

## **Recent Global Economic Developments and Implications for Pacific Island Countries**

PEGASeS Seminar Series, 3 February 2011

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## Plan of the presentation

The Global Context

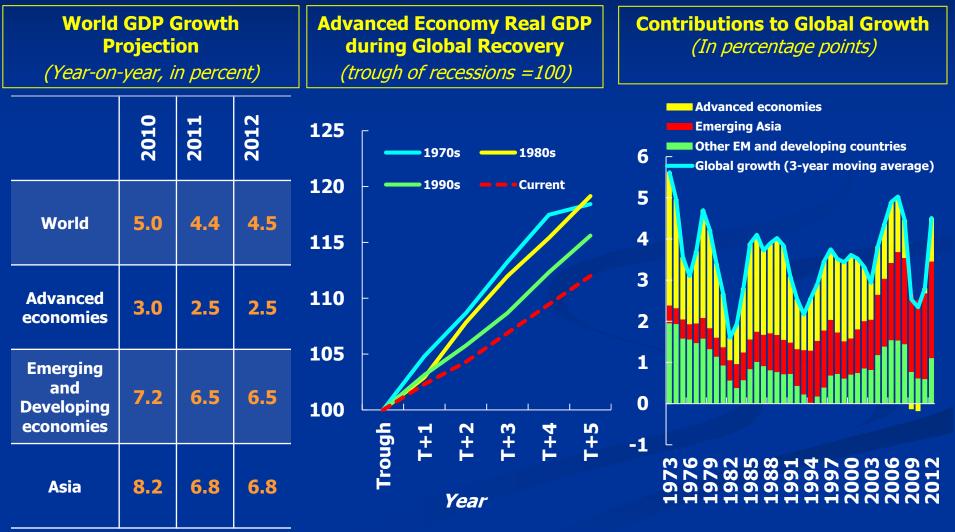
The Regional Context: Asia

Implications for PICs

PICs and the IMF

