Policy Initiatives in a Changing International Monetary System

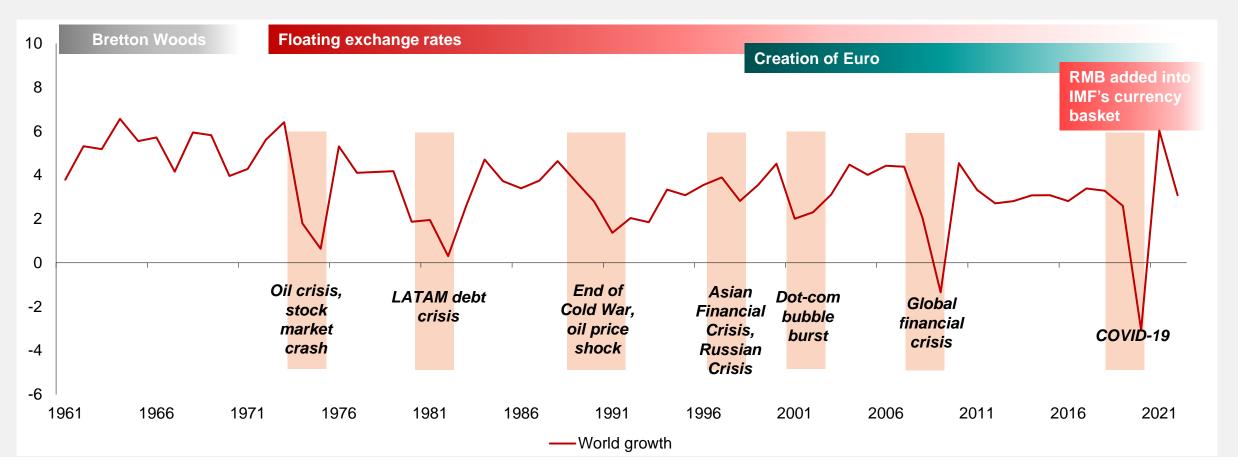
Strengthening regional resilience in an uncertain world

Kouqing Li, Director ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office August 25, 2023



Our international monetary system has evolved in tandem with major global events

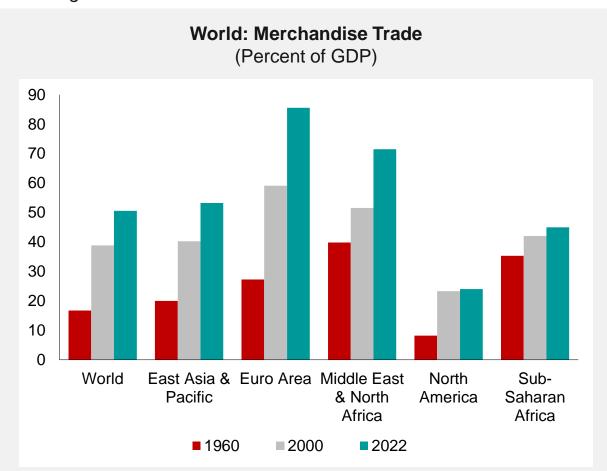
World: Real GDP Growth (Percent, year-on-year)



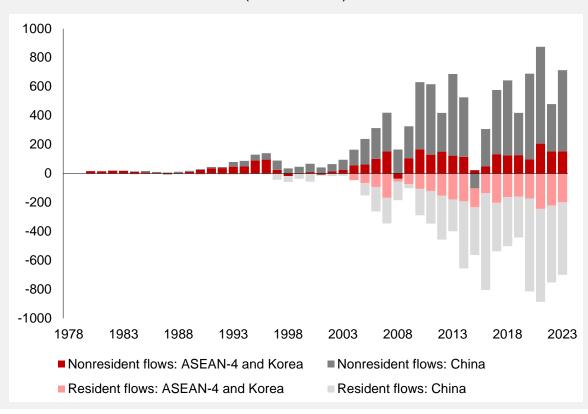
Globalisation during the same period led to higher interlinkages across economies

Trade liberalization led to an expansion of trade activities across all regions

Capital flows have also increased significantly



Selected ASEAN+3: Gross Capital Flows (USD billion)



