

Quarterly Economy Tracker

(Apr-Jun 2018)

New Malaysia In Transition

10 July 2018

Key Messages





DISRUPTIVE THREATS to global growth



Global engine will continue to **CRUISE ALONG** in 2H18, albeit moderately. Global growth has **PEAKED** or **IS PEAKING**. **REAL RISKS** could undermine the global expansion and investors' confidence.



Advanced economies appear to **GO ON THEIR OWN WAY; CHINA** displays signs of weakening momentum.



Escalating **TRADE TENSIONS**, **RISING OIL PRICES** and **HIGHER INTEREST RATES** are starting to temper synchronized global growth.



EMEGING MARKETS under pressure – currencies slid on capital reversals; fears of contagion; trade battle risk.



CENTRAL BANKS are having a 'difficult time' following **THE FED**. Central banks in emerging economies are expected to **TREAD** cautiously though some were forced to **ACT IMMEDIATELY**.

GROWTH prospects for advanced and emerging economies

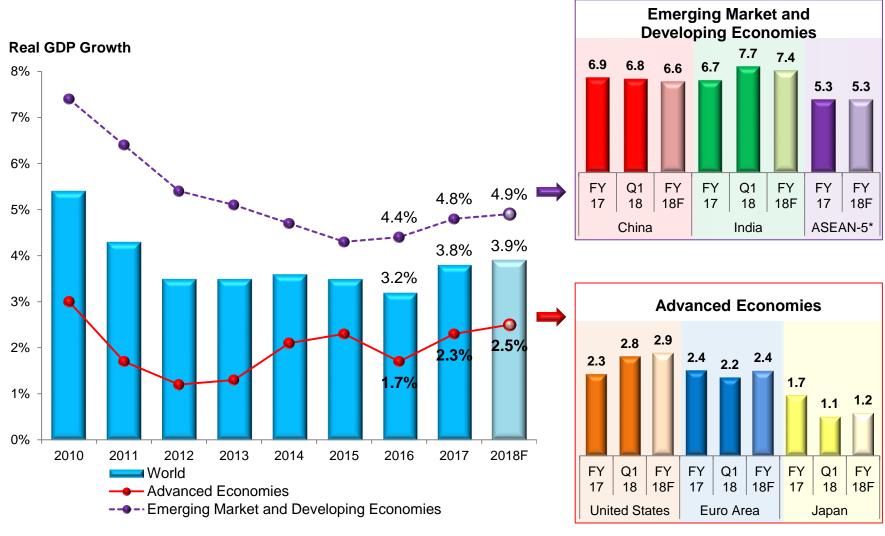


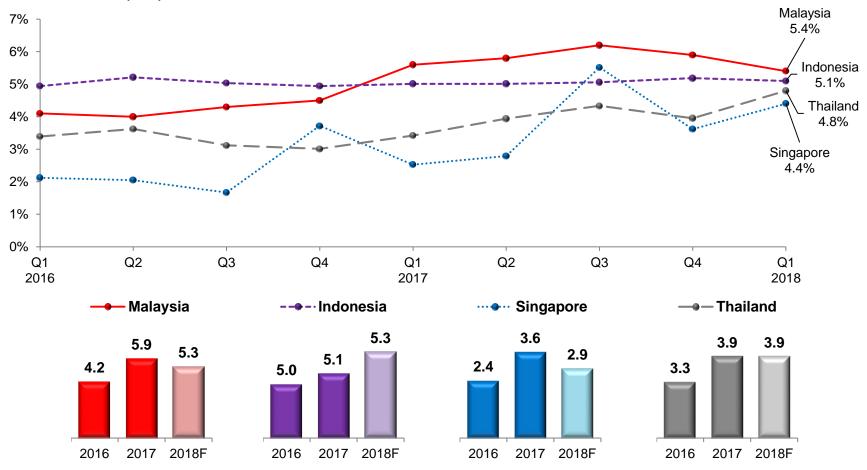
Figure denotes real GDP yoy growth (%) *ASEAN-5: Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam

Source: Officials; IMF (WEO, April 2018)



MIST economies still in good shape, BEWARE THE TAIL RISKS

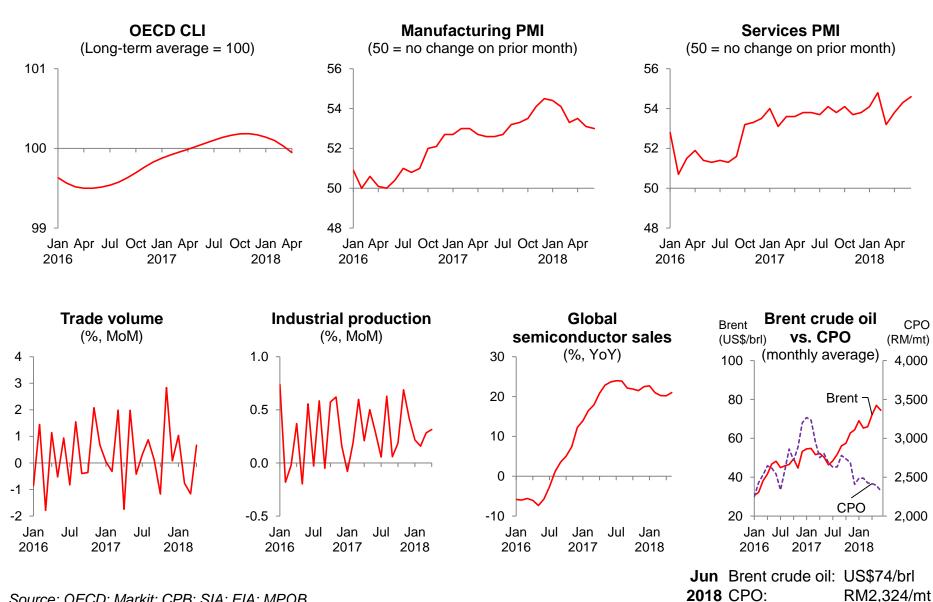
Real GDP Growth (YoY)



