



Overview of the Philippines' Action Plan for AEC 2015

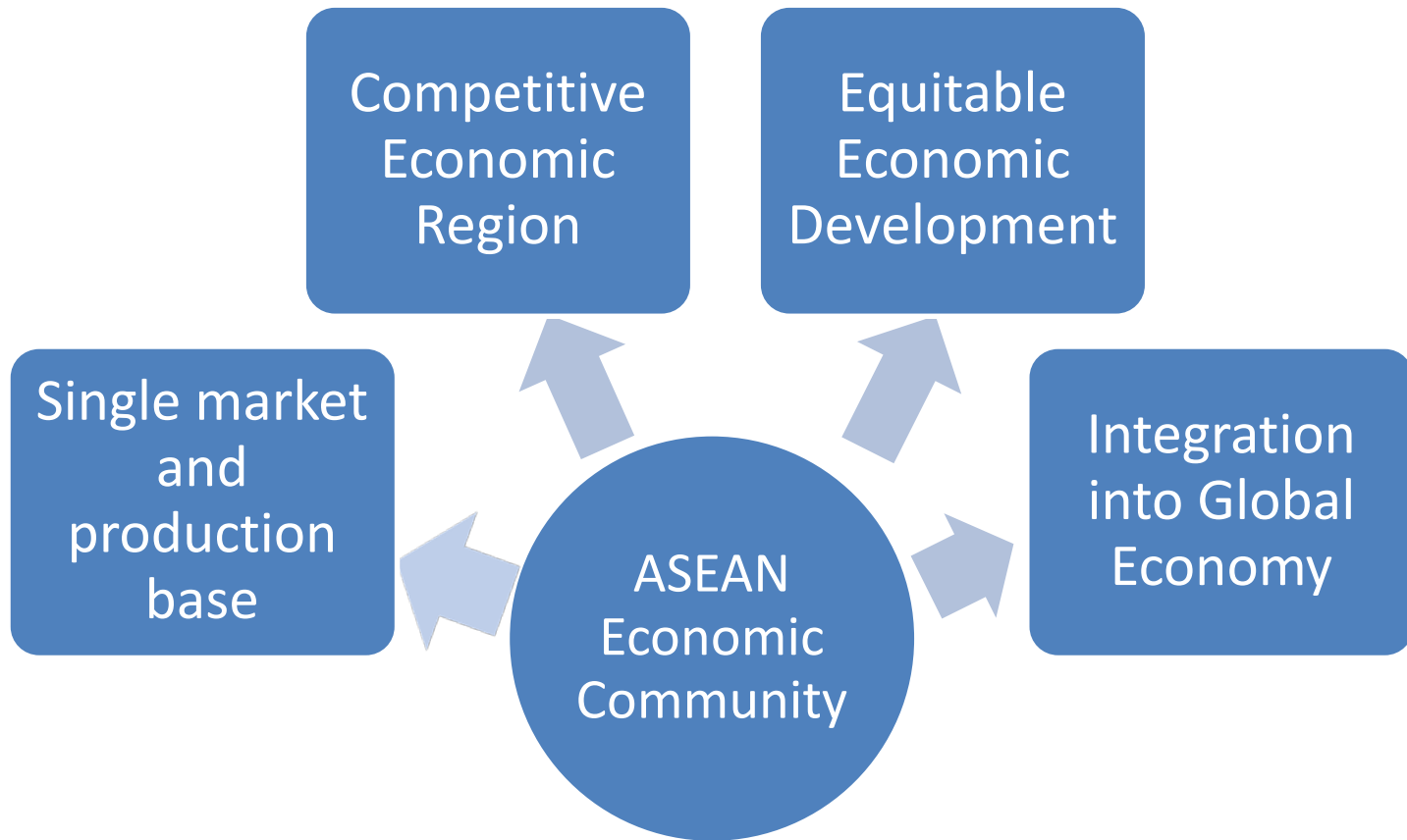
Emmanuel F. Esguerra
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Marriot Hotel , Newport City
8 October 2014

Outline

- **AEC 2015 and the Philippine economy**
- **Inclusive growth and the jobs challenge**
- **Philippines' action plan for AEC 2015**

