

# The Future of "Old" Industry in Japan Hollowing Out, Growing with Asia, or Switching to Services?

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# Outline



Is the world is changing too fast for an old island?

Japan is challenged, but part of the Asian growth story

# Domestic restructuring

- Investment slowdown ("Lost Decades")
- overseas investment and cooperation
- profitable services
- Challenges remain
  - Political "leaning against the wind"
  - Government shift to demand-side economics
  - Increasing competition in Asia

## A New World ...





WEO 2008.04, post-crisis data from IMF-WEO 2009.09. Source: © FRI 2009. Data from IMF WEO.

... with Fundamental Shifts: Working Population



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# New Silk Road

- Africa Export to Asia +20% YoY from 2000 (China +50% YoY)
- New Trade Centers: Singapore, Dubai, Istanbul, Hong Kong



Source: © FRI 2010. Map: Wikipedia.

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#### Exports (1990-2011) and Export Growth (2000-2011)

Emerging country exports growth similar to Germany but slower than Korea's +400%

Source: © FRI 2011. Data: IMF (2011), CEIC.

## ... and Production Locations



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# ... with a High Risk of "Hollowing Out"



Source: © FRI 2010. Data from U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2010.

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# The "Lost Decades" on back of an investment slowdown





#### Japan - Contribution to GDP Growth

#### About 50% of GDP growth in Japan comes from Exports



**GDP Components (% GDP)** 



Japan has low levels of export and net-investment



Services held back by Trade



#### Manufacturing boosted by Export

Ageing: Domestic goods market won't recover anytime soon

- Deflation: Companies are focusing on cost cutting, overseas investment
- Regulation: The huge service market remains highly regulated and is considered a pool for surplus labor
- Corporate Strategy: Focus on profits, niche & overseas markets

Note: Indices of Industrial Production and Tertiary Activity; reindexed 2003=100; seasonally adjusted. Source: © FRI 2011. Data from METI (2011): Indices of Industry Activity (http://www.meti.go.jp/statistics/index.html) ... and Companies are Ageing too



## The Roots of Japan's "Lost Decades"



- Japan's underperformance after 1991 has been well-researched
  - Ageing: Low demand, slow structural change, decreasing innovation
  - Structural Change: Price level adjustment (deflation), shift from manufacturing to services, insufficient labor markets and corporate turn over (entry/exit)
  - Governance: Low profitability, low globalization, over-regulated services, local monopolies, ineffectual policy processes
- Put together, a model of a stable equilibrium on a down-trend emerges. Are we willing to believe this?
  - Maybe: Most structural explanations of Japan's malaise are convincing
  - Maybe: Policy recommendations to fix the problem have gone nowhere: money has been printed, public debt has sky-rocketed, and structural reforms have been unwanted
  - BUT most economists continue to think that a market economy eventually heals itself and finds a path to sustainable growth
- A fresh look at the "engine of growth" supports optimism
  - Investment is the driving force of growth, in Japan 65% of growth come from capital investment
  - But "net investment" has been falling over two decades because companies needed to adjust their high capital stocks to a mature, ageing society
  - Today, adjustment might have run its course, and recovering net investment might put some sparkle back into Japan's dormant economy

Japan's "Over-Investment" has been a Driver and a Brake Fuirsu

40 20.000 Japan GDP Growth (right scale) 15.000 35 10.000 30 Japan 5.000 25 0.000 Germany -5.000 20 -10.000 **USA** 15 -15.000 10 -20.000 1955 1960 1965 1970 1975 1980 1985 1990 1995 2000 2005 2010

**Gross Investment Rates (% GDP)** 

High investment rates beyond 30% pushed growth until the 1970s

Deleveraging after 1990 to 20% resulted in depression and deflation

Note: Ratio of Gross Fixed Capital Formation over GDP. The dotted line is the centered 3-year moving average of the GDP growth rate..

Source: © FRI 2011. Data: EU-KLEMS (2011), CEIC 2011.

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## Investment is the true "Engine of Growth"



#### Contribution to VA Growth (Japan 1980-2006)



- In Japan, investment contributes about 65% to (value added) economic growth, labor contribution is often negative and averages at only 15%, innovation (TFP) contributes 20%
- In the US, investment contributes about 50%, labor 40%, and innovation 10%
- Investment is the true "engine of growth," if it falls economies falter

# Falling "Net" Investment due to Capital Depreciation





The two "industrial" economies Japan and Germany are well-known for their high levels of investment (of about 25% GDP)

- But the historically accumulated capital stock also led to high capital consumption (costs), which dragged the economies through depreciation
- "Net" real investment, which is an indicator for quality adjusted "new" investment, has been falling from the 90s
  - Maintenance" of an ageing capital stock dominated "future" investment

Note: Investment as Real Gross Fixed Capital Formation (RGFCF). Deflated by 1995 asset prices.