Source: Officials; IMF (WEO, April 2018)



GLOBAL INDICATORS point to STABLE global growth



Source: OECD; Markit; CPB; SIA; EIA; MPOB



Tit-for-tat TRADE WAR: Unintended consequences



GLOBAL REPERCUSSIONS highly disruptive and damaging on global economic growth via trade and financial channels. **TRADE** – curtail trade activity; Asian supply chains disrupted and dampen global growth. **FINANCIAL** – share prices of affected companies/industries will be rerated on earnings concern.



On the US - SHORT-TERM GAIN, LONG-TERM PAIN. US consumers bear the brunt of the immediate damage in the form of inflation. Consumer spending dampened; businesses and retailing affected. China's tariffs on US\$50bil of imports from the US makes up 38.4% of US's export to China and 3.2% of US's total exports.



On China, **MODEST IMPACT** on Chinese consumers as the US is not a major source of consumer goods import. China can relatively easier than the US to find substitute sources of supply for the affected imports. US's tariffs on US\$50 billion of imports from China makes up 2.2% of China's total exports and 11.6% China's export to the US. The US threatens to slap a further US\$200-500 billion tariffs.



On EU, CLOUDS the already **WEAKENING** economy compounded by political turmoil in Italy and Germany as well as Brexit. The European counterattack on US\$3.2 billion of goods, a response to the US's tariffs on steel and aluminum imports.



On Asia, Asian's **HIGH LEVELS OF INTEGRATION OF SUPPLY CHAINS** that are likely to be disrupted. A wide network of value chains that feed components, sub-components and materials into Chinese manufacturing and assembly.

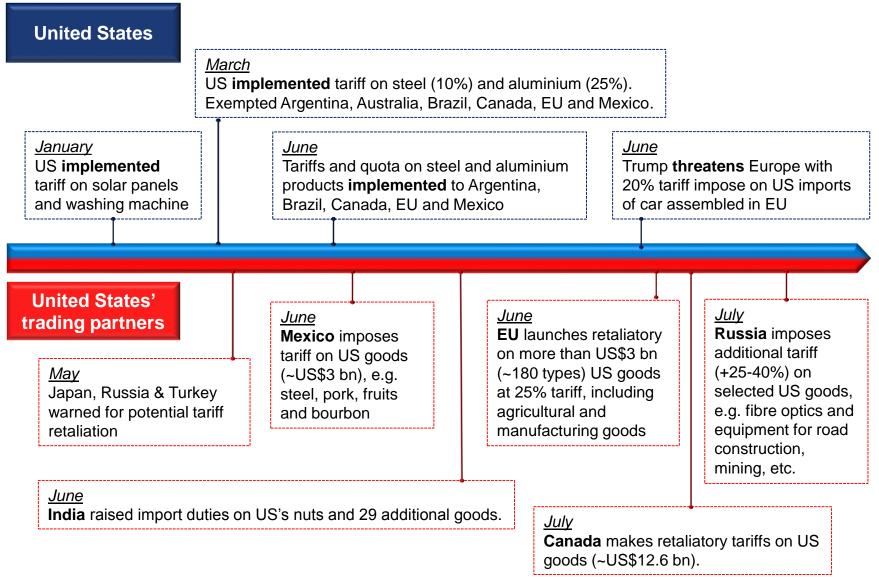
TRADE TARIFFS BATTLE between the US and China

	United States	China
Stage 1	Jan 2018 - Mar 2018 Blanket tariff on all countries • Solar panels (+30%) • Washing machine (+20-50%) • Steel (+25%) • Aluminium (+10%)	 <u>Early Apr 2018</u> Targeted tariff on products from the US Fresh and dried fruits, wine, ethyl alcohol, and steel pipes (+15%) Pork-related products and recycled aluminium (+25%)
Stage 2 (Proposal)	 Mar - Apr 2018 Import tariffs on products from PR China +25% import tariffs on 1,333 products worth US\$50 bn E.g. home appliances, machinery, electrical equipment 	 <u>Mid-Apr 2018</u> Targeted tariff on products from the US +25% import tariffs on 106 products worth US\$50 bn E.g. soybeans, automotive parts and aircraft
Stage 3	Early May 2018 Negotiations begin, trade war on hold 	
Stage 4 (Effective)	Late May - June 2018 Revived tariff • Tariffs on US\$34bn worth of China's goods, effective 6 July • Remaining US\$16 bn in another 2 weeks <i>Additional tariffs on another US\$200-500bn</i> goods in abeyance on China's retaliation	Late May - June 2018 Retaliatory tariffs • Retaliate with similar tariffs on US imports, with US\$34 bn starting on 6 July and US\$16 bn on a later date