ASEAN Economic Community 2015



AEC and the Philippine Economy

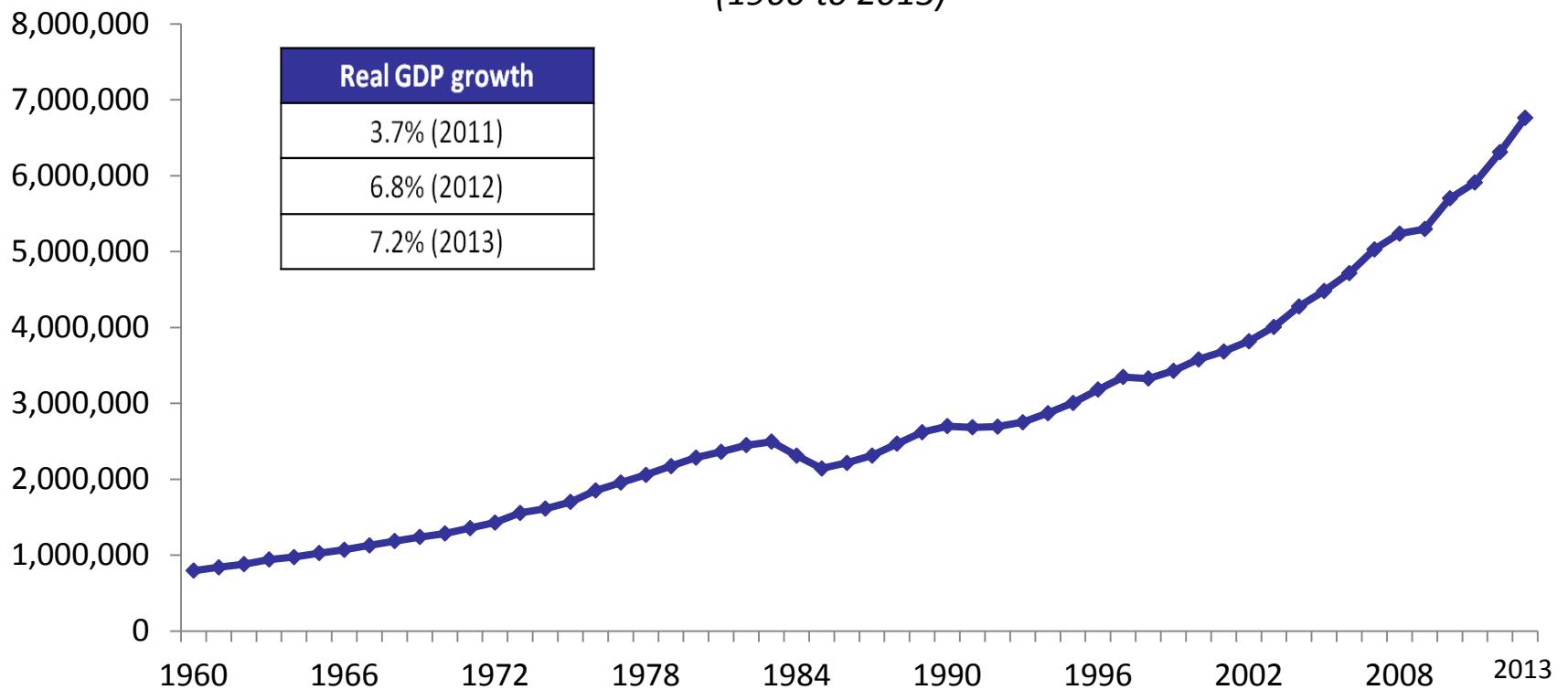
Philippines is strongly positioned for AEC

- ✓ Robust economic growth despite natural disasters
- ✓ Sound macroeconomic fundamentals (inflation, interest rates, fiscal and external)
- ✓ High level of confidence from international community

The Philippine economy has been growing robustly

Philippine Real GDP at 2000 Prices (Millions Php)

