

Presentation for the 3rd Annual SEC-PSE Corporate Governance Forum PICC, Manila 22 November 2016

# Improving the Philippine Investment Climate





Professor, Ateneo de Manila University



Chief of Party
Trade-Related Assistance for
Development (TRADE) Project

#### Overview

- Where Had We Been?
  - Our past investment track record



- Much improved, but much more needed

#### What Needs to Be Done?

- Ease Constitutional restrictions
- Narrow definition of public utilities
- Other policy/institutional interventions





### Where Had We Been?

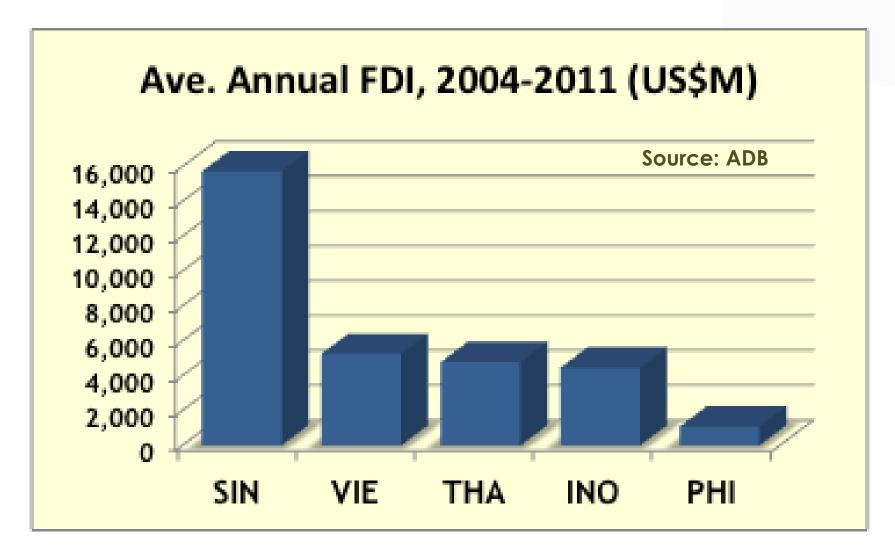
Stagnant Investment, ASEAN Laggard

## Overall investment did not grow...



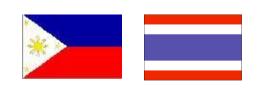


### ... and FDIs passed us by



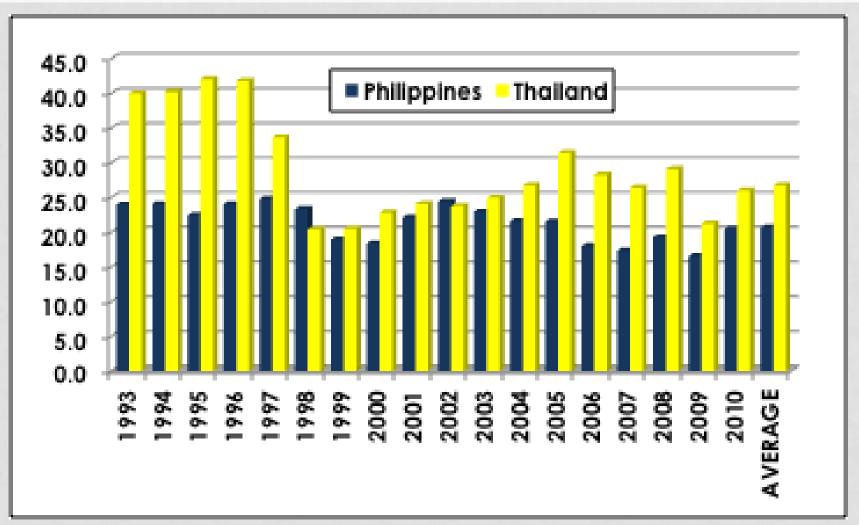


## **Estranged Twins Philippines & Thailand**



Indicator	197	70	2010	
marcaror	Thai	Phil	Thai	Phil
Population (million)	36	36	67.3	92.6
Population G.R. (%)	3.1	3.1	0.6	1.7
GDP Per Capita (US\$)	250	250	5325	2215
GDP Share (%)				/
Agriculture	320	260	10.9	13.3
Industry	23.0)(	27.5	40.1	32.6
Services	45.2	46.7	4	55.1
	1965		2010	
Gross Dom Inv (%GDP)	20.0	20.0	24.9	20.5
Gross Dom Saving (%GDP)	18.5	20.3	31.2	18.7
	1998		2009	
FDI Stock (Billion US\$)	7.8	2.3	117.9	24.5

