# 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







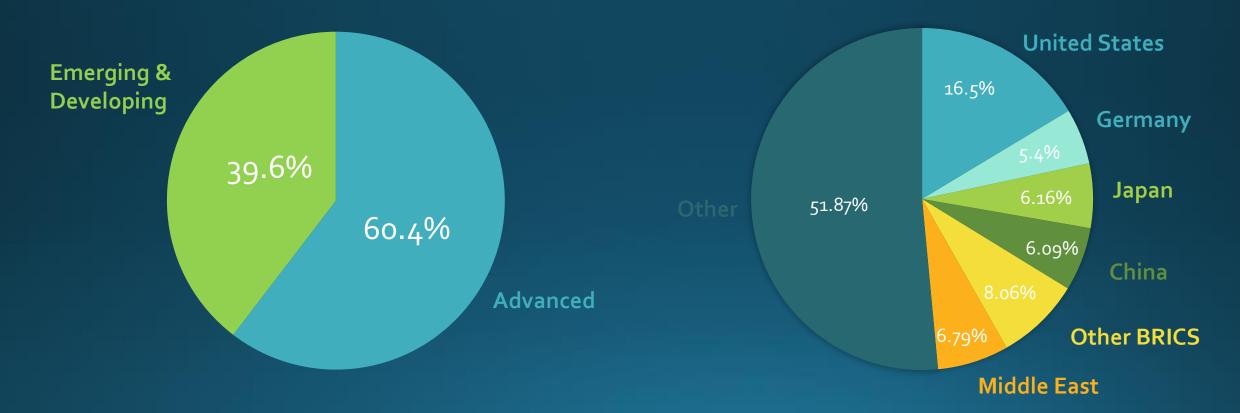




## Where the IMF Gets Its Money

#### 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