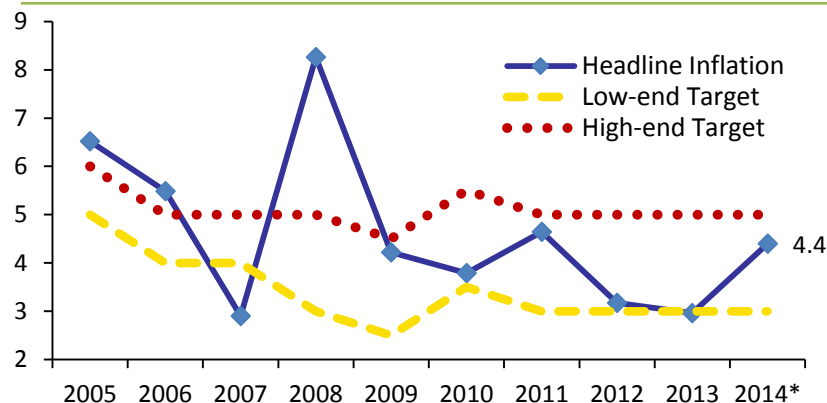
(1960 to 2013)



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority and National Economic and Development Authority

Robust growth continues to be supported by sound macroeconomic fundamentals

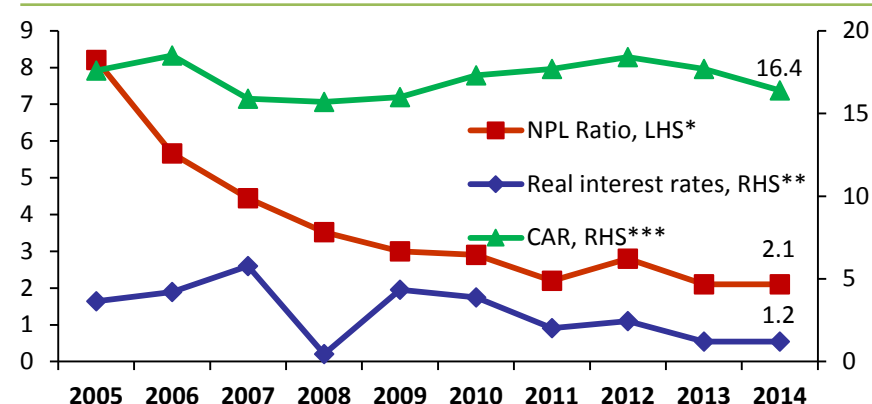
Low and stable inflation (in percent)



Note: Actual inflation figures are based on the 2006 CPI series.

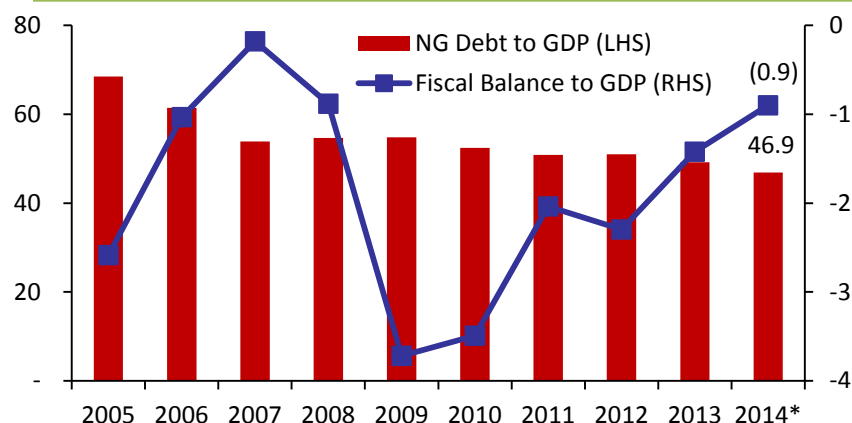
*Jan - Aug 2014

Favorable interest rate and stable banking system (in percent)

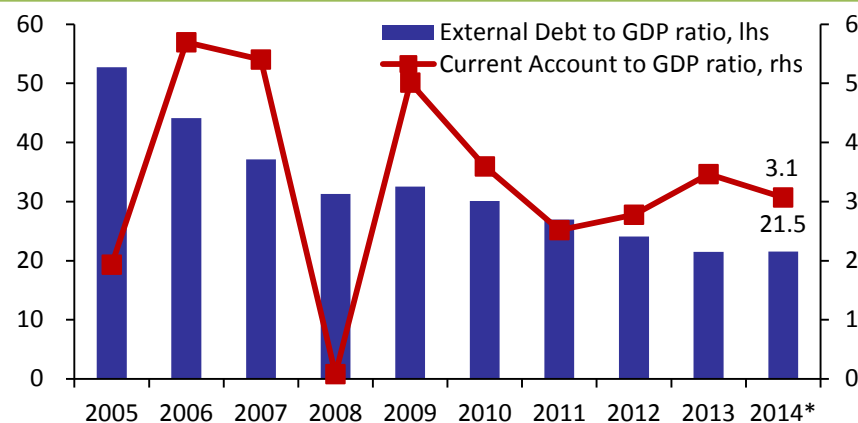


* as of May 2014 ** Jan - Jun 2014 *** end of Mar 2014

Sustainable fiscal and external position (in percent)



