

# MEDIUM TERM DEBT MANAGEMENT STRATEGY





# GOVERNMENT OF SAINT LUCIA Medium-Term Debt Management Strategy and Annual Borrowing Plan FY2024 – FY2027

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# **Table of Contents**

	t of Abbreviations	
	TRODUCTIONCTION 1: EXISTING PUBLIC DEBT PORTFOLIO	
	Total Public Debt	
	Central Government Debt	
	Domestic Debt	
	External Debt	
	Redemption Profile	
	CTION 2: REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2023/24 MTDS	
	CTION 3: MTDS BASELINE MACROECONOMIC PROJECTIONS	
	Domestic Economic Developments	
SE	CTION 4: STRATEGY SELECTION	.12
ı	Key Risk Indicator Targets	.13
	Selected Strategy	.13
SE	CTION 5: ANNUAL BORROWING PLAN FY2024/25	
	Central Government Financing Needs FY2024/25	.16
	Domestic Financing	.16
	External Financing	.16
	Short-Term Instruments	.17
	Long-Term Instruments	.17
A٨	INEX 1: Proposed RGSM Treasury Bills Issuance Calendar for FY2024/25	.19
	INEX 2: Summary of Debt Portfolio (2021-2023)	
GL	OSSARY	.23
LI	ST OF TABLES	
Ta	ble 1: Gross Borrowing FY023/24	9
Ta	ble 2: Loans processed/disbursed by Creditors 2023/24	9
Ta	ble 3: New loans negotiated in 2023/24	. 10
Ta	ble 4: Review of Cost and Risk Indicators- Dec 2023 and Dec 2022:	.11
Ta	ble 5: Macroeconomic Assumptions FY2023-2026	.12
Ta	ble 6: Risk indicators as at end 2026 and Target	.13
Ta	ble 8: Summary of Gross Financing Needs FY2024/25	.15
Та	ble 9: Financing from External Sources FY2024/25	.17

Table 10: Central Government Financing Plan FY2024/25					
<b>LIST OF FIC</b> Figure 1: Publ	<b>GURES</b> lic Sector Debt 2019-20236				
Figure 2: Cent	tral Government Debt by Instrument 2019-20236				
	ernal Debt by Borrower Category 2019-20237				
	emption Profile in Millions of XCD7				
_	emption Profile by Interest Rate				
riguie 3. Rea	emption Frome by interest rule				
	List of Abbreviations				
ATM	Average Time to Maturity				
ATR	Average Time to Re-fixing				
CDB	Caribbean Development Bank				
CUB	Committed Undisbursed Balance				
DMS	Debt Management Strategy				
DIU	Debt and Investment Management Unit				
ECCB	Eastern Caribbean Central Bank				
ECCU	Eastern Caribbean Currency Union				
ECSE	Eastern Caribbean Securities Exchange				
EUR	The Euro currency				
FX	Foreign Exchange				
GOSL	Government of Saint Lucia				
GDP	Gross Domestic Product				
IBRD	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development				
IDA IDD	International Development Association				
IRP	Investor Relations Program				
MoF	Ministry of Finance (St. Lucia) Kuwaiti Dinars				
KWD					
ROCT RGSM	Republic of China Taiwan  Regional Governments Securities Market				
SOFR	Regional Governments Securities Market Secured Overnight Funding Rate				
T-Bill	Treasury Bill				
USD	United States Dollar				
WACD	Weighted Average Cost of Debt				
XCD	Eastern Caribbean Dollar				
XDR	Special Drawing Rights				

#### INTRODUCTION

The primary debt management objective of the Government of Saint Lucia is to secure stable and consistent levels of financing for the budget while fulfilling payment obligations at minimal cost, within prudent risk thresholds. The Medium-Term Debt Strategy (MTDS) outlines funding sources guiding government borrowing activities. The strategy document is updated annually to enhance transparency, borrowing predictability, and bolster public debt management capabilities.

The GOSL continues to procure funds from conventional channels like the RGSM and domestic financial institutions. However, accessing low-risk, low-cost debt financing remains challenging globally, compounded by slow regional economic growth, heightened fiscal pressures, and increased debt expansion amid ongoing global events.

The timeline of this MTDS spans three years, from FY2024/25 to FY2026/27, with annual updates to evaluate metrics and incorporate any changes in macroeconomic, fiscal, and debt management policies. Debt categorization in the MTDS distinguishes between domestic debt, denominated in XCD, and external debt, denominated in various foreign currencies (USD, EUR, SDR, and KWD). The analysis scope encompasses Central Government debt, with government-guaranteed debt in the public debt portfolio representing a negligible 6.1 percent (as of December 2023), posing minimal risk to the portfolio's composition.

