



Conference on
***“Financial Stability: Towards a
Macroprudential Approach”***
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Pre- and post-crisis

- **Prior to the GFC**
 - **Implicit regulatory philosophy for Hong Kong given importance of banking sector**
 - **Supervisory tools deployed implicitly for macro-prudential objective (e.g. maximum LTV ratio)**
- **After the GFC**
 - **Seen as critical to safeguarding financial stability**
 - **Ample analyses and discussions, e.g. BIS, IMF, BoE**
 - **Trend toward more formal institutional arrangement**



What ?

- Macro-prudential (MP) vs Macro-economic (ME)
 - MP: affect quantity and price of credit
 - ME: affect mainly price of credit
- Macro-prudential vs micro-prudential
 - Optimal actions for individual components of the financial system may collectively be damaging for the system as a whole



How ?

- **Efforts devoted to :**
 - Enhance resilience of financial system over the cycles
 - Develop tools to monitor build-up of systemic vulnerabilities & risks
- **Orientation toward:**
 - Analyzing market dynamics and external shocks
 - Watching out for credit growth that outpaces economic performance
 - Monitoring of cross border fund flows
- **Tools deployed for:**
 - Restraining build-up of risks



Initiatives taken by HKMA

- **Adequacy of expertise**
 - Product risk analysis
 - Market intelligence
 - Ensure good risk management and disclosures
- **Adequacy of data**
 - Need for more granular data
 - Analysis with macro dimensions
- **Adequacy of communication**
 - Cross Department Working Group to discuss global trends, identify early warning signals and potential threats, and formulate views on possible stress scenarios



Challenges

- Build-up of risks and possible interactivity difficult to delineate
- Conventional analytical tools fail to incorporate market dynamics e.g. sudden loss of market liquidity
- Effectiveness of countercyclical/through-the-cycle regulatory tools difficult to measure
- Regulatory boundary: systemically important but unregulated FIs



Conclusion

- **A more holistic view of risks:** *a shift of regulatory philosophy*
- **A more forward looking approach:** *judgements required, in addition to rules*
- **“Analysis” and “monitoring” not enough:** *timely action is the key*
- **Ownership of financial stability:** *institutional arrangement to ensure accountability*