Source: Various



TRADE TARIFFS BATTLE between the US and its allies



Source: Various



The list of products hit by HIGHER TARIFFS battle



US\$50 billion

Impact:

- 38.4% of US's export to China
- 3.2% of US's total exports

China's products in US hit list



Machinery



Furniture



E&E products



Aerospace



Source: US Census Bureau; National Bureau of Statistics of China



US's products in China hit list

Impact:





Motor vehicle

11.6% of China's export to US

2.2% of China's total exports



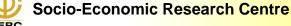


Chemical products

Propane LPG



Raw cotton



The industries most AT RISK in US-China trade war

The US industries most at risk in a trade war with China Leading export categories by HS code United States to China in 2017 (US\$ billion)

The Chinese industries most at risk in a trade war with US

Leading export categories by HS code China to United States in 2017 (US\$ billion)

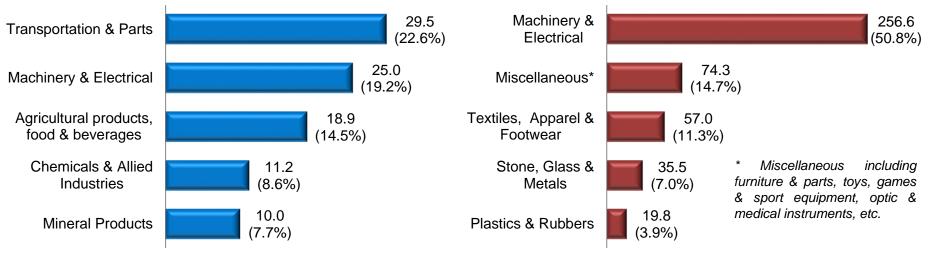


Figure in parenthesis indicates % share of gross exports in 2017

	Indonesia	Malaysia	Singapore	Thailand		Indonesia	Malaysia	Singapore	Thailand
Wood & products	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	Textiles	1.1	0.6	0.3	0.7
Food products	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	Machinery	1.1	0.7	0.4	0.5
Electronics	3.4	6.6	2.7	3.0	Motor vehicles	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Paper & products	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	Other transport	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0
Chemicals	1.0	0.5	0.2	0.4	Basic metals	0.9	0.3	0.1	0.1
Electrical machinery	2.8	2.5	1.1	1.8	Total	10.9	11.4	5.0	6.8

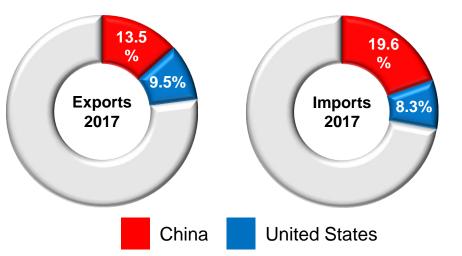
Source: US Census Bureau; Oxford Economics

Exposure to the value chain (%)



Malaysia's exports to the US and CHINA

Ranking	Exports	Imports
*1	2	1
	3	3



Major export products to China in 2017	RM mil	% share*
E&E products - Semiconductor	50,386 <i>36,33</i> 2	39.9 28.8
Chemical & related products (excl. non-primary plastics)	14,449	11.5
Petroleum products	13,312	10.6
Liquefied Natural Gas	5,798	4.6
Manufactures of metal	4,529	3.6
Palm Oil	4,027	3.2
Total	126,150	

Major export products to United States in 2017	RM mil	% share*
E&E products - Semiconductor	49,148 <i>16,034</i>	55.4 18.1
Optical & scientific equipment	5,562	6.3
Rubber gloves	5,502	6.2
Furniture & parts	3,604	4.1
Machinery, equipment & parts	3,271	3.7
Chemical & related products (excl. non-primary plastics)	3,243	3.7
Total	88,693	

* % share to total exports to respective country

Source: DOS, Malaysia

SERC

TRADE DISPUTES: Impact on global economy

Impact on GDP growth via the trade channel

(Percentage point)	Impact of US tariffs	Impact of China tariffs		Trade disputes ADVERSELY AFFECT THE US MORE THAN China, due to higher value-added
China	-0.04			sourced domestically (US: ~82%;
US		-0.06	>	China: ~64%)
Asia excl. China	-0.01 t	o -0.03	>	High integration of EA-8 economies
Global growth	-0.	.02		in China's production value chain, particularly E&E products (~18%
Global trade	-0.	.02		share of value-added)

Combined impact on GDP growth via the trade and investment channels

(Percentage point)	Global growth	Global trade	
Impact from trade channel	-0.02	-0.02	LOWER PROFIT from exporters
Impact from investment channel	-0.03	-0.04	 DETERIORATION in financial conditions
Combined impact on GDP growth	-0.05	-0.06	DAMPENED business sentiment and investment activities

IMPACT on Malaysia: estimated a marginal decline of 0.05-0.15 ppt in GDP growth

Source: BNM



Emerging markets under PRESSURE



The weakest link in Argentina and Turkey have stirred the **FEAR OF CONTAGION RISKS** in assets class of other emerging market economies in Asia such as India, Indonesia, and Philippines.