Source: © FRI 2011. Data: KLEMS (2011)



- During structural change, depreciation can over-shoot lastingly
  - Depreciation of the capital stock can last up to 30 years (for buildings, which constitute 50% of Japan's capital stock)
  - New (gross) investment is used to "maintain" and restructure the existing capital stock; i.e. "writing off" a venture requires downsizing investment
  - New (net) investment into ventures becomes a function of what is left after downsizing and maintenance requirements
- In ageing economies, slowing demand and deflation become an additional drag
  - Restructuring of the capital stock (cost cutting) becomes the engine of growth
  - Price dumping, to keep the existing capital stock employed, reduces incentives for investment in "new" ventures
  - Deflation becomes as much a consequence as a cause of (net) disinvestment



#### **Real Net Investment (% GDP)**



- Investment "bubbles" in the US, currently below historical lows
- Bottoming out in Germany, driven by strong ICT investment
- Bottoming out in Japan below historical "bottom levels" of 5%?



## Investment recovery?





- Economic growth is determined by the rate of investment and the efficiency of capital DY = I/Y \* DY/DK
- While investment rates are bottoming out, capital efficiency has already recovered on strong cost-cutting
- Increasing investment on basis of high capital efficiency would provide a major boost to growth

Note: DY/DK is the ratio of yearly growth of value added (production) over capital input growth; I/Y is the ratio of yearly change in capital stock (investment) over value added; DY is the yearly change of value added. All ratios in percent..

## ... so Investment drives Growth again





#### Factor Contributions to VA Growth (2003-2006: % Average)

Non-ICT Investment is the driving force in "Old Industry" Japan's "Old Industry" increases productivity by investing in production processes



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Source: © FRI 2010, Data from EU KLEMS Database. Note: Data for Japan only 2003-2006.



#### Trade and Income Balances (Bn USD)



Note: Billion USD. Source: © FRI 2010.Data from OECD Economic Outlook.

Crossborder M&A (Number of Deals)







Capital Efficiency = Value Added / Fixed Assets

Due to a relatively lower capital stock, capital efficiency in services has been recovering faster than in manufacturing

Services are now a prime target for investment in Japan

## ... where Profits start to surpass traditional Manufacturing





#### Service profits have converged, producing opportunities in business services, health care, retail, …

Source: © FRI 2011. Data from BOJ Tankan Survey.

# Services already dominate the Topix Profitability Ranking FL

| c  | S<br>S |
|----|--------|
| FU | ITSU   |

|  |     | Profit |     | Earning |     |       |
|--|-----|--------|-----|---------|-----|-------|
|  | ROE | Margin | ROA | Margin  | ROI | Firms |
| Automobiles & Components                       | 23  | 6      | 8   | 14      | 13  | 5     |
| Capital Goods                                  | 17  | 10     | 10  | 20      | 14  | 10    |
| Commercial & Professional Services             | 26  | 8      | 13  | 14      | 18  | 5     |
| Consumer Durables & Apparel                    | 23  | 12     | 13  | 16      | 16  | 4     |
| Consumer Services >                            | 21  | 7      | 10  | 19      | 14  | 7     |
| Energy   | 31  | 12     | 12  | 21      | 23  | 2     |
| Food & Staples Retailing                       | 16  | 6      | 7   | 16      | 14  | 4     |
| Health Care Equipment & Services               | 18  | 16     | 13  | 29      | 16  | 3     |
| Household & Personal Products                  | 25  | 13     | 19  | 26      | 23  | 2     |
| Materials                                      | 17  | 9      | 9   | 20      | 12  | 7     |
| Media  | 15  | 4      | 11  | 15      | 18  | 1     |
| Pharmaceuticals, Biotechnology & Life Sciences | 14  | 13     | 9   | 25      | 12  | 8     |
| Real Estate                                    | 25  | 8      | 8   | 11      | 13  | 3     |
| Retailing                                      | 25  | 10     | 10  | 18      | 15  | 10    |
| Semiconductors & Semiconductor Equipment       | 19  | 13     | 11  | 20      | 14  | 3     |
| Software & Services >                          | 22  | 14     | 14  | 28      | 19  | 17    |
| Technology Hardware & Equipment                | 16  | 10     | 9   | 125     | 13  | 9     |
| Telecommunication Services                     | 35  | 7      | 4   | 31      | 9   | 1     |
| Average  | 20  | 11     | 11  | 30      | 15  | 101   |

Note: Topix Top 100, selected by weighted profit indicators.