* end Jun 2014



*Jan - Mar 2014

The country enjoys an unprecedented level of confidence among international business community

Long-Term Sovereign Credit Rating has greatly improved

 Baa3 Outlook: Positive <i>As of October 3, 2013</i>	 BBB Outlook: Stable <i>As of May 8, 2014</i>	 BBB- Outlook: Stable <i>As of March 27, 2013</i>
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Achieved great strides in Ease of Doing Business Rankings, 2009-2014

COUNTRY	2014 (189 economies)	2013 (185 economies)	2012 (183 economies)	2011 (183 economies)	2010 (183 economies)	2009 (181 economies)
Philippines	108	133	136	134	144	141

Source: Doing Business Report, World Bank and International Finance Corporation

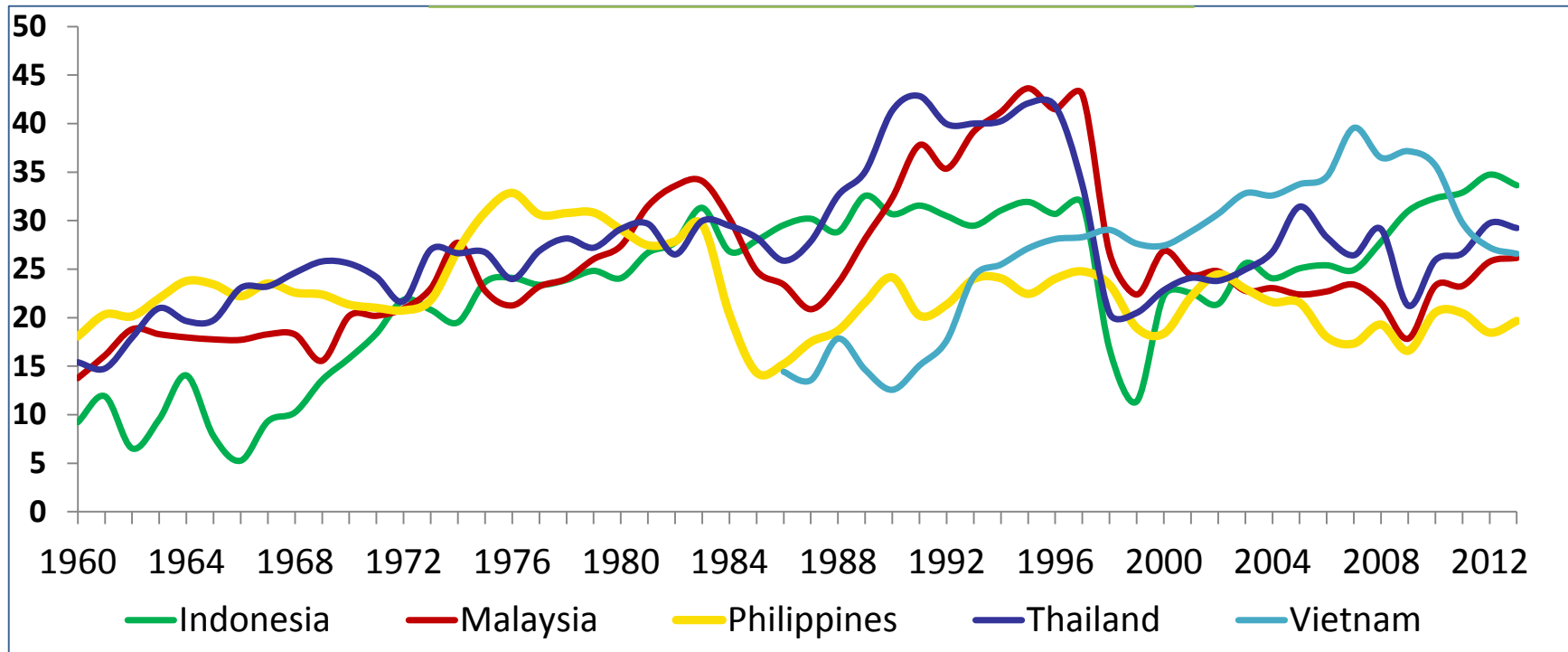
Global Competitiveness Ranking, 2009-2015

COUNTRY	2014-2015	2013-14	2012-13	2011-12	2010-11	2009-10
Philippines	52	59	65	75	85	87

Source: The Global Competitiveness Report, World Economic Forum

Amid the gains, the Philippines still needs to address key areas in investments and capital formation...