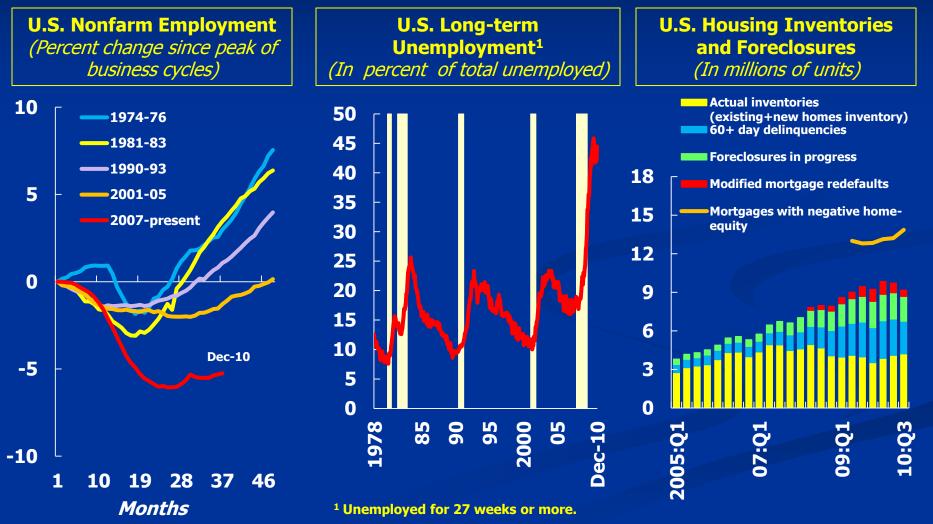
#### **Global Context**

## The global recovery will continue in 2011-12: Different speeds across regions



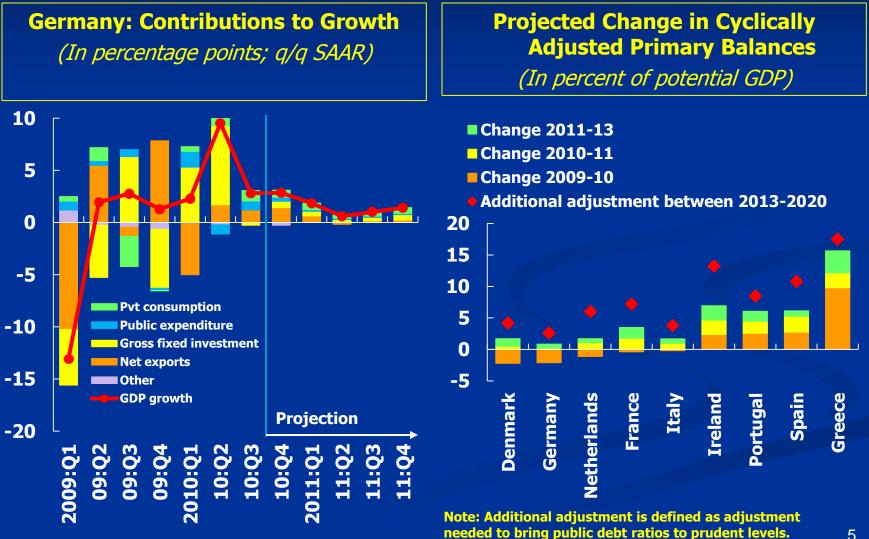
### **United States:**

### Weak labor and housing markets hinder the recovery



### **Europe:**

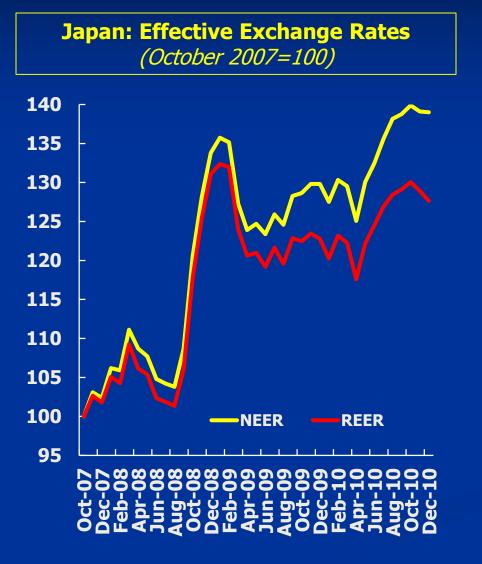
### Fiscal consolidation may stem recent momentum

