

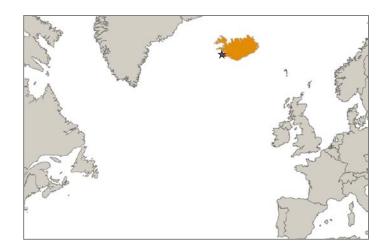
MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

# ICELANDIC ECONOMIC SITUATION OVERVIEW

March 2015

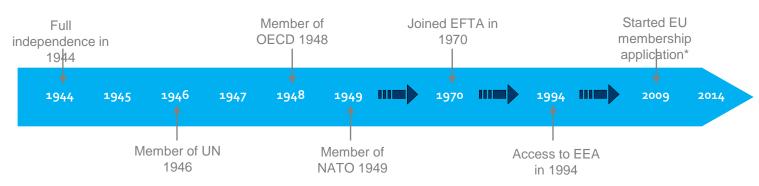
### ICELAND AT A GLANCE

State and Government	Republic, written constitution, parliamentary form of government Coalition: Independence Party and Progressive Party, formed in May 2013 Parliament: Althingi established in 930, currently 63 members
Capital	Reykjavik
Population	329,040 as of 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter 2014 (Source: Statistics Iceland)
Currency	Icelandic Krona (ISK) February '15 monthly average (source CBI) USD = ISK 132 EUR = ISK 150
GDP per capita	USD 45,137 in 2013 (Source: Statistics Iceland)
Long term credit ratings	Moody's: Baa3 / Stable S&P: BBB- / Positive Fitch: BBB / Positive



Location	Northern Europe Flying time: 5.5 and 3 hours from New York and London respectively
Area	103,000 km²/ 39,756 sq. miles

### **Political Milestones**

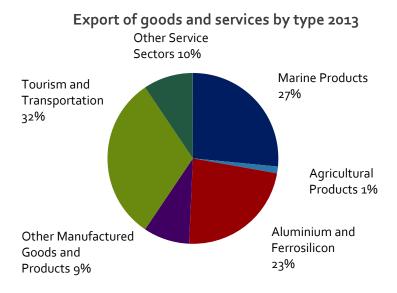


\*Membership application put on hold in June 2013

# THE ICELANDIC ECONOMY

### Facts

- Iceland is emerging steadily from a recession caused by the 2008 collapse of its economy and banking system
- Inflation (2014): 2%
- GDP growth (2014): 1,9%
- Unemployment (2014): 3,6%
- Life expectancy (2012): Men: 81,6, women: 84,3



