The Medium to Long-Term Economic Outlook for Asia

February 3, 2017

Yoko Takeda Mitsubishi Research Institute

Copyright (C) Mitsubishi Research Institute, Inc

Issues for discussion for Asian Economy

1

Issues for discussion both for Asia and global economy

Can developed economies overcome secular stagnation?

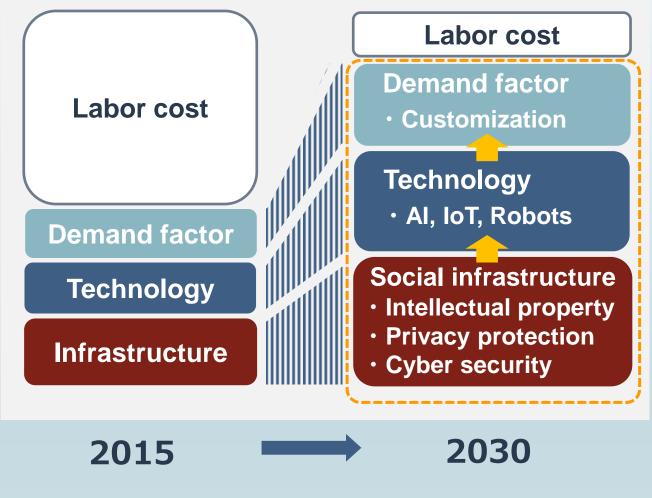
 Can we address anti-globalization and dissatisfaction with inequality?

 Will new digital technologies evoke a paradigm shift of global competition?

Will a huge middle/high income class emerge in Asia?

New digital technologies may evoke a paradigm shift

Factors That Determine Firm's Location



Source: MRI

Copyright (C) Mitsubishi Research Institute, Inc.

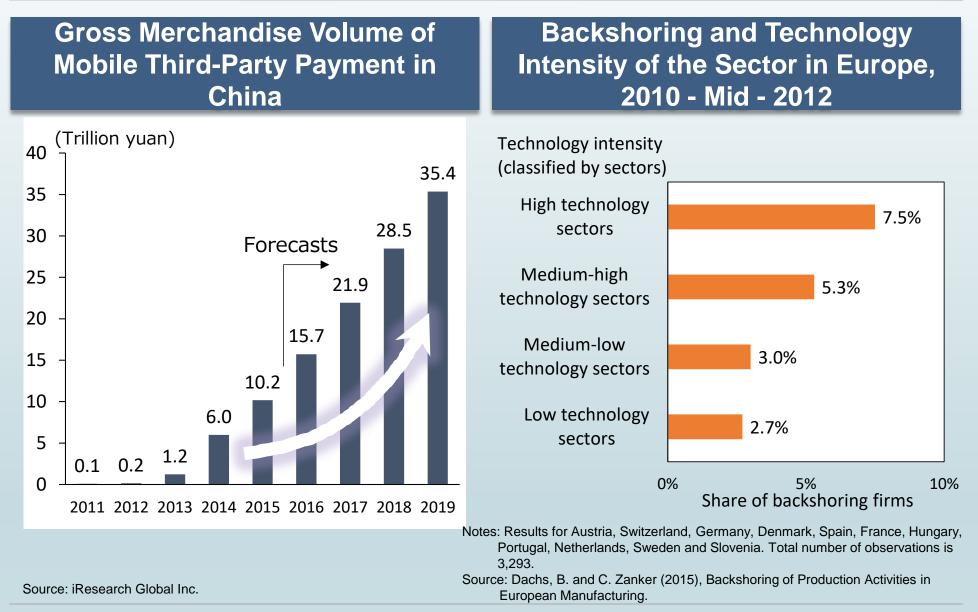
Opportunities

- Some new technologies may diffuse rapidly in emerging economies due to the absence of vested interests.
 - e.g. Mobile payments are rapidly becoming the norm in China.