#### Philippines & Thailand: Domestic Investment/GDP Ratio, 1993-2010



## 2010: Turning Point For Private Domestic Investment

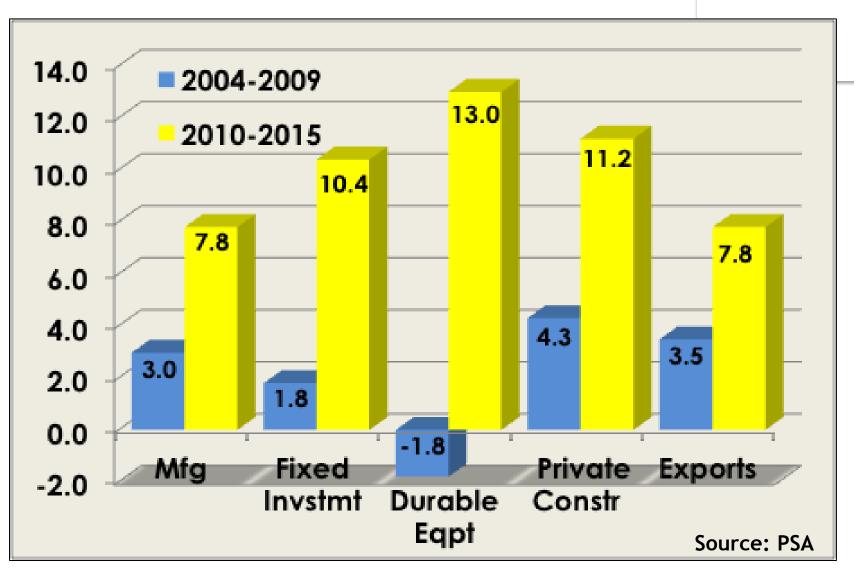
Indicator	2009	2010						
indicator	FY	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	FY		
Personal Consn Exp	3.8	4.0	1.9	2.4	4.9	5.3		
Govt Consumption	8.5	21.4	7.4	-6.5	-6.6	2.7		
Capital Formation (	-9.9	31.9	38.0	34.5	25.7	31.6		
Of which:	$\Big)$							
Construction	5.8	11.4	25.2	17.1	14.0	17.5		
Public	15.7	9.7	27.0	<del>-23.4</del>	13.7	4.1		
Private	-4.2	11.9	23.7	35.7	24.6	24.1		
Durable Eqpt	-11.4	29.2	35.9	17.6	21.6	25.5		
Br Stck & Orch Dev	-1.4	-0.2	1.0	-0.3	0.7	0.3		
Intellectual Property Prods		14.2	4.1	-1.1	-0.7	2.9		
Exports	-14.2	18.8	24.0	23.1	16.8	25.6		
Imports	-5.8	24.2	22.1	22.1	21.9	20.7		



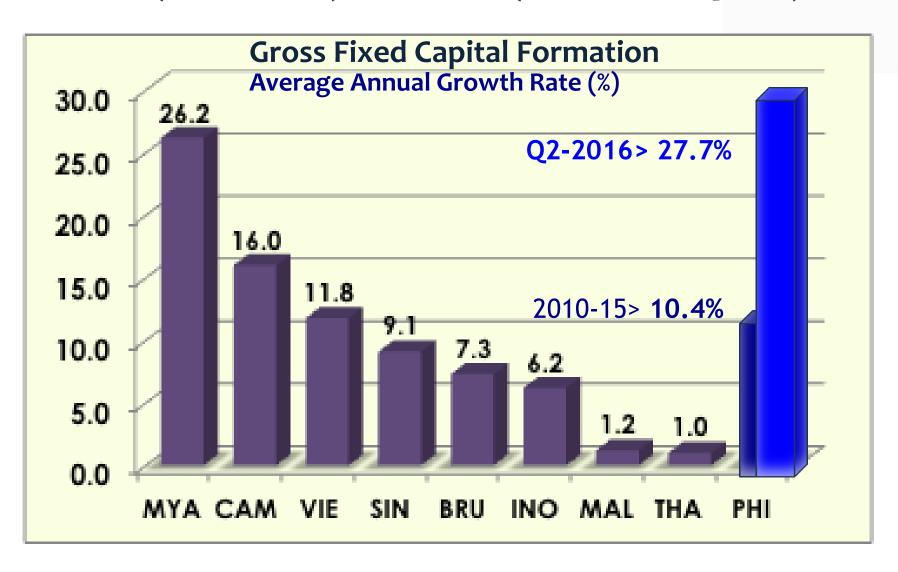
#### Where Are We Now?

