

GROUP OF TWENTY

G-20 REPORT ON STRONG, SUSTAINABLE, BALANCED, AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH— ONLINE ANNEX

2022



$\label{eq:prepared by Staff of the} \end{tabular} \end{t$

*Does not necessarily reflect the views of the IMF Executive Board

November 2022

Annex I. Concepts, Definitions, and Measurement

1. This annex presents concepts, definitions, and measurement relevant for the assessment of the quality of growth and policies. Detailed charts for the four dimensions of strong, sustainable, balanced, and inclusive growth (SSBIG) are presented in Annex II.

A. Strong, Sustainable, Balanced, and Inclusive Growth

2. This section describes how strong, sustainable, balanced, and inclusive growth is operationalized across the four dimensions. While indicators for each of the four individual aspects of growth are listed below, there are important areas of overlap across these four dimensions. For example, the sustainability of growth ultimately depends on growth also being balanced, and vice versa.

- *Strong growth*. This dimension refers to short-term, cyclical growth. Indicators include GDP growth, the output gap, and inflation (in levels and in deviations from inflation targets, where applicable).
- *Sustainable growth*. This dimension refers to medium- and long-term growth. Indicators include potential growth, total factor productivity growth, labor productivity growth, and progress towards tackling climate change.
- *Balanced growth*. This dimension refers to the composition of growth (e.g., domestic versus external demand) and whether there is a build-up of external and domestic imbalances. *External excess imbalances* are derived from the IMF's External Sector Report, which provides estimates of the extent to which current accounts and real effective exchange rates differ from those warranted by fundamentals and desired policies, while taking into account reserve coverage and international investment position indicators. Indicators of *domestic private imbalances* include (non-financial) private sector debt and asset quality ratios. *Domestic public* imbalances are measured by the level of general government gross debt.
- Inclusive growth. This dimension refers to the degree of inequality in outcomes and in opportunities. Indicators of inequality in outcomes include the Gini coefficient and the ratio of the bottom income decile to the top income decile (i.e., the average income of the lowest 10 percent of earners relative to the average income of the top 10 percent of earners). The Gini coefficient captures inequality of outcomes in the broadest sense but is highly sensitive to changes in the middle of the income distribution and is less sensitive to changes in the tails of the distribution. The ratio of the bottom to the top income deciles captures changes in the extreme ends of the income distribution. Indicators of inequality in opportunities include measures of access to education and health (e.g., public expenditure on education and health can be an indicative measure of quality and access).

B. Policies

3. This section discusses the indicators used for assessing the policy stances across the fiscal, monetary, and structural reform policy areas.

- *Fiscal policy*. The fiscal policy stance is measured as the change in the cyclically adjusted primary balance (CAPB), where the balance is computed in percent of potential GDP. A contractionary (expansionary) fiscal policy stance reflects a positive (negative) change in the CAPB. The current and projected fiscal policy stance reflects the WEO baseline projections. The deviation of the recommended from the projected stance is expressed as the difference between IMF staff's recommended versus projected change in the CAPB. Therefore, IMF staff recommends a more contractionary (expansionary) fiscal stance than the projected one where the deviation of the recommended from the projected change is positive (negative). The recommended path for the CAPB assumes that recommendations are implemented in each year (e.g., the recommended change in year *t* assumes that recommendations for year *t*-1 are implemented).
- Monetary policy. The monetary policy stance is measured as the difference between the actual real policy interest rate and approximations/estimates of the (unobservable) natural real interest rate. A contractionary (expansionary) or tight (accommodative) monetary policy stance reflects an actual real policy interest rate above (below) the natural rate. Given the uncertainty surrounding these measures, the projected baseline path in the heatmaps in the main text is based on IMF staff's assessments, and policy recommendations are expressed as deviations from this path.
- *Structural reforms*. The structural reform policy areas considered are those for which there are quantifiable indicators of structural reforms. These include (i) product market regulation; (ii) trade liberalization; (iii) employment protection legislation; (iv) tax structure reform (direct vs. indirect taxes); (v) Research and Development (R&D) spending; (vi) labor tax wedge; (vii) childcare spending (or other reforms to increase female labor force participation); (viii) active labor market policies; and (ix) unemployment benefit replacement rates. While this set of indicators captures key structural reform needs, it does not necessarily provide a complete description of the structural reform agenda for every country. Structural reform recommendations reflect consensus assessments of the IMF and the OECD and are expressed in terms of reform priorities ("high", "medium", or "low").¹