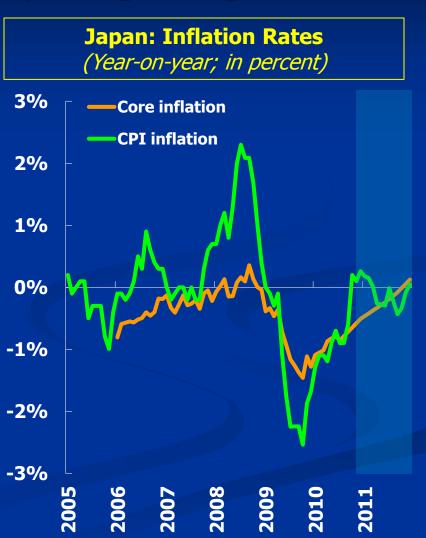


**Global Context** 

### Japan:

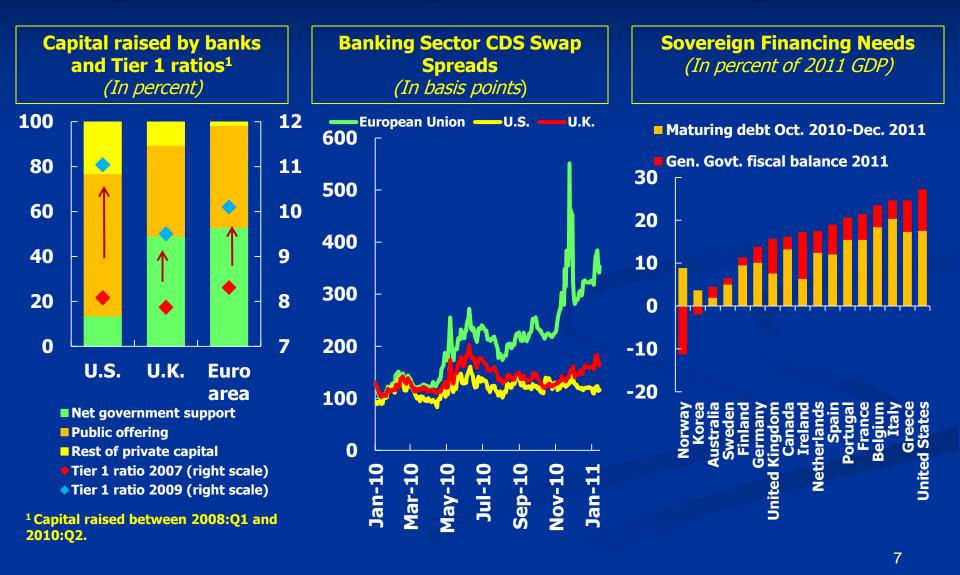
## A strong yen could slow recovery and prolong deflation





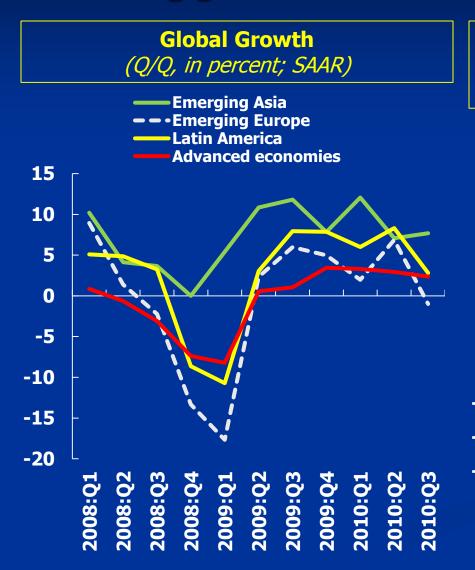
## **Advanced Economies:**

## Progress on financial repair, but still challenges ahead

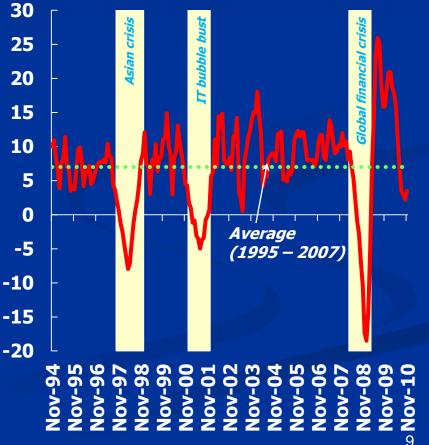


## The Regional Context: Asia

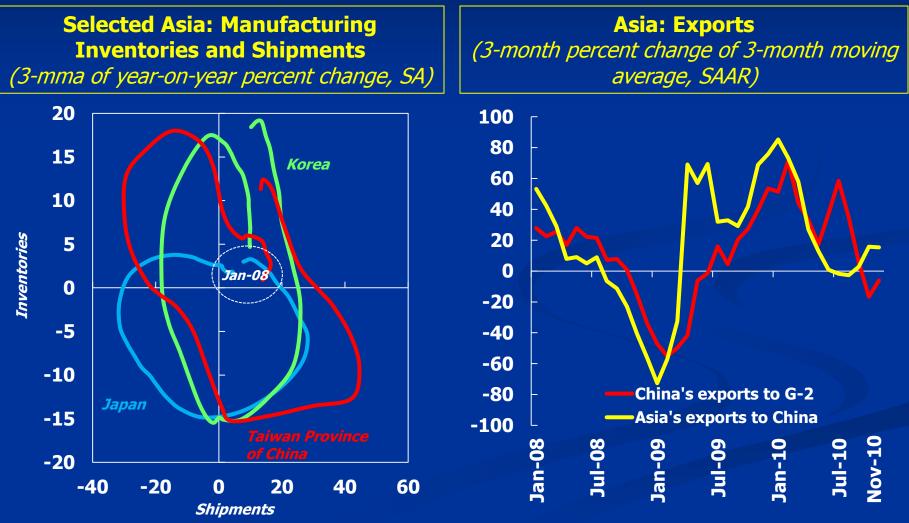
## **Emerging Asia: After strong growth in 2010 H1, some moderation in activity**



