

Discussion

"An Overview of Fiscal and Public Debt Dynamics, and Current Fiscal Policy Settings in Asia and the Pacific"

IMF STI-OAP Webinar

September 26, 2023 UEDA Junji

Disclaimer: The views in the presentation slides are those of the presenter and do not reflect the view of the organizations to which he belongs.

Topics for discussion

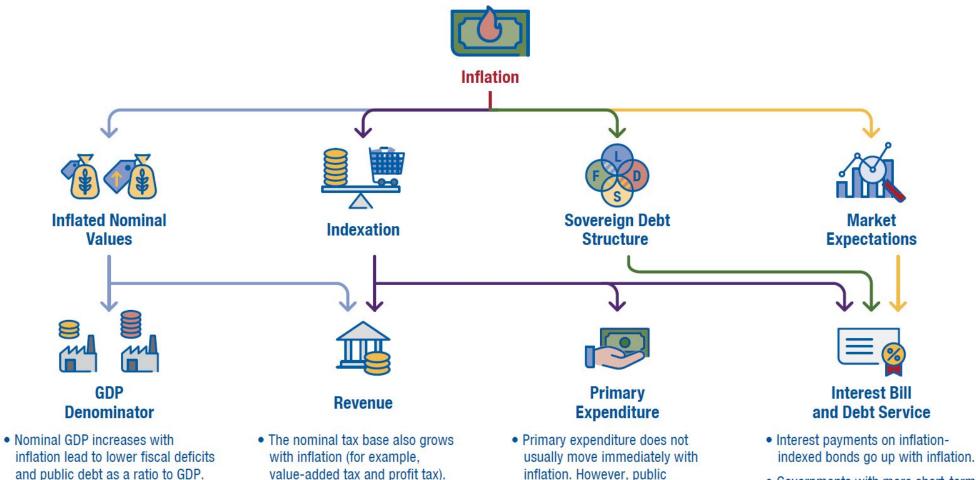
Impacts of inflation on public finances

- ✓ Impacts on expenditures and revenues
- ✓ Mitigating fiscal measures for inflation

Impacts of fiscal policies on inflation

- \checkmark How the fiscal instruments affect inflationary pressure
- ✓ Fiscal multipliers and impacts on international trade

Immediate impacts of inflation on public finances



expenditure can go up with

inflation with a short delay via

indexation of public goods and

wage, social benefits, subsidies,

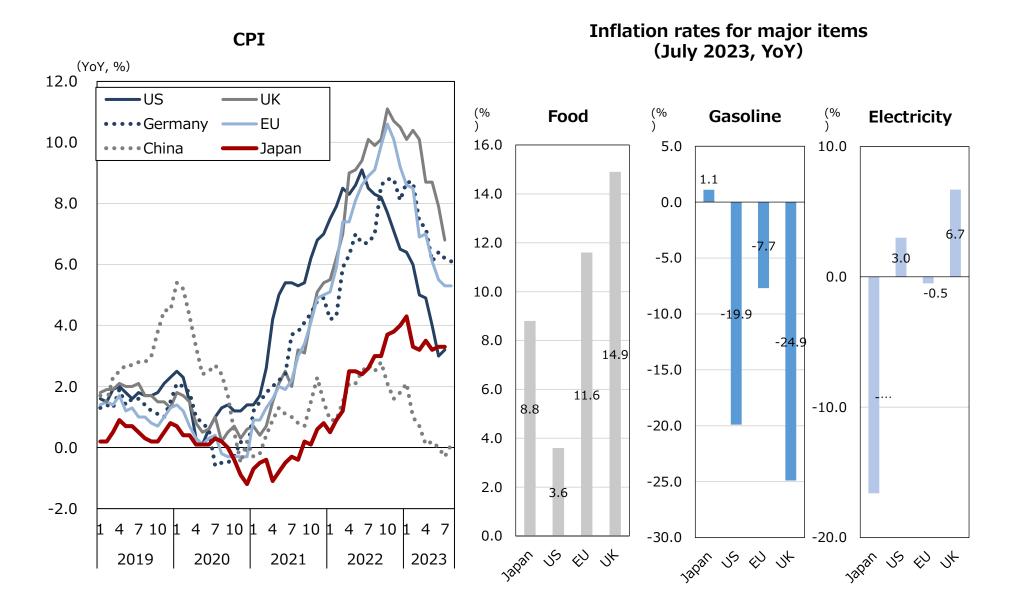
pension, and medical expenses) to

services (for example, public

inflation.