CAPITAL OUTFLOWS are a natural reaction to RISING US BOND YIELDS, a revived strength of the dollar, the expected FURTHER RISE IN THE FED'S INTEREST RATE, and further amplified by TRADE AND GEOPOLITICAL TENSIONS. HIGHER CRUDE OIL PRICES also exerted upward pressures on inflation and budget of oil-importing countries.



While damaging market volatility, it is unlikely to trigger **BROADER EMERGING MARKETS' CRISIS AND CONTAGION RISKS** should be contained. The **ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL FUNDAMENTALS** in emerging market economies in Asia have improved and strengthened in recent years.

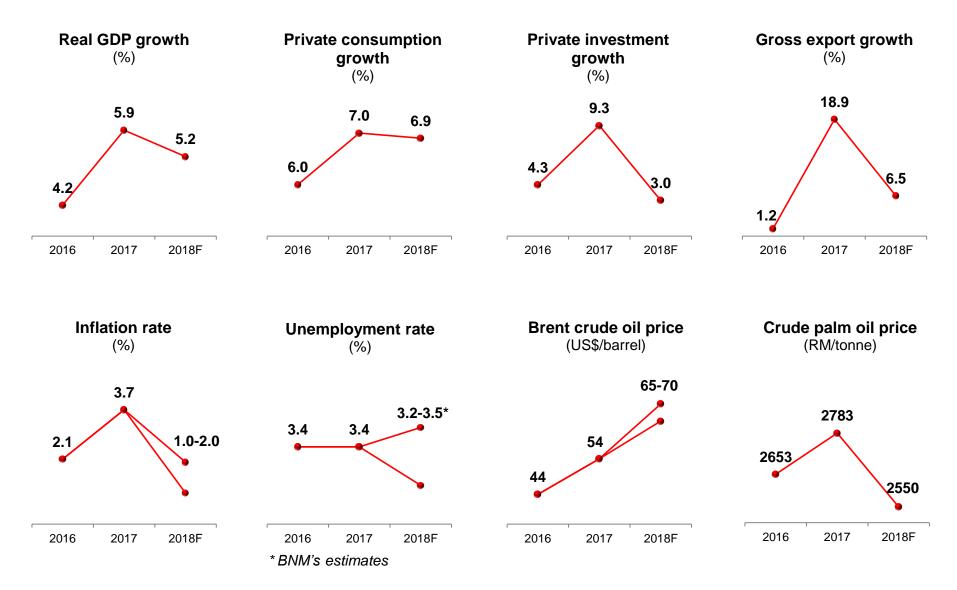


Emerging markets vulnerabilities HEATMAP

Least vulnerable Most vulnerable

	MAL	IDN	THA	PHL	CHN	IND	KOR	ARG	TUR
External Financing Vulnerability Index	0.47	0.47	0.33	0.33	0.33	0.47	0.27	0.73	0.87
Current Account Balance/GDP (%, 2018f)	2.5	-2.1	8.1	-1.5	1.1	-2.1	4.7	-5	-5.9
(Current Account Deficit -Net FDI)/GDP (%, 2018)	5.4	0	9.9	2.5	2.4	-0.4	5.6	-2.6	-4.6
Reserve Coverage Ratio (2018f)	1	1.1	1.9	2.9	2.7	1.8	1.6	0.5	0.4
Short-Term External Debt/Total External Debt (%, 2018f)	41	15	40	18	57	15	26	25	25
External Debt/GDP (%, 2018f)	59	35	32	24	14	23	26	41	57
Domestic Financial Vulnerability Index	0.57	0.48	0.43	0.53	0.48	0.43	0.43	0.4	0.67
Non-Financial Corporate Debt/GDP (%, Δ in 2012-2017)	6	5	2		30	-6	0	3	24
Households Debt/GDP (%, Δ in 2012-2017)	4	1	6		18	2.1	14	1.5	-1
Private Sector Real Credit Growth (% y/y, 2012-17 average)	6	8	6	13	14	4	5	10	12
Consolidated Foreign Claims/Domestic Credit (%, 2017)	32	38	26	22	4	15	12	41	49
Foreign Holdings of Local Currency Govt. Debt (%, Dec, 2017)	29	40	16		2	5	11		19
Foreign Holdings of Equities (%, June, 2017)	13	18	18	14	9	21	28	12	19
Nominal Home Prices (% y/y, 2012-2017 average)	9.3	6	3.5	10.4	3.1	14	1.9		14.1
Policy Vulnerability Index	0.28	0.39	0.44	0.67	0.39	0.61	0.33	0.78	0.67
2018-End Inflation Forecast (vs. Central Bank Target)	2.0	4.3	1.6	4.4	2.3	4.3	2.3	20.9	10.0
Current Real Interest Rates	1.2	0.2	-0.1	-0.7	0.8	1.7	-0.6	2	-1
Fiscal Balance/GDP (%, 2018f)	-2.7	-2.4	-0.9	-0.5	-4.2	-6.5	2.2	-4.9	-3.8
Gross Government Debt/GDP (%, 2018f)	54	29	40	33	51	67	38	52	28
World Bank Worldwide Governance Indicators (2017 release)	0.31	-0.18	-0.32	-0.35	-0.42	-0.19	0.75	-0.03	-0.46
WEF Global Competitiveness Index (2017-18)	5.16	4.7	4.7	4.36	5	4.6	5.1	4	4.39
Parliamentary/Presidential Elections in 2018-2019	May 18	Apr 19	Feb 19			May 19		Oct 19	Jun 18
Source: Institute of International Finance (June 2018)		-			-	-	-		

