

Indonesia Economic Quarterly March 2015

High expectations

Ndiamé Diop Lead Economist, Indonesia

March 18, 2015

Introduction

- Ambitious economic policy reforms initiated, setting high expectations for what these could achieve:
 - Fuel subsidies
 - Infrastructure spending
 - Business licensing
- But road from vision to reality is long:
 - Policy and admin. reforms needed to sustainably mobilize revenues
 - Overcoming execution constraints to absorb more and better capex
 - *Implementation* of complex reforms, and consistent follow-through
- Reforms are vital, especially with the economy facing headwinds:
 - Global growth is rising but commodity demand is not
 - US Dollars: globally, becoming scarcer
 - Possible revenue shortfall this year





Major recent developments

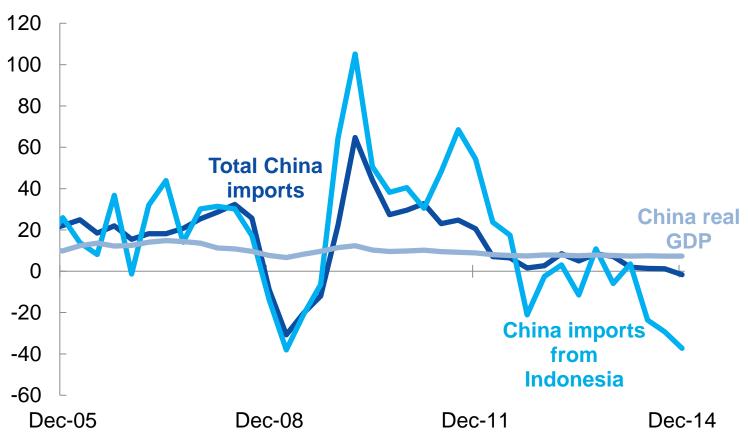
Near-term economic outlook: relatively subdued

Uncertainties



Recent developments: 1. China is not what it once was for Indonesia...

Year-on-year growth, percent



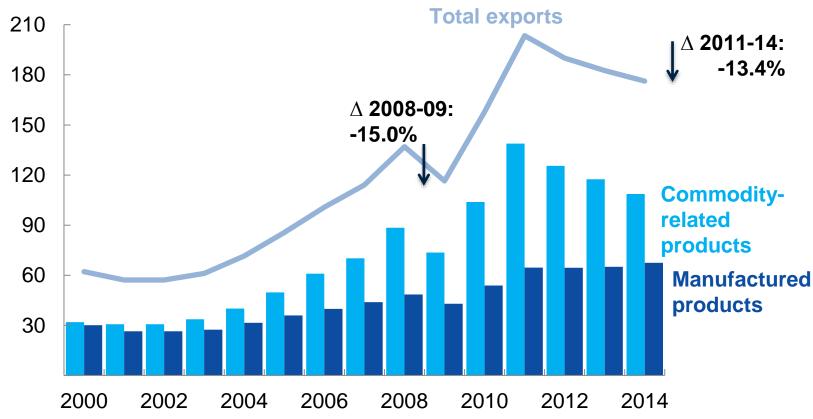
Note: Imports in US Dollars.

Source: CEIC: World Bank staff calculations



...and the commodity boom is over...

Exports, USD billion



Source: World Bank



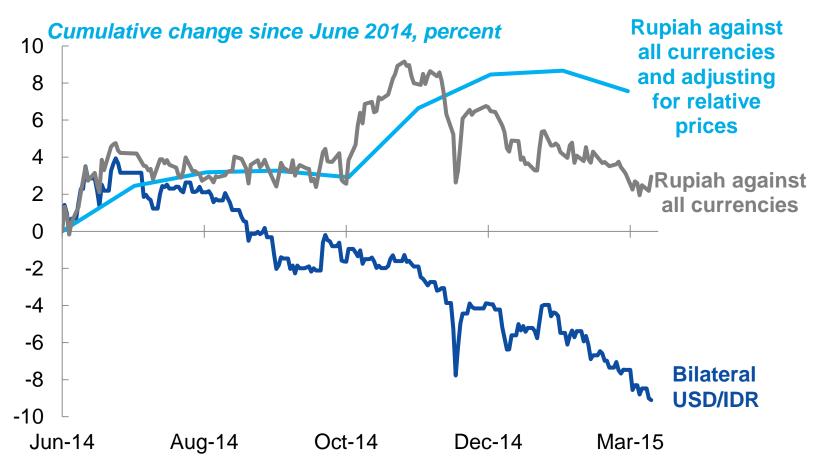
...Implication: deep reforms needed to sustain growth of more than ~5.5%







Recent developments: 2. US Dollar strength (not Rupiah weakness)...