 Governments with more short-term debt (S) than long-term debt (L) face higher refinancing costs as investors ask for higher returns to compensate for expected inflation. They pay higher interest on foreign-currency-denominated debt (F) than on domestic-currency debt (D) when the currency depreciates due to inflation.

- inflation lead to lower fiscal deficits and public debt as a ratio to GDP.
- If income tax brackets are not indexed to inflation, taxpayers may be pushed into higher tax brackets (bracket creep).

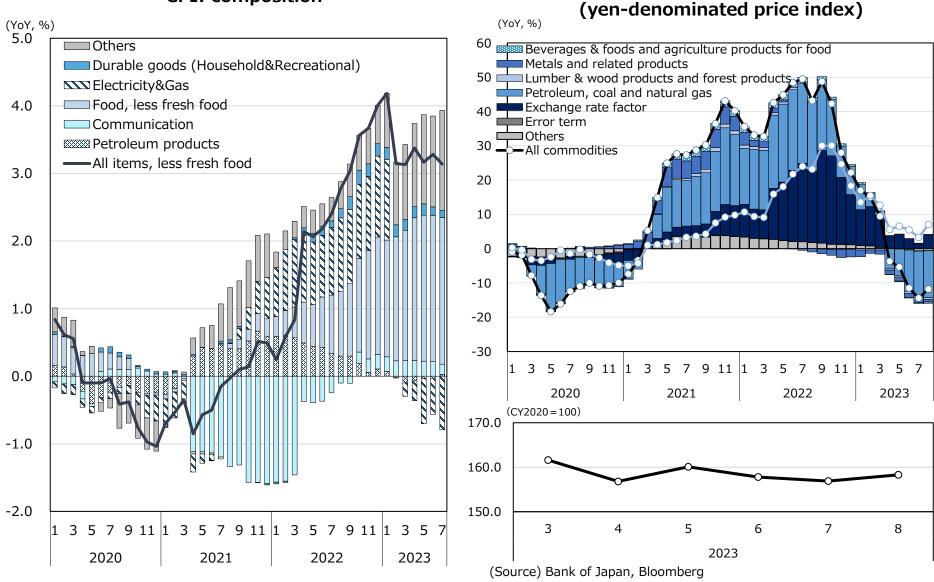


(Source) Bloomberg, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, United States Department of Labor, Eurostat, Office for National Statistics (UK)

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CPI and import price in Japan