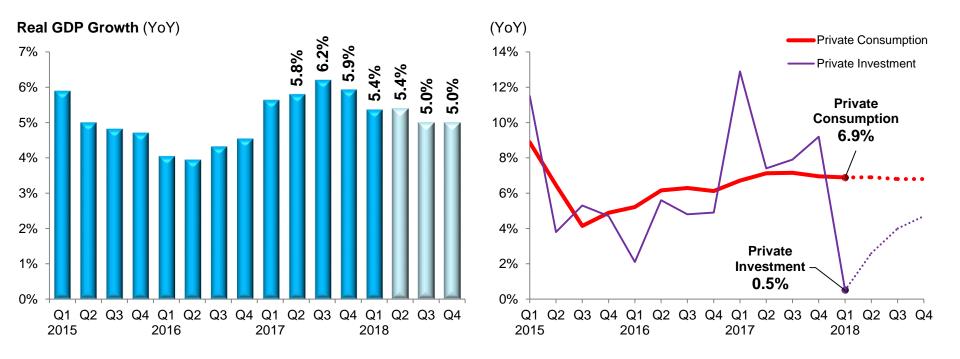
Malaysia's key ECONOMIC INDICATORS





Private CONSUMPTION on track but INVESTMENT off course

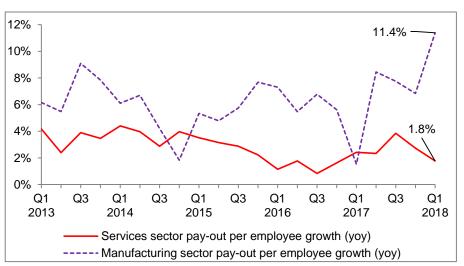
- The three months "tax holiday" from the zerorised of GST rate between June and August, the payment of cost of living aid and the stabilisation of fuel prices (RON 95) are expected to keep consumer spending steady estimated 6.9% in 2018.
- The sharp pullback in private investment growth in 1Q18 is expected to remain weak between 3-4% this year, reflecting the "wait and see" approaches by both domestic and foreign investors until clarity emerges on the new Government's policy directions.



Source: DOS, Malaysia; SERC

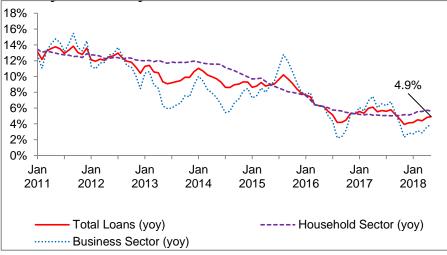


Consumption RESILIENCE but MIXED investment sentiment



Higher pay-out in manufacturing sector

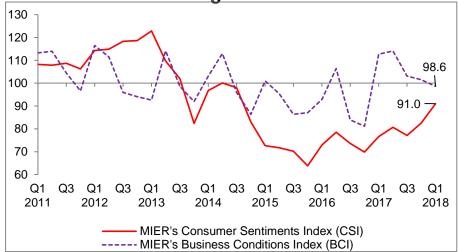
Higher outstanding loan growth in Apr-May, mainly driven by business sector



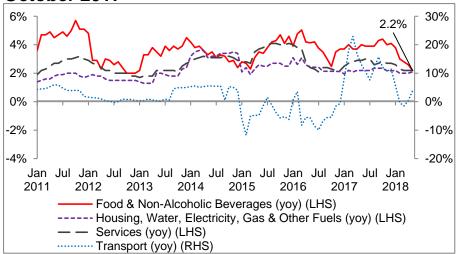
Source: DOS, Malaysia; MIER; BNM



Improving consumer sentiments but businesses feel not so good at the start of 2018

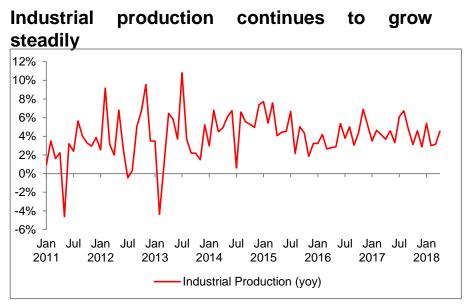


Food prices continue to moderate since October 2017

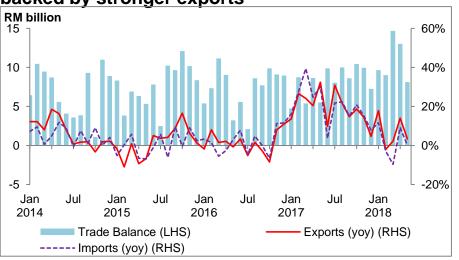


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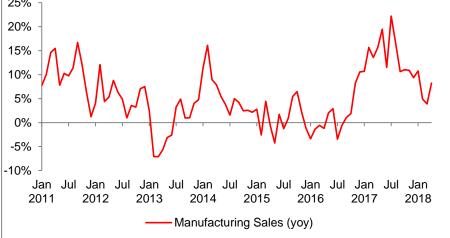
Malaysia: ACTIVITY INDICATORS remain on track