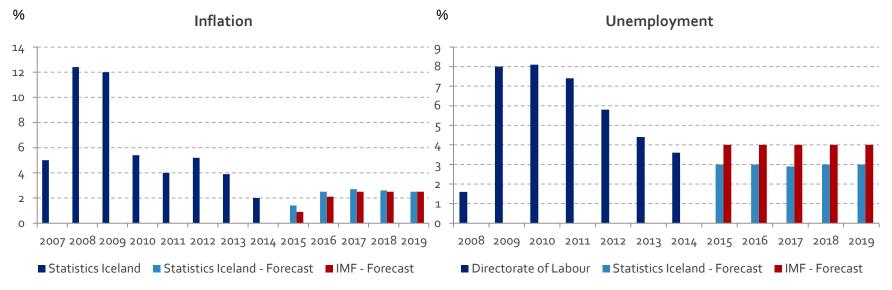


#### GDP per capita, USD PPP

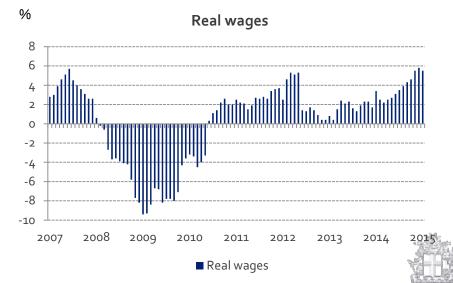




# WITH LOW UNEMPLOYMENT AND STRONG EXPORT SECTOR...



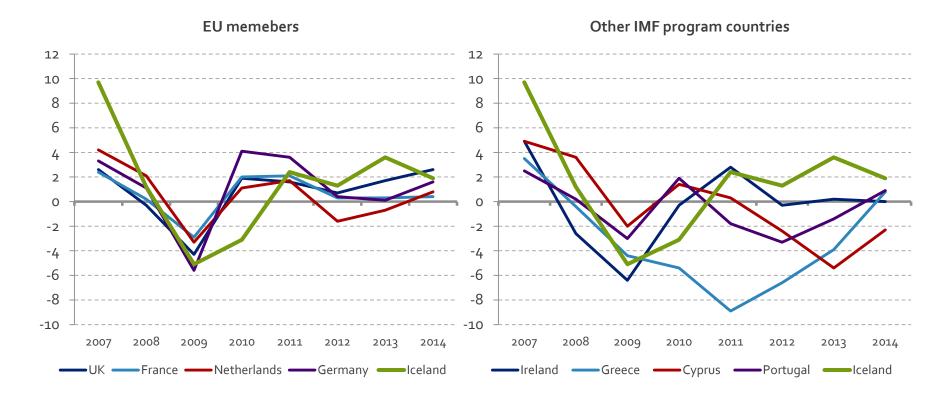
Index, 2008=100 Exports 160 140 120 100 80 60 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 Goods and services export Service exports GDP



Imports

### ICELAND IS RECOVERING FASTER THAN OTHERS...

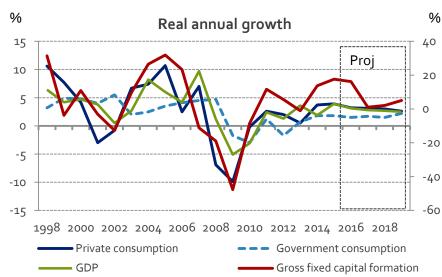
### Real GDP growth - volume

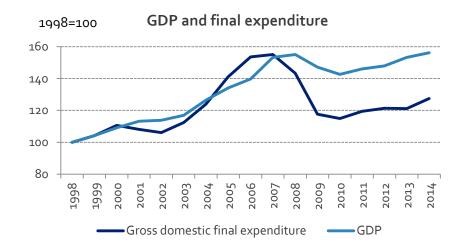


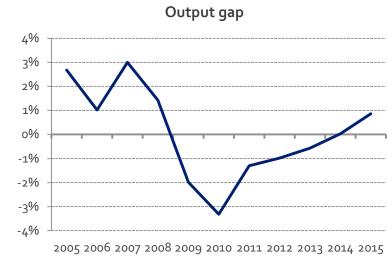


# STRONG GROWTH CLOSES THE OUTPUT GAP...

- GDP grew by 1,9% in 2014, year on year (3.6% growth in 2013)
- The growth is mainly driven by a large increase in the gross domestic final expenditure (5.3%)
- Growth prospects are good with average around 3%
- Private consumption has been growing steadily since 2011. Last year it grew by 3.7%
- Investment, which is quite volatile, grew by 13.7% in 2014