¹ IMF and OECD recommendations are based on priorities for additional reforms (relative to reforms already incorporated in the baseline), aggregated based on a simple rule. For example, a "high" priority rating requires that both IMF and OECD staff found reforms in a certain area to be very urgent.

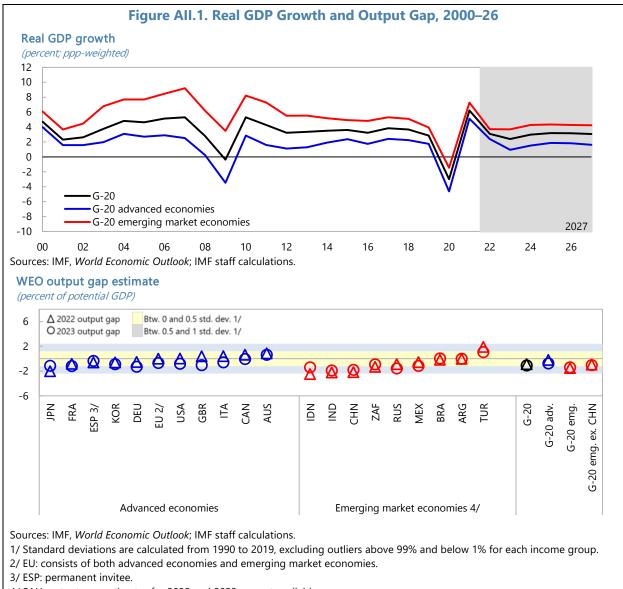
Annex II. Supplementary Charts

1. This annex presents statistics on Strong, Sustainable, Balanced, and Inclusive Growth (SSBIG) and the macroeconomic policy stance. The indicators for SSBIG correspond to those described in Annex I: (i) strong growth; (ii) sustainable growth; (iii) balanced growth; and (iv) inclusive growth. Data are mainly from the October WEO database, complemented with other sources where needed and as specified in footnotes to the charts. Aggregates include the European Union, unless otherwise specified. While the European Union includes both advanced and emerging market economies, for presentational purposes, it is depicted in charts among advanced economies.

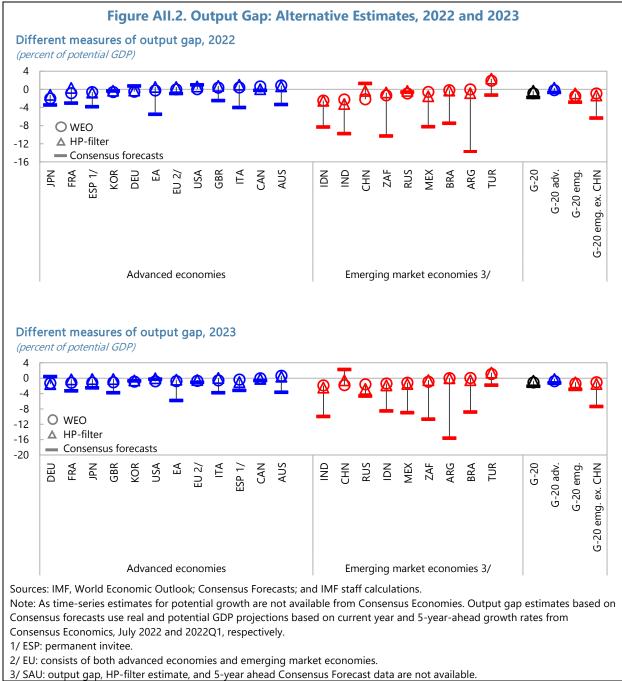
2. The size of output and inflation gaps as well as the assessment of policy stances are qualified relative to historical fluctuations. In particular, the standard deviation of historical realizations across G-20 economies are added to some charts. Differentiation by advanced and emerging market economies is used in some cases. Where relevant, shadings in the charts indicate the following ranges: within 1/2 standard deviation from 0; within 1/2 and 1 standard deviation from 0; and outside the 1 standard deviation interval.