Investment Rebound, But Still Lagging

## Manufacturing & Investments: Surging Since 2010



#### Investment Growth Revisited Then (2004-09) & Now (2010-15; Q1'16)



## How's the Economy Doing? The 'PiTiK Test'





 Presyo: Inflation rate down to record lows (Jan-Oct 2016 – 1.6%)



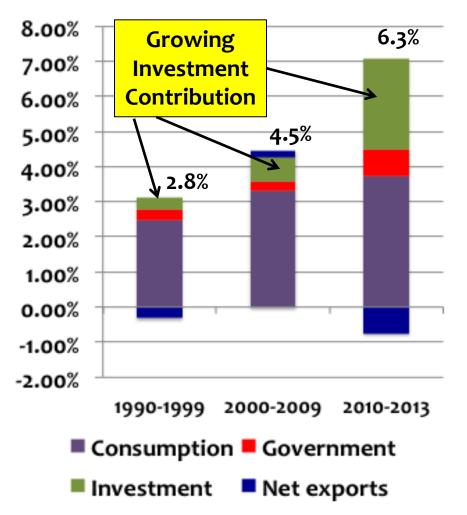
Trabaho: Unemployment rate has finally broken below 6% (July 2016 – 5.4%)



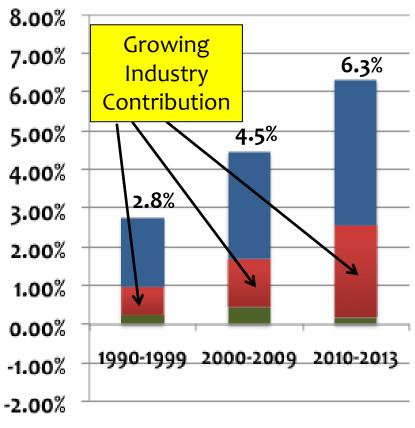
Kita: Q3-2016 GDP growth of 7.1% (Asia's Fastest)

