# The Global Financial Crisis and Lessons Learned

- Korea's Key Success Factors -

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# How Did Korea Cope with the Global Financial Crisis?

### 1. What happened to the Korean economy?

# Effect of the global financial crisis on the Korean economy

#### Phase I

(Foreign currency liquidity)



#### Phase II

(Credit risk)

Global recession

Global credit crunch



## Withdrawal of foreign Investment

Foreign investors' balance in Korea's stock market (Bil. US\$, 1\$=1,000KW)

Dec.07
308
261
Dec.08
212



Worries over Korea's foreign currency liquidity



## Weaknesses of Korean economy highlighted

- (Ex+Im)/GDP: 96%
- High leverage of SME/households
- Vulnerable construction sector



Skepticism on the soundness of banking system

## 2. Key success factors (1)

### Success factor 1: Strong economic fundamentals

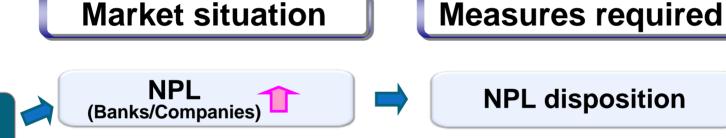
		nancial Crisis 7 - 1998	Global Financial Crisis 2008 - 2009
Causes	Internal weakness		External factors
Foreign Exchange	Foreign Currency Reserves ST External Debt / FX Reserves	US\$ 8.9bn 717%	US\$ 270.0bn <sup>1</sup> 55.6% <sup>1</sup>
	Total External Debt / FX Reserves	1,957%	148.9%1
Banks	Bank NPL Ratio	6.0%	1.24% <sup>1</sup>
	BIS Ratio	7.0%	14.36% <sup>1</sup>
Companies	Debt Ratio	424.6%	100.8% 1
	Interest Coverage Ratio	115.0%	377.7% <sup>1</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> as of December 2009

## 2. Key success factors (2)

Success factor 2: Preemptive, comprehensive, and largescale policy response

Korean government knew what to do at the time of the crisis



Re-capitalization

Liquidity crunch &

Market volatility

(Partly due to market sentiment

& herd behavior)

**Capital** 

(Banks/Companies)

R

Liquidity supply & dialogue with market

Strong political eadership for inter-

# 2. Key success factors (2): Summary of Korea's policy response

#### Phase I Responses

#### FX Market Stabilization

- Payment guarantee of foreign currency borrowings by domestic banks: \$100 bn
- Currency swap lines with U.S., Japan, and China: \$30 bn each / \$90 bn in total
- \$55 bn foreign liquidity provisions by the BOK and the government

#### **Phase II Responses**

#### Fiscal Stimulus Package

- Won liquidity provision: 23.3 tn won (23.3 bn dollars <sup>1</sup>)
- Total Stimulus package: 3.6% of GDP in 2009

#### **Enhancing Bank Soundness**

- Launching of Bank Recapitalization Fund (USD 20 bn)
- Purchase of bank impaired assets through Restructuring Fund by KAMCO (USD 40 bn)

#### **Corporate Sector Liquidity Provisions**

- Extension of SME loans and guarantees due 2009
- Creation of Bond Market Stabilization Fund (USD 10 bn)

#### **Corporate Restructuring**

- Creditor bank-led restructuring
- Market-based restructuring

#### Social Safety Net

- Financial support through Microcredit (Miso Foundation)
  - Planning to supply 2tn won (USD 2bn) for the next 10 years
- Credit repair for low-income households through debt restructuring and refinancing at lower rates
  - Planning to supply 10tn won(USD 10bn) in the next 5 years through guarantees of small loans

<sup>1</sup> KRW 1000 = USD 1

# 2. Key success factors (2): Well-organized resolution scheme

**Improve asset soundness of Financial Institutions (FIs)** 

**Restructuring Fund** (KAMCO)

**NPL** Acquisition

Preemptive recapitalization measures

Bank Recapitalization Fund

Recapitalization

Financial Stabilization Fund (KoFC) to be used for all FIs

Recapitalization & Equity, Loan, Guarantee

Pre-PCA stage

Post-PCA stage

**Resolution of Insolvent FIs** 

**Deposit Insurance Fund** (KDIC) in cooperation with KAMCO

## 2. Key success factors (2)

#### Institutional arrangements after 1997 Asian crisis

- Regulatory frameworks in line with global standards
  - Forward-looking criteria (FLC)
  - Prompt corrective action (PCA)
  - Mark-to-market
  - Disclosure & transparency