Disadvantages

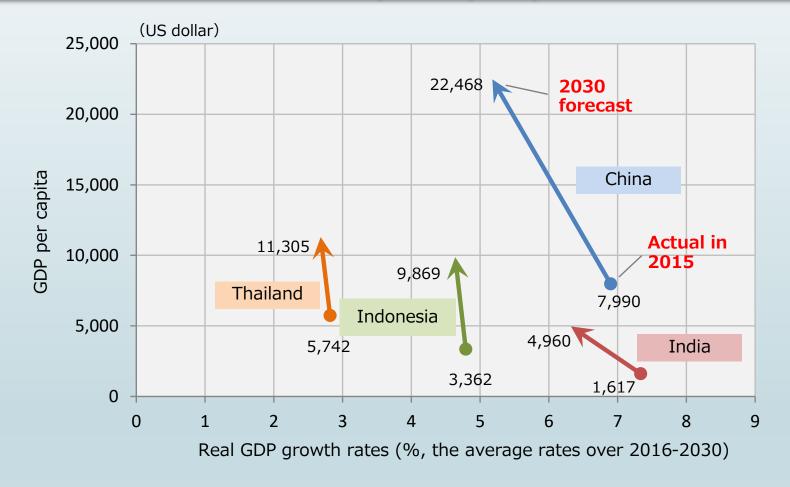
- Jobs that were previously outsourced from developed economies to emerging economies may reverse course.
 - e.g. Lack of skilled labor, immature legal system to protect privacy and patents.

Opportunities and disadvantages for emerging Asia



Will a huge middle/high income class emerge?

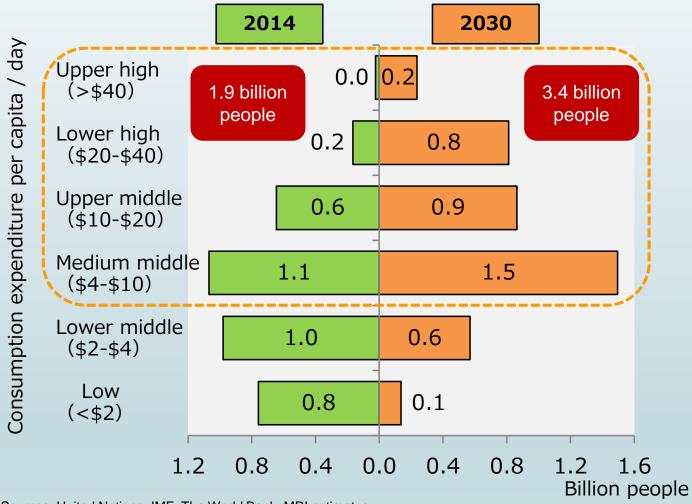
GDP Growth Rates and GDP per Capita (2015 vs. 2030 forecast)



Sources: IMF; MRI forecasts.

Will a huge middle/high income class emerge?

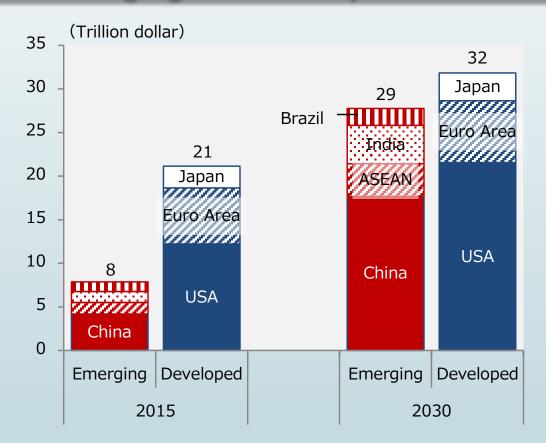
Population by Income Class in Emerging Asian Economies



Sources: United Nations; IMF; The World Bank; MRI estimates.

Will a huge middle/high income class emerge?

Volume of Nominal Household Consumption in Emerging and Developed Countries



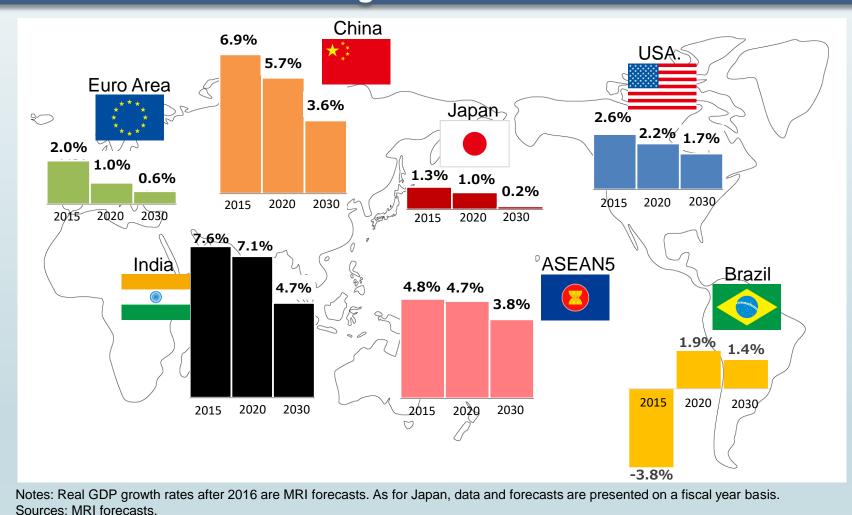
Notes: All figures are MRI estimates. The ratios of household final consumption expenditure to GDP used for these estimates are the actual values of 2015. As for China, the ratio is set higher than the actual value on the assumption that China will shift to a consumption-driven economy.