### The quality of growth is improving





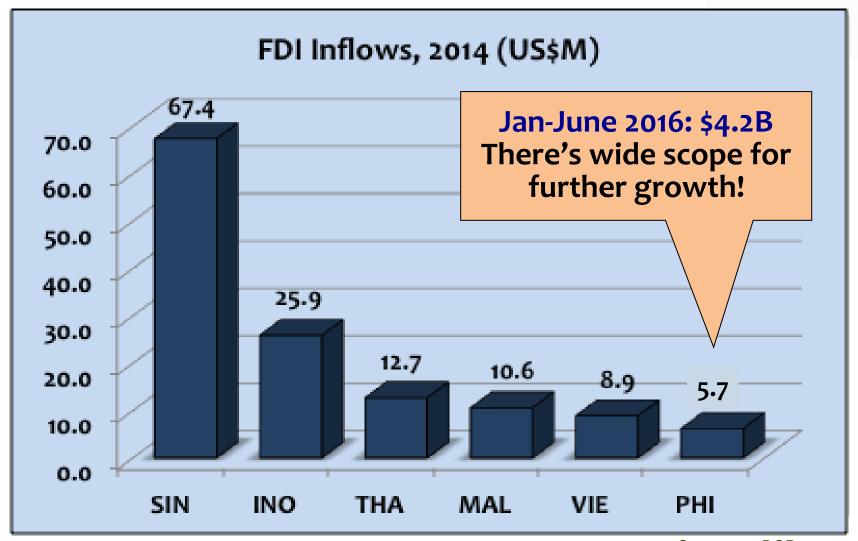
#### Supply Side



Agriculture Industry Services

**Source: NEDA** 

### Reality Check: FDI Even with 6x expansion, still lagging

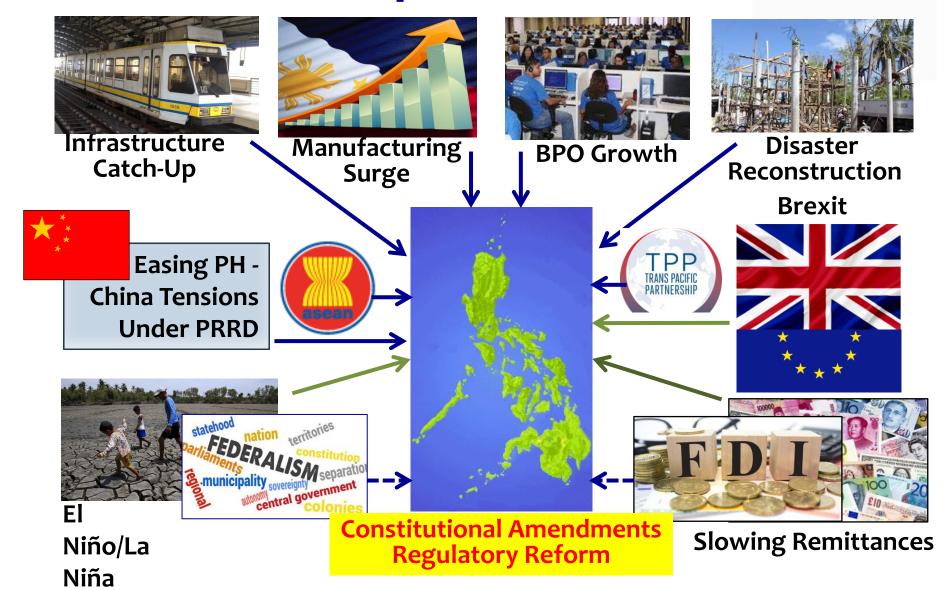


Source: BSP

What
Needs to
be Done?



## **Economic Outlook: Drivers & Dampeners**



### 10-Point Economic Agenda

1 Macroeconomic policy consistency (fiscal, monetary & trade policies)



- 2 Progressive tax reform; improved tax collection; inflation-indexed taxes
- 3 Improve competitiveness and ease of doing business
- 4 Accelerate infra spending to 5% of GDP; ramp up PPP implementation
- 5 Rural development via value chains & hiked rural productivity in agriculture and tourism

### 10-Point Economic Agenda

6 Secure land tenure & improve land management and titling agencies



- 7 Human capital development: improve health & education, address jobs-skills mismatch
- 8 Promote S&T and creative arts for innovation and creative capacity
- 9 Social protection thru the government's CCT program
- 10 Implement the Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health Law

#### **Foreign Investment Restrictions**

No foreign ownership: Mass media (except recording); small-scale mining; private security; marine resources, including small-scale utilization of natural resources in rivers, lakes, and lagoons; manufacture of firecrackers and pyrotechnic devices; Retail enterprises with capital <\$2.5 million (<\$250,000 for luxury goods retail);

Limited foreign ownership: Public utilities (40%); Private radio networks (20%); employee recruitment (25%); construction and repair of public works (25%); advertising agencies (30%); natural resource exploration, development, & utilization (40% w exceptions); educational institutions (40%); deep sea fishing vessels (40%); GPH procurement of goods (40%); construction of locally funded public works (25% w exceptions); operations of Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) projects in public utilities (40%); ownership of private lands (40%); rice and corn processing (40% w exceptions)...++

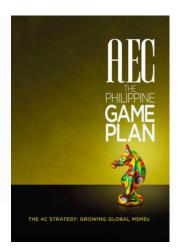
## Reforms Toward Stronger Competitiveness

#### **Legal/Policy Reforms**

- Competition (Antitrust) Law Done
- Customs Modernization & Tariff Act Done
- Ease Outdated FDI restrictions
- Amendment to PSA (redefine public utilities)

#### **Administrative Reforms**

- Streamline customs processes (e-payment)
- Remove unnecessary & duplicating import clearances and permits (e.g., Toblerone)



#### Wanted: Sustained Reform

#### For Sustained Growth:



- Ease investment restrictions
- Reduce regulatory burden

#### For Inclusive Development:

- Concerted MSME promotion and support
- Wider competition & market contestability
- Inclusive value chains (vs. vertical integration)
- Investments in Human Development & social protection



