

Indonesia Economic Quarterly, July 2014 *Hard choices*

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The new administration will face major near-term challenges



Persistent pockets of extreme poverty and many Indonesians left behind? **RLD BANK GROUP** Hard choices

International backdrop

High-income economy growth is strengthening... (manufacturing PMI, +50=expansion)



...but most global commodity prices, except oil, continue to decline (index, January 2012 = 100, 3mma)



Source: Markit

Source: World Bank



Economic growth - Will Indonesia return to 6% growth?

(annual growth, percent)





Fiscal risks are building up steeply



External balance still in focus despite macro stabilizing measures

After successful macro stabilization, focus now on weak exports... (export and import USD values, yoy growth, 3mma)



...which have been hit by ongoing commodity sector challenges (contributions to export value growth yoy, percentage points)



Source: CEIC; World Bank staff calculations

Moderate pace of growth expected to continue

				July IEQ		Previous (March IEQ)	
		2012	2013	2014p	2015p	2014p	2015p
Real GDP	(% change)	6.2	5.8	5.2	5.6	5.3	5.6
Consumer price index	(% change)	4.3	6.9	5.8	4.9	6.2	5.2
Current account balance	(% of GDP)	-2.8	-3.3	-2.9	-2.4	-2.9	-2.1
Budget balance	(% of GDP)	-1.9	-2.2	-2.8	n.a.	-2.6	n.a.

Source: BI; BPS; Ministry of Finance; World Bank staff projections



Assessing the hard policy choices ahead



Addressing nearterm macro challenges Reinvigorating growth Fiscal pressures External pressures ...AFFECTS THE CAPACITY TO DELIVER ON KEY STRUCTURAL REFORMS:

- SUPPLY-SIDE REFORMS

Infrastructure

Skills Functioning of markets

- REFORMS TO ENSURE SHARED PROSPERITY

Local access to services

Social protection

Management of disaster risks & resilience

FISCAL REFORMS

Redirecting spending Mobilizing revenue ...and achieve key development outcomes

Faster poverty reduction Reduced inequality





Inequality is a growing problem in Indonesia

Inequality on the rise in recent years...

(percent, LHS; percentage points, RHS)



Note: Poverty rates are March BPS estimates; 2014 GDP growth: World Bank projection Source: BPS; World Bank staff calculations

...and increasing faster in Indonesia than in its neighbors

(1990-2011 annual average change in Gini coefficient, percentage points)



Source: Kanbur, Rhee and Zhuang, 2014, "Inequality in Asia and the Pacific"; World Bank staff calculations

Why does inequality matter for Indonesia?

Inequality can slow down economic growth

Preliminary research comparing districts in Indonesia indicates that high levels of inequality hurt growth.

Inequality slows down poverty reduction

If all households received growth equally, poverty would have fallen from 17.4 percent in 2003 to 0 percent by 2010.

Inequality can trigger conflict and social tension

Districts with Gini coefficients of 40 experienced 60 percent more conflict than districts with Gini coefficients of 20.

The majority of Indonesians believe that the country is more unequal than they'd like it to be



What is causing the rise in inequality?

Children are born with unequal opportunities

(lack of access, percent)



Source: Susenas; DHS; World Bank staff calculations

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Returns from jobs favor the rich and well-educated

(wage and consumption premiums compared to workers with primary education, percent)



Source: Sakernas; Susenas; World Bank staff calculations

What is causing the rise in inequality?

The rich benefit from greater returns to capital

(annual change in real terms, percent)



The poor are more vulnerable to shocks to their income

- All households face risks, for example health, cost of living shocks, and natural disasters, that can affect their income
- The rich have access to more efficient coping mechanisms to respond to shocks (savings, insurance, good jobs, etc.); the poor often do not
- The poor are less able to take risks to increase their income

Source: Indonesia Stock Exchange; BPS; Sakernas; World Bank staff calculations



What can be done to address rising inequality?

83% of Indonesians believe it is "urgent" for the new government to tackle inequality

- Distribution: improve spending and taxation policies (for example, eliminate regressive fuel subsidies, enhance tax compliance)
- Opportunities: increase poor households' access to high quality education and health
- Mobility: support labor mobility for high-quality job creation
- Safety nets: adequate and well-targeted, to reduce the vulnerability of the poor to shocks







Thank you

July 2014 IEQ Contents:

- Regular update on economic developments and the outlook
- New purchasing power parity-adjusted estimates of Indonesia's economy
- Inequality is growing in Indonesia and it matters for policy
- El Niño, forest fires and haze: the imperatives for concrete action

On the web:

http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/feature/2014/07/21/indonesia-economic-quarterly-july-2014