Sources: United Nations; IMF; The World Bank; MRI estimates.

Global Outlook

MRI forecasts for global GDP growth rate

Economic Outlook for Major Countries and Regions Going towards 2030



Copyright (C) Mitsubishi Research Institute, Inc

Two possible "catch-ups" by 2030

Nominal GDP of Major Emerging and Developed Economies



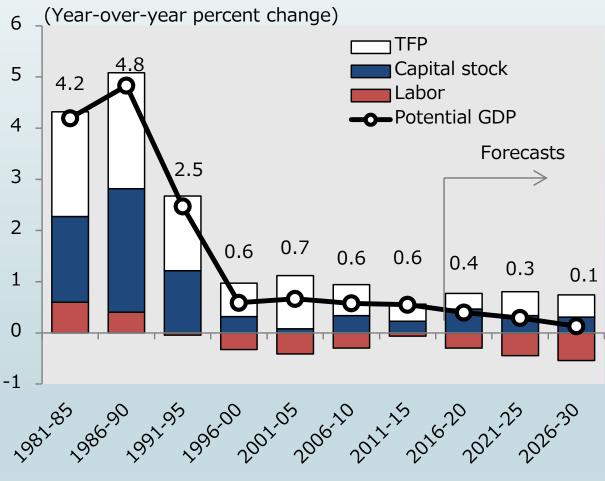
Note1: Estimation results vary substantially depending on the assumption of exchange rates. The GDP growth rates after 2016 are MRI forecasts. The exchange rates are generally based on the IMF forecasts. As for China, the yuan is assumed to appreciate until 2020, and to stabilize after 2021. The Indian Rupee is assumed to depreciate about 1% per year. Japanese Yen rates are MRI forecasts.

Notes2: ASEAN10 refers to Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, Brunei Darussalam, Laos, Myanmar, and Cambodia. Sources: IMF; MRI forecasts.

Japan Outlook

Economic outlook for Japan

Japan's Potential GDP Growth Rate



Source: MRI estimates.

Copyright (C) Mitsubishi Research Institute, Inc

Promote innovation and mitigate demographic vortex

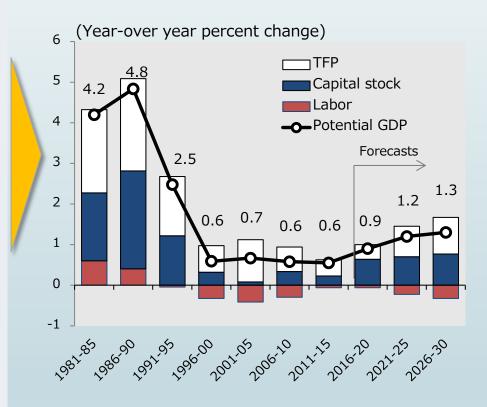
Three prescriptions:

- Innovation e.g. AI, IoT, robots
- Economic system reform e.g. Labor market reform, social security reform

More risk-taking by corporate sector

e.g. Investments in new markets

Japan's Potential GDP (Higher-growth Scenario)



Sources: MRI questionnaires; Agency for National Resources and Energy; MRI estimates.

Copyright (C) Mitsubishi Research Institute, Inc.

Conclusions

- Emerging Asian markets have marked growth potential. But, its actual performance depends on whether:
 - (i) new digital technologies evoke a paradigm shift
 - (ii) China can solve its structural problems
 - (iii) emerging Asia can avoid the middle-income trap
- If Japan can conquer the challenges lying ahead, it has a chance to achieve both a high-quality growth and a sustainable society.