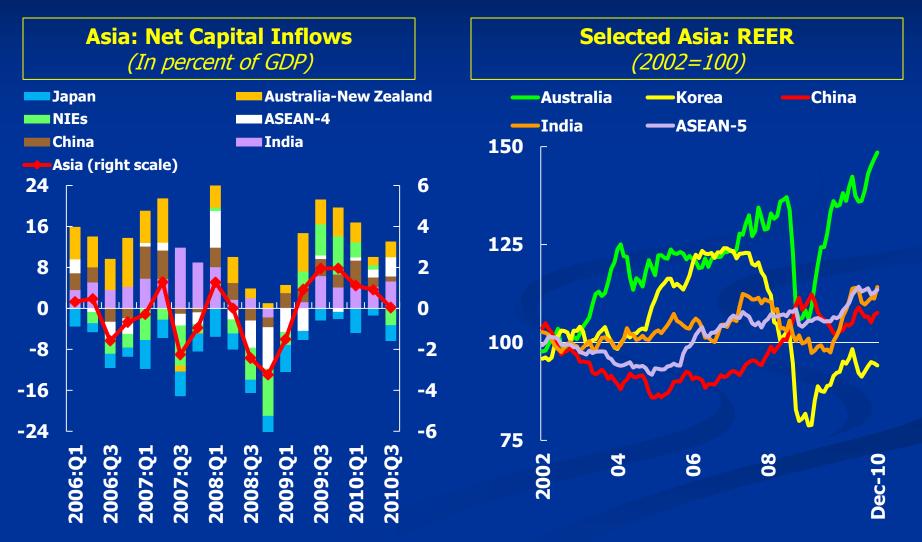
Asia: Industrial Production (3-month percent change of 3-month moving average, SAAR)



## The inventory cycle is nearing completion Spillovers from China's final demand have moderated



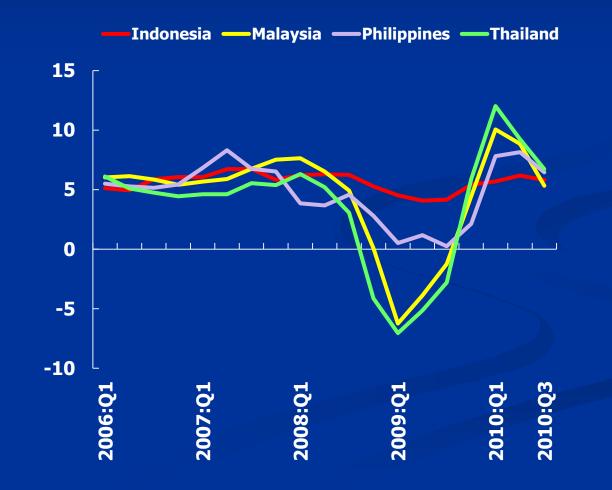
Sustained by large capital inflows, REERs have appreciated But they are still at close to early 2000 levels