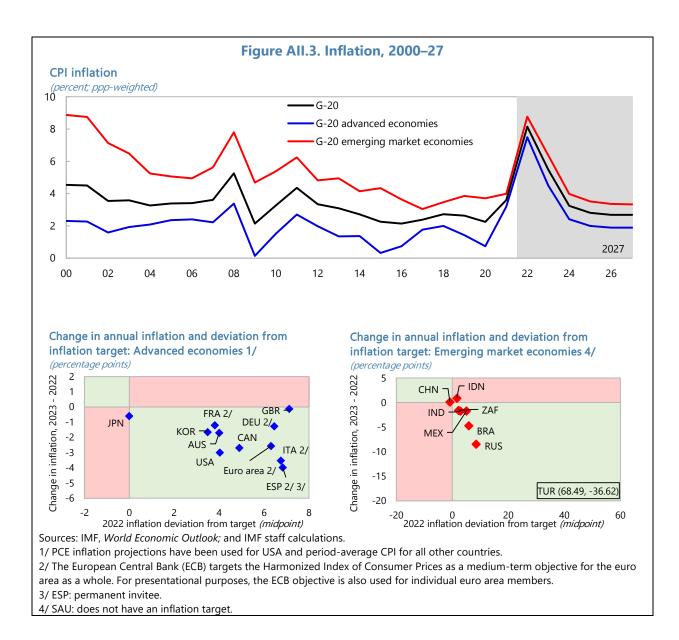
3. Measurement uncertainty is illustrated for the output gap. The charts show three different methods for estimating potential output and the output gap: one method where the estimates and projections are from the WEO database and two alternative methods to illustrate measurement uncertainty. The alternative methods include (i) one where potential output is derived from a simple HP filer; and (ii) one which is based on consensus forecasts of 1-, 2-, and 5-year-ahead growth rates.

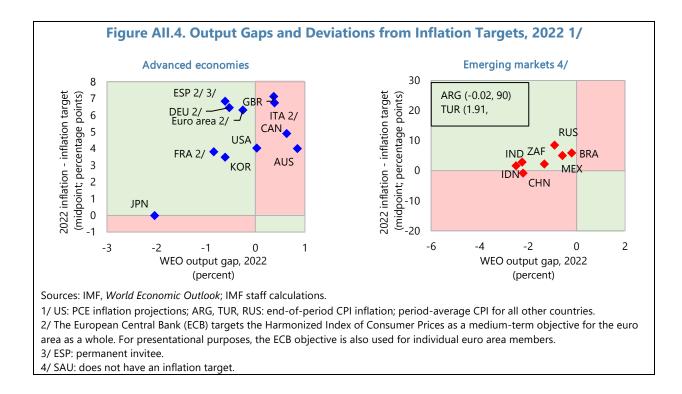
A. Dimension: Strong Growth



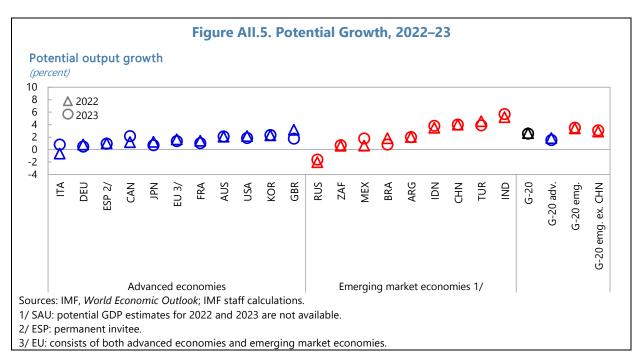
4/ SAU: output gap estimates for 2022 and 2023 are not available.