### Postscript Food for Thought

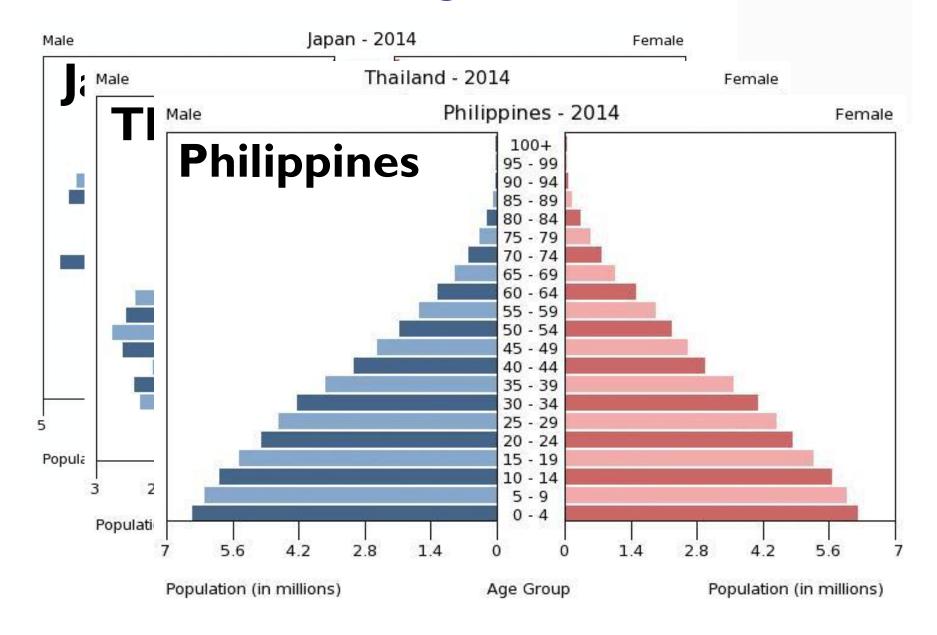
#### Fact 1:

 In 2050, working age people will dominate the dependent elderly & young ("Demographic Sweet Spot")

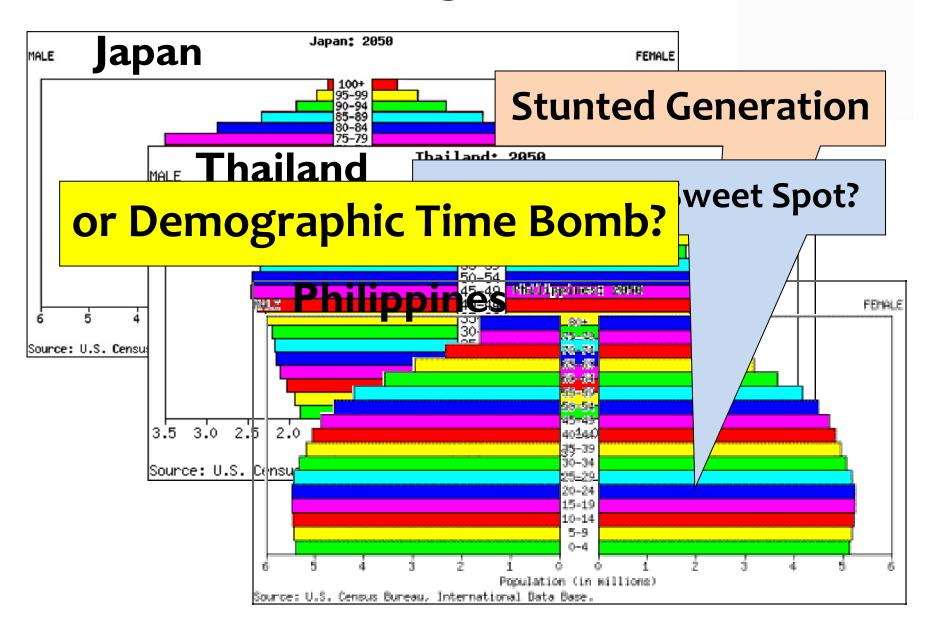
#### Fact 2:

- 33.5% (1 out of 3) Filipino children < 5 years old are stunted (hence permanently impaired from reaching full brain & physical development)
- Another 7% are wasted (underweight)

#### Population Age Profiles, 2014



#### Population Age Profiles, 2050



## Feed the Young Children