Share of Gross Capital Formation to GDP



Source: World Development Indicators, World Bank (accessed 03 Sept. 2014)

Inclusive growth & the jobs challenge

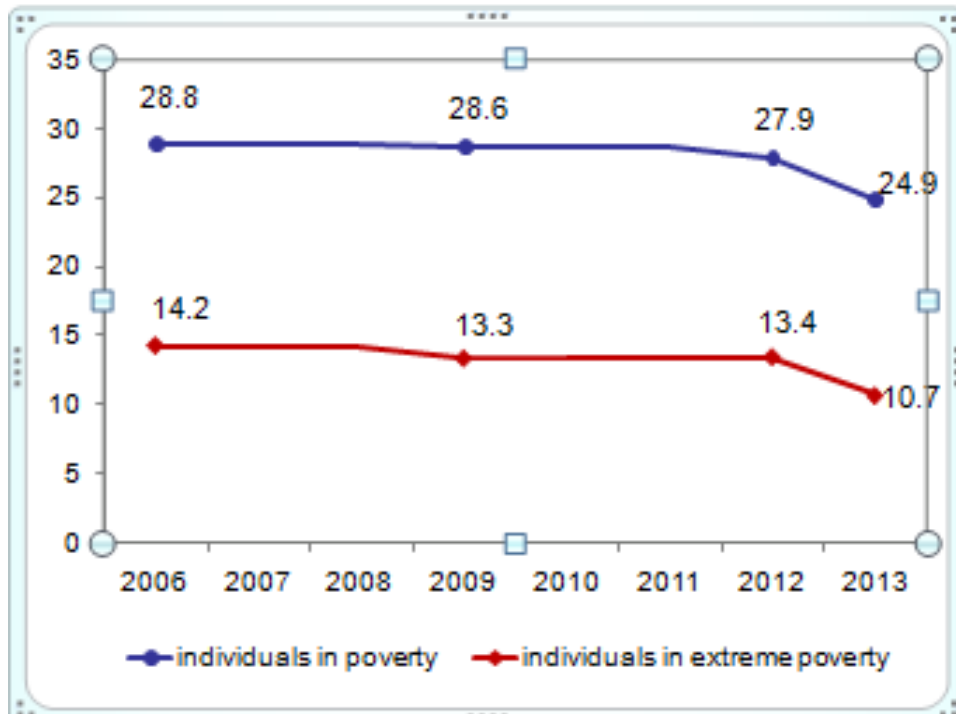
Employment is improving but we need to do more...

Indicator	Ave 2010	Ave 2012	Ave 2013	July 2013*	July 2014*
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	64.1	64.2	63.9	63.9	64.4
Employment Level ('000)	36,035	37,600	38,118	37,390	38,451
Wage and Salary Workers (% to total employment)	54.5	57.2	58.1	58.3	58.4
Unemployment Level ('000)	2,859	2,826	2,905	2,961	2,778
Unemployment Rate (%)	7.3	7.0	7.1	7.3	6.7
Underemployment Level ('000)	6,762	7,514	7,371	7,169	7,050
Underemployment Rate (%)	18.8	20.0	19.3	19.2	18.3