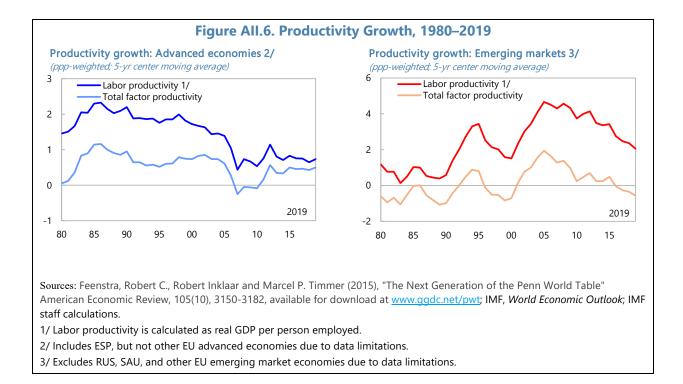


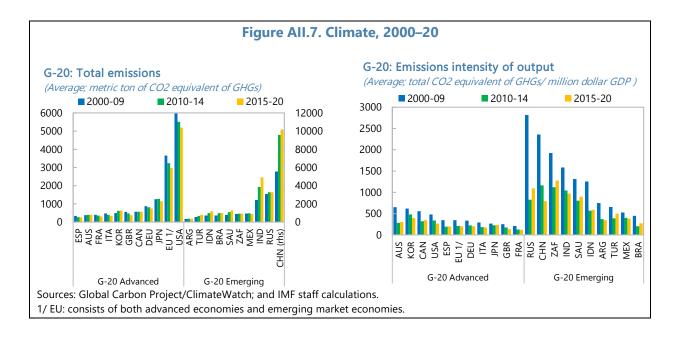




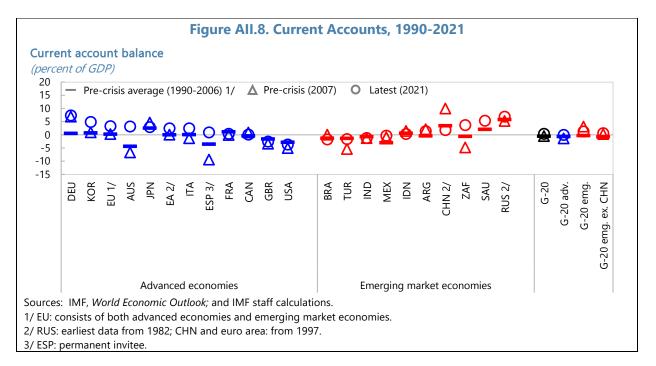
B. Dimension: Sustainable Growth

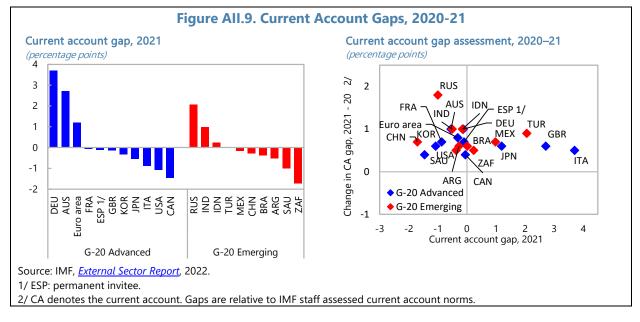


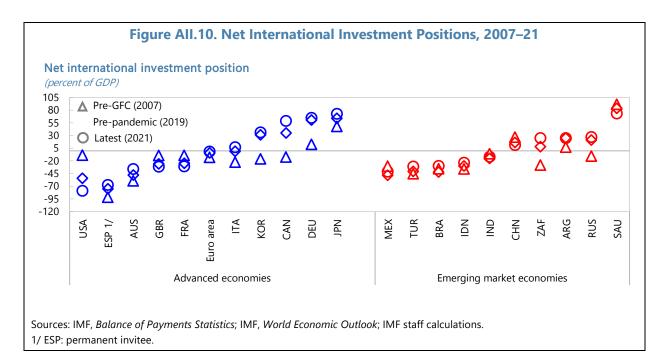


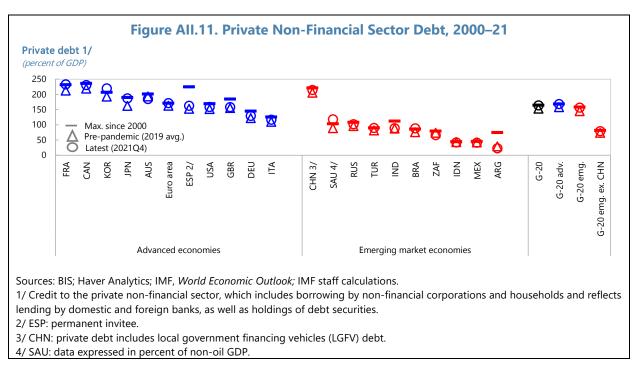