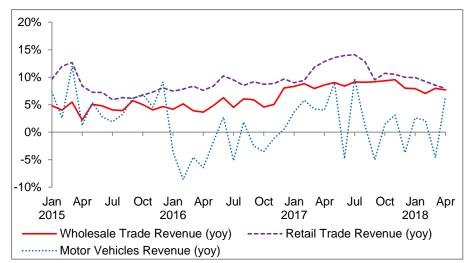
Trade surplus surged in March and April, backed by stronger exports



Manufacturing sales still on positive growth track



Retail sales growth have been moderating



Source: DOS, Malaysia



Malaysia economy in TRANSITION



MAINTAIN POSITIVE GROWTH MOMENTUM. SERC revises this year's GDP growth estimates to 5.2% from 5.5% previously, underpinned by sustained domestic demand and exports, albeit negative sentiment risks from the trade tariffs battle and damaging market volatility.



EXPORTS are expected to rise at a moderate pace (2018E: 6.5% vs. 18.9% in 2017). In Jan-May, exports up 6.9% yoy, with the drivers coming from electronics and electrical products as well as higher crude oil prices.



PRIVATE CONSUMPTION (2018E: 6.9% vs. 7.0% in 2017), thanks to cost of living allowance, stabilized fuel prices, zerorised GST and personal income tax rate cut. The introduction of SST on 1 Sep is expected to take some heat off consumer spending.



PRIVATE INVESTMENT growth had a very subdue start of 0.5% yoy in 1Q18 on lingering uncertainty ahead of the General Election 14, will likely to pace cautiously given the political and new government's policies transition as well as external headwinds. But, **GOOD GOVERNANCE** and **TRANSPARENCY** will enhance investment prospects over the medium-term.



AUSTERITY can unleash CONFIDENCE

- Committed to deliver its fiscal plan; put **DEFICIT AND PUBLIC DEBT** firmly on a downward path.
- EXPENDITURE RATIONALIZATION and DEBT CONTAINMENT: to achieve macroeconomic stability and fiscal sustainability; to create fiscal space for future shocks; to increase expenditure allocative efficiency by scaling back; rescheduling or reforming government activities.
 - a) Reform of **PUBLIC PROCUREMENT** transparent and competitive open tender to reduce corruption and save cost
 - b) Public spending should focus more on **ESSENTIAL AND CRITICAL**. If financial condition permits, the deferment of planned infrastructure projects can be revived but relooking the cost
 - c) Rationalizing LOCAL AND STATE-OWNED ENTERPRISES INVESTMENT to avoid duplication
 - d) A critical review and assessment of the **EFFECTIVENESS** of various social safety net and welfare assistance programs
 - e) **RIGHT-SIZING** and **RAISING PRODUCTIVITY** of public delivery services
 - f) OUT-SOURCING or privatization but should be evaluated under Good Regulatory Practice Guidelines





AUSTERITY can unleash CONFIDENCE (cont.)

- □ If plans for fiscal and debt consolidation are **CREDIBLE AND INVOLVE STRUCTURAL REFORMS**, there is every chance growth can resume even as cuts or rationalization of public spending take hold.
- □ The fiscal condition that we are in now is **NOT ABOUT ACUTE AUSTERITY** in spending but **MORE OF RATIONALIZING OR REPRIORITIZING** the capital expenditure and operating spending.
- □ COST SAVINGS AND EXPENDITURE EFFICIENCY derived from the value for money projects mean wider economic and multiplier impact on the economy, rakyat and businesses.
- **SPENDING SPLURGES** reduce growth and austerity drives raise growth.
- □ A **DISCIPLINED AND FINANCIALLY PRUDENCE** government not only impacts positively on private sector's expectations but also unleashes confidence.
- A LEAN AND GOOD GOVERNING government with SOUND FISCAL CONDITIONS strengthen confidence as the private sector expects lower future taxes. This works to raise disposable income and boost asset values, which become the engine for a sustainable economic and investment expansion.





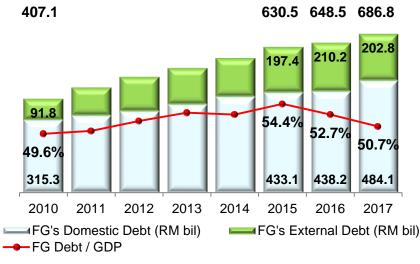
Policy advocacy: FIVE-PRONGED policy agenda

- Malaysians' desire of having a national development agenda which promises CLEAN, FAIR, TOLERANCE AND MUTUAL RESPECT SOCIETY, VISIONARY AND DECISIVE LEADERSHIP, GOOD GOVERNANCE AND WELL-CRAFTED CREDIBLE ECONOMIC POLICIES AND INCLUSIVE SOCIOECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS.
- Malaysia must reset and build on the people trust with ACCOUNTABILITY, TRANSPARENCY AND GOOD GOVERNANCE.
- □ SUCCESSFUL ECONOMIC REFORMS must result in strengthening and securing higher quality economic growth, driving higher investment, and boosting productivity. There must be a balancing act between unpopular, radical yet sustainable public policies and populist approaches, weighing on the Government's budget capacity and fiscal conditions.
- ❑ What is crucial is that MEANINGFUL ENGAGING THE PUBLIC AND STAKEHOLDERS is an important part of an effective, open, and transparent government in the formulation of policy priorities, programs and services for Malaysians.
- A five-pronged agenda outlined below suggests an immediate actionable agenda for the Government to help ACHIEVE GROWTH AND EFFICIENCY as well as INCREASE NATIONAL INCOME by leveraging the capabilities, innovation, and productivity.