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

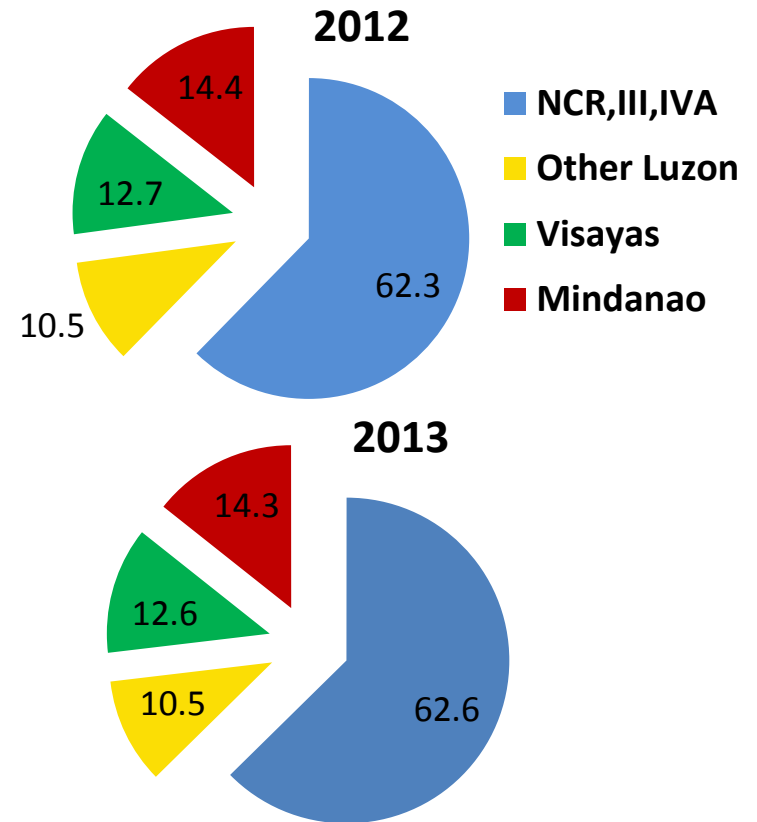
... to reduce poverty and achieve inclusivity

Poverty Statistics, First Semester (%)



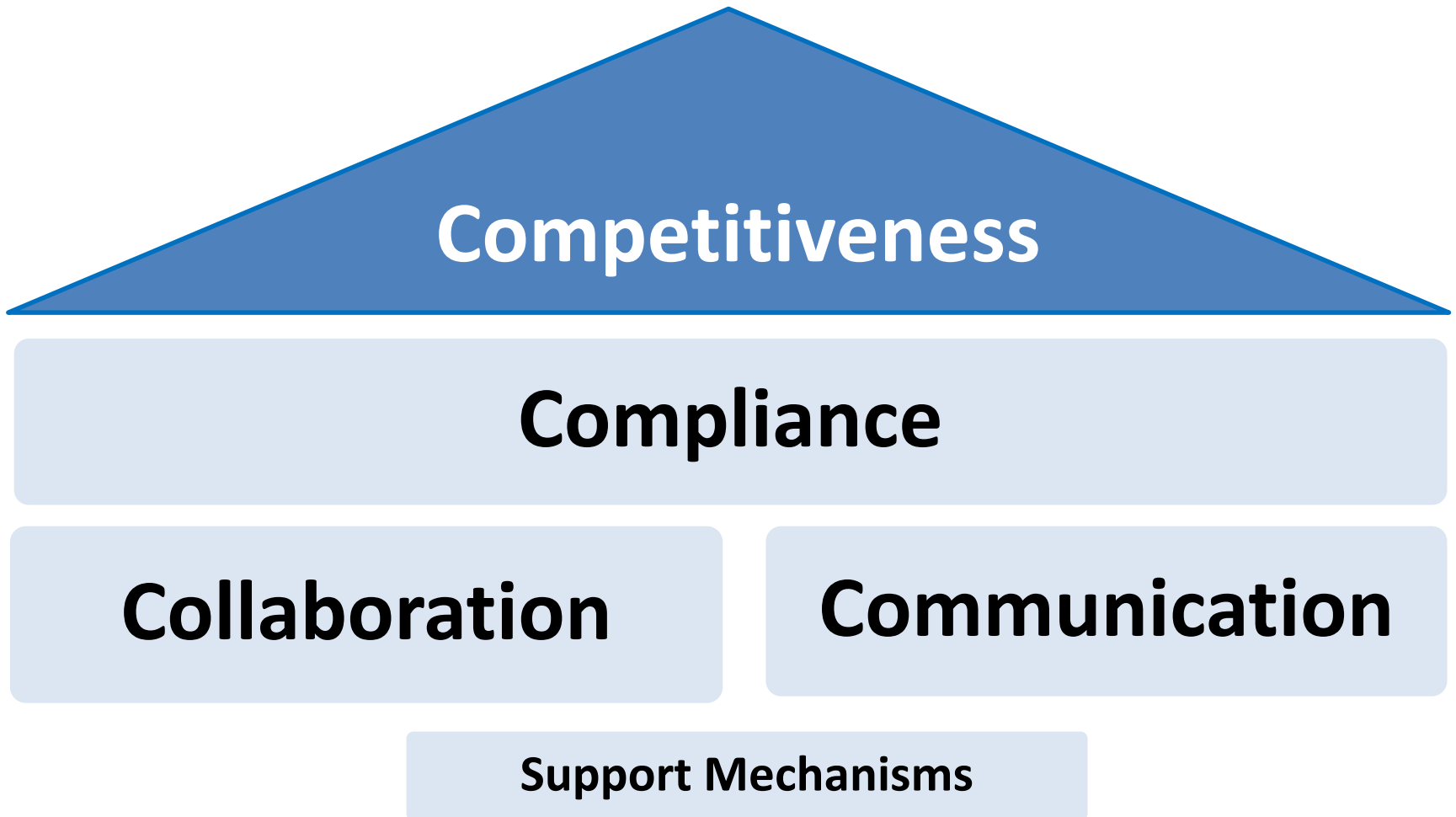
Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

