

# "Managing in an uncertain interest rate environment"

GOLDMAN SACHS
Banking Conference

Montecarlo, 10th June 2004

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**Conclusions** 



## Interest rates in the Eurozone have been on a downward path for the last years

#### **Euribor 3 months**

Spanish Bankig System : Net interest margin (%)



Affecting negatively the net interest margins of the Spanish banks

## What has BBVA done to offset the negative impact of low interest rates?

#### We have focussed on:

- 1. Increasing commercial activity and careful pricing policies
- 2. Management of interest rate risks
- 3. Improving fees
- 4. Cost control
- 5. Credit quality improvements



1

## Retail Banking: a marketing offensive . . .

#### ...driven by innovation and anticipation

June 03

**Mortgage solutions** 

**July 03** 

**Solutions for SMEs** 

September 03

Fondo Extra 5

November 03

**Pension solutions** 

January 04

**Easy Mortgage** 

Feb - Mar 04

Óptimo and Rentas Funds

**April 04** 

Credit card Tarjeta diez

## ... that is contributing to boosting business activity

Year-on-year growth
Average balances









#### ...with three pillars of the improvement

#### 1. A steady mortgage demand

- ∠ 1Q04: record quarter in new mortgage production (5.1 €Bn, +48%)

#### 2. Accelerating volumes from SMEs

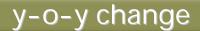
- ∠ +17% increase in SME's
- + 19% increase in small businesses

#### 3. Increase in off-balance sheet funds

- ∠ +19% increase in mutual funds
- Gaining market share



## In Wholesale Banking, selective recovery in lending



#### % growth by business unit



Jun.03



**Sep.03** 

dic-03

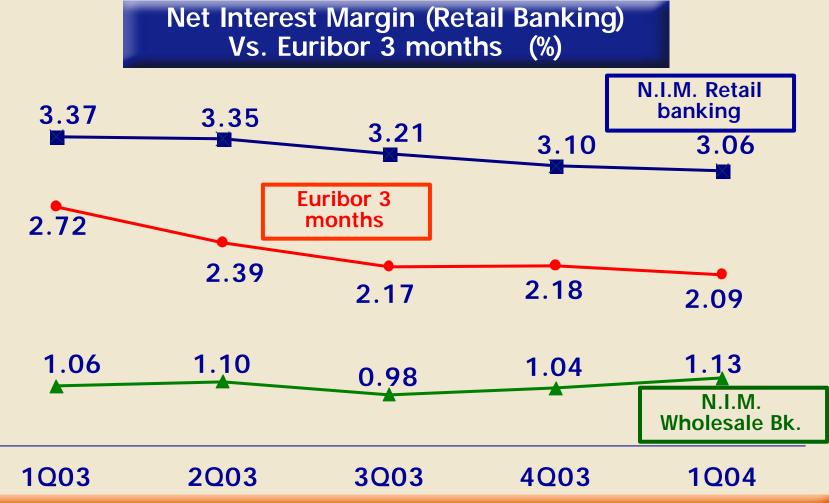
Mar.04

	Mar-03	Dec-03	Mar-04
Global corporate	-12.7	-9.6	-1.9
Domestic	-6.8	-7.7	+4.3
International	-22.4	-11.9	-12.7
Institutional	+2.5	+9.3	+10.2
TOTAL	-6.3	+1.5	+3.6



Mar.03

## Careful pricing allows for a satisfactory evolution of net interet margins



...despite interest rates at record lows





### Active management of interest rate risks

- The ALCO maintains a portfolio of government securities
- The size of the portfolio was €24 bn as of March 2004. Short duration: 1.8 years (2.6 years beginning 2003)
- ≤ 65% of latent capital gains are locked in
- Additionally, €8 bn IRS to hedge the spread 3-12 month Euribor





## Strong focus in fee generation, driven by asset management

Domestic Businesses (1) Net fee income (€ million)



(1) Retail and Wholesale & Investment Banking in Spain 1 2(2) Excluding preferred fees (as extraordinary in December 2003)





### Cost control in both Retail and Wholesale businesses

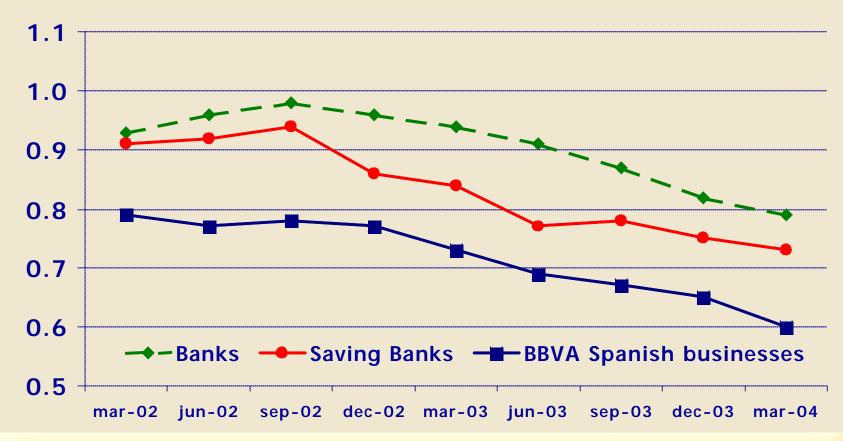
Total expenses (€ million)





#### ... with better asset quality than the **Spanish Banking System**

NPL ratio (%) (Domestic Sector)



**Improvements in risk management techniques** Increase in less risky assets (mortgages)

### As a result, healthy growth in operating profit of domestic businesses ...

Current € million	1Q03	1004	Chg. %
Net interest income	897	985	9.9
Core revenues	1,274	1,383	8.6
Ordinary revenues	1,402	1,493	6.5
Operating Profit	606	696	15.0



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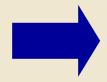
**Conclusions** 



### What has changed in the macro environment recently?

1.- Higher GDP growth and higher interest rates expectations

Strong growth recovery in 1Q04



**∠**Faster shift towards neutral monetary policies

**USA:** 3m interest rates discounted by futures



Euro: 3m interest rates discounted by futures

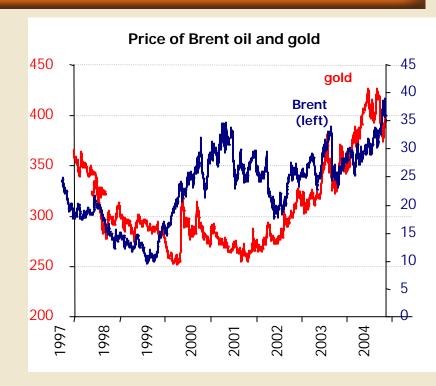




### What has changed in the macro environment recently?

#### 2.- Higher oil prices

Cyclical increase in demand and lower inventories





Adds further pressure to the oil price and becomes the main source of uncertainty



#### Financial scenarios to year end 2004

Geopolitical risk is diluted, as in previous occassions

Price of oil falls

**∠**Economies continue to grow, albeit more moderately (end of positive temporary effects)

Geopolitical risk is maintained or intensifies further

**∠Confidence levels decrease** and economic activity adjusts downwards

Geopolitical risk thus becomes the catalyst for a series of pending adjustments

#### With rates at a trough, higher economic activity will likely lead to moderate increases in interest rates





### In this scenario, BBVA is well placed given the structure of its assets ...

#### Retail banking loans structure



#### Yield curve 12M-3M Euribor



Current steepening of the 3-12m slope enhances profitability of mortgage book



#### ... and its liabilities



#### Deposit spread \* (%)





Liquid deposits: spread stabilisation



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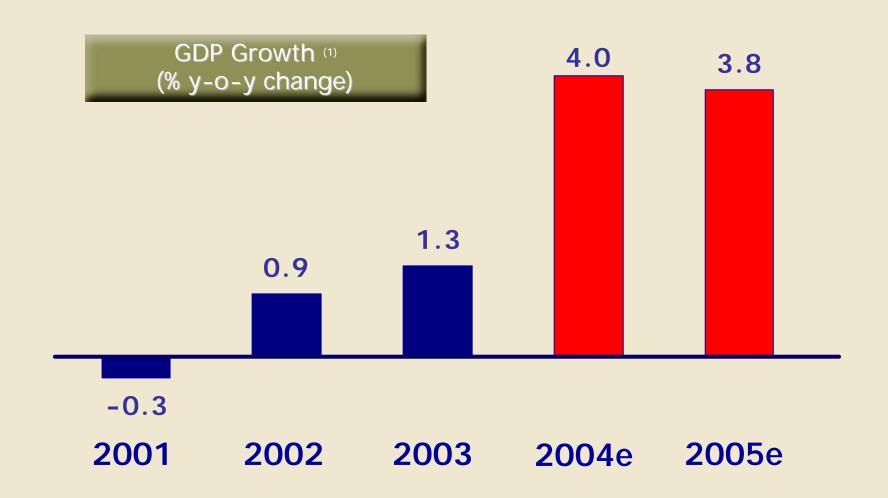


#### Mexico: a sizeable economy



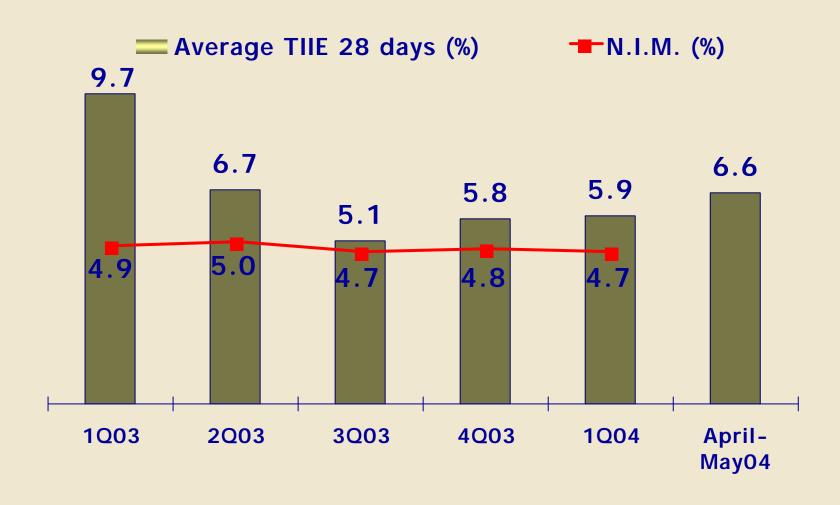
Emerg. Eur. G10: Group of 10 emerging countries in Eastern Europe, with 100 M inhabitants: Czech Republic, Estonia, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Malta, Poland, Slovenia and Slovakia.

#### ...entering a growth phase





### Despite lower rates, BBVA Bancomer has succeeded in defending the net interest margin ...



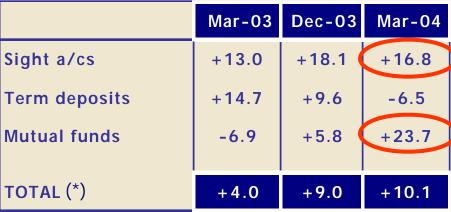


### ... growing its customer deposit base, while also improving the mix



Dec-03

% growth by product



<sup>\*</sup> Including repos

...with strong support from sight and savings accounts and funds

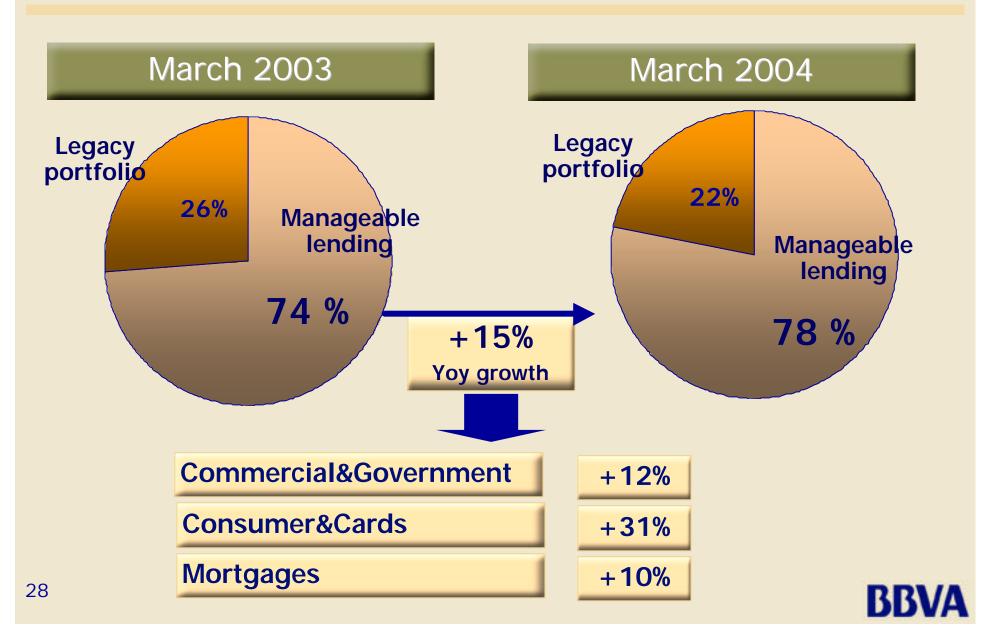
Mar.04

Mar.03

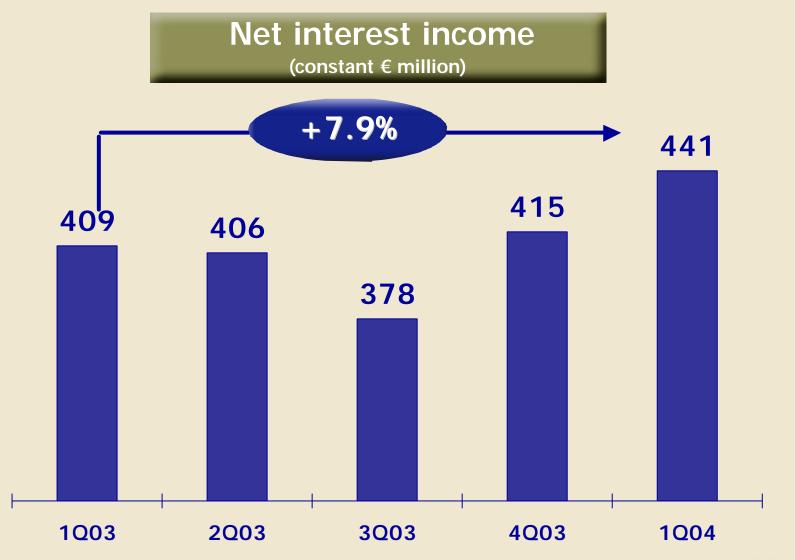
Jun.03

Sep.03

### ... and expansion of lending with focus in the most profitable segments

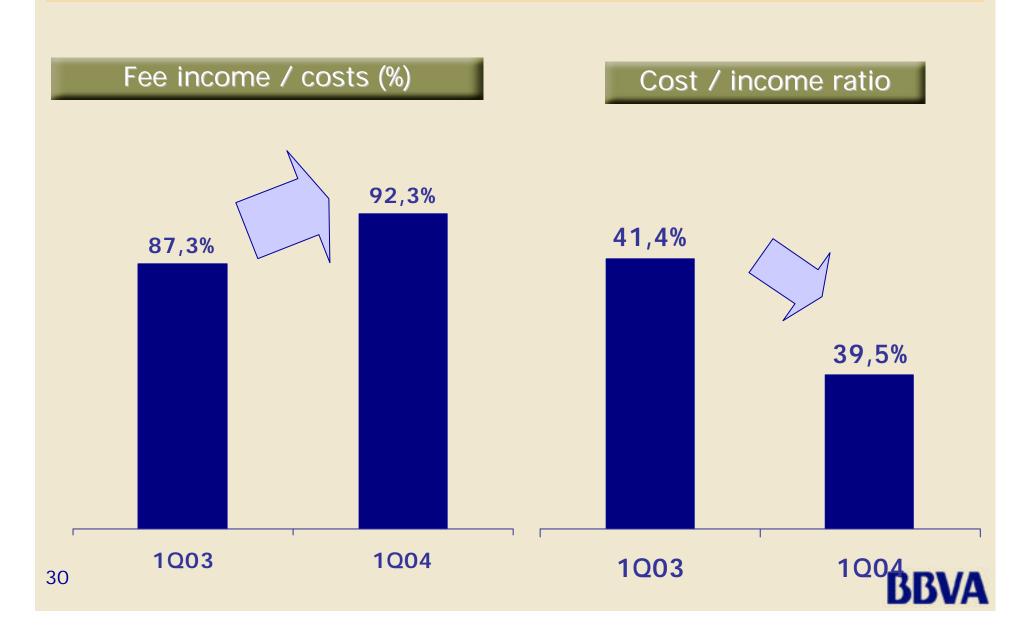


## Thus BBVA Bancomer has shown a significant increase in net interest income





## In this context special emphasis in fees and gains in efficiency

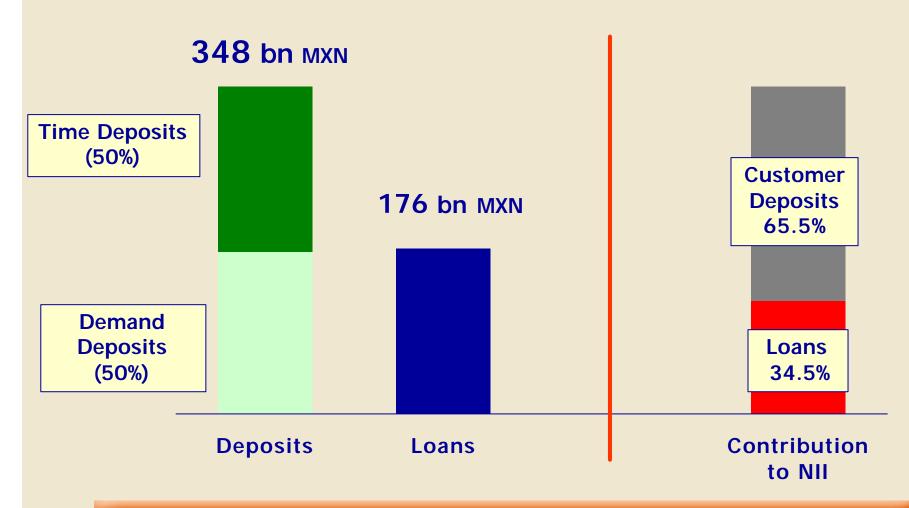


## ... achieving the highest operating profit of recent quarters





### BBVA Bancomer: a deposit rich franchise



Well positioned for higher interest rates



## ... and the trend in interest rates has already changed

#### Cetes 28 days: 2004 evolution





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#### We are creating a very solid Group



...and growth in EPS of 25.1%

#### Conclusions

- BBVA has successfully implemented commercial and interest rate risk policies with good results, despite low interest rates
- Cost control and credit quality have also made a significant contribution
- The Group will benefit from the current steepening of the yield curve

On course to deliver a good evolution of results



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