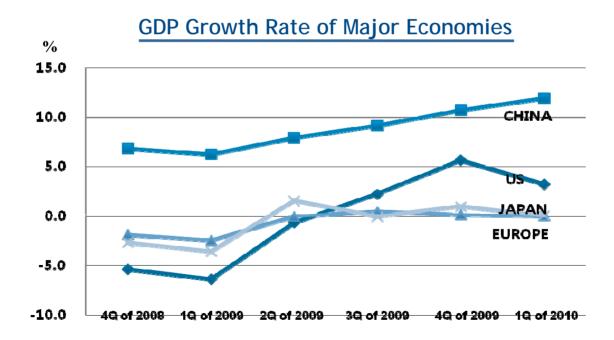
- Disposition of NPL
  - Korea Asset Mgt Company (KAMCO) and secondary NPL market

## 2. Key success factors (3)

#### Success factor 3: Resilience of the global economy

- Global economy recovering faster than expected
- IMF revising 2010 global economic growth outlook :

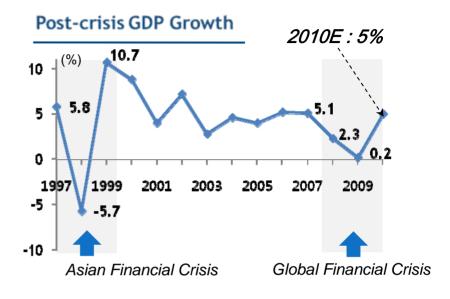
3.1% (Oct.'09) -> 4.2% (Apr.'10)



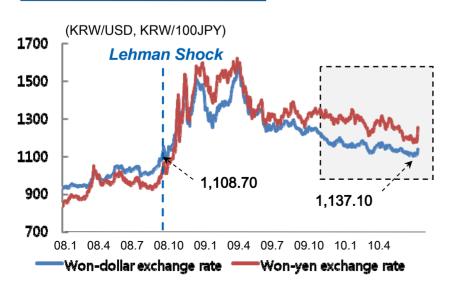
### Resilience of Korean economy

#### Stock Index Movement (KOSPI)

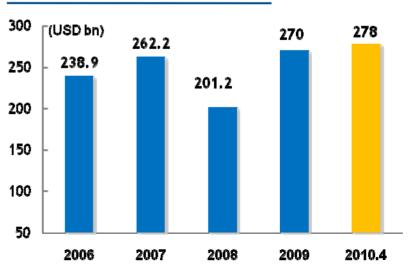




#### Foreign Exchange Rate



#### Foreign Exchange Reserves



## **Concluding remarks**

 Given the complexity and interconnectedness of the global economy, crisis may come at anytime & in various forms

 Prudent macro-management such as stable current account balances and strong fiscal condition is critical

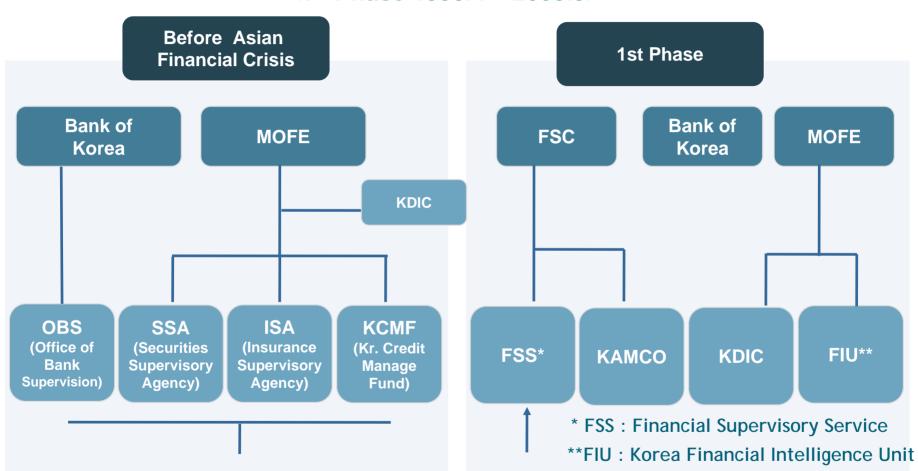
 Institutional arrangements such as inter-agency cooperation with strong leadership and preemptive policy actions as demonstrated by Korea can be effective

 At international level, Korea has called for "Global Financial Safety Net" to ease temporary liquidity shortage, particularly for non-reserve currency economies

# Part II

# Korea's Regulatory Reform and Implications on Recent Discussions

<1st Phase 1998.4 ~ 2008.3>



- Consolidated oversight on diversified financial sectors & risk factors
- Coordination & Sharing of best practices vs. Span of control