- During the two "lost decades," capital adjustment, depreciation and maintenance of Japan's high capital stock was holding companies back
- A shrinking domestic market has turned companies into efficient investors – "cost cutting" has become their second nature
- "Bottoming out" of net (new) investment would revive growth
- Investment recovery would enhance Japan's role as a global exporter and investor
- Investment recovery gains from profit growth in the huge service sector



- Restructuring without government support
- Shift to demand-side economics

## Government tried to "Buffer" Restructuring



Financial Surplus & Deficit by Sector as % of GDP (Saving-Investment Balances)



Note: Aggregates based on 2000 prices.

Source: © FRI 2011. Data: National Accounts; SNA93.

# ...resulting in unsustainable Government Debt Levels



### Government Net Debt (% of GDP) of Major Countries



# International comparison of fiscal conditions (2010)



|          | Gross<br>debt<br>/GDP | Net debt<br>/GDP | Annual<br>deficit<br>/GDP | Interest<br>payment<br>/GDP | Interest<br>rate of<br>national<br>bond | Current<br>account<br>/GDP | Inflation<br>rate |
|----------|-----------------------|------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|---|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Japan    | 199.7                 | 116.3            | 5.7                       | 1.4                         | 1.1                                     | 3.6                        | -0.7              |
| USA      | 93.6                  | 67.3             | 8.5                       | 1.6                         | 3.2                                     | -3.2                       | 1.6               |
| UK       | 82.4                  | 56.3             | 8.3                       | 2.6                         | 3.6                                     | -2.5                       | 3.3               |
| Germany  | 87.0                  | 50.1             | 1.3                       | 2.0                         | 2.7                                     | 5.6                        | 1.2               |
| France   | 94.1                  | 56.6             | 5.4                       | 2.3                         | 3.1                                     | -2.2                       | 1.7               |
| Spain    | 66.1                  | 40.2             | 7.9                       | 1.5                         | 4.2                                     | -4.5                       | 2.0               |
| Italy    | 126.8                 | 99.1             | 3.0                       | 4.2                         | 4.0                                     | -3.5                       | 1.6               |
| Greece   | 147.3                 | 114.2            | 11.6                      | 5.3                         | 9.1                                     | -10.4                      | 4.7               |
| Portugal | 103.1                 | 68.8             | 6.4                       | 3.0                         | 5.4                                     | -9.7                       | 1.4               |

## Public Burden per GDP is sure to Grow further







| DPJ  | LDP  |
|--|--|
| Consumer (demand side)                           | Producer (supply side)                                 |
| Big government<br>(if they could increase taxes) | Small government<br>(low consumption, high investment) |
| Consumer, NPO, Unions                            | Industry Association,<br>Companies                     |
| Distribution                                     | Growth (status quo)                                    |
| Environment                                      | Growth (status quo)                                    |
| Protectionism (->Free Trade)                     | Free trade (->Protectionism)                           |

# Second highest Poverty Ratio after the US





poverty ratio 
adjustment through tax and cash transfer

# Public Expenditure on Education of OECD Countries



## Family Assistance in the OECD







# Tricky Asian integration

Increasing Asian competition

# Japan's East Asia "Integration" is a huge Challenge

- 1. Japan remains slow in pushing Asia Integration Japan is not opening its agriculture and labor market
- Competing ideas for an East Asia Economic Community
   No specifics of DPJ East Asia Community Proposals
   Prospects for FTAs with China, Korea, Australia, NZ and India are not good
- 3. Asia remains skeptical about Japan's role
  - 1. Which East Asia Community?
    - Japan, China, Korea + ASEAN 10 (EAFTA)
    - Japan, China, Korea + ASEAN 10 + India, Australia, NZ (CEPEA)
    - APEC / TPP
  - 2. Which Content?
    - Free Trade Agreement (FTA)
    - Cooperation projects (global warning, monetary cooperation, HRD, Infrastructure)
    - Coordination of economic policies
    - Creation of a new international organization (OECD of East Asia)
  - 3. Problems
    - Legally binding framework like EU is unfeasible
    - Region-wide FTA like NAFTA (TPP?) is a distant possibility
    - No common value (market economy, democracy, religion)
    - Leadership vacuum
    - What is the US up to?

## ASEAN is an Inefficient Hub of bilateral FTAs











Source: © FRI 2011. Data: CEIC

## China becomes a tremendous Competitor in Asia





Source: © FRI 2010. Data: CEIC



- "Lost" decades are almost done
- Japan is increasingly becoming part of the Asian growth story
- Business, not least in services, becomes profitable again
- Policy remains to be a drag
- Asian markets change from "everybody gains" (from trade with China) to "fierce competition"

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