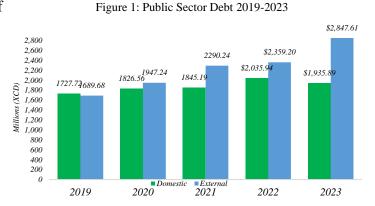
The document covers five (5) sections as follows:

- **Section 1** A review of the existing 2023 debt portfolio focusing on Central Government existing debt stocks, debt service payments, and the redemption profile
- **Section 2** A Review of the implementation of the 2023 MTDS
- **Section 3** Baseline macroeconomic assumptions used in the MTDS Analytical Tool
- **Section 4** Strategy Selection Analysis
- **Section 5 -** GOSL Annual Borrowing Plan for FY2024/25

#### SECTION 1: EXISTING PUBLIC DEBT PORTFOLIO

#### **Total Public Debt**

Public sector debt at the end of December 2023 was \$4,783.50 million increasing by \$388.36 million or 8.8 percent over December 2022 and by an average of 8.5 percent over the previous five years. As of the end of 2023, the public domestic debt stock stood at \$1,935.89 million, accounting for 40.5 percent of the total public sector debt. This represented a decrease

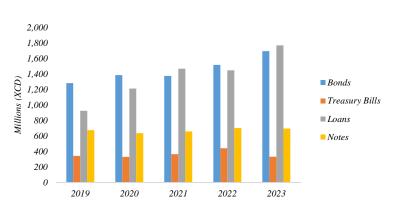


of 4.9 percent compared to 2022, although it had increased by an average of 4.8 percent over the preceding five years. In contrast, the public external debt stock reached \$2,847.61 million by the end of 2023, comprising 59.5 percent of the total public sector debt. This marked an average increase of 12.0 percent from 2019 to 2023 and from 2022 to 2023 an increase of 20.8 percent was recorded.

#### **Central Government Debt**

In 2023, the Government of Saint Lucia (GOSL) escalated their utilization of bonds and notes financing to bridge the fiscal gap. Bonds and notes amounted to \$2,388.83 million, constituting 53.2 percent of the central government debt stock. This marked \$172.57 million representing increase. 7.8 rise compared percent





December 2022. Over the past five years, bonds and notes have exhibited an upward trend, increasing by an average of 5.2 percent annually.

Loans held the second largest share of the central government debt portfolio, totaling \$1,768.09 million (39.4 percent). This segment experienced a notable 22.2 percent increase from December 2022, primarily due to disbursements on new loans. Over the previous five years, the stock of loans has expanded by an average of 18.2 percent, with the highest in 2020 and 2023, at 30.8 and 22.2 percent, respectively. These increases were attributed to the government's procurement of numerous Covid-19 and other loans. Treasury Bills accounted for 7.4 percent of the portfolio, decreasing to \$332.34 million from \$411.17 million in 2022, representing a 24.7 percent decline.

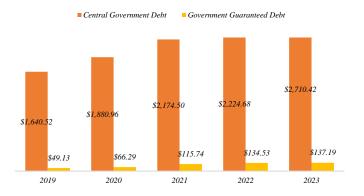
#### **Domestic Debt**

Public domestic debt in 2023 stood at \$ 1,935.89 million or 40.5 percent of public debt, decreasing by \$99.7 million or 4.9 percent over 2022. In 2023, bonds dominated the public domestic debt portfolio with \$1,067.34 million or 55.1 percent of the portfolio decreasing by \$14.8 million or 1.4 percent over 2022. Domestic notes totalled \$445.97 million or 23.0 percent of the portfolio. The continued dominance of medium term bonds and notes is due to domestic investors continuing to favour them and the GOSL focusing on increasing medium to long-term financing. Treasury bills stood at \$ 115.33 million or 5.9 percent, a 54.3 percent decrease over 2022. The domestic loans portfolio at the end of 2023 was \$ 307.24 million, decreasing by 7.7 percent over 2022 due to continued principal repayments. Central government loans (Commercial banks, NIC) totaled 48.8 percent while government guaranteed loans contributed 51.2 percent of the domestic loans portfolio.

#### **External Debt**

The external debt stock increased to \$2,710.42 million contributing 59.5 percent of public debt during 2023. There was a \$489.71 million (20.8 percent) increase over 2022 due to increases in both central and government-guaranteed borrower categories. External central government debt increased by \$485.74 million or 21.8 percent while external government guaranteed debt increased by \$3.97

Figure 3: External Debt by Borrower Category 2019-2023



million or 2.9 percent over 2022. External central government debt was the main contributor to the external public debt stock with a 95.1 percent share. External government-guaranteed debt contributed 4.9 percent of total external debt of in 2023, increasing slightly from 2022 due to increased drawdowns.

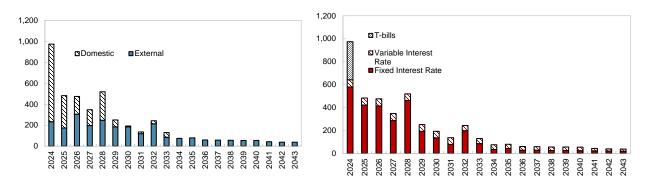
#### Redemption Profile<sup>1</sup>

A maturity (redemption) profile shows the evolution of GOSL's debt stock based on the time remaining before the scheduled maturity. Large debt service payments during 2024 dominate the redemption profile due to the 21.6 percent of debt maturing within the year including the entire Treasury bill stock.

Figure 4: Redemption Profile in Millions of XCD

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Excluding government guarantees

Figure 5: Redemption Profile by Interest Rate



## SECTION 2: REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2023/24 MTDS

In 2023, the debt management strategy guided the borrowing strategies for the FY 2023/24, and in funding the borrowing needs of Government. Maintaining the existing borrowing practice of rolling over maturing bonds on existing terms and raising new financing through long-term RGSM bond issuance was the GOSL's most realistic strategy to meet the its debt management objectives. Under the status quo, the implied interest rate rose from the current 5.2 percent to 5.4 percent but the ATM increases from 5.4 to 6.0 years and a decrease in the percentage of debt maturing in one year from 20.3 percent to 18.8 percent. This strategy represented the most realistic tradeoff between cost and risk. The strategy sought to address refinancing risks of the debt stock through the gradual increase in the stock of long-term bonds and loans.