### **ASEAN-4:**

## Strong rebound, helped also by robust domestic demand

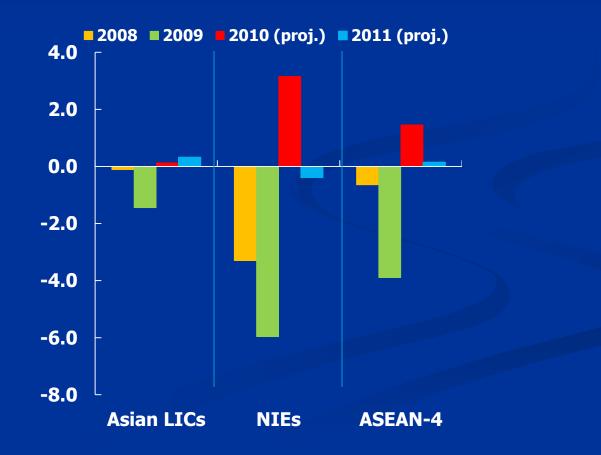
Real GDP Growth (Year-on-year, in percent)



### Asian LICs/PICs:

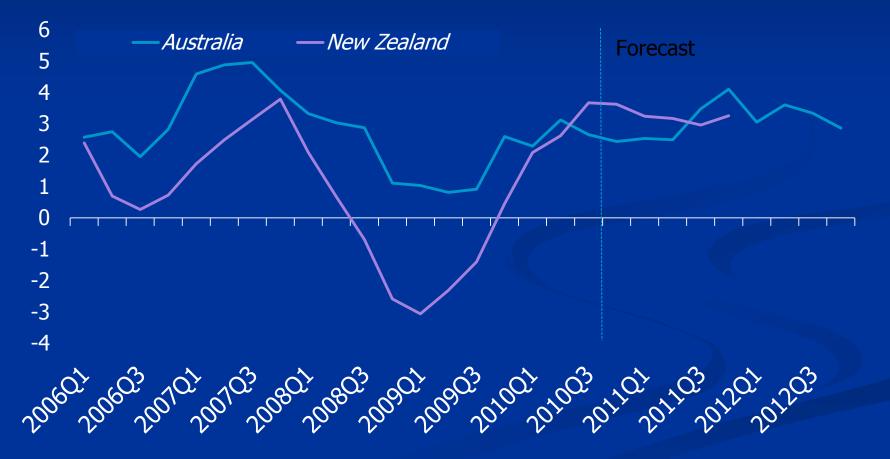
Recovering slowly, but some tensions have emerged

Real GDP Growth: Relative to Average Growth During 2000-07 (In percentage points)



## Australia and New Zealand: Strong growth prospects

(Year-on-year percentage change)



### **Growth Forecasts:**

## Robust growth in 2011-2012, but downside risks remain

### Asia: Real GDP Growth (Year-on-year; in percent)

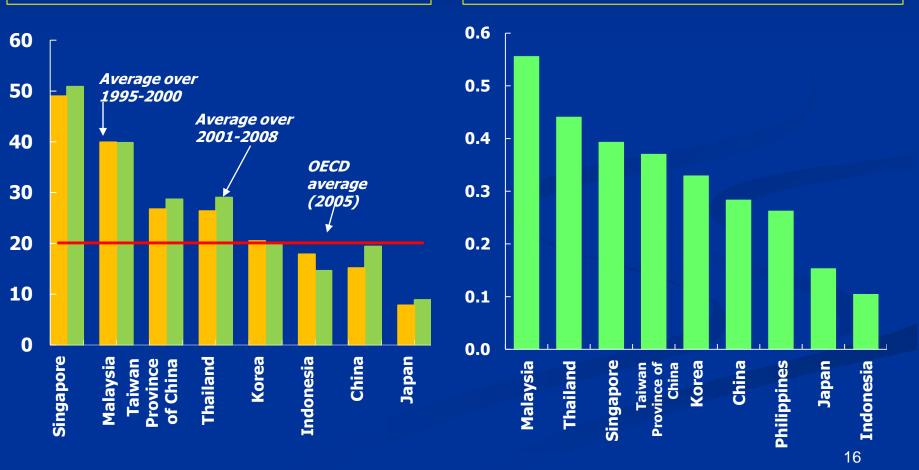
	2009	2010	2011	2012
Asia	3.5	8.2	6.8	6.8
Industrial Asia	-4.9	4.0	1.9	2.0
Japan	-6.3	4.3	1.6	1.8
Australia	1.3	2.6	3.2	3.2
New Zealand	-1.6	3.0	3.2	3.1
Emerging Asia	5.9	9.5	8.1	8.0
China	9.2	10.3	9.6	9.5
India	5.7	9.7	8.4	8.0
NIEs	-0.9	8.3	4.7	4.3
ASEAN-5	1.7	6.7	5.5	5.7