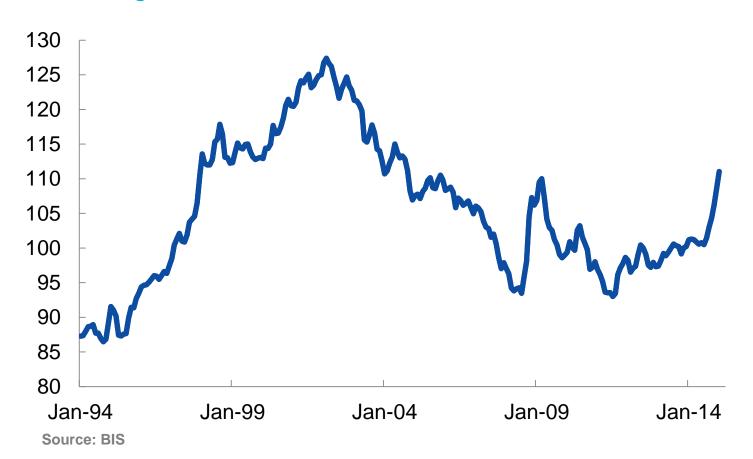
Note: Rupiah against all currencies, and relative-priced, measures are based on daily proxy measure of nominal, and real effective exchange, rates.

Source: CEIC; BIS; World Bank staff calculations



...with more US Dollar strength potentially to come

US Dollar against all currencies



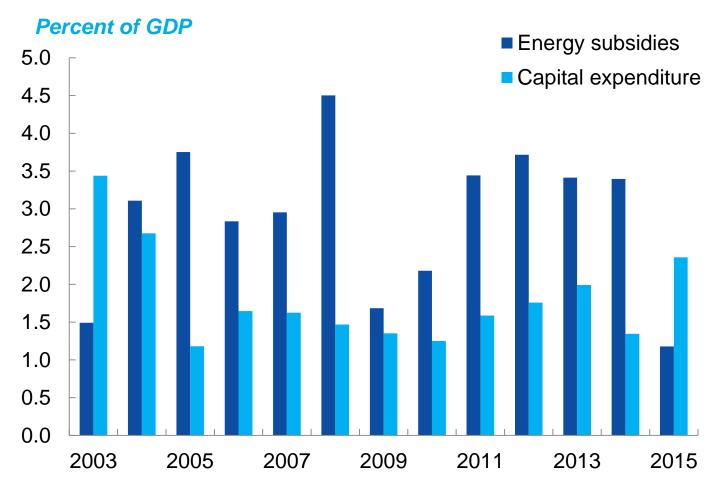


Implications: possible shocks; working harder for scarcer dollars

- ✓ Relatively speaking, the Rupiah has done fine
 - Comparing USD/IDR to past levels not meaningful
 - other currencies, relative prices, matter
- ✓ ...but stronger USD environment does put a premium on more, and stable, net USD supply:
 - More exports
 - More foreign direct investment
 - More domestic reinvestment
 - More structural global investment portfolio allocations to Indonesia



Recent developments: 3. Revised 2015 Budget – dramatic spending reallocation...



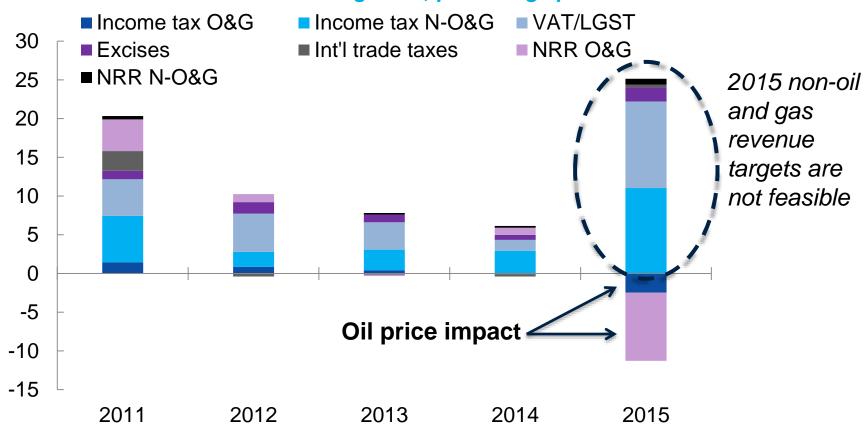
Note: 2003-2014 - outturns; 2015: Revised Budget