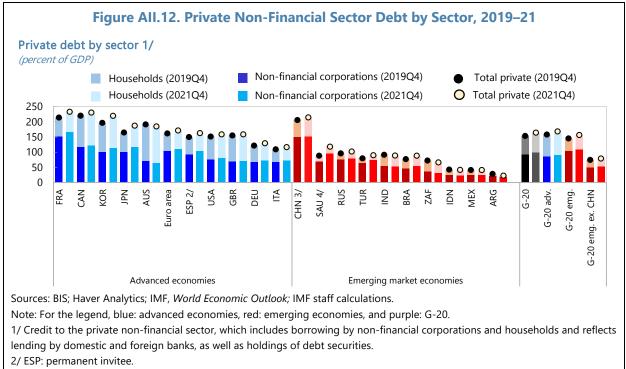
C. Dimension: Balanced Growth





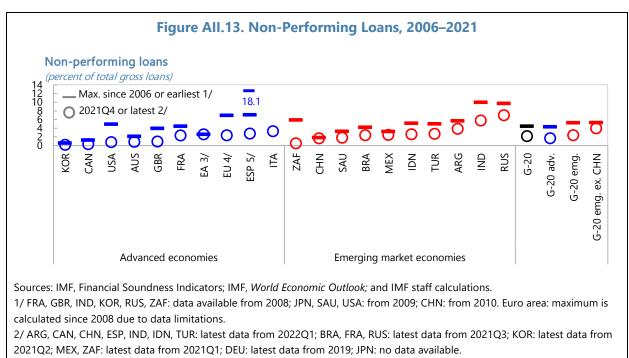






3/ CHN: private debt includes local government financing vehicles (LGFV) debt.

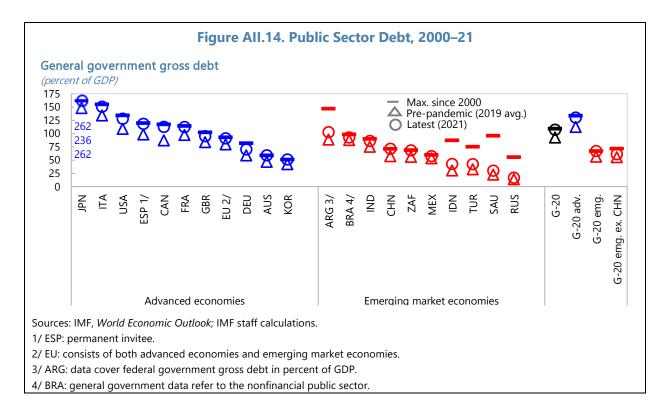
4/ SAU: data expressed in percent of non-oil GDP.