Source: World Bank Development Indicators

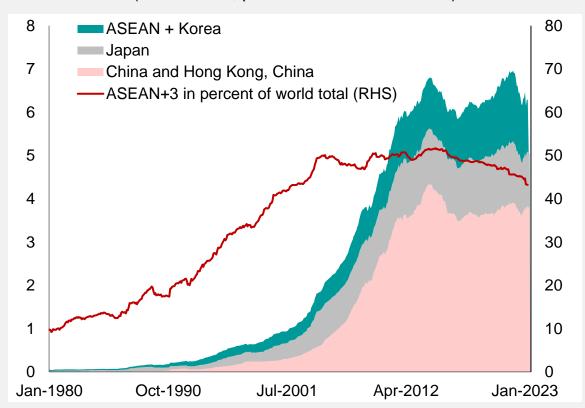
For ASEAN+3, the region is more resilient to external shocks after its reforms since the Asian Financial Crisis

unavailability

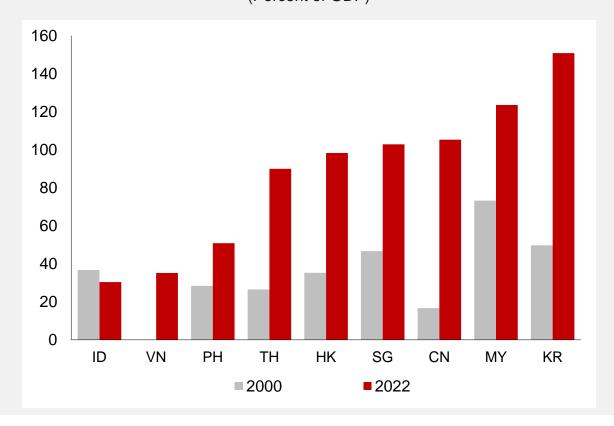
Reserves have increased by more than 10-fold since the Asian Financial Crisis

Local currency bond markets have also deepened significantly in the past two decades





Selected ASEAN+3: Local Currency Bonds (Percent of GDP)



Source: National authorities via Haver Analytics

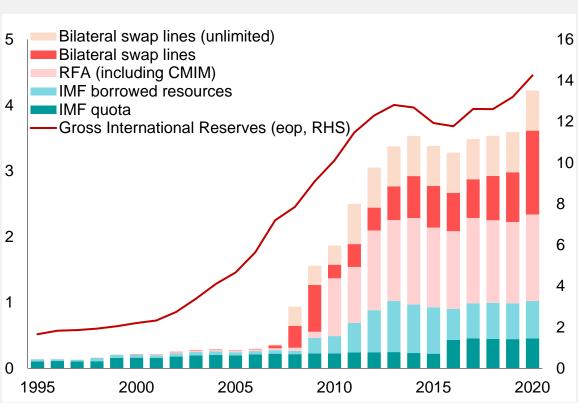
Source: AsianBondsOnline. Note: Selected ASEAN+3 excludes Brunei, Cambodia, Lao PDR, and Myanmar due to data

The global financial safety net has also been enhanced significantly in recent years

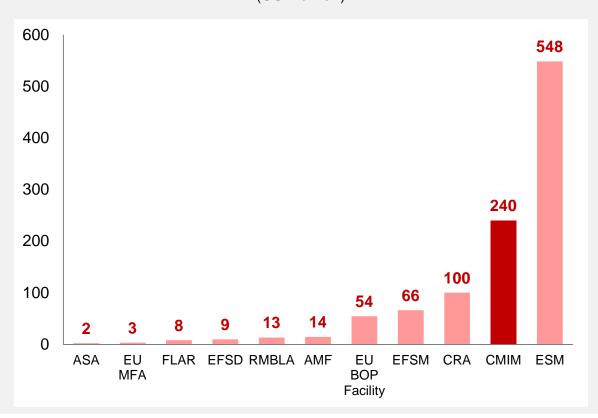
Global financial safety net has quadrupled in size in the last two decades, with wider range of policy instruments

CMIM is among the world's largest regional financing arrangements (RFAs) that provides short-term liquidity support