**Risks to the outlook:** 

Mainly external, from renewed weakness in external demand

### Asia's Dependence on Demand from Outside the Region (In percent of GDP)

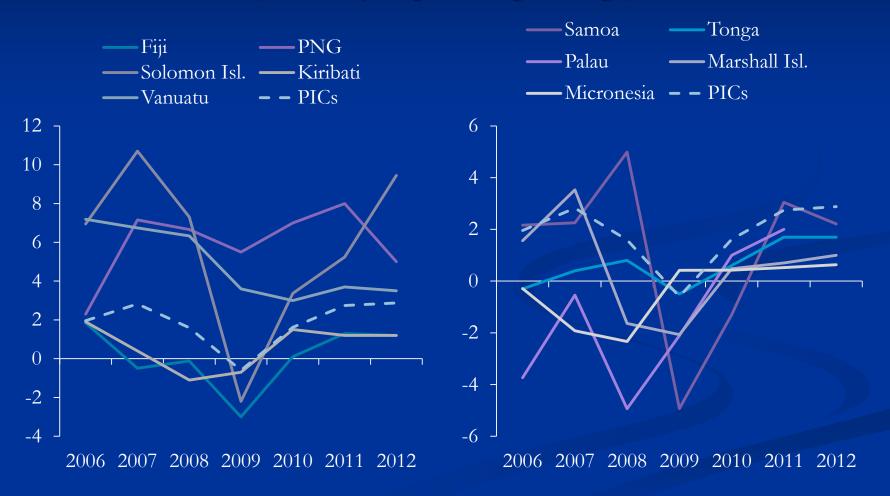
Selected Asia: Impact of 1 ppt Decline in G-2 Final Demand on GDP Growth (In percentage points)



## **PICs:**

## Recovery will continue, but prospects uneven

(Year-on-year percentage change)