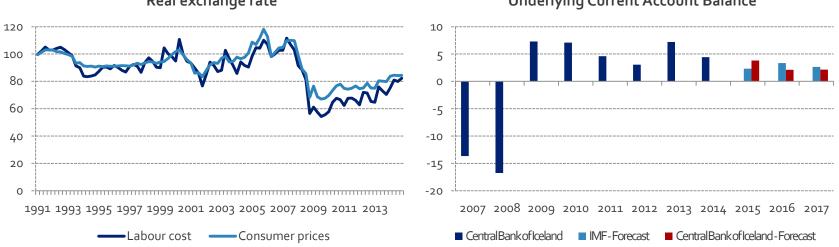






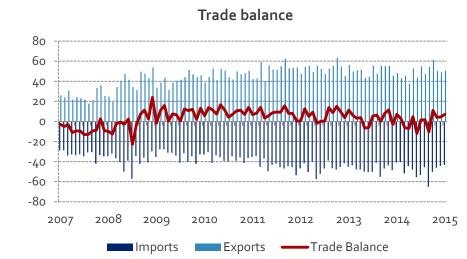


### AND FALL IN EXCHANGE RATE HAS TRIGGERED CURRENT ACCOUNT TURNAROUND

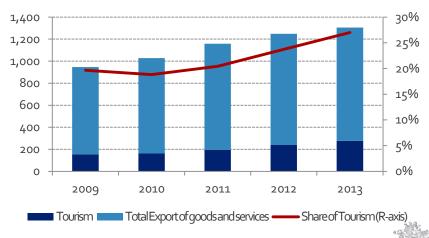


Real exchange rate

**Underlying Current Account Balance** 



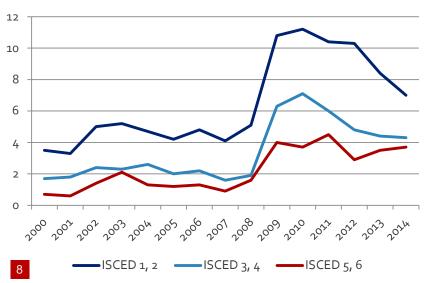


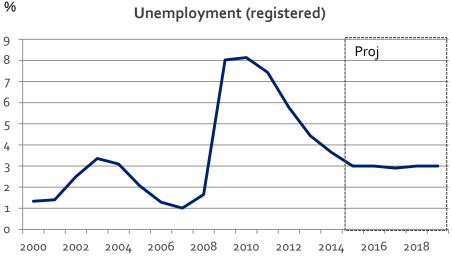


# LABOUR MARKET HAS RECOVERED

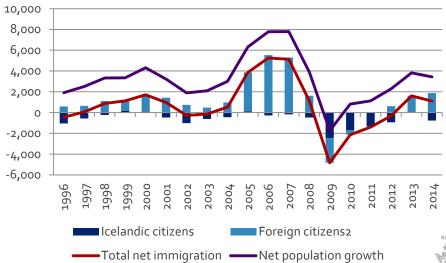
- Registered unemployment was 3.6% in 2014. It is projected to be around 3% until 2019
- Unemployment was around 8% in 2009 and 2010
- Unemployment has decreased fastest among the least educated (ISCED 1,2) but increased recently for those with tertiary education (ISCED 5,6)
- Net immigration fell in 2009 and 2010 but has since then picked up

Unemployment by education

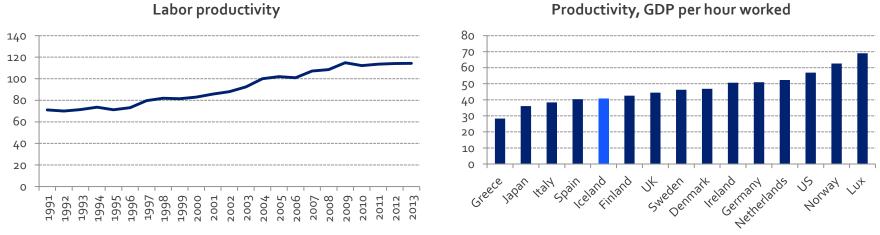






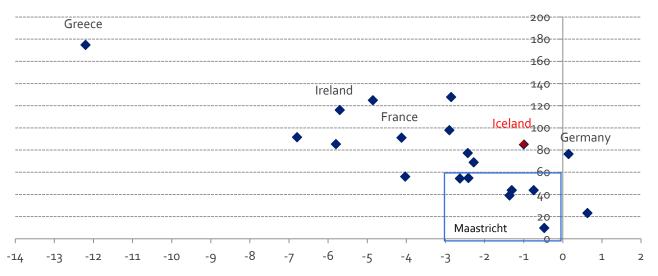


### AND PRODUCTIVITY IS STABLE



#### Productivity, GDP per hour worked

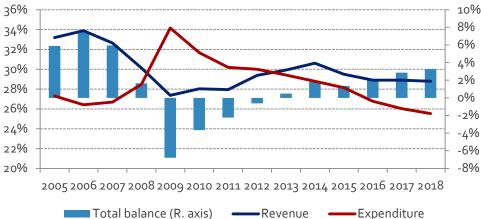
#### General government debt and deficit, %GDP



