Overview of the IMF

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Birth of the IMF...Over 70 years ago Watch Video





BRETTON WOODS MONETARY CONFERENCE

In 1944 the United States government chose the Mount Washington Hotel as the site for a gathering of representatives from 44 countries. This was to be the famed Bretton Woods Monetary Conference. The Conference established the World Bank, set the gold standard at \$35.00 an ounce, and chose the American dollar as the backbone of international exchange. The meeting provided the world with a badly needed post war currency stability.

IMF Today Over 2,700 Staff From 148 countries

Global Membership

230

189 countries represented

Non-members include: Andorra, Cuba, Liechtenstein, Monaco, and North Korea

How the IMF Works



Management







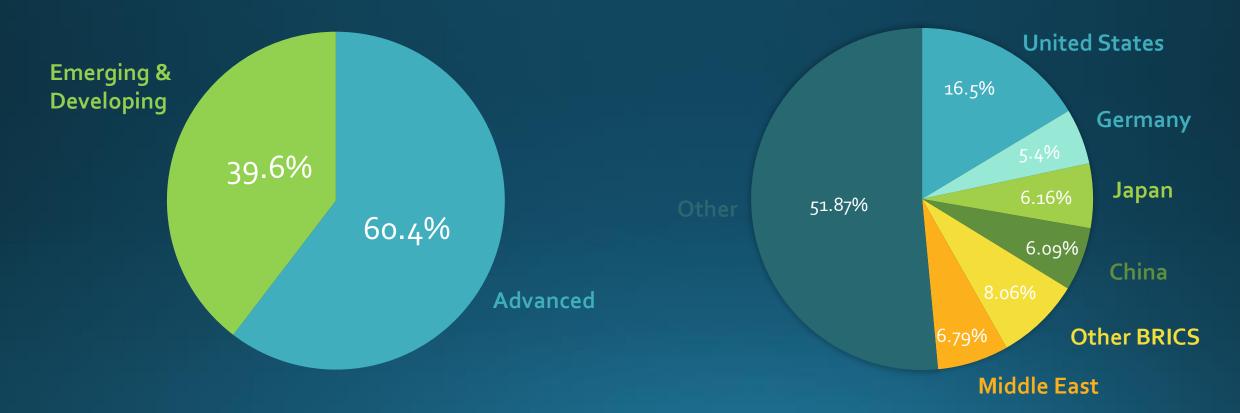




Where the IMF Gets Its Money

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

VOTING SHARE



Governance



6% Shift of voting shares to emerging market and developing countries BRICS now in top 10 shareholders

Role of the IMF

"Our key mandate is to promote global economic and financial stability."

- Christine Lagarde

Traditional Role of the IMF

The IMF is an organization of 189 countries, working to foster financial stability and inclusive growth through the following:

SURVEILLANCE

The IMF provides **policy advice** to its member countries on how to foster economic stability, prevent financial crises, and raise living standards.

LENDING

The IMF **lends** and works with member countries with financial difficulties to help them address financial problems.

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

The IMF shares its knowledge with member countries and works with them to build effective policies and institutions through capacity development.

Surveillance (Doctor)

- Bilateral, Regional, Global
- Evenhanded approach
- Spillover and cross-country analysis



Lending (Banker/Firefighter)

Non-Concessional

Crisis management & prevention (e.g., Ukraine)

Concessional



Tailored to country needs (e.g., Ebola)

Conditionality is flexible, focused, social, and macro-critical



Capacity Development/Knowledge Sharing

IMF's network of **regional capacity development centers** and programs help tailor knowledge sharing to the needs of a region.

These centers facilitate an enhanced ability to respond quickly to emerging needs.



<u>Watch Video</u>



New Areas of IMF Work

- Inequality, jobs and inclusive growth
- Female labor force participation
- Corruption
- Climate change and energy pricing

Inequality



- Staff guidance on Jobs and Growth: Helping countries achieve inclusive growth
- Growth that is more equitable is also more sustainable
- Fiscal policy is a key to reducing inequality

Female Labor Force Participation



- Increasing women's participation in the economy is "macro-critical" it can transform entire economies: boosts growth, promotes inclusion, strengthens economic resilience.
- Policies to empower women differ across countries—but one is universal: removing legal obstacles that exist in 90 percent of countries. In AEs, priorities include childcare, parental leave, tax reforms. In EMDCs, priorities include education, financial inclusion, infrastructure
- IMF conducts research and provides advice to members including through country surveillance pilots and programs

The cost of Corruption



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Follow the money

- The Fund has been looking at issues of governance since 1997.
- The Fund is now looking more closely at impact on economic performance and providing policy solutions.
- Bribery, a subset of corruption, is reportedly costing the world about \$2 trillion per year, or about 2% of global GDP. The combined economic and social costs of corruption are even larger.

Climate Change







- Fiscal instruments can play a key role (carbon tax; removing energy subsidies)
- Policy design is critical—policies must:
 - 1. be targeted
 - 2. be cost effective
 - 3. strike a balance between environmental benefits and economic costs

Engagement with Stakeholders

Whom do we engage with?

- Civil Society Organizations
- National and International Trade Unions
- Parliamentarians
- Think Tanks/Academics
- Youth

Why?

- Effectiveness of policy advice
- Information exchange
- Finger on the pulse of country
- Policy dialogue