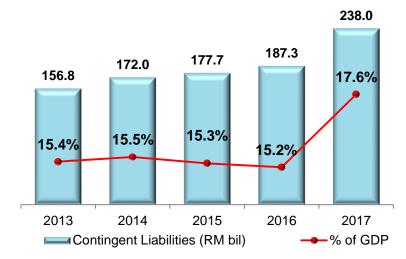


- FISCAL DISCIPLINE must be upheld and the government debt, including contingent liabilities must be CONTROLLED AND REDUCED over-time to achieve fiscal and debt stability.
- EFFICIENCY in the use of public resources must be improved; WASTAGE AND LEAKAGE must be plugged; CORRUPT PRACTICES must be weeded out; CHRONIC RENT SEEKING AND PATRONAGE must be curbed.



Federal government (FG) debt to GDP ratio





RM billion

Source: BNM

RM billion





IMPROVE BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT FOR INVESTMENT

- Create the necessary conditions for sustainable investment growth to restore **INVESTOR CONFIDENCE AND ADDRESS COMPETITIVENESS**.
- EVALUATE AND STREAMLINE EXISTING PROCESSES AND PROCEDURES in taxation and business regulatory compliance, remove duplication, complex documentation and ensure alignment with international best practices.
- EVALUATE READINESS FOR IMPLEMENTATION before introduction of new compliance requirements; time-based approvals; coordination between ministries and agencies to ensure a consistent and reliable decision-making process.

(E	ing Business ODB) Il Ranking	Starting a business	Getting credit	Protecting minority investors	Trading across borders
2013	12 🕇	54 🗸	1 =	4 =	11 1
2014	6 1	16 🕇	1 =	4 =	5 1
2015	18 🗸	13 1	23 🗸	5 🗸	11↓
2016	18 =	14↓	28 🗸	4 1	49↓
2017	23 🗸	112 🗸	20 1	3↑	60 🗸
2018	24 🗸	111 1	20 =	4↓	61↓

Source: World Bank

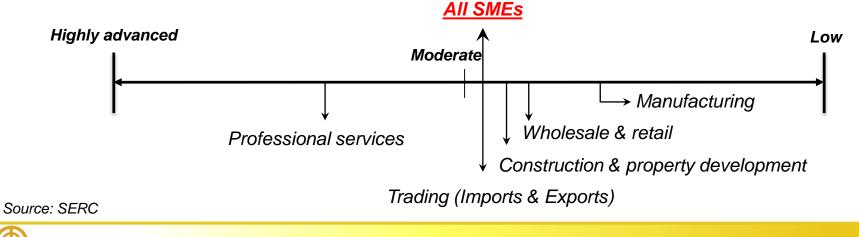


Compared EODB 2016 and 2018:

- Number of procedures and days to start a business increased from 3 procedures and 4 days in 2016 to 8.5 procedures and 18.5 days in 2018.
- Border compliance: 2016: 20 hrs for exports and 24 hrs for imports. 2018: 45 hrs for exports and 69 hrs for imports.

POLICIES TO CATALYSE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION 4.0 (IR 4.0) & DIGITAL ECONOMY

- **OUTREACH AND ACCESS TO NEW TEHCHNOLOGY** can be multiplied manifold by extensive use of ICT, including improving quality of curriculum and schooling experience.
- Bring in transparency, standardisation across all Government agencies and encourage participation of IT SMEs in government contracts with special emphasis on INNOVATIVE AND MOBILE-BASED SOLUTIONS.
- Establish a Joint Government-Industry body to develop DESIGN-LED MANUFACTURING PROGRAM with ICT-enabled design skills in focus; leveraging on technology creation/ absorption and acquiring critical technologies.
- Encourage **DOMESTIC ICT ADOPTION** in the private sector by revisiting provisions of investment allowance.





- Business transaction costs and cost of doing business (direct and indirect) must be kept **REASONABLE AND COMPETITIVE** as well as at ease through removing the constraints in hard and soft infrastructure, including the binding regulatory and layering as well as unnecessary compliance costs.
- A critical anchor of successful industrial development policy is to focus on growing the industries and sectors that conform to our **LATENT COMPARATIVE ADVANTAGES** to counteract dynamic competitive and comparative advantages of our competitors.
- The IDENTIFIED SECTORS include the downstream resource-based manufacturing activities, service sector, e-commerce, digitalized business and the environmental sector. New service industries that have emerged and are growing rapidly are in the areas of Fintech-finance, ICT, logistics, e-commerce, sharing economy, healthcare, higher education, tourism, hospitality and the Halal market not just in food, but in pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, and many more.
- **EXPORTS CAPACITY** in terms of products' differentiation and markets diversification should be further enhanced.





