Kiribati: Development Performance & Challenges
Outline

- Development performance
- Key policy reforms
- Development challenges
Development performance
Kiribati Growth Performance

Figure 1: Real growth & per capita

Figure 2: GDP per capita vs South Pacific

Source: Kiribati National Statistics Office

Source: World Bank
Prices

Figure 3: Annual Inflation Rates, 2007-13

Figure 4: World prices of Rice, 2006-13
Employment

- 31% Unemployment
- Youth unemployment is severe (54% in 2010)
- 65,784 working age in 2010. Only 4 out of 10 people aged 15 & over were employed in either paid or unpaid work
- 22% of paid workers in 2010 were in the private sector and 34% in public sector
**Trade**

**Figure 6:** Exports and Imports, Kiribati, 2002-12

![Bar chart showing exports and imports from 2002 to 2012.](Image)

- **Source:** Kiribati Statistics Office

**Figure 7:** Seamen’s Remittances, 1999 to 2013

![Bar chart showing seamen’s remittances from 1999 to 2013.](Image)

- **Source:** SPMS
Finance

Figure 8: Recurrent Revenue and Expenditures (A$m)

Figure 9: Sovereign Wealth Fund (RERF) value (A$m)
Selected Health Indicators

Figure 10: Infant and Under 5 Mortality Rates, Kiribati

Figure 11: Maternal Mortality Ratio, Kiribati, 1991 – 2012
Selected Health Indicators

Figure 12: Incidence of TB and Treatment Success Rate, Kiribati, 1990-2012

Figure 13: Incidence of Diabetes, Kiribati, 2002-12
Selected Education Indicators

Figure 14: Net enrolment rates for females and males, Primary School, Kiribati, 2006-12

Figure 15: Proportion of female and male students starting year 1 and reaching year 5, Kiribati, 2006-12

Source: Ministry of Education
Key policy reforms
Policy reforms

• Expanding and diversifying the government revenue base
• Implementing a new tax regime & modernising tax system
• Improving public finance management system
• Improving government fiscal position through SOE reform program
• Accelerating private sector development (including the creation of conducive environment for public private partnerships in ecotourism, in country fish processing and sea-bed exploration/research)
Policy reforms (cont’d)

• Reviewing vocational training and tailoring courses to internal and external labour markets
• Improving livelihoods through effective implementation of subsidies – copra, seaweed
• Enhancing food security and sustainable livelihood through adequate support to the small scale artisanal fishermen and processing of value added fish products
• Adopting an Education Partners in Kiribati (EPiK) strategy to manage partner’s support for achievement of national goals for education
Major development challenges
Major development challenges

• Achieving sustainable growth and addressing the severe youth unemployment issue
• Achieving fiscal sustainability and improving efficacy of public institutions
• Addressing the high population growth rate and high population concentration in urban South Tarawa
• Short of achieving most of the MDG targets
Some thoughts in accelerating development performance!!

• Accelerate implementation of existing reform programs
• Redirecting investments toward productive sectors
• Deepen engagement with all development stakeholders
• Explore new ways of doing business for public institutions