In terms of gross financing needs, domestic and external financing were slated to make up 74.6 percent and 25.4 percent respectively. The gross domestic borrowing primarily aimed at the reissuance of short-term treasury bills (XCD337.7) and the issuance of new bonds (XCD32.1). Gross external borrowing predominantly came from concessional multilateral and bilateral agencies.

Actual borrowing mix outcome deviated from the projected 75:25 percent domestic to external financing in the 2023 strategy compared to the achieved 70.2:37.1 percent domestic to external.

Table 1: Gross Borrowing FY023/24

	MTDS	MTDS 2023	FY 2023/24	
	2023Amount in	Targets (%)	(XCD Mill)	FY 2023/24
	XCD (Mill) adj.			actuals (%)
Gross domestic				
borrowing	755.3	74.6	775.6	67.2
Bonds	309.5		449.0	
Treasury bills	445.7		326.6	
Gross External				
borrowing	256.6	25.3	379.0	32.8
Loans	256.6		379.0	
Gross Financing	1,011.9	100.0	1,154.6	
Needs				

Most of the funding for the FY2023/24 budget came from revenues and loans. The loan disbursements for the FY23/24 totaled XCD375.52 Million. The loan disbursements by creditors is outlined in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Loans processed/disbursed by Creditors 2023/24

Creditor	Amount (Millions XCD)
CDB	29.5
IDA	65.4
AFREXIM BANK	6.2
CDF	2.5
ROCT	275.4
TOTAL	379.0

A number of new loans were contracted/were negotiated during the 23/24 financial year.

Table 3: New loans negotiated in 2023/24

Creditor/Project	Amount (Million)	Status (at March 2024)
Student Loan Guarantee	USD3.7	Undisbursed
Rehabilitation of Schools	USD6.0	Partial Disbursement
Development Policy Loan	USD40.0	Undisbursed
Policy based Loan	USD42.7	Undisbursed
OECS skills and Innovation	USD15.0	Undisbursed
Youth Economy	USD6.2	Partial Disbursement
Patience Water Project	USD1.2	Undisbursed
Village Tourism	USD2.3	Undisbursed
St Jude Hospital	USD75.0	Undisbursed
Cricket World Cup	XCD80.0	Undisbursed
DFC Loan	XCD62.0	Undisbursed

Table 4 provides a comparison of the performance of debt risk targets outlined in the 2023 Medium-Term Debt Strategy (MTDS) with the actual outcomes as of December 2023. Refinancing risks persist as evidenced by the rise in the proportion of debt maturing within one year, accounting for 21.7 percent of total debt. Despite a significant improvement in GDP in 2023, there was a slight reduction in the percentage of short-term debt maturing relative to GDP, decreasing from 15.3 percent in 2022 to 15.0 percent in 2023.

The foreign exchange risk indicator has significantly increased due to the heightened percentage of United States Dollar-denominated debt within the portfolio. However, it's important to note that the USD is pegged against the XCD, thus minimizing fluctuations in exchange rate risks. Nonetheless, this indicator warrants ongoing monitoring in the medium term to ensure stability and mitigate potential risks.

Table 4: Review of Cost and Risk Indicators- Dec 2023 and Dec 2022:

Risk Indicators							
	Baseline 2021/22	FY 2022/23 Actual	2023/24 Actual (Pre)	Deviation (4-3)	Remark on deviation		
Nominal debt as % of GDP	79.7	69.5	72.90	3.40	Improvements in GDP in 2023 and increases in debt levels at a faster pace than GDP increase Increased debt service		
Interest payment as % of GDP	3.4	3.7	3.9	0.20	cost in domestic and international debt market		
Refinancing Risk							
Debt maturing in 1 yr (% of total debt)	23.1	20.3	20.5	0.20			
Debt maturing in 1 yr (% of GDP)	18.4	15.3	15.0	-0.03	Improvement in GDP lead		
ATM External Portfolio (years)	7.9	7.9	8.1	0.20	to reduced refinancing risk- Slight increase in the		
ATM Domestic Portfolio (years)	3.7	3.3	3.1	-0.20	ATM of total portfolio, ST debt increased slightly		
ATM Total Portfolio (years)	5.6	5.4	5.9	0.50	while GDP expanded in 2023		
Interest Rate Risk							
ATR (years)	4.8	4.5	4.5	0.00			
Debt Refixing in 1 yr (% in total)	33.7	32.3	37.7	5.40			
Fixed Rate Debt (% of Total)	88.6	87.1	81.8	-5.30	Increase in variable rate debt from Multilateral and Bi-lateral agencies. Requires monitoring.		
Foreign Exchange (FX) Risk							
FX debt as % of Total debt	45.7	46.1	56.1	10.0	Increased US\$ Currency in portfolio. Foreign exchange exposure is minimal as the USD is pegged to the XCD		

# **SECTION 3: MTDS BASELINE MACROECONOMIC PROJECTIONS**

The modeling of the MTDS utilizes forecasts of government fiscal balances, key macroeconomic and market variables to produce baseline estimates for portfolio cost and risk indicators under varied financing strategies over the medium term.

