FBOs are an important element of the international banking system … particularly for foreign currency credit.

1. Foreign Claims by Domestic Banks and FBOs
(Trillions of U.S. dollars)

2. Share of FBOs in Foreign and Local Currencies
(Percent)

Sources: Bank for International Settlements; and IMF staff estimates.
Note: In panel 1, foreign claims follow the Bank for International Settlements’ (BIS) definition, which equals the sum of the three bars. The calculation is based on 19 BIS reporting countries that provide data according to the type of reporting bank in the locational banking statistics. Cross-border claims by domestic banks are made by domestic banks in their home country to counterparties in other countries. FBO local claims are made by foreign branches and subsidiaries to counterparties in their host country. FBO cross-border claims are made by foreign branches and subsidiaries to counterparties in a third country. FBO = foreign banking office.