### Inbound Tourists: Almost back to trend, likely to grow and support PIC growth (In thousands)

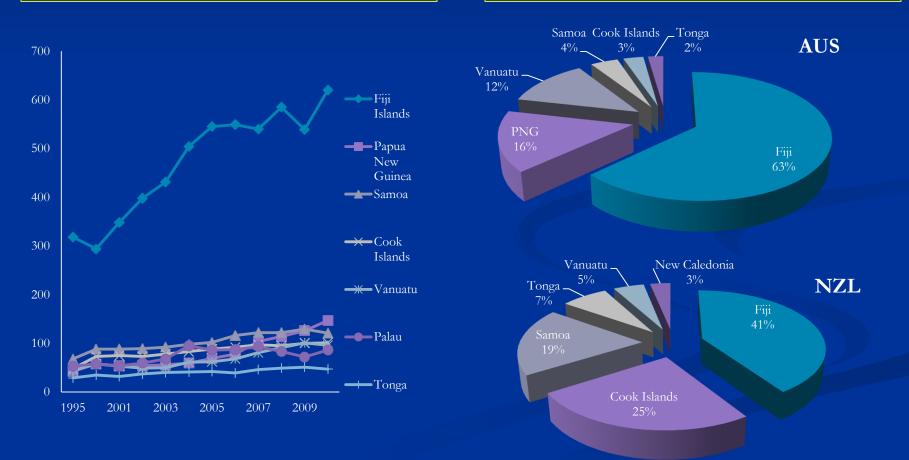


# Tourist Arrivals by Country:

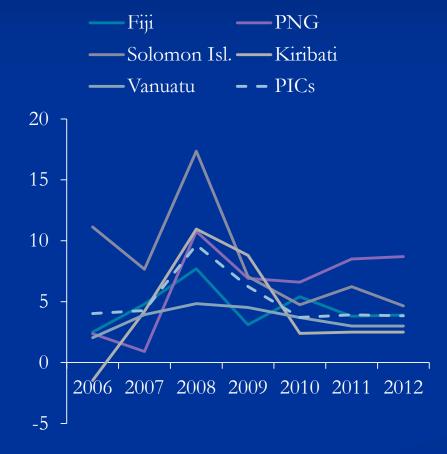
**Uneven performance.** Substitution among PICs?

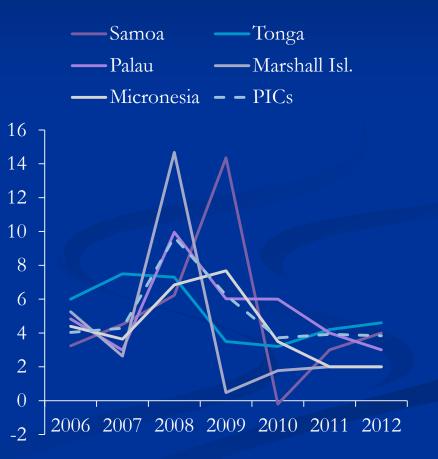
### Recovery Has Been Uneven (In thousands)

### **Fiji Dominates** (Percent of Australian and NZL Arrivals)



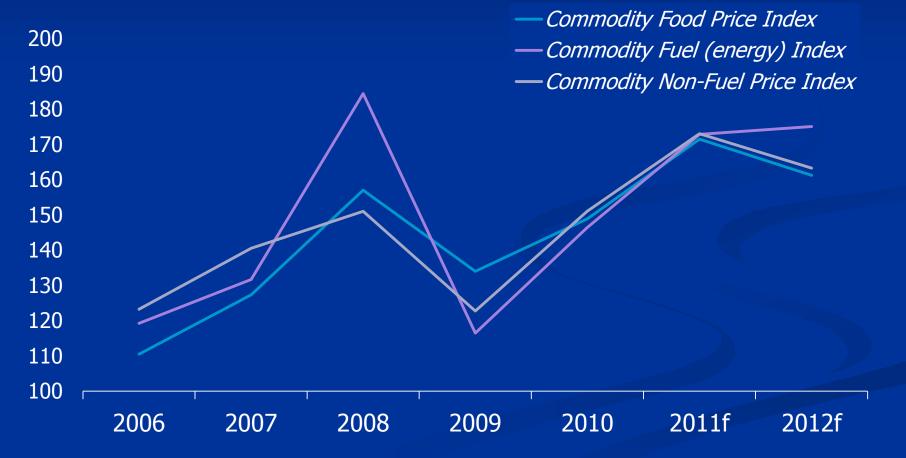
## Inflation Outlook in PICs: Fallen sharply from 2008, but risk remains (Year-on-year percentage change)