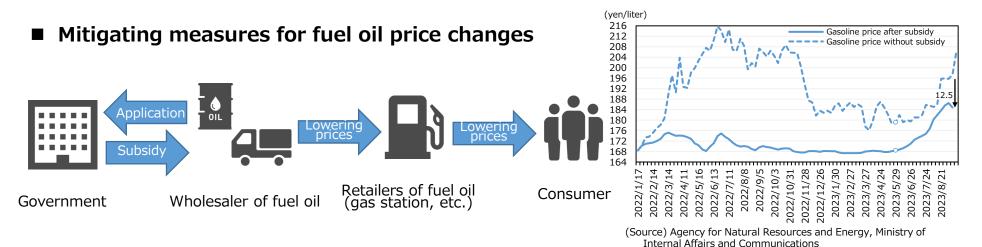
CPI: composition



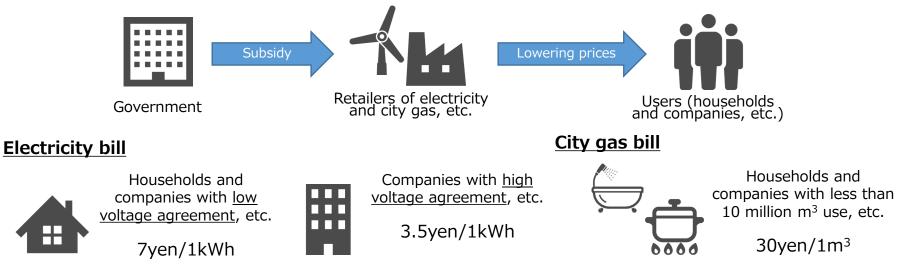
Import price index

⁽Source) Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications

Mitigating measures for surging energy price



Mitigating measures for electricity and gas price changes



Effects of mitigating measures for electricity and gas are estimated to be lowering CPI by **<u>1.0%pt</u>**. (July 2023, All items)

April 28, 2023

Statement on Monetary Policy (excerpt)

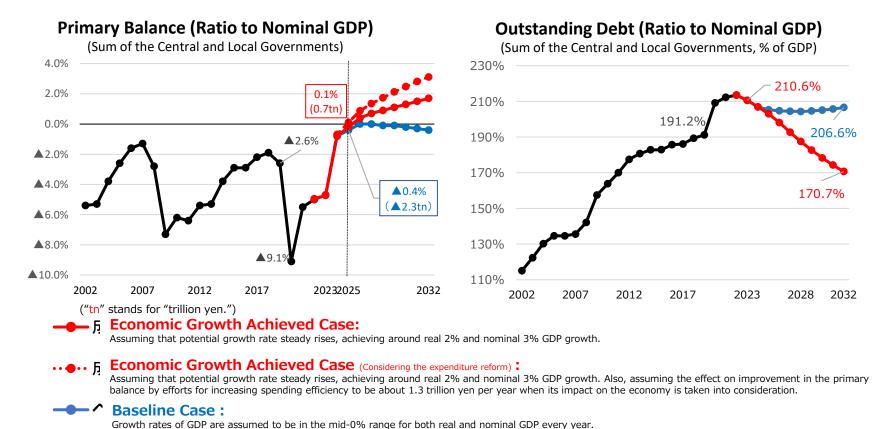
 With extremely high uncertainties surrounding economies and financial markets at home and abroad, <u>the Bank will patiently continue with monetary easing</u> while nimbly responding to developments in economic activity and prices as well as financial conditions. <u>By doing so, it will aim to achieve the price stability target of</u> <u>2 percent in a sustainable and stable manner, accompanied by wage increases</u>.

The Bank will continue with Quantitative and Qualitative Monetary Easing (QQE) with Yield Curve Control, aiming to achieve the price stability target, as long as it is necessary for maintaining that target in a stable manner. It will continue expanding the monetary base until the year-on-year rate of increase in the observed consumer price index (CPI, all items less fresh food) exceeds 2 percent and stays above the target in a stable manner. The Bank will continue to maintain stability of financing, mainly of firms, and financial markets, and will not hesitate to take additional easing measures if necessary.

Economic and Fiscal Projections for Medium to Long Term Analysis

* Council on Economic and Fiscal Policy (Cabinet Office, July 25, 2023)

- The Primary Balance for the central and local governments combined will turn into a surplus in FY2025 by continuing efforts to improve expenditure efficiency in the scenario of Growth Achieved Case.
- In the Economic Growth Achieved Case, the ratio of outstanding debt to Nominal GDP gradually decline while the Primary Balance for the central and local governments combined will turn into a surplus. It is projected to rise in the latter half of the projecting periods in the Baseline Case.



(Source) Cabinet Office "The Economic and Fiscal Projections for Medium to Long Term Analysis", July 2023

Issues for fiscal management in Japan

Provisional Translation

National Security

- **Defense buildup program for FY2023-2027** sets the level of defense force development expenses at around **43 trillion yen** (1.6 times the amount in the previous program for FY2019-2023)
- The revenue will be secured for maintaining stable defense capabