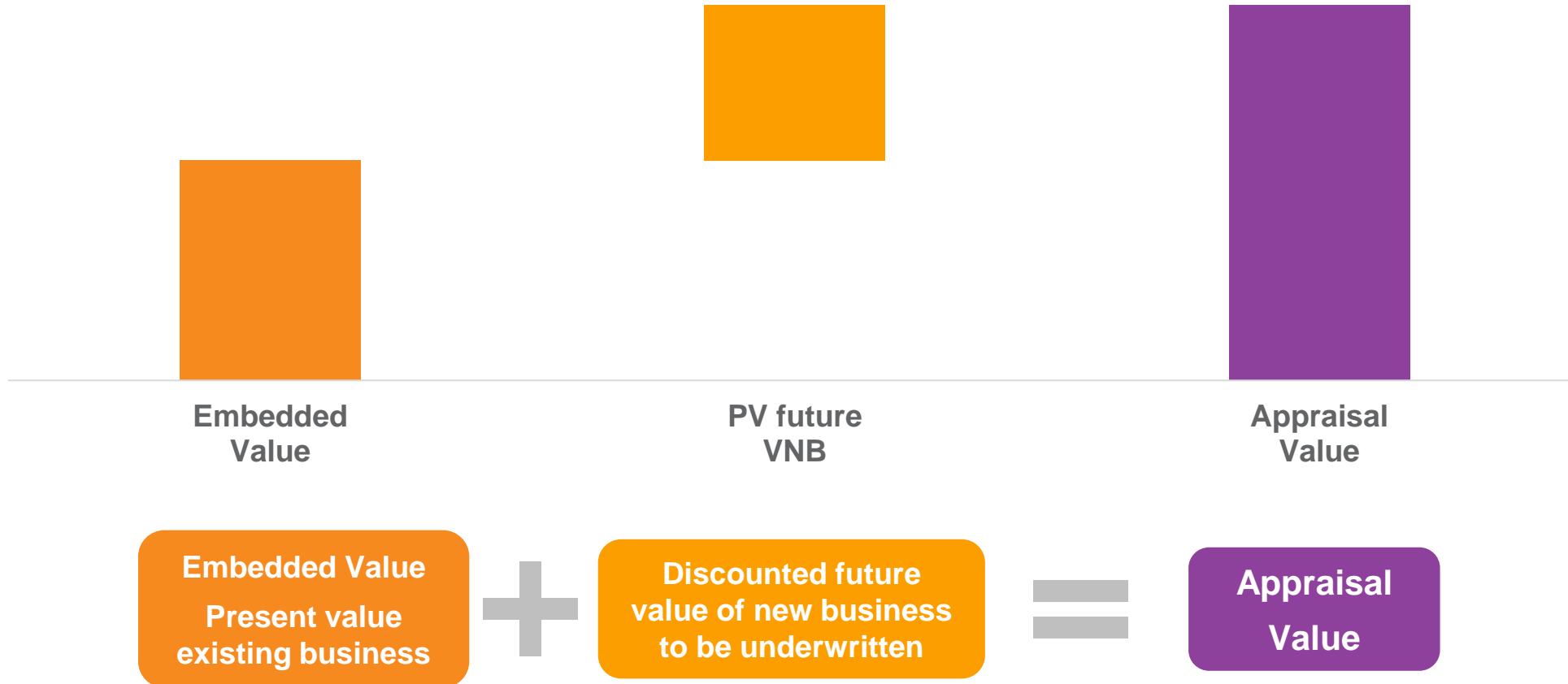
Discount and sum

NBEV

Aggregation of all the historical business to date

EV

# EV doesn't capture value of new business yet to be underwritten



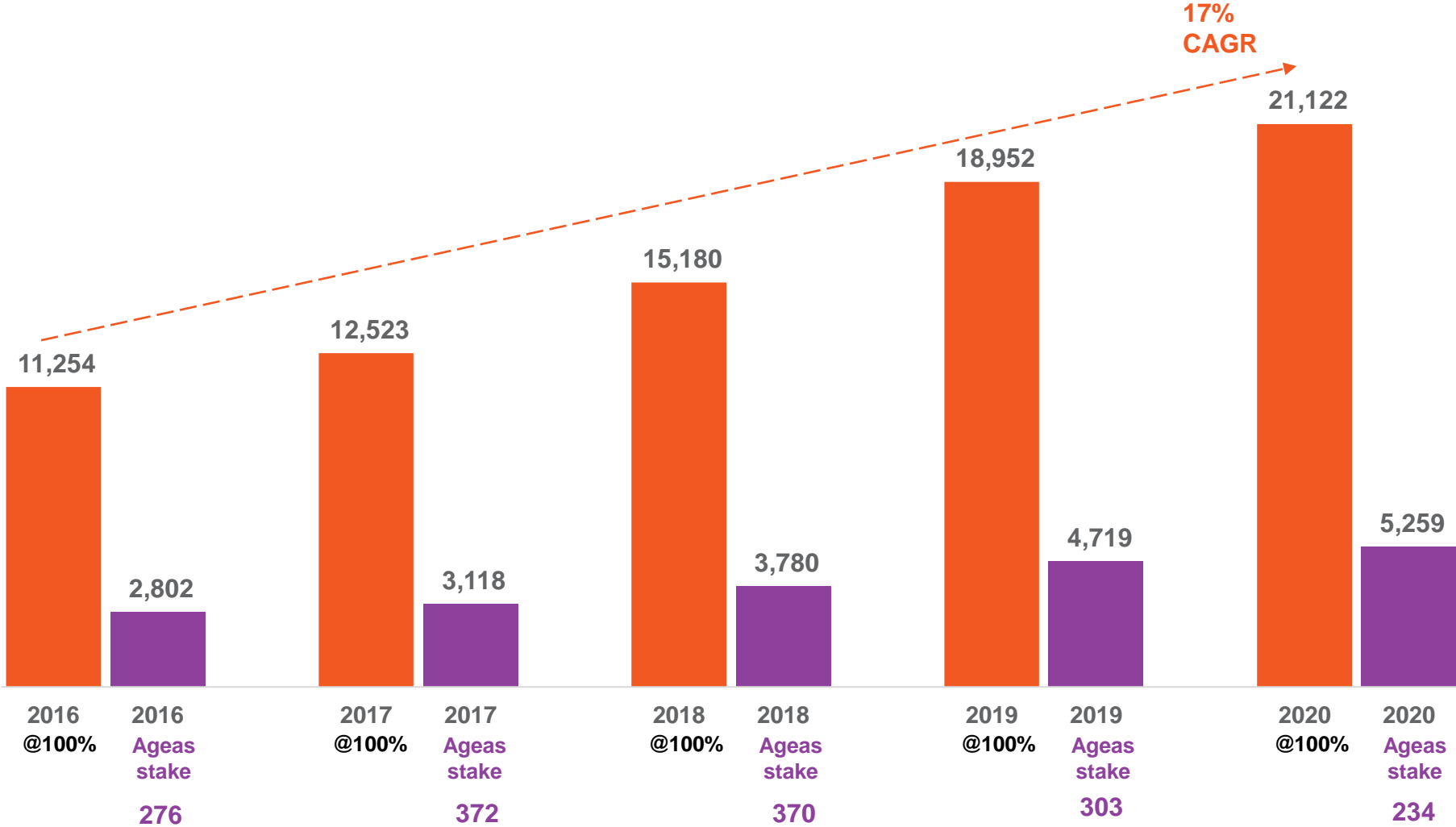
## EV – Best proxy for economic value of already underwritten business

- EV and VNB still extremely important indicators because of the growth nature of Asian markets
- VNB consistently positive in the past – strategic focus on profitability for the future
- EV methodology offers an economic view of the business, offering not just point in time value but also directional view on evolution of future CAS profits through VNB
- Underlying assumptions for Traditional Embedded Value calculation broadly in line with peers:
  - Investment return assumptions around 5%
  - Cost of Capital based on minimum required capital of 100%
  - Discount rate for future best estimate distributable profits of 11%
- EV doesn't capture value of new business yet to be underwritten
- In addition to EV, valuation of insurance companies in growth markets needs to consider a multiplier on VNB reflecting the future level of growth in new business and future margin development expectations, all discounted at an appropriate discount rate



# Embedded Value (EV) is a component of economic value

Embedded Value. EUR, mio

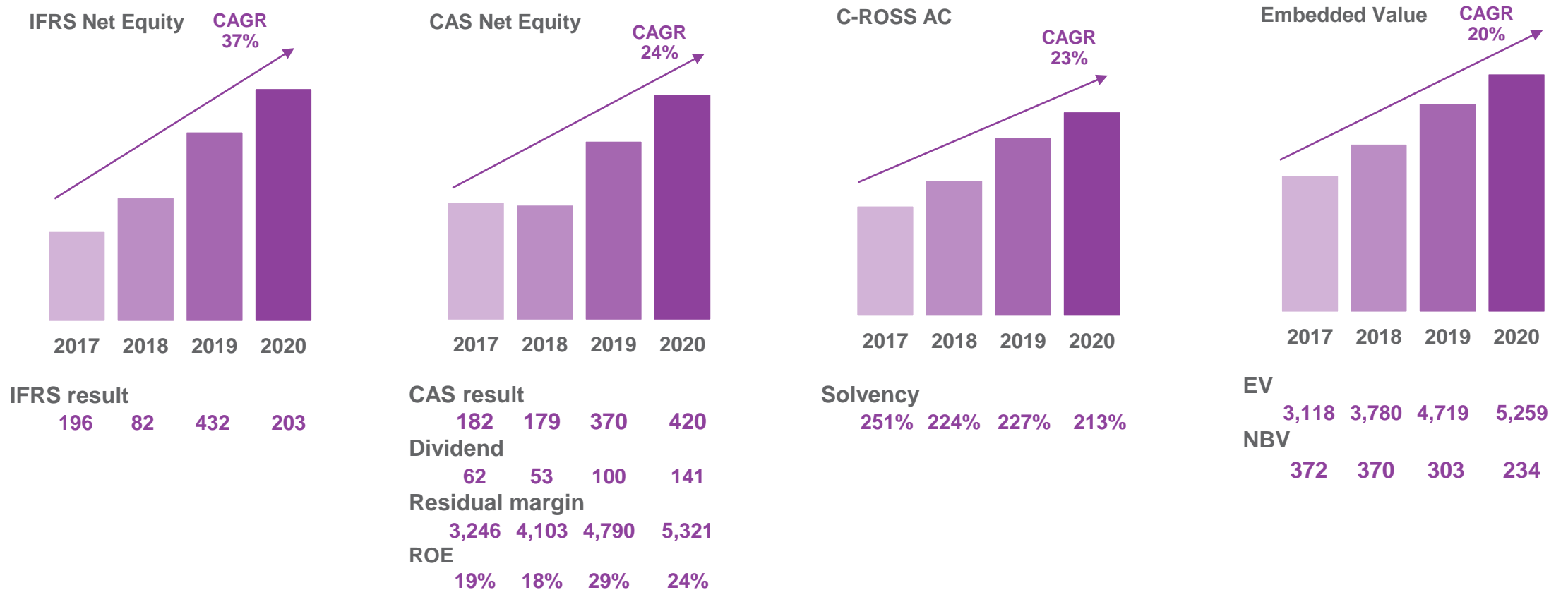


NBV @Ageas stake  
EUR, mio

# All valuation frameworks point to a growth well outpacing Cost of Capital

## Going forward reporting on a half yearly basis on all metrics shown below

Valuation frameworks @Ageas stake. EUR, mio



## All valuation frameworks point to a growth well outpacing Cost of Capital

- Important to look through IFRS and CAS result into the underlying evolution
  - Driven by expected result through the residual margin release and actual operating performance
  - Putting VIR impact into right perspective, at the same time remaining conservative as all capital gains are derecognized
- Dividend and free cash-flow driven by CAS result
  - Recent pay-out of 30-35% believed to be sustainable, based experienced strong available capital generation even with strong growth and dividend payments
  - First issuance of subordinated instrument and further leverage capacity support growth and capital story going forward
- Confident about CROSS II effects, but awaiting further clarifications from the regulator before commenting
- In terms of assessing value and value creation we focus both on EV and VNB
  - Drivers for TPL management and cascaded in management KPI's
  - Strong focus on quality over quantity, selling the right products at the right price
- All value indicators show significant CAGR over the last 5-6 years
  - Despite the challenges of COVID and macro turmoil of the last two years
  - Looking forward China remains a growth market / TPL still a growth company / partnership with CTIH still expanding
  - Confident on long term value creation in China



Q&A