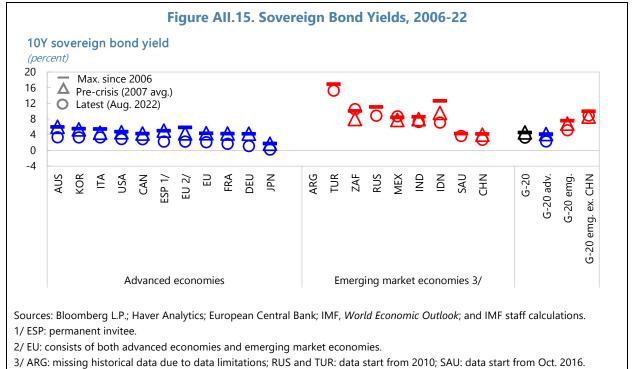


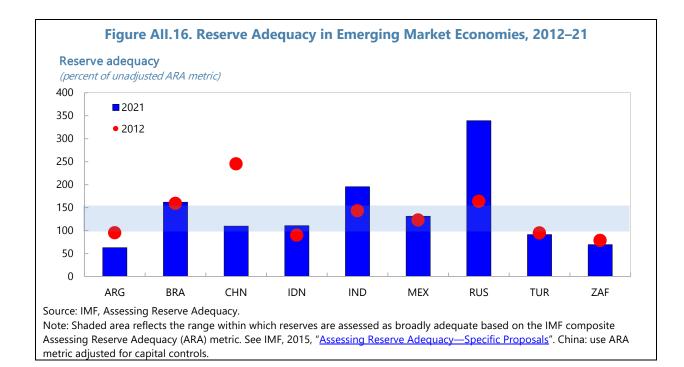
3/ Euro area: average of NPLs of 17 countries, weighted by nominal GDP. FIN and LUX are excluded due to data limitations.

4/ EU: consists of both advanced economies and emerging market economies.

5/ ESP: permanent invitee.

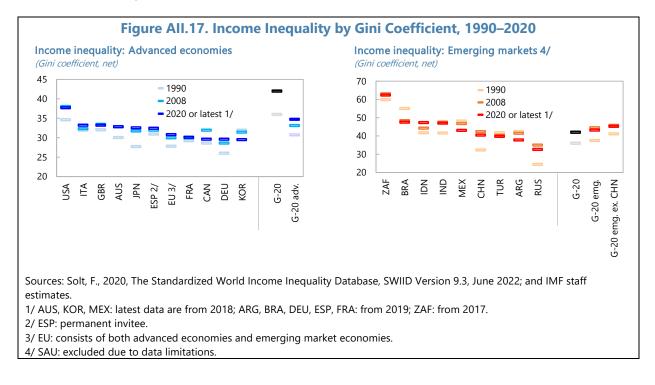


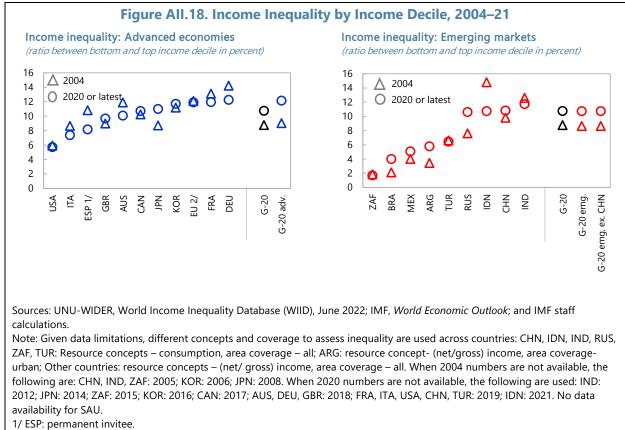




D. Dimension: Inclusive Growth

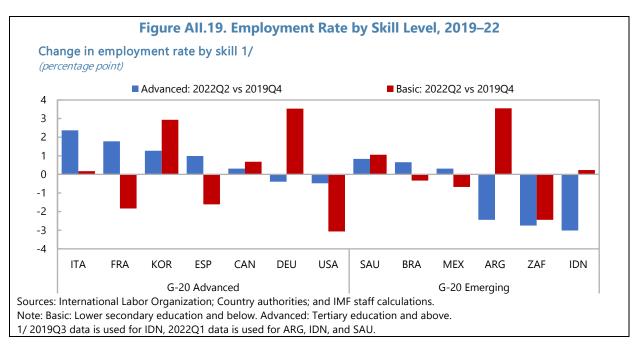
Income Inequality Trends (pre-pandemic)