- Move away from a centrally-driven system to one of EMPLOYER OWNERSHIP OF SKILLS, with greater employer and employee input into the design and delivery of the manpower system. Skills development is the SHARED RESPONSIBILITY of government, employers and workers.
- Creating a local market for skills where providers are **INCENTIVISED** to meet employer and learner demand.
- LINKING SKILLS with employment opportunities and DECENT COMPENSATION is critical, and skills need to be an integral part of economic growth and employment strategies as well as productivity enhancement.
- EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES for education and training.
- **REVAMPING** of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) to improve the calibre of workforce; develop skill standards and curriculum. Three skills that are relevant in IR 4.0: learning skills (self directed learning, cross discipline, digital skills); thinking skills (creative, resilience, inquisitive, problem solving); and soft skills (ethics, communication).



BROADENING base of output expansion

• Strong growth momentum; broad-based growth; resilient private sector activity

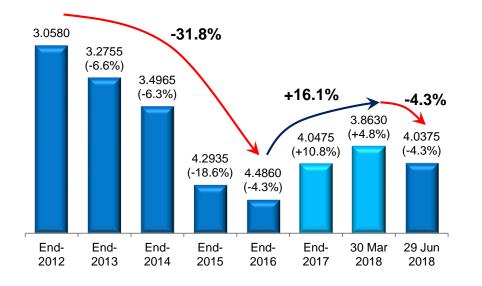
% change, 2010=100	2016	2017	2018 Q1	2018 <i>f</i> (BNM)	2018 <i>f</i> (SERC)
GDP by demand component					
Private consumption (53.7%)	6.0	7.0	6.9	7.2	6.9
Private investment (17.4%)	4.3	9.3	0.5	9.1	3.0
Public consumption (13.0%)	0.9	5.4	0.4	0.6	1.0
Public investment (8.0%)	-0.5	0.1	-1.0	-3.2	-1.5
Exports of goods and services (72.8%)	1.3	9.4	3.7	8.8	5.9
Imports of goods and services (65.1%)	1.3	10.9	-2.0	9.1	3.9
GDP by economic sector					
Agriculture (8.2%)	-5.2	7.2	2.8	3.6	2.4
Mining & quarrying (8.4%)	2.2	1.0	0.1	1.8	0.8
Manufacturing (23.0%)	4.4	6.0	5.3	5.9	5.1
Construction (4.6%)	7.4	6.7	4.9	7.3	6.0
Services (54.5%)	5.7	6.2	6.5	6.1	6.3
Overall GDP	4.2	5.9	5.4	5.5-6.0	5.2

Figure in parenthesis indicates % share to GDP in 2017 Source: DOS, Malaysia; BNM; SERC

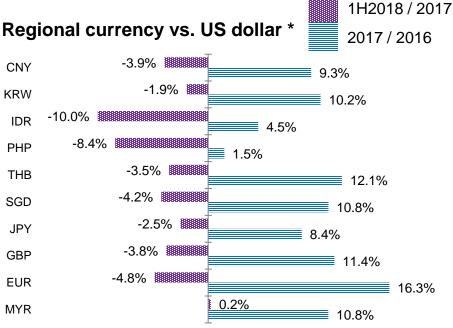


The ringgit is UNDER PRESSURE

- Post the 14th General Election's political and policies transition; net selling of domestic equities and bonds; surging U.S. Treasury yields; the expectation of further US interest rate hikes; fears of contagion risk in emerging markets and a revived strength of the dollar would weigh on the ringgit.
- What could provide **A COUNTERACT STRENGTH** to support the ringgit are strong fundamentals, the clarity of policies, the fiscal and debt path and the affirmation of Malaysia's sovereign ratings.



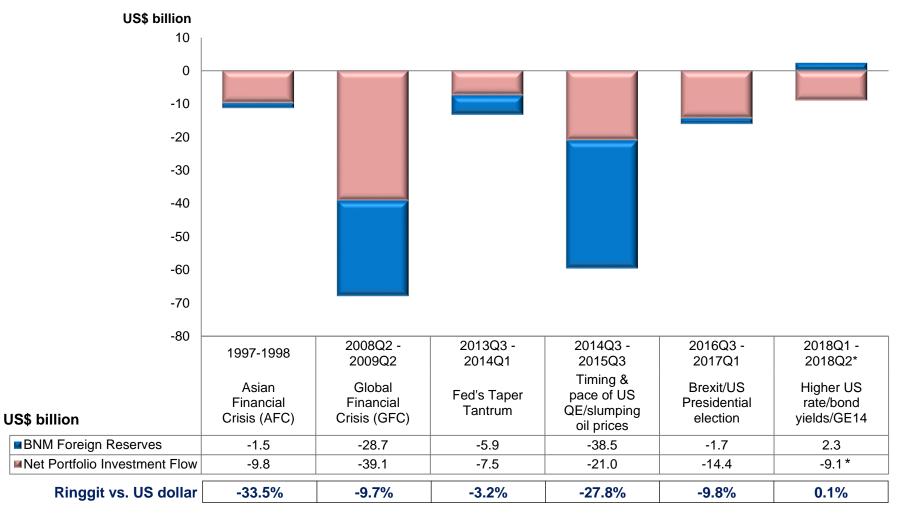
Ringgit movement against USD



* Calculation based on cross-rate

Source: BNM (end-period rate at 17:00)

Malaysia has experienced SIZEABLE capital reversals



* Foreigners' net selling of equities and debt securities for 2Q18

Source: BNM





谢谢 THANK YOU

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