



# THE SCOUT

Wealth Management & Financial Services

## MONTHLY INVESTMENT NEWSLETTER MAY 2024

**6**

—  
Issues

**\$127M**

—  
Raised

**5**

—  
Issues  
Oversubscribed

**8**

—  
Equity Issuers with  
Trading Activity

**136.50**

—  
ECSE  
Share Index



**Issue No: 05/2024 ■ Period: May 2024 ■ Issue Date: June 5, 2024**

## ISSUER ACTIVITIES:

### 1. DEBT SECURITIES

#### a. Securities Issued:

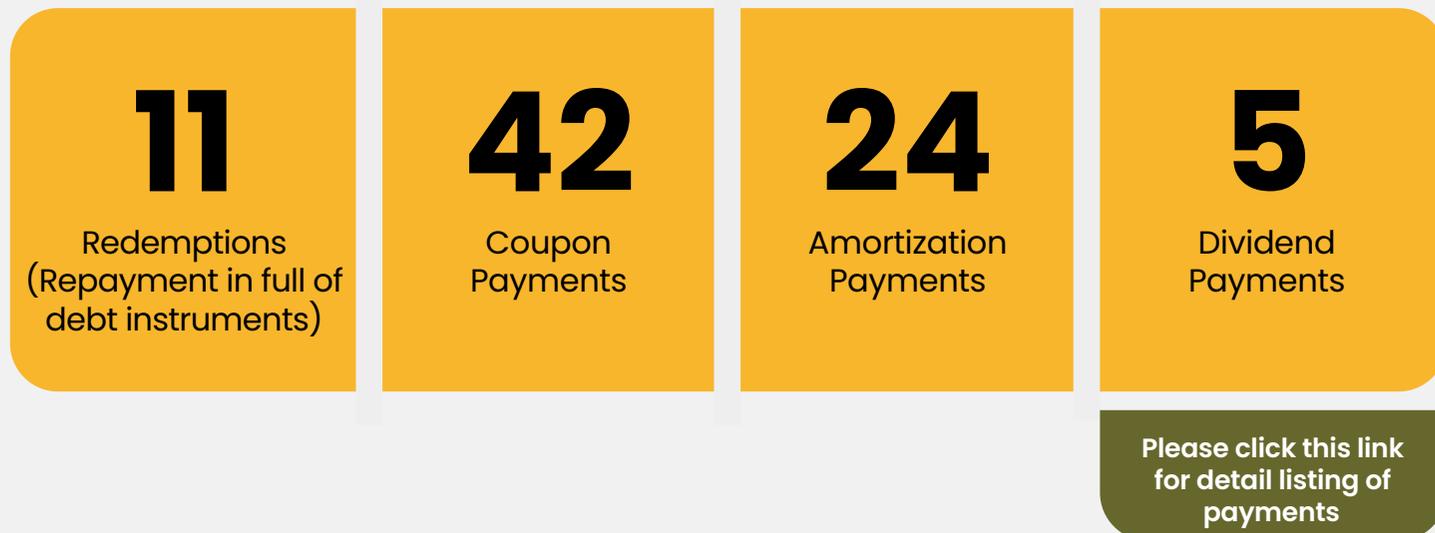
1. The Debt Market featured six issues originating from four governments of the eight ECCU territories, compared to:
  - a. Four issues during the same period in 2023 by three issuers.
  - b. Three issues last month.
2. ECCU governments raised a total of ECD \$127M.  
  
The three issues were oversubscribed with \$51M in unsatisfied bids.
3. Four issues closed below the maximum rate offered. The widest margin was a 1.61-percentage point variance between the offered and closing rate.
4. The securities offered were short-term to long-term instruments, ranging from 91 days to 10 years.