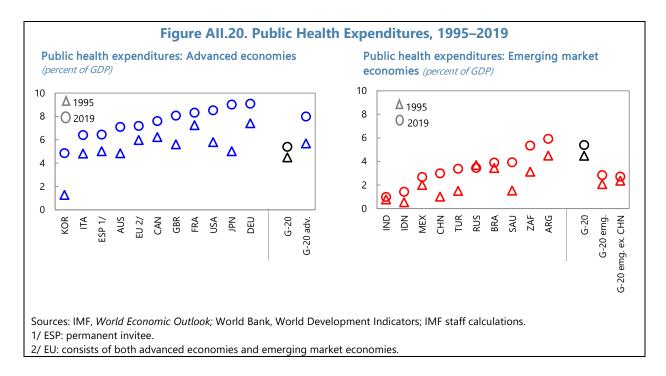




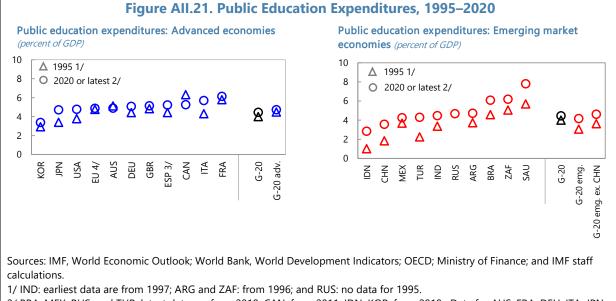
2/ EU: consists of both advanced economies and emerging market economies.

Indicative Measures for Inequality in 2020





Health and Education Spending Trends (pre-pandemic)



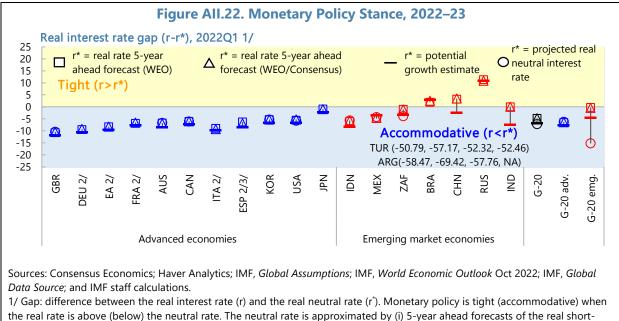
2/ BRA, MEX, RUS, and TUR: latest data are from 2018; CAN: from 2011; IDN, KOR: from 2019. Data for AUS, FRA, DEU, ITA, JPN, KOR, GBR, USA, and ESP are from the OECD database.

3/ ESP: permanent invitee.

4/ EU: consists of both advanced economies and emerging market economies.

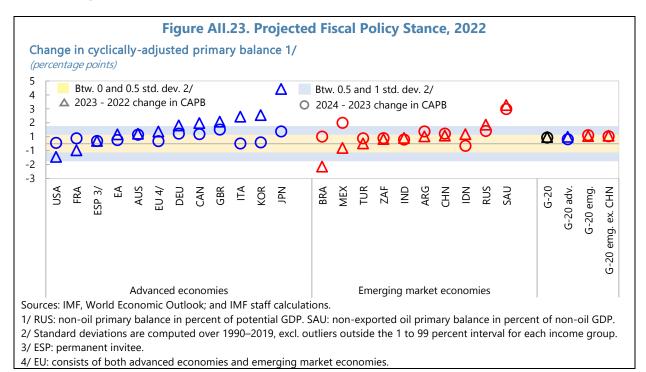
E. Macroeconomic Policy Stance

Monetary Policy



the real rate is above (below) the neutral rate. The neutral rate is approximated by (i) 5-year ahead forecasts of the real shortterm rate and (ii) IMF staff estimates of potential growth. Some neutral rate estimates are not available due to data limitations. 2/ EA: The ECB conducts monetary policy for the euro area (EA) as a whole, including DEU, ESP, FRA, and ITA. 3/ ESP: permanent invitee.

