Indonesia Economic Briefing

The Culinary Economy



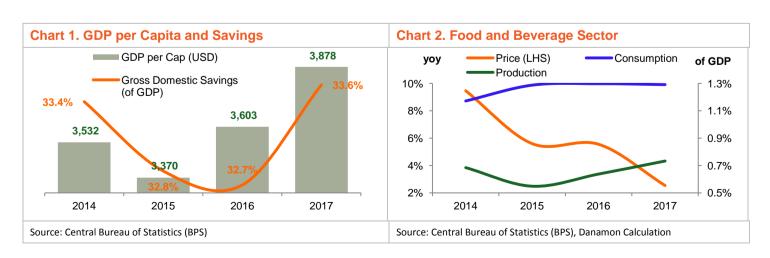
Economic Highlights

- The statistics office announced **Indonesia's economic growth of 5.19% yoy** for the last quarter of 2017. This tuned the FY17 result to 5.07%, slightly higher than our 5.04% estimate. The most exciting point to highlight from the quarterly figures is the rise in fixed investment -i.e. dwellings and machinery/equipment-, as its contribution to the overall economy gets closer to household consumption. From Chart 1 we can also see that GDP per capita and savings had rebounded, which resulted in the bottoming-out of consumption growth.
- Diving into the full year numbers, we found several shifts of key factors that had
 driven the economy in 2017, with some may still be valid going into 2018 while
 others may not. First of all, beneficial mix of commodity price boom had pushed for
 higher contribution in international trade and cross-sector growth, yet we think it
 will fade and shrink this year. Trade support may still come from apparel and
 furniture sectors designated for US-based consumers.
- Secondly on domestic food and beverage (F&B) sector, we've seen positive improvements in terms of price and production. In 2015, global oil and food prices coincidentally fell at a time when domestic production had also declined. Hence, F&B consumption was lifted (please see Chart 2). But walking through 2016 and 2017, local prices had actually fallen during times when global prices rose by 11%. This was due to a boost in domestic production while consumption had remained somewhat flat. We think F&B production plays a vital role in upholding household consumption and inflation level for the rest of the year.
- We have been saying that it is more important to watch whether the structural shift in the economy could sustain going into early 2018, when economic agenda will likely be seconded and government elections take center stage. Direct investment placements will be frontloaded to this year and should still positively support growth. Our view on consumption remains unchanged in the sense that income and savings recovery for the past 2 years will bear fruit. As such, we estimate that the economy may grow faster by 5.27%. The caveat lies on how much oil and food prices may put a dent in purchasing power.

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Indonesia: Selected Economic Indicators

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018E
National Accounts					
Real GDP (% y-o-y)	5.0	4.9	5.0	5.1	5.3
Domestic demand ex. inventory (% y-o-y)	5.3	4.0	5.0	4.8	5.4
Real Consumption: Private (% y-o-y)	5.1	5.0	5.0	4.9	5.0
Real Gross Fixed Capital Formation (% y-o-y)	4.4	5.0	4.5	6.2	6.0
GDP (USD bn) — nominal	891	861	933	1,016	1,115
GDP per capita (USD) — nominal	3,532	3,370	3,603	3,878	4,198
Open Unemployment Rate (%)	5.9	6.2	5.6	5.5	5.5
External Sector					
Exports (% y-o-y, BoP Basis)	-3.7	-14.9	-3.1	16.8 (E)	6.0
Imports (% y-o-y, BoP Basis)	-4.5	-19.7	-4.5	16.8 (E)	11.8
Trade balance (USD bn, BoP Basis)	6.9	14.1	15.4	18.1 (E)	17.0
Current account (% of GDP)	-3.2	-2.1	-1.8	-1.8 (E)	-2.0
Central government debt (% of GDP)	24.7	27.4	27.8	28.6 (E)	28.7
International Reserves –IRFCL (USD bn)	111.9	105.9	116.4	130.2	136.8
Reserve Cover (Months of imports & ext. debt)	6.5	7.4	8.4	8.3	8.5
Currency/US\$ (Year-end)	12,440	13,795	13,436	13,548	13,575
Currency/US\$ (Average)	11,878	13,392	13.308	13,383	13,520
Other					
BI policy rate (% year end)	7.75	7.50	6.50*	N/A	N/A
BI 7-Day Reverse Repo rate (% year end)	N/A	6.25	4.75	4.25	4.25
Consumer prices (% year end)	8.36	3.35	3.02	3.61	3.64
Fiscal balance (% of GDP; FY)	-2.26	-2.70	-2.46	-2.60 (E)	-2.5
S&P's Rating – FCY	BB+	BB+	BB+	BBB-	BBB

Source: CEIC, E = Danamon Estimates, *) Up to August 2016



Economic and Market Research

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