Share of NCR, III and IV-A to Annual GDP (%)





Philippines' Game Plan: 4C Strategy



Strategy 1: Enhance Competitiveness

To address inclusivity and support higher growth...

**Building credible
and effective
institutions**

- Continue intensifying governance, institutional reforms
- Ensure policy consistency and predictability
- Enhance regulatory efficiency
- Industrial Peace

**Accelerating
infrastructure
development**

- Focus investment in connective infrastructure, on most promising places
- Streamline processes

**Equalizing
development
opportunities**

- Invest in human capital

Resources will be focused on strategic industry and service sectors

Growth sectors	Strategic plans and roadmaps
Manufacturing	■ Manufacturing Resurgence Program ■ Comprehensive National Industrial Strategy based on agriculture, industry and services roadmap
Agro-industry	■ Programs to increase linkage between Agriculture and Industry and Services (e.g. Integrated Coconut Industry and Poverty Reduction Roadmap)
Tourism	■ Tourism Development Program ■ Tourism cluster destinations
IT-BPM	■ Next Wave Cities ■ IT-BPM Roadmap (inc. Developing high value services)
Logistics	■ National Logistics Plan
Construction	■ Core Infrastructure Investment Program

Comparative Advantage Areas

- **Pool of skilled workers. Move up the value chain by greater use of high quality services**
- **Current Revealed Comparative Advantage:**
 - ✓ IT-BPM, business services
- **Potential Comparative Advantage on:**
 - ✓ Creative/knowledge-based services; medical tourism; tourism and travel related; Educational hub, recreational, cultural and sporting; aircraft maintenance, repair & overhaul; ship repair; construction and engineering

Source: Asec. Aldaba, RTD on Services, 18 Sept. 2014

Moving forward

- **Finalize Comprehensive National Industrial Strategy**
- **Remove investment restrictions cited in the Foreign Investment Negative List**
- **Address supply chain gaps**
- **Increase value-added of exports**
 - Make education/skills more industry-appropriate
 - Strengthen manufacturing-related services
 - Promote Philippines as a preferred tourist and IT-BPM destination (esp. for high-value services)

Strategy 2: Comply with commitments

AEC Scorecard 2008-2013

Country	Implemented Measures	Not Implemented Measures	Total Measures	Implementation Rate
Brunei	362	68	430	84.2%
Cambodia	361	71	432	83.6%
Indonesia	355	76	431	82.4%
Lao PDR	350	78	428	81.8%
Malaysia	366	70	436	83.9%
Myanmar	351	78	429	81.8%
Philippines	365	69	434	84.1%
Singapore	364	62	426	85.4%
Thailand	369	64	433	85.2%
Vietnam	366	67	433	84.5%

Strategy 3: Promote Collaboration

- **Coordinate with government agencies and other stakeholders (private/academe/NGOs)**
 - **Government to Government**
 - **Government to Business**
 - **Government to Academe**
 - **National government to local government**

Strategy 4: Intensify Communication

- **Intensify interface with stakeholders through Doing Business in Free Trade Areas, etc.**
- **Conduct briefings for government, business, academe and other non-government organizations**



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