The following macroeconomic assumptions underpin the MTDS set for the three-year medium-term:

**Table 5: Macroeconomic Assumptions FY2023-2026** 

	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
XCD Millions				
Total Revenues And Grants	1,415.19	1,516.88	1,521.56	1,569.46
Primary Expenditure	1,362.74	1,452.15	1,482.05	1,531.08
Total Expenditure	1,582.74	1,690.88	1,729.14	1,782.50
Interest Payments	220.00	238.73	247.09	251.42
GDP Market Prices	6,561.4	7,344.41	7,701.83	8,001.48

#### **Domestic Economic Developments**

- Projected real GDP growth of 3.2 percent in 2023 surpassing pre-COVID levels.
- The pace of real economic activity is expected to rise to 4.9 percent in 2024 amidst downside risks.
- After growing by 4.6 percent in 23/24, revenue & grants are expected to increase by 6.8 percent to \$1.5 billion in 24/25.
- Baseline expenditure is projected to rise by 6.8 percent to \$1.69 billion in 24/25 with all main categories of current expenditure increasing. Expenditure is expected to continue surpassing revenue leading to an overall fiscal deficit of 2.5 percent of GDP (\$189 M) in 2024/25 and a primary surplus of 0.7 percent GDP (\$46 M).
- Public debt/GDP ratio is expected to increase to 72.9 percent in 2024/25 and 75 percent by 26/27, away from the 60 percent debt target by 2034/35. This suggests a need for increased revenue collections and/or expenditure containment over the medium term
- Higher gross financing needs of \$1.117 billion is required for 2024/25, followed by an easing of financing pressures in 2025/26
- An annual average primary surplus of 1.7 percent of GDP would be required to meet the 2035 debt target, suggesting lower overall fiscal deficits relative to baseline projections. A total expenditure ceiling of \$1,696 M is recommended for 2024/25.

### **SECTION 4: STRATEGY SELECTION**

The Government debt management strategy is to ensure that the nation's debt is sustainable, indicated by performance indicators that converge towards prudential levels. The government's approach to managing its sovereign debt level ensures that the current and prospective debt does not compromise its ability to service debt obligations while generating economic growth. The following principles guided the selection of the most appropriate debt management strategy:

 Altering the maturity profile of the debt stock by reducing the proportion of the debt stock carrying short-term maturities that will reduce the rollover risk associated with the debt portfolio.

- Lowering the average costs of debt by obtaining budget financing at minimum costs, wherever possible, and replacing higher interest rate debt with lower interest rate debt.
- Negotiating better borrowing arrangements of longer maturities, grace periods, and lower interest rates.
- An increased effort through the Investor Relations Program (IRP) to broaden the local investor base who are more likely to subscribe to the Government of Saint Lucia paper.

#### **Key Risk Indicator Targets**

Table 6: Risk indicators as at end 2026 and Targets

		2023	A	s at end 20	26	
Ris	k Indicators	Current	S1	S2	S3	Targets
Nominal debt as percent of GDP		72.90	67.91	67.86	67.80	<60%
Present value debt as percent of GDP		69.96	64.59	63.86	63.20	
Interest payment as percent of GDP		3.90	3.77	3.72	3.65	
Implied interest rate (percent)		5.35	5.79	5.64	5.47	
Refinancing risk	Debt maturing in 1yr (percent of total)	20.51	12.05	10.13	10.64	<15%
	Debt maturing in 1yr (% of GDP)	14.95	8.19	6.88	7.21	
	ATM External Portfolio (years)	8.10	8.78	9.21	9.63	
	ATM Domestic Portfolio (years)	3.06	4.24	4.30	4.15	
	ATM Total Portfolio (years)	5.89	6.67	7.29	7.42	>10 years
Interest rate risk	ATR (years)	4.46	5.32	5.96	6.36	>7 years
	Debt refixing in 1yr (percent of total)	37.71	28.91	26.93	24.88	<25%
	Fixed rate debt incl T-bills (percent of total)	81.76	81.79	81.81	84.38	
	T-bills (percent of total)	6.95	4.70	2.85	3.31	
FX risk	FX debt as % of total	56.07	53.67	60.99	59.86	

#### **Selected Strategy**

Strategy 2 (S2) reflects as the preferred choice for the medium term following simulations of alternative strategies based on cost and risk considerations. S2 aligns most closely with the Government's debt management objectives over this timeframe. It entails maintaining the current borrowing approach of rolling over maturing bonds on existing terms and securing new financing through medium-term RGSM bond issuance within the first year. The majority of funds for years 2 and 3 will be obtained through loans from multilateral and bilateral sources.

This strategy will seek to lengthen the maturity profile of the debt portfolio mainly through contracting loans from the GOSL multilateral partners at fixed rates. There will also be drawdowns on committed undisbursed funds from external creditors. On the domestic side, all maturing instruments will be reissued in accordance with their existing terms.

Under S2, the implied interest rate increases from the current 5.35 percent to 5.64 percent. However, there is a notable improvement in the Average Time to Maturity (ATM), rising from 5.89 to 7.29 years, and a decrease in the percentage of debt maturing in one year from 20.5 percent to 10.1 percent. This strategy strikes the most realistic balance between cost and risk, representing a prudent tradeoff.