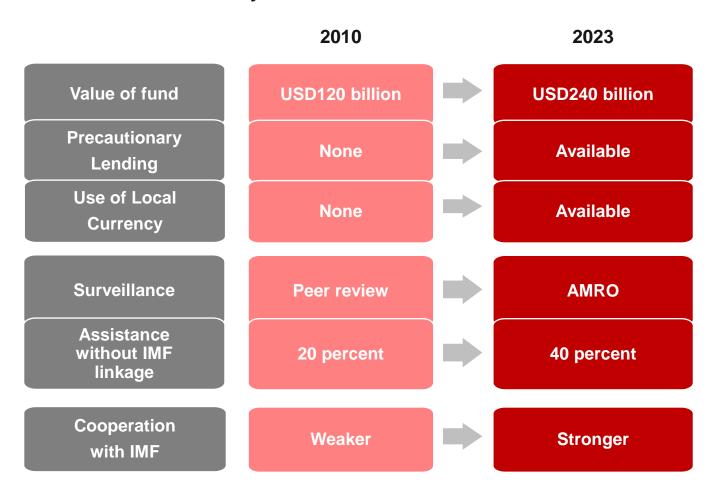
World: Size of Regional Financing Arrangements (USD billion)



Source: IMF (2021) Evolution of Bilateral Swap Lines, WP/21/210

CMIM/AMRO has been strengthened over the years

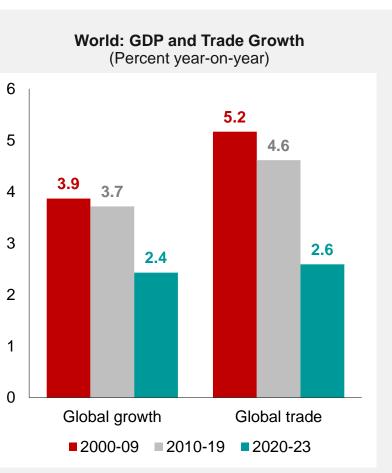
Key Achievements of CMIM/AMRO



Source: AMRO staff illustrations

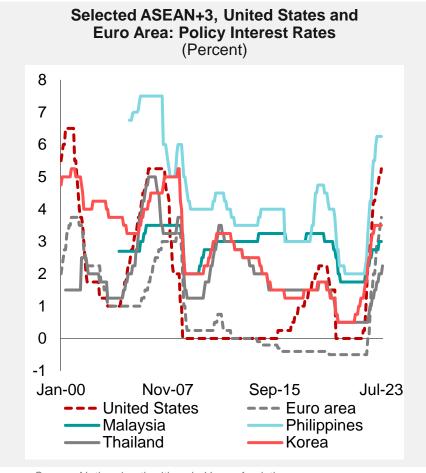
Our current operating landscape is highly challenging

The global economy is growing at a slower pace...

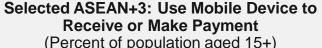


Source: IMF WEO July 2023.

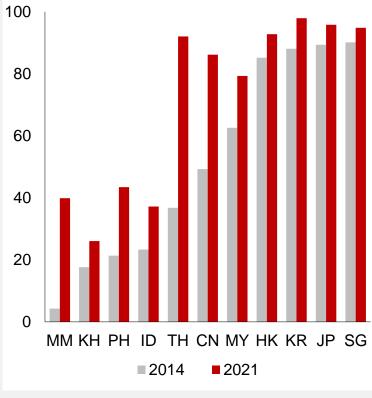
...amid synchronized monetary tightening...



..and high financial digitalization



(Percent of population aged 15+)



Source: National authorities via Haver Analytics. Note: Selected ASEAN+3 refers to Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Korea. Data are up to August 7, 2023.

ASEAN+3 will continuously deepen financial integration to bolster regional resilience

Way Forward for CMIM/AMRO and new RFA

Ongoing efforts

Make CMIM more usable

- Review terms and condition for swap
- Operationalizing local currency use in addition to USD
- Conduct regular test runs

Make CMIM more accessible

➤ Introduce a new lending facility, e.g. a rapid financing facility

Elevate AMRO as a trusted policy advisor and thought leader

- > Enhance surveillance and technical assistance capacity
- > Promote closer policy coordination
- > Establish AMRO's status as a Regional Knowledge Hub
- > Create an ASEAN+3 Finance Think-tank Network
- > Strengthen secretariat support to the ASEAN+3 Finance Process

Thank you



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