Fiscal Policy



Annex III. Simulations: Impact of Policy Recommendations

1. This annex describes how the impact of implementing recommended policies is estimated and presents simulation results. The impact on Strong Sustainable, Balanced, and Inclusive Growth is computed using the IMF's G-20 model.¹ The model evaluates the economic impact of a change in policies to reflect IMF staff's recommendations relative to those projected under the current baseline projections in a dynamic general equilibrium setting. The quantification of specific policies is described in section A of this annex. Simulation results are shown in section B.

A. Quantifying Policy Recommendations

2. The simulations are based on a quantification of policy recommendations as follows:

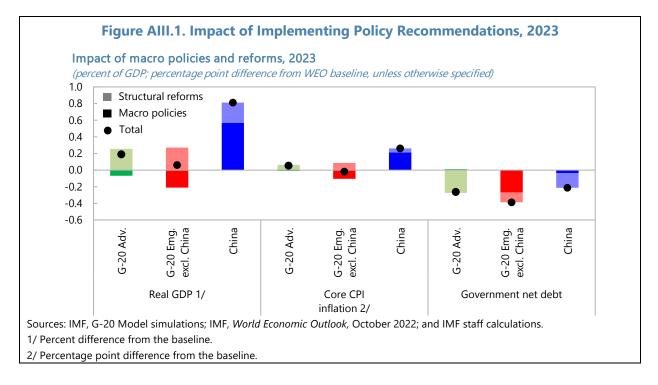
- *Fiscal policy*. A more contractionary (expansionary) fiscal policy corresponds to a positive (negative) deviation between the recommended and projected changes in the cyclically adjusted primary balance (CAPB). The deviation is quantified by IMF staff's recommendations for the changes in the CAPB.
- *Monetary policy*. A moderately more contractionary (expansionary) monetary stance corresponds to a 75 basis points increase (decrease) in the policy rate relative to the baseline. A substantially more contractionary (expansionary) corresponds to a 150 basis points increase (decrease).
- Structural reforms. The simulations assume that recommended structural reforms are gradually implemented over 10 years, starting in 2022. The magnitude of the changes in the structural reform indicators is based on historical episodes of major reforms, with the speed of implementation reflecting the behavior exhibited by G-20 countries in the implementation of their growth strategies so far. Policy recommendations are expressed in terms of reform priorities: "high" priority reforms are implemented as ³/₄ of the historical magnitude of major reforms; "medium" priority reforms as ¹/₂ of the historical magnitude; and "low" priority reforms as ¹/₃ of the historical magnitude. Reform priorities reflect a consensus assessment by IMF and OECD staff. The quantitative evaluation of the impact of structural reforms on productivity and labor markets is based on a series of OECD analytical papers.²

¹ Andrle, M., P. Blagrave, P. Espaillat, K. Honjo, B. Hunt, M. Kortelainen, R. Lalonde, D. Laxton, E. Mavroeidi, D. Muir, S. Mursula, and S. Snudden, 2015, <u>The Flexible System of Global Models – FSGM</u>, IMF Working Paper No. 15/64.

² Examples include Egert, B. and P. Gal, 2017, <u>The Quantification of Structural Reforms in OECD Countries: A New Framework</u>, OECD Economics Department Working Paper No. 1354; Bouis, R. and R. Duval, 2011, <u>Raising Potential Growth After the Crisis: A Quantitative Assessment of the Potential Gains from Various Structural Reforms in the OECD Area and Beyond</u>, OECD Economics Department Working Papers No. 835.

B. Simulation Results: Impact of Policy Recommendations

Short-Term Impact



Medium-Term Impact