**Table 1: Debt Instruments Issued During May 2024**

DATE	SYMBOL	ISSUER	INSTRUMENT	AUCTION VALUE	MATURITY	CLOSING RATE	MAX RATE	SUBSCRIPTION
09/05/2024	GDB090824	Government of Grenada	91-Day T-Bill	\$15,000,000	09/08/2024	1.89%	3.50%	Oversubscribed
13/05/2024	AGB140525	Government of Antigua & Barbuda	365-Day T-Bill	\$30,000,000	14/05/2025	3.80%	4.50%	Oversubscribed
16/05/2024	VCB160824	Government of St. Vincent & the Grenadines	91-Day T-Bill	\$28,000,000	16/08/2024	3.50%	3.50%	Oversubscribed
21/05/2024	LCB210824	Government of St. Lucia	91-Day T-Bill	\$16,000,000	21/08/2024	2.50%	3.50%	Oversubscribed
22/05/2024	LCG100534	Government of St. Lucia	10-Year T-Bond	\$21,712,000	23/05/2034	7.00%	7.00%	Undersubscribed
24/05/2024	LCB260824	Government of St. Lucia	91-Day T-Bill	\$16,000,000	26/08/2024	2.99%	3.50%	Oversubscribed

**b. Payments during the month:**

Issuers made (through the Eastern Caribbean Securities Exchange) 82 scheduled payments, as per the agreed terms and conditions for instruments, issued both publicly and privately, which comprised of:



**c. Default reports:**

There were no reports of default by issuers during the period.

**2. EQUITY SECURITIES**

- i. The equities market, following the delisting of Republic Bank (Grenada) Limited effective May 31, 2024, now hosts 13 issuers of securities.
- ii. There were trades from eight (8) equity issuers in the market during the month of May.

**Table 2: Issuers with Trading Activity During the Month**

SYMBOL	TRADE VOLUME	HIGH PRICE	LOW PRICE	CLOSING PRICE	CHANGE IN CLOSING PRICE (COMPARED TO MARCH, 2024)
BOSV	5,000	\$7.75	\$7.75	\$7.75	-\$1.25
CWKN	135	\$3.50	\$3.50	\$3.50	\$0.00
ECFH	52,325	\$4.50	\$4.50	\$4.50	\$0.00
GCBL	4,584	\$8.45	\$8.45	\$8.45	+\$0.04
SKNB	200	\$2.80	\$2.80	\$2.80	\$0.00
SLES	26,847	\$23.00	\$23.00	\$23.00	+\$3.00
SLH	1,542	\$1.95	\$1.95	\$1.95	\$0.00
TDC	14,209	\$1.30	\$0.90	\$1.30	\$0.00

**Table 3: Closing Prices of Equities as at May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024**

SYMBOL	DESCRIPTION	CLOSING PRICE	
BON	The Bank of Nevis Ltd.	\$	3.48
BOSV	Bank of St. Vincent and the Grenadines Ltd.	\$	7.75
CWKN	Cable and Wireless St. Kitts & Nevis Ltd.	\$	3.50
DES	Dominica Electricity Services Ltd.	\$	3.75
ECFH	Eastern Caribbean Financial Holdings Company Ltd.	\$	4.50
GCBL	Grenada Co-operative Bank Limited	\$	8.45
GESL	Grenada Electricity Services Ltd.	\$	10.50
GPCL	Grenreal Property Corporation Limited	\$	5.40
RBGL	Republic Bank (Grenada) Limited	\$	45.00
SKNB	St. Kitts Nevis Anguilla National Bank Ltd.	\$	2.80
SLES	St. Lucia Electricity Services Ltd.	\$	23.00
SLH	S. L. Horsford & Co Ltd.	\$	1.95
TDC	St. Kitts Nevis Anguilla Trading & Development Company Ltd.	\$	1.30
WIOC	The West Indies Oil Company Limited	\$	60.00

**a. Equity Issuers with Financial Year-Ends during the period:**

- i. There were no equity issuers with a financial year-end in May.

**b. Material Change Disclosures:**

- i. Material Change disclosures are filed by Issuers as changes occur within their entities. For access to these disclosures refer to the Eastern Caribbean Securities Regulatory Commission. <https://www.ecsin.com/cms/Cmspages/details/198/category/ecsin-home-page>

**c. Dividend Payments:**

**Table 4: Dividend Payments**

COMPANY	DIVIDEND PER SHARE	PAYMENT DATE
ACBG	\$0.04	May 3, 2024
ECFH	\$0.60	May 10, 2024
RBGL	\$1.20	May 15, 2024
SLES	\$0.53	May 24, 2024
GCBL	\$0.43	May 27, 2024

## **ISSUER HIGHLIGHTS:**

### **1. DEBT ISSUERS**

#### **a. DOMINICA'S NATIONAL DEBT RAISES CLIMATE CHANGE CONCERNS**

Despite optimistic economic growth forecasts from the IMF, Dominica faces significant concerns regarding its national debt and climate resilience goals. A recent National Debt Consultation highlighted the \$1.5 billion funding gap for achieving climate resilience by 2030. Jwala Rambarran, CPDC's Senior Economic Policy Advisor, emphasized the unsustainability of relying on the Citizenship by Investment Programme and the increasing debt burden. The consultation stressed the need for diversified funding sources and the impact of debt on essential sectors like education and health.

#### **b. IMF SAYS ECONOMIC GROWTH IN ST. KITTS-NEVIS POISED TO ACCELERATE**

The IMF predicts economic growth in St. Kitts and Nevis will accelerate due to public and private investments, especially in renewable energy. Despite a strong tourism performance, growth slowed to 3.4% in 2023 due to investment delays. The IMF advises tightening the fiscal stance, preparing for a decline in Citizenship by Investment revenue, and implementing tax reforms. Investments in renewable energy aim to achieve self-sufficiency by 2030, boosting economic diversification and reducing energy costs.

### **2. EQUITY ISSUERS**

#### **a. REPUBLIC BANK (GRENADA) LIMITED DELISTING NOTICE**

Republic Bank Grenada Limited (RBGL) is no longer listed on the Eastern Caribbean Securities Exchange (ECSE) effective May 31, 2024.

For detailed information on this delisting, please refer to the official notice available by clicking the following link: [Delisting Notice](#)

#### **b. NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS – GRENREAL**

Notice is hereby given that a shareholders' meeting of Grenreal Property Corporation Limited will be held online via zoom and in person at Grenreal's office, Unit 1301, 2nd Floor, Bruce Street Mall, Melville Street, St. George's on Thursday 20th, June 2024 at 11:00 a.m.

[Grenreal – Notice of Shareholders' Meeting](#)

**Table 5: Financial Statistics of Equity Issuers for the 2023 Financial Year.**

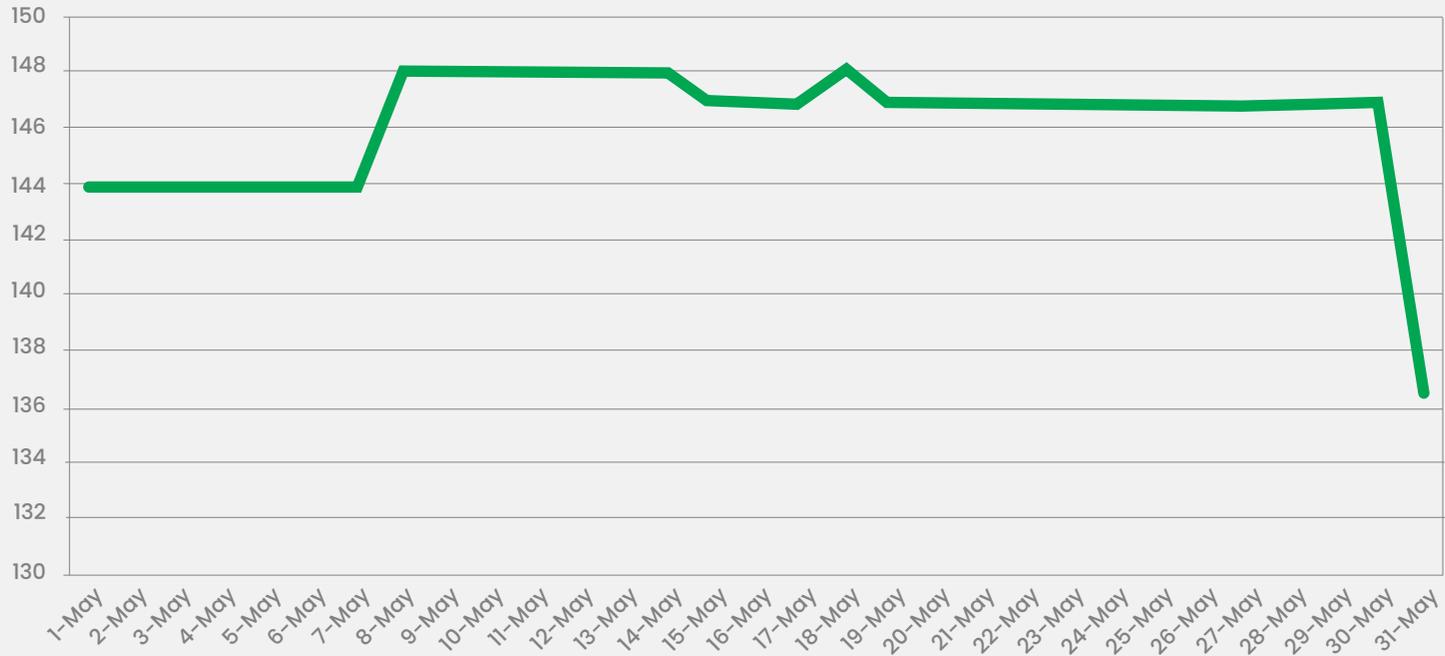
COMPANY SYMBOL	NET INCOME (LOSS) ('000)	SHARE-HOLDERS EQUITY ('000)	NO. OF SHARES OUT-STANDING ('000)	CLOSING MARKET PRICE	BOOK VALUE PER SHARE	EARNINGS (LOSS) PER SHARE	DIVIDEND PER SHARE	PRICE EARNINGS RATIO	DIVIDEND YIELD
BOSV	\$23,217	\$166,611	15,000	\$9.00	\$11.11	\$1.55	\$0.77	5.81	8.56%
ECFH	\$74,663	\$387,098	24,466	\$4.50	\$14.54	\$3.05	\$0.60	1.47	13.33%
GCBL	\$21,853	\$126,481	7,597	\$8.45	\$16.65	\$2.88	\$0.43	2.97	5.09%
RBGL	\$15,530	\$234,885	3,774	\$45.00	\$62.24	\$4.12	\$2.10	10.92	4.67%
SKNB	\$49,683	\$525,588	141,750	\$2.80	\$3.71	\$0.35	-	8.00	-
SLES	\$41,597	\$412,039	22,920	\$23.00	\$17.98	\$1.81	\$1.13	12.67	4.91%
SLH	\$11,299	\$161,585	60,297	\$1.95	\$2.68	\$0.19	\$0.1517	10.26	7.78%
TDC	\$4,620	\$196,163	52,000	\$1.30	\$3.77	\$0.09	\$0.05	14.44	3.85%

**Please be reminded that a company's past performance does not signal future behavior.**

*Note that the statistics will be updated as Issuer information becomes available for the period.*

**EASTERN CARIBBEAN SECURITIES MARKET REVIEW:**

**c. ECSE Share Price Index**



**Graph 1: ECSE Share Price Index May 01, 2024 – May 31, 2024.**

The ECSE (Eastern Caribbean Securities Exchange) Share Index, which stood at 144.07 at the end of April, decreased by 7.57 points or 5.25% to close the month at 136.50.



**UPCOMING OFFERS:**

**Table 6: Upcoming Offers**

DATE	SYMBOL	ISSUER	INSTRUMENT	AUCTION VALUE	MATURITY	MAX RATE
07/06/2024	AGB071224	Gov't Antigua & Barbuda	180-Day Treasury Bill	\$10.0M (5M Oversubscription)	07/12/2024	4.00%
10/06/2024	AGB110625	Gov't Antigua & Barbuda	365-Day Treasury Bill	\$5.0M (5M Oversubscription)	11/06/2025	4.50%
14/06/2024	VCB170924	Gov't St. Vincent & the Grenadines	91-Day Treasury Bill	\$28.0M	16/09/2024	3.50%
26/06/2024	LCB241224	Gov't Saint Lucia	180-Day Treasury Bill	\$15.0M (10M Oversubscription)	24/12/2024	4.00%
04/07/2024	DMB041024	Gov't of The Commonwealth of Dominica	91-Day Treasury Bill	\$20.0M	04/10/2024	3.50%
11/07/2024	VCB111024	Gov't St. Vincent & the Grenadines	91-Day Treasury Bill	\$28.0M	11/10/2024	3.50%
17/07/2024	LCB140125	Gov't Saint Lucia	180-Day Treasury Bill	\$15.0M (10M Oversubscription)	14/01/2025	4.00%
07/08/2024	LCB040225	Gov't Saint Lucia	180-Day Treasury Bill	\$20.0M (10M Oversubscription)	04/02/2025	4.00%
09/08/2024	GDB111124	Gov't Grenada	91-Day Treasury Bill	\$15.0M	11/11/2024	3.50%
19/08/2024	VCB191124	Gov't St. Vincent & the Grenadines	91-Day Treasury Bill	\$28.0M	19/11/2024	3.50%
21/08/2024	LCB211124	Gov't Saint Lucia	91-Day Treasury Bill	\$11.0M (5M Oversubscription)	21/11/2024	3.50%
27/08/2024	LCB271124	Gov't Saint Lucia	91-Day Treasury Bill	\$11.0M (5M Oversubscription)	27/11/2024	3.50%
30/08/2024	AGB020925	Gov't Antigua & Barbuda	365-Day Treasury Bill	\$20M (5M Oversubscription)	02/09/2024	4.50%

**Please note that upcoming offers may be updated during the period as instruments become available or amended.**

## **INVESTMENT EDUCATION CORNER:**

### **UNDERSTANDING THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SAVING AND INVESTING**

#### **Saving: Building a Financial Foundation**

Saving is the bedrock of financial stability. It involves setting aside a portion of your income for future use, typically in low-risk accounts such as savings accounts or certificates of deposit (CDs). The primary goal of saving is to preserve capital and provide a safety net for emergencies or unforeseen expenses. Here are some key features of saving:

1. **Liquidity:** Savings are readily accessible, allowing you to withdraw funds when needed without penalty. This liquidity provides flexibility in managing short-term financial needs.
2. **Low Risk:** Traditional savings vehicles offer minimal risk of loss, making them ideal for protecting capital. While they may yield modest returns, the focus is on preserving rather than growing wealth.
3. **Short-Term Goals:** Saving is often geared towards achieving short-term objectives, such as building an emergency fund, funding a vacation, or making a down payment on a home.
4. **Fixed Returns:** Interest rates on savings accounts are typically fixed or variable within a narrow range. While this provides stability, it may not keep pace with inflation, leading to a decrease in purchasing power over time.

#### **Investing: Growing Your Wealth**

Investing involves putting your money into assets with the expectation of generating a return over the long term. Unlike saving, investing carries a higher degree of risk but offers the potential for greater rewards. Here's what sets investing apart:

1. **Risk and Reward:** Investing inherently involves risk, as asset values can fluctuate due to market conditions. However, with risk comes the potential for higher returns. Investors aim to achieve growth by diversifying their portfolios across different asset classes such as stocks, bonds, real estate, and commodities.
2. **Long-Term Horizon:** Investing is geared towards long-term financial goals, such as retirement, education funding, or wealth accumulation. By harnessing the power of compounding returns, investors allow their money to grow exponentially over time.
3. **Diversification:** Successful investors diversify their portfolios to spread risk and enhance returns. Diversification involves allocating investments across various asset classes, industries, and geographic regions to mitigate the impact of adverse events on any single investment.
4. **Inflation Hedge:** Unlike savings, which may be eroded by inflation, investing offers the potential to outpace inflation and preserve purchasing power. Historically, equities and real estate assets have served as effective hedges against inflation over the long term.

### Finding the Right Balance

While saving and investing serve distinct purposes, they are complementary components of a sound financial strategy. The key lies in finding the right balance based on your financial goals, risk tolerance, and time horizon. Here are some tips to help you strike that balance:

- 1. Emergency Fund:** Prioritize building an emergency fund equivalent to 3–6 months' worth of living expenses in a high-yield savings account to cover unexpected costs and mitigate the need to dip into investments prematurely.
- 2. Goal-Based Approach:** Identify your financial goals, categorizing them as short-term, medium-term, or long-term. Use savings for short-term goals and low-risk investments for medium-term goals, while allocating riskier investments for long-term objectives.
- 3. Risk Assessment:** Regularly assess your risk tolerance and adjust your investment strategy accordingly. As life circumstances change, so too should your approach to saving and investing.

In conclusion, understanding the difference between saving and investing is crucial for building a robust financial future. By balancing both strategies, you can ensure financial security while also working towards growing your wealth.

#### Disclaimer

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#### Disclosure

We, Grenada Co-operative Bank Limited, hereby declare that we are an issuer of securities on the Eastern Caribbean Securities Exchange.

#### CONTACT US

wealthmanagement@grenadaco-opbank.com  
www.grenadaco-opbank.com  
473-440-2111 ext. 6533