#### Strategy 2 Foreign Currency Risk

Strategy 2 increases foreign exchange risk minimally from the current 56.1 to 60.9 percent of the total debt portfolio denominated in foreign currency. The majority of foreign exchange debt in the portfolio is USD, which pegs to the EC Dollar at USD1 – XCD2.7, mitigating the foreign exchange risk to the portfolio. Foreign exchange debt to reserves is minuscule at 0.5 percent.

#### **Strategy 2 Interest Rate Risk**

The current interest rate structure of the portfolio does not pose any imminent interest rate risk over the medium term. The percentage of the debt portfolio facing interest rate resetting in FY2024/25 is 37.7 percent and is likely to declining to 26.9 percent within the next three years under strategy 2.

#### **Strategy 2 Refinancing Risk**

New issuances of new bullet bonds and treasury bills will align with revenue flows during the fiscal year to avoid the bunching of debt service obligations or rollover risk. The expected share of short-term debt as a percentage of the total debt stock is 10.1 percent under strategy 2 compared to 12.1 and 10.6 under the alternative strategies 1 and 3 respectively. The average time to maturity of the debt portfolio will lengthen to 7.3 years compared to the current 5.9 years. A longer ATM will allows more fiscal space. The use of less T-Bills as a percentage of total debt will decline to 2.9 percent over the medium compared to the current 6.9 percent, thereby reducing on the rollover risk.

## **SECTION 5: ANNUAL BORROWING PLAN FY2024/25**

The Annual Borrowing Plan (ABP), comprising the sources of funding that government intends to use to satisfy its programmed financing needs, and will support the central government fiscal gap for FY2024/25. For the first time, the newly passed Public Debt Management Act 2023, will be used as the authority to borrow. This piece of legislation took effect on April 1, 2024, and will be the sole piece of legislation used to contract bond and notes by the Government.<sup>2</sup> The ABP indicates the amount and composition of the funds, particularly the government securities reissued during the

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The full Act can be accessed at <u>www.finance.govt.lc</u>

year. The plan includes existing and new funding and a calendar of papers traded on the RGSM and private placements.

For the financial year FY2024/25, the GOSL financing requirement is projected to be **XCD1**, **117.8M**, representing an increase of **XCD105.9M** from FY2023/24. As per the approved budget 2024/25, the overall balance is a deficit of **XCD214.98** million. The principal and interest repayment for domestic and external debt totals **XCD325.45** million.

874.0M, and the proportion from external funding of 22 percent totaling XCD243.8M. Funding is projected from the capital market through the issuance of bonds and treasury bills in both the local and regional capital market, RGSM. This amount will be raised using the medium to long-term bonds on the RGSM and through private placements. XCD64.1M will be raised in new funding of bonds and notes while XCD477.3M will be reissued at similar terms. Treasury bill issuance will total XCD332.7M.

Table 7: Summary of Gross Financing Needs FY2024/25

Instruments	Amount in XCD (Millions)
Domestic	\$874.01
- Bonds and Notes	\$541.4
- Treasury Bills	\$332.7
External	\$243.8
- Multilateral and Bilateral	\$243.8
Gross Financing Needs	\$1,117.18

The government intends to satisfy its borrowing plan through the implementation of Strategy 2 (Addressing Refinancing risks through increase in External fixed rate debt). This strategy maintains the status quo in 2024/25 by reissuing new debt consisting of bonds and notes of up to 10 years and rolling over debts short to medium/long term maturities. Maturing bonds will roll over on existing terms with new funds raised through RGSM bond issuances. Semi-concessional loans from existing multilateral and bilateral creditors will be used to fund the budgets of 2025 and 2026. A number of

15

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>. This includes funding from both the Regional Government Securities Market and Private Placements.

loans from those creditors have already began draw downs and will continue during the next two years.

As part of the implementation of this borrowing plan, the GOSL intends to publish its Annual Prospectus on the websites of the ECSE at <a href="www.ecseonline.org">www.ecseonline.org</a> and the Department of Finance at <a href="www.finance.govt.lc">www.finance.govt.lc</a>.

#### **Central Government Financing Needs FY2024/25**

The gross financing needs of the government consist of reissuing existing treasury bills and bonds in the sum of **XCD332.7M** and **XCD477.3M** respectively. New debt in the sum of **XCD64.1M** will be contracted in government bonds and **XCD243.8M** in loans. This totals **XCD1, 117.18M**.

#### **Domestic Financing**

For FY2024/2025, the Government plans to re-issue **XCD332.7** million in short-end papers through the competitive pricing mechanism at the current average yield of 3.5 percent. New bonds will be issued in the sum of **XCD64.1** M through a resolution of Parliament under the Public Debt Management Act 2023. The government seeks to increase the average time to maturity of the portfolio and therefore will seek to issue mostly new long-term instruments with tenors of up to 10 years. The domestic debt market has been very responsive to the financing needs of the government with the domestic debt consisting of 40 percent of the country's total debt.

#### **External Financing**

Project financing for the FY2024/25 is approximately **XCD243.81M**, with drawdowns expected from a combination of eleven (11) bilateral and multilateral agencies as follows (**Table 8**).

**Table 8: Financing from External Sources FY2024/25** 

Loans	Millions of XCD
Caribbean Development Bank (CDB)	33.31
Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) Inter-American Development Bank	6.98
European Investment Bank	5.24
Caricom Development Fund (CDF)	2.67
Canadian Clean Energy & Forest Climate Facility Fund (CCEFCF)	2.57
International Development Agency (IDA)	61.47
The Republic of China on Taiwan (ROCT)	6.16
IDA (Strategic Climate Fund)	0
World Bank (Development Policy Credit)	81
Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development	4
Government of Saudi Arabia	30.42
African Exim Bank	10
TOTAL	\$243.81M

The majority of these loans are already earmarked for ongoing projects, with a few recently negotiated in the previous financial year. Primarily concessional, these loans feature fixed rates ranging from 0.75% to 5.16%. Additionally, a handful of loans have variable rates, calculated at 6-month SOFR+1.70%.

#### **Short-Term Instruments**

The Government of Saint Lucia plans to roll over its existing short-term papers from the domestic and external markets. An estimated **XCD332.34M** of Treasury Bills will roll over using the RGSM and Private Placements. In keeping with the strategy of reducing refinancing risk embedded in the portfolio, the government plans to issue no new Treasury Bills in FY2024/25 or may use this facility as a cash management vehicle.

#### **Long-Term Instruments**

For FY 2024/2025, most of the new financing of the government will be medium term. The GOSL will issue **XCD64.1M** in bonds and notes primarily through the RGSM. The new bonds will have varying maturities ranging from five to ten years and a minimum fixed interest rate of 5.25 percent and a maximum 7.5 percent.

Instruments	Rollover	New Financing	
	Millions of XCD	Millions of XCD	Maximum Rate %
Bonds and Notes	477.15	65.10	
RGSM	136.67	40.0	
5-10 yrs.	136.67	40.0	7.5
2-4 yrs.	0	0	5.0
Private Placement	340.48	25.1	
8-10 yrs.	36.51	0	7.5
5-7 yrs.	46.59	25.1	6.25
2-4 yrs.	257.38	\$	5.0
Treasury Bills	\$332.34	\$0.00	
RGSM	127	\$	
91-days	32	\$	3.5
180-days	95	\$	4.0
Private Placement	205.34	0	
91 day	32.5	\$	2.75
180-days	8.14	\$	3.5
365-days	164.7	\$	4.5
Loans	\$0.00	\$243.80	
Multilateral/Bilateral	\$0.00	\$243.80	4.8
Creditors			
TOTAL	\$809.49	\$308.90	

**Table 9: Central Government Financing Plan FY2024/25** 

The issuance calendar for the instruments traded on the RGSM can be found in Annex 1 below.

# ANNEX 1: Proposed RGSM Treasury Bills Issuance Calendar for FY2024/25

<b>Auction Date</b>	Issue Date	Instrument	Issue Amount	Maximum	Maturity	Trading
		Type		Rate (%)	Date	Symbol
May 21, 2024	May 22, 2024	91-dy T-Bill	EC\$11.0M(5)	3.50%	August 21, 2024	LCB210824
May 24, 2024	May 27, 2024	91-dy T-Bill	EC\$11.0M (5)	3.50%	August 26, 2024	LCB260824
June 26, 2024	June 27, 2024	180-dy T- Bill	EC\$15.0M(10)	4.00%	December 24, 2024	LCB241224
July 17, 2024	July 18, 2024	180-dy T- Bill	EC\$15.0M(10)	4.00%	January 14, 2025	LCB140125
August 7, 2024	August 8, 2024	180 day T- Bill	EC\$20.0M(10)	4.00%	February 4, 2025	LCB040225
August 22, 2024	August 23, 2024	91-dy T-Bill	EC\$11.0M (5)	3.50%	November 22, 2024	LCB221124
August 27, 2024	August 28, 2024	91-dy T-Bill	EC\$11.0M (5)	3.50%	November 27, 2024	LCB271124
October 14, 2024	October 15, 2024	180-day T- Bill	EC\$10.0M (10)	4.00%	April 13, 2025	LCB130425
November 25, 2024	November 26, 2024	91-dy T-Bill	EC\$11.0M (5)	3.50%	February 25, 2025	LCB250225
November 28, 2024	November 29, 2024	91-dy T-Bill	EC\$11.0M (5)	3.50%	February 28, 2025	LCB280225
December 27, 2024	December 30, 2024	180-dy T- Bill	EC\$15.0M(10)	4.00%	June 28, 2025	LCB280625
January 15, 2025	January 16, 2025	180-dy T- Bill	EC\$15.0M(10)	4.00%	July 15, 2025	LCB150725
February 5, 2025	February 6, 2025	180 day T- Bill	EC\$20.0M(10)	4.00%	August 5, 2025	LCB050825
February 26, 2025	February 27, 2025	91-dy T-Bill	EC\$11.0M (5)	3.50%	May 29, 2025	LCB290525
March 3, 2025	March 4, 2025	91-dy T-Bill	EC\$11.0M (5)	3.50%	June 3, 2025	LCB030625
April 14, 2025	April 15, 2025	180-day T- Bill	EC\$10.0M (10)	4.00%	October 12, 2025	LCB121025
May 30, 2025	June 2, 2025	91-dy T-Bill	EC\$11.0M (5)	3.50%	September 1, 2025	LCB010925
June 4, 2025	June 5, 2025	91-dy T-Bill	EC\$11.0M (5)	3.50%	September 4, 2025	LCB040925
June 30, 2025	July 1, 2025	180-dy T- Bill	EC\$15.0M(10)	4.00%	December 28, 2025	LCB281225
July 16, 2025	July 17, 2025	180-dy T- Bill	EC\$15.0M(10)	4.00%	January 13, 2026	LCB130126
August 6, 2025	August 7, 2025	180 day T- Bill	EC\$20.0M(10)	4.00%	February 3, 2026	LCB030226

# RGSM Bonds Calendar 2024/2025<sup>4</sup>

		Instrument	Issue	Maximum		Trading
Auction Date	Issue Date	Туре	Amount	Rate (%)	Maturity Date	Symbol
May 21, 2024	May 22, 2024	10-yr bond	15,225,000	7.50%	May 22, 2034	LCG100534
August 30,	September 02,				September 02,	
2024	2024	5 year bond	15,225,000	5.75%	2029	LCG050929
October 14,	October 15,				October 15,	
2024	2024	7 year bond	7,236,000	6.50%	2031	FLG071031
November 20,	November 21,				November 20,	
2024	2024	10 year bond	35,000,000	7.50%	2034	LCG101134
November 25,	November 26,				November 25,	
2024	2024	7 year bond	16,549,000	6.25%	2031	LCG071131
March 05, 2025	March 06, 2025	6 year bond	20,000,000	6.25%	March 06, 2031	LCG060331

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Please note that the Schedule is subject to change. The actual amounts and dates may change at the time of invitation to tender

#### **Private Placement Bonds and Notes Calendar 2024/2025**

Issue Date	Instrument Type	Issue Amount	Maximum Rate (%)	Maturity Date	Pre-Listing Symbol	Broker
May 3, 2024	2-year Note	EC\$25.766M	4.50	May 3, 2026	GOSLPP030526	BOSL
May 13, 2024	3-year Note	US\$2.043M	5.00	May 13, 2027	GOSLPP130527	FCIS
May 23, 2024	2-year Note (SKNB)	EC\$5.0M	4.50	May 23, 2026	GOSLPP230526	FCIS
June 5, 2024	2-year Note	EC\$5.673M	4.50	June 5, 2026	GOSLPP050626	BOSL
June 6, 2024	2-year Note	EC\$15.149M	4.50	June 6, 2026	GOSLPP060626	BOSL
July 8, 2024	1-year Note	EC\$10.0M	4.00	July 8, 2025 GOSLPP08072		FCIS
July 8, 2024	2-year Note	EC\$2.650M	4.50	July 8, 2026	GOSLPP080726	BOSL
July 9, 2024	2-year Note	EC\$3.078M	4.50	July 9, 2026	GOSLPP090726	FCIS
July 19, 2024	2-year Note	US\$5.531M	4.50	July 19, 2026	GOSLPP190726	BOSL
July 22, 2024	2-year Note	US\$11.370M	4.50	July 22, 2026	GOSLPP220726	BOSL
August 23, 2024	8 year Bond	EC\$15M	7.00	August 23, 2032	GOSLPP230832	FCIS
August 27, 2024	2-year Note	EC\$8.09M	4.50	August 27, 2026	GOSLP270826	BOSL
September 13, 2024	2-year Note	US\$15.07M	4.50	September 13, 2026	GOSLP130926	FCIS
September 26, 2024	2-year Note	EC\$9.7M	4.50	September 26, 2026	GOSLPP260926	BOSL
October 14, 2024	7-Year Bond	US\$3.36M	6.50	October 14, 2031	GOSLPP141031	FCIS
October 16, 2024	5 year Bond	EC\$15.9M	5.75	October 16, 2029	GOSLPP161029	BOSL
December 16, 2024	2 year Note	US\$9.5M	4.50	October 16, 2026	GOSLPP161026	BOSL
January 20, 2025	2 year Note	EC\$16.5M	4.50	January 20, 2027	GOSLP200127	BOSL
February 3, 2025	4 year Note	EC\$20M	5.00	February 3, 2029	GOSLP030229	FCIS
February 10, 2025	2 year Note	EC\$1.05M	4.50	February 10, 2027	GOSLPP100227	BOSL
February 24, 2025	2 year Note	US\$4.4M	4.50	February 24, 2027	GOSLP240227	BOSL
February 25, 2025	5 year Bond	EC\$10M	6.00	February 25, 2030	GOSLP250230	BOSL
February 26, 2025	2 year Note	US\$3.17M	4.50	February 26, 2027	GOSLPP260227	BOSL
February 26, 2025	2 year Note	EC\$1.6M	4.50	February 26, 2027	GOSLPP260227A	BOSL
March 17, 2025	2 year Note	US\$3.3M	4.50	March 17, 2027	GOSLPP170327	BOSL

ANNEX 2: Summary of Debt Portfolio (2021-2023)