#### Background on regulatory reform of 1998

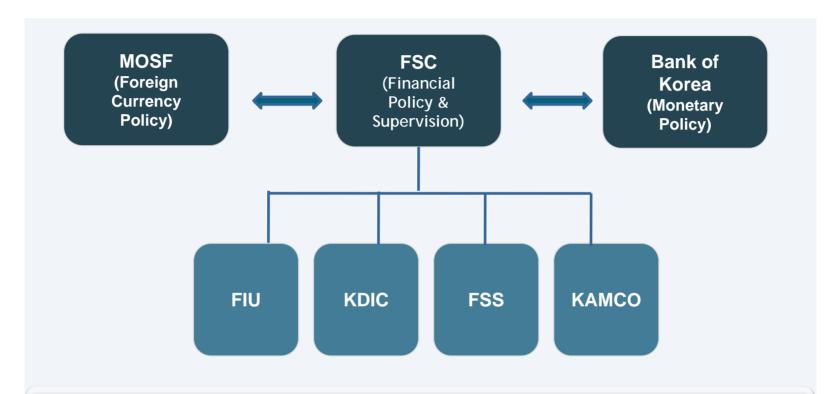
## The 1997 Asian crisis revealed weakness of fractured supervisory system

- Information sharing among supervisory authorities (e.g. banking, securities, insurance & nonbanking) was limited
- No single authority oversaw risk comprehensively in the complex and interconnected market
- Regulation was sector-specific, no comprehensive oversight

## Political compromise between Ministry of Finance and Economy (MOFE) and Bank of Korea

- BOK wanted more independence from the government (MOFE)
- The government did not allow an independent BOK having supervisory power
- The result of political compromise between the government & BOK
  - => Greater independence to BOK but bank supervisory power transferred to a consolidated body (FSS: Financial Supervisory Service)

#### <2nd Phase 2008.3 ~ Present>



- FSC & BOK exchange supervisory information on regular basis (MOU)
- Joint inspection (FSS & BOK)
- Coordinating body led by the vice head of MOSF, FSC, FSS and BOK

Background on the regulatory reform of 2008

#### **Balance of power & strengthened consolidation**

- The new government decided to consolidate the Budget Office with MOFE but was wary of power concentration to MOFE
- The Financial Policy Bureau of MOFE was separated from MOFE and was consolidated with FSC
- The new FSC is the single government entity with financial policy and supervisory policy-making authority
- FSS, specializing in inspection, is a non-government special purpose agency that supports FSC

## 2. Lessons from Korea's experience

- Countries with integrated supervisor fell victim to global financial crisis => no one-size-fits-all supervision
- Other things being equal, however, integrated supervisor has advantage in collecting market information and executing supervisory actions in more concerted and orderly manner. Macroprudential supervision becomes easier.
- Best practices across sectors could be internally shared, raising overall standards or level of supervision
- Korea's current supervisory system is likely to undergo reform in the next government
  - Separation of international and domestic finance
  - Conflict between FSC (government agency with 160 staff) and FSS (non-government entity with 1,700 staff)

## Part III

G20 and the Role of Korea

### 1. Why G20 is more effective than G7

#### Need for new global governance

- G7 has proven ineffective in resolving major global issues
- Due to growing influence of EU, relationship between the U.S. and EU has shifted, making it more difficult to reach consensus
- Growing influence of emerging markets (e.g. BRICs) reduced the role of G7 in global economy

#### **Better balanced representation of G20**

Region	Country	
<b>G</b> 7	U.S., Japan, England, France, Germany, Canada, Italy	
Asia	Korea, China, India, Indonesia, Saudi-Arabia	
Latin America	Argentina, Brazil, Mexico	
Europe	Russia, Turkey, EU Presidency, Australia	
Africa	South Africa	

## 2. Korea brings emerging market perspectives

#### **Example 1) Proposal for "Global Financial Safety Net"**

## Original Sin

- Currency mismatch
- Maturity mismatch

Foreign Currency Reserves

- Sudden reversal of capital flow
- Volatility in FX market



- Reduce need for foreign currency reserves
- Increase effective global aggregated demand
- FCL (Flexible Credit Line), MSL (Multi-country Swap Line)

## Example 2) Proposal for FX transaction-related accounting standards

Reduce FX transaction-related gains or losses during FX rate volatility

# Thank You!

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## <Appendix 1> G-20 Financial regulatory reform

#### **G20/FSB** Regulatory Reform Agenda

## Prudential Regulation

- Strengthen capital (minimum capital, quality and consistency), leverage and liquidity requirements
- Counter-cyclicality: capital buffer & expected loss model for provisioning

#### **Systemic Risk**

- Identify systemically important financial institutions (SIFIs) and reduce moral hazard posed by SIFIs
- Early Warning Exercise

## Regulatory Scope

- Hedge fund registration
- CCP clearing of OTC derivatives; CRA regulation/supervision

## Risk Mgt & Compensation

- Improved internal risk management system
- Risk-based compensation system, stronger disclosure & monitoring

#### **Accounting**

Single set of high quality global accounting standards

## Non-Cooperative Jurisdictions

- Measures to deal with tax havens, money laundering & terrorist financing
- Peer review for NCJs

## <Appendix 2> Interconnectedness of major issues