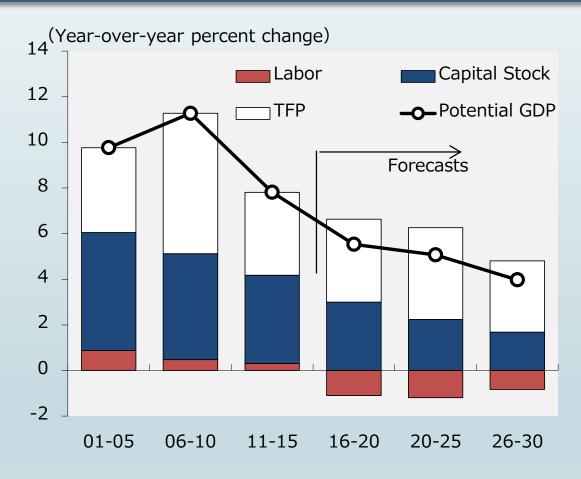
Appendix

Economic Outlook for China

Economic outlook for China

China's GDP growth rate may decline to 4 percent or lower in 2030

China's Potential GDP Growth Rate

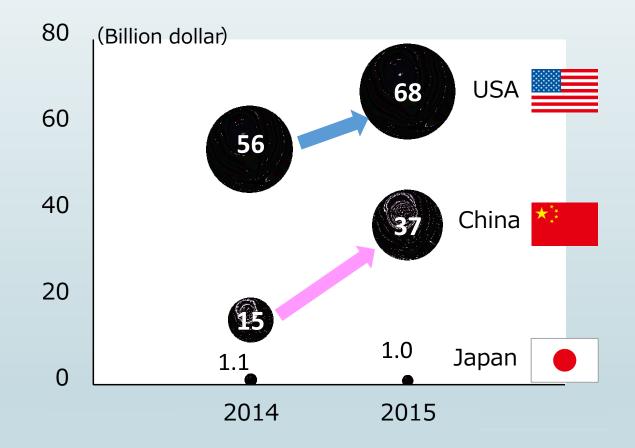


Sources: CEIC; MRI Estimates.

The strengths and weaknesses in China's economy

①Transformation to an innovation-driven economy underway

Venture Capital Funding of Startups in China



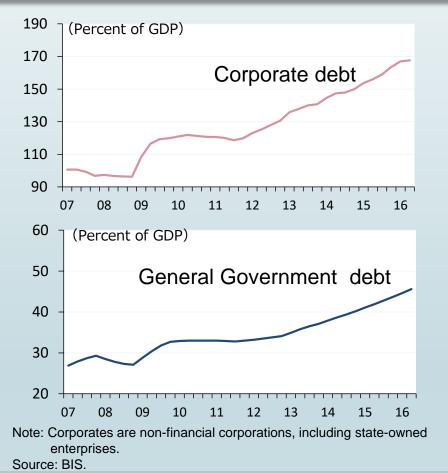
Sources: Venture Enterprise Center; Bloomberg.

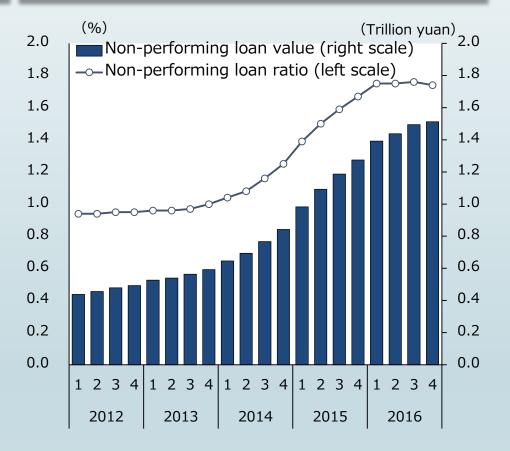
The strengths and weaknesses in China's economy

②Ballooning non-performing loan problems

China's Corporate and General Government Debt

Non Performing Loans



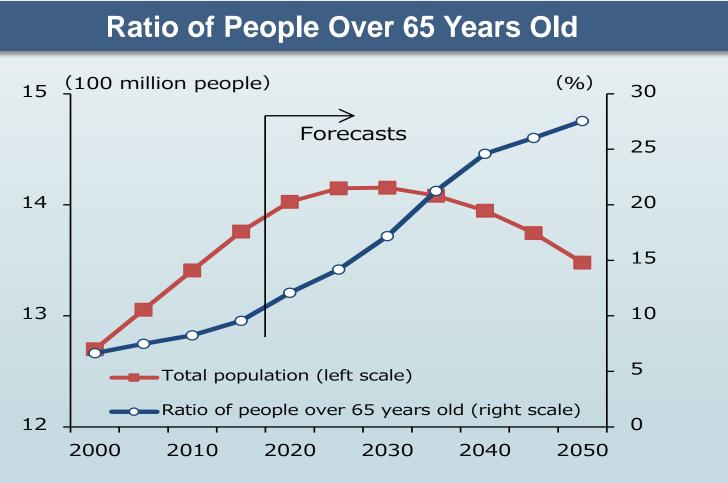


Sources: CEIC; China Banking Regulatory Commission.

Copyright (C) Mitsubishi Research Institute, Inc

The strengths and weaknesses in China's economy

③Looming social instability due to rapidly aging



Source: United Nations.

Thank you