Particulars	2021	2022	2023	Annual Change %
Total Public Debt by Residency (XCD)	4,135.43	4,395.14	4,783.50	8.84
External Debt	2,290.24	2,359.20	2,847.61	20.70
Domestic Debt	1,845.19	2,035.94	1,935.89	-4.91
Total Domestic Debt by Instrument (XCD)	1,845.19	2,035.94	1,935.89	-4.91
Loans	354.13	330.85	307.24	-7.14
Bonds	971.33	1,082.13	1,067.34	-1.37
Notes	402.87	445.06	445.97	0.21
Treasury Bills	116.85	177.91	115.33	-35.17
Total External Debt by Instrument (XCD)	2,290.24	2,359.20	2,847.61	20.70
Loans	1,384.07	1,406.86	1,755.09	24.75
Bonds	403.14	433.06	626.37	44.64
Notes	254.48	256.02	249.14	-2.69
Treasury Bills	248.54	263.26	217.00	-17.57
Central Government Debt by Residency(XCD)	3,864.35	4,104.32	4,489.25	9.38
External Debt	2,174.50	2,224.68	2,710.42	21.83
Domestic Debt	1,689.85	1,879.64	1,778.84	-5.36
Central Government Debt by Instrument (XCD)	3,864.35	4,104.32	4,489.25	9.38
Loans	1,467.13	1,446.89	1,768.09	22.20
Bonds	1,374.47	1,515.19	1,693.71	11.78
Notes	657.36	701.07	695.11	-0.85
Treasury Bills	365.39	441.17	332.34	-24.67
Contingent Liabilities by Residency (XCD)	271.08	290.82	294.24	1.18
External Debt	115.74	134.53	137.19	1.98
Domestic Debt	155.34	156.29	157.05	0.49
Foreign Currency Risk (%)	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	
ECD	52.12%	50.49%	45.67%	-9.55
USD	38.60%	41.20%	46.83%	13.65
EUR	0.12%	0.07%	0.05%	-32.36
KWD	0.33%	0.25%	0.18%	-27.87
SDR	8.82%	7.98%	7.28%	-8.87
Total Debt Service (XCD)	1,208.02	1,396.19	1,392.50	-0.26
External	298.16	192.83	158.39	-17.86
Domestic	909.86	1,203.36	1,234.11	2.56
Interest	161.34	165.31	191.41	15.79
Principal	1,046.68	1,230.88	1,201.09	-2.42
Interest Rate Structure (%)				
Fixed Rate	83.90	84.10	78.16	-7.06
Variable Rate	12.70	11.86	17.03	43.59
Interest Free	3.40	4.04	4.81	19.06
Risk Indicators				
ATM (Years)	6.23	6.07	5.78	-4.76
Maturing in 1 year (%)	16.0%	15.3%	21.7%	41.53
ATR (Years)	4.99	4.89	4.35	-11.04
WACD (%)	4.49%	4.81%	5.03%	4.57

#### **GLOSSARY**

**Amortization** refers to principal repayments on loans. These repayments reduce the borrowed money by portions, which are usually fixed amounts or expressed as a percentage of the whole.

Average Time to Maturity (ATM) measures the timing of principal repayment. It shows the share of debt falling due within a specific period - i.e., the shape of the redemption profile.

**Average Time to Re-fixing (ATR)** measures the weighted average time until all the principal payments in the debt portfolio become subject to a new interest rate.

Bilateral Creditor is a donor government or agency providing loans to borrowers in other countries

**Bullet Repayment** is the repayment of principal in a single payment at the instrument's maturity. **Contingent Liabilities** are obligations that materialize if a particular event occurs. They can be explicit, if the sovereign contractually acknowledges its responsibility to cover the beneficiary under specific circumstances, or implicit, when the government is expected to do so because it has a "moral" obligation to act, in most cases related to a high opportunity cost of not intervening.

Committed Undisbursed Balance (CUB) Refers to the amount that has been committed and is available for disbursement at any given point in time for effective loans, equity investments and other debt securities.

**Debt Outstanding** is the amount disbursed from a loan not yet repaid or forgiven.

**Debt Service Payments** cover interest charges on a loan. Some sources also include amortization under debt service payments.

**Domestic debt** is the gross outstanding amount of actual liabilities that require payment of interest or principal by the debtor at some point(s) and denominated in Eastern Caribbean Dollars.

**Foreign Exchange Risk** is the probability of the government's debt costs increasing due to changes in the exchange rates.

Government Guaranteed Loans (GGLs) refers to the debt of public bodies for which the Central Government is required to assume obligations in the event that the public entity defaults.

**Interest Rate Risk** is the vulnerability of the debt portfolio to higher market interest rates at the point when the interest rate on maturing variable rate debt and fixed-rate debt is re-priced.

MTDS Analytical Toolkit is designed to assist country authorities in developing a sound debt management strategy, by analyzing cost and risk tradeoffs inherent in alternative financing strategies. The tool was developed by the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank Group.

**Multilateral Creditor** is an international institution with governmental membership conducting all or a significant part of its activities in favour of development to aid recipient countries.

**Refinancing-risk** is the risk where maturing obligations are unable to be rolled over.

**Special Drawing Rights** (SDRs) are an international reserve asset, created by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in 1969 to supplement its member countries' official reserves. It serves as the unit of account of the IMF.

**Treasury Bills** are short-term debt obligations backed by the government with maturities less than one year. The GOSL issues Treasury Bills with 90, 180 and 365-day tenors. Treasury Bills are issued through a competitive bidding process at a discount from par, which means that rather than paying fixed interest payments like conventional bonds, the appreciation of the instrument provides the return to the holder.

**Yield Curve** A line graph showing the interest rates at specific points in time by plotting the yields of all securities with the same risk but with maturities ranging from the shortest to the longest available. The yield curve for Government securities is often used as a benchmark for pricing other debt in the market. The curve is also used as an indicator of macroeconomic conditions.