Source: Ministry of Finance



...but revenue targets are over-ambitious; spending may have to be adjusted

Contributions to nominal revenue growth, percentage points





Note: 20011-2014 - outturns; 2015: Revised Budget (compared with 2014 outturn).

O&G denotes oil and gas, N-O&G denotes non-oil and gas; LGST denotes luxury goods sales tax; NRR denotes natural resource revenues.

Source: Ministry of Finance; World Bank staff calculations

Implications: A long way to go to implement vision of the Budget

- ✓ New fuel pricing system is a banner reform:
 - Sharply reduces wasteful, regressive spending
 - Secures fiscal sustainability
 - Cuts fiscal risks
- ✓ Capex surge uncertain:
 - Disbursement challenges quality; timing
 - Limited fiscal space: achieving even half of the budgeted 100% increase in capex from the 2014 outturn will be difficult
- Revenues:
 - Receding commodity tide has exposed weaknesses



Major recent developments

Near-term economic outlook: relatively subdued

Uncertainties



Base case: no sharp upturn in growth

		March 2015 IEQ			Revisions	
(percentage change, unless otherwise indicated)	2013	2014	2015p	2016p	2015	2016
Real GDP	5.6	5.0	5.2	5.5	0.0	0.0
Consumer prices	6.4	6.4	6.5	5.1	-1.0	-0.1
Current account balance (% of GDP)	-3.2	-3.0	-3.0	-3.2	-0.2	-0.4
Fiscal balance (% of GDP)	-2.2	-2.2	-2.5	-	-0.5	-

Note: Revisions are relative to December 2014 *IEQ*. Source: MoF; BPS; BI; World Bank projections



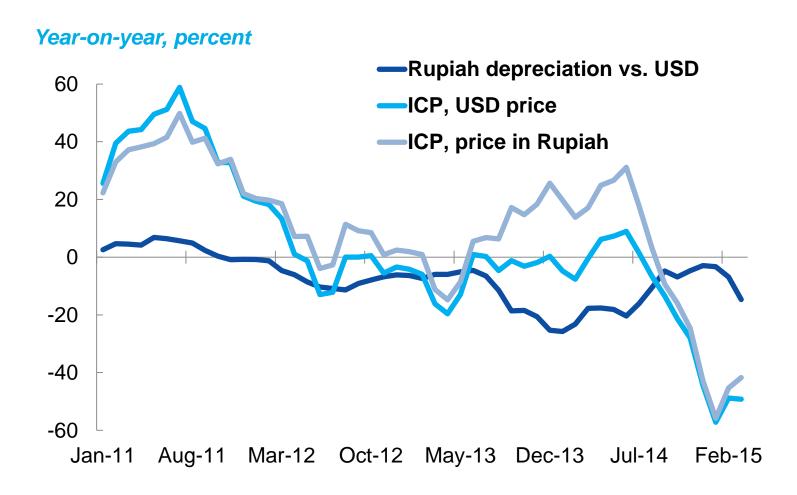
Major recent developments

Near-term economic outlook: relatively subdued

Uncertainties



Fiscal outlook: uncertain Rupiahdenominated fuel prices





Macro outlook: uncertain timing and scale of investment rebound

√ Fixed investment has approximately halved since 2012

- Weaker commodity sector investment, reduced retained earnings growth, tighter credit
- Base case: some rebound, helped by infrastructure spending, but timing and size is key source of forecast risk

√ SOEs:

- IDR 70.4 trillion capital injection
- Quality and quantity of increased infrastructure spending?

✓ Private sector – ready to come to the party?

- Business licensing reform push one stop services
 - Strong initial momentum
 - Complex implementation challenge



Conclusion

March 2015 IEQ Contents

- Regular update on economic developments and the outlook
- Indonesia's internationally high and volatile rice price
- Streamlining business licensing in Indonesia
- The sustainable pace of GDP growth in Indonesia: a closer look
- Harnessing natural resources for Indonesia's development