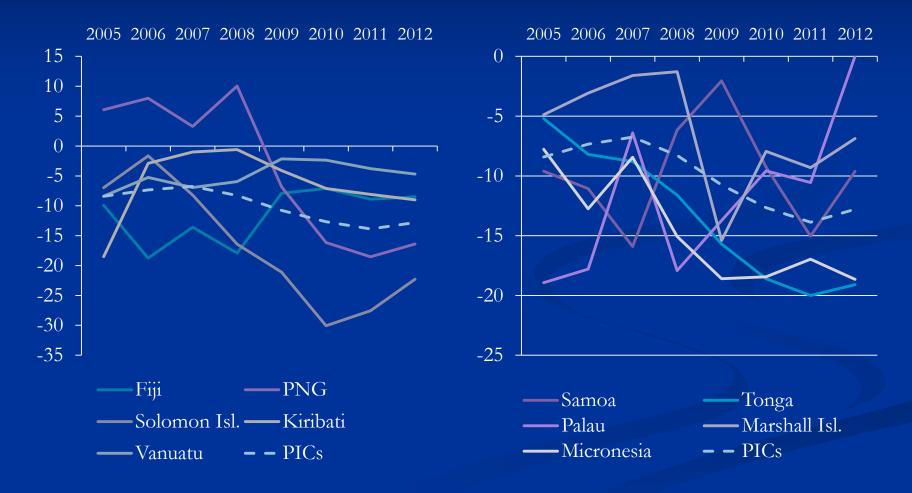
## Global Commodity Prices: A key inflation risk

(2005 = 100)



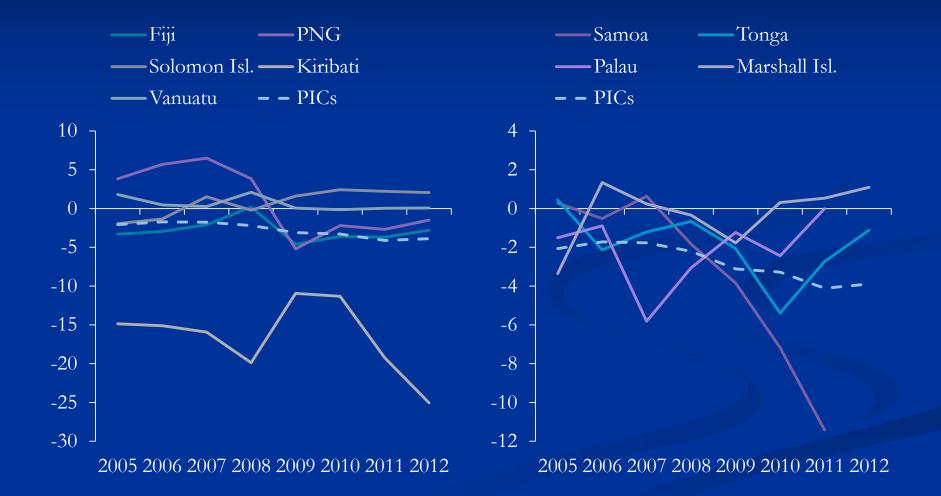
## **External Current Account:**

Continued to worsen and my face greater pressure (In percent of GDP)



## **Fiscal Outlook in PICs**

### (In percent of GDP)



## **Policy Challenges for PICs**

- Growth is recovering, but need to be sustained with macroeconomic stability. Downside risk remains.
- Re-surging commodity prices pose risk to inflation; monetary policy needs to be prudent.
- Most PICs need to rebuild buffers through fiscal consolidation, including via re-prioritizing spending.
- With rising commodity prices, there could be renewed pressure on current accounts and reserves; exchange rate flexibility could help.

## **PICs and the IMF**

## **IMF Reform: Some Highlights**

Improving surveillance and technical assistance Overhaul of lending framework More flexible facilities to tailor to country needs Streamlined conditionality—no more structural performance criteria More attention to social protection Revamp of concessional lending ■ More resources, greater access Higher concessionality (zero interest until end-2011) Post-Catastrophe Debt Relief Trust

## Strengthening Engagement with PICs

A New Resident Representative Office for PICs http://www.imf.org/external/region/pis/rr/index.htm New macroeconomic advisor in PFTAC; expanded resources for next funding cycle http://www.pftac.org/ Ready to provide financial support: Solomon **Islands (Standby Credit Facility)** http://www.imf.org/external/country/SLB/index.htm Increased dialogue with all stakeholders



## Thank You