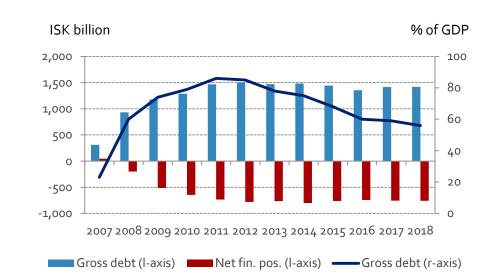


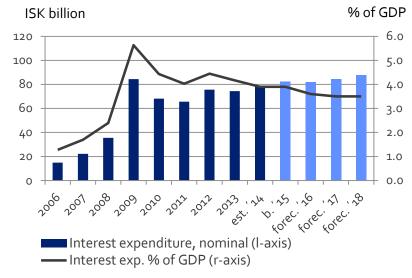
# **BUT CHALLENGES REMAIN**

- The overriding objective of the fiscal plan has been to achieve a substantial surplus in the primary balance to counteract the deficit in the interest balance and produce a surplus in the overall balance of the Treasury
- Interest expenditure is a significant burden for 24% the Treasury 22%
- One of the main challenges is to reduce total debt in the coming years



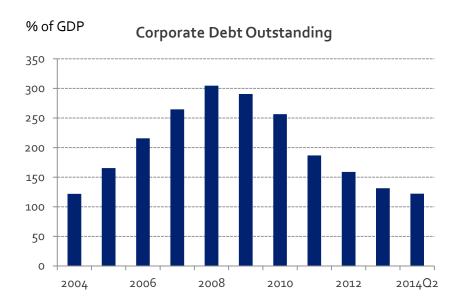
#### Total Balance (excl. Irregular items)





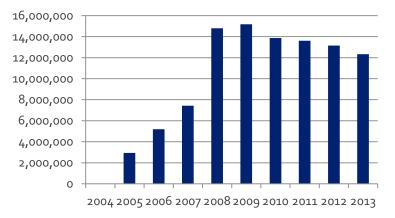


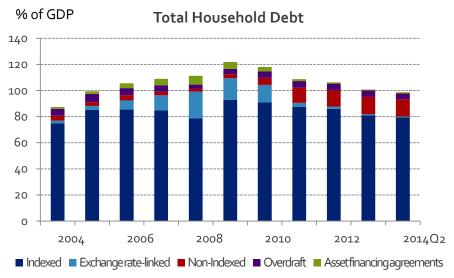
# WITH HIGH DEBT LEVELS

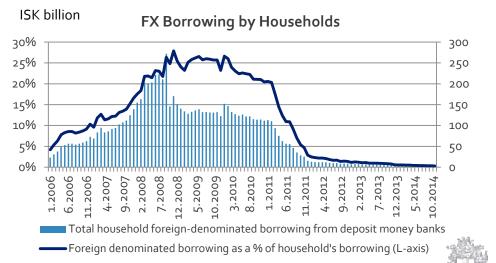


ISK million Total Exte

Total External Debt





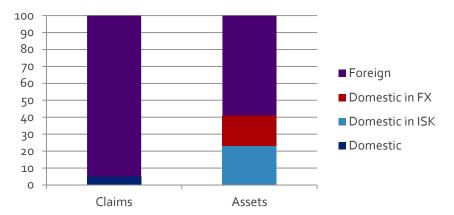


# AND CAPITAL CONTROLS NEED TO BE LIFTED

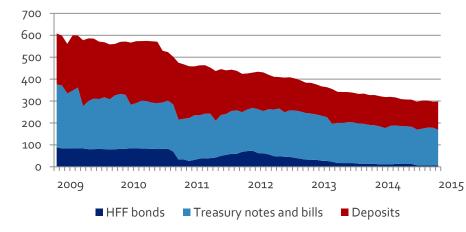
Conditioned based removal of controls:

- macroeconomic developments
- potential balance of payments and foreign exchange effects
- financial stability

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#### Estimated domestic/foreign breakdown of assets and claims of DMBs in winding-up proceedings



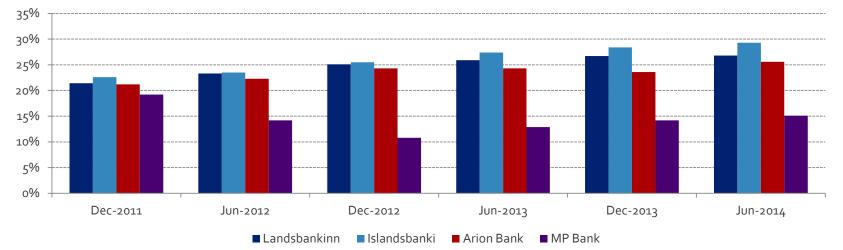
Off shore ISK

Authorities have expressed preference for:

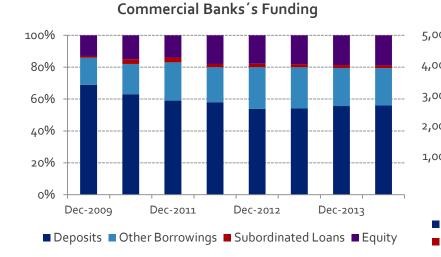
- simplicity over complexity
- time efficiency for liberalization for the real economy
- minimizing legal risks
- finality of the crisis related legacies



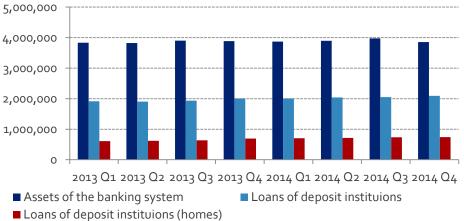
### BUT ICELAND'S BANKS ARE ON A RIGHT TRACK



#### **Commercial Banks' Capital Adequacy Ratios**

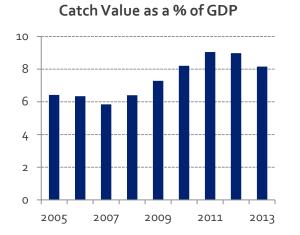


Loans and assets of the banking system (ISK millions)

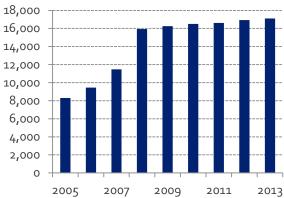




# AND KEY SECTORS REMAIN STRONG



### GWh Energy Transmitted by Landsnet



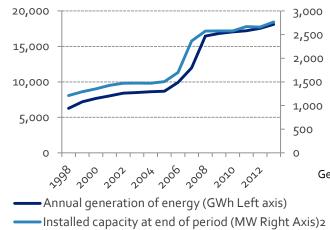
#### Thousand 1,200 1,000 800 600 400 200 0 2005 2007 2009 2011 2013

■ Tourists via airports ■ Tourists via cruise ships

1.6 300 1.4 250 1.2 200 1 150 0.8 0.6 100 0.4 50 0.2 0 0 2005 2013 2009 2011 2007 

**Price indices of Marine Products** 

#### **Electricity Capacity and Generation**



Foreign Passengers through Keflavik Airport 2014 Canada 4% Netherl. 3% Denmark 5% Denmark 5% Norway 6% France 6% Germany 9% USA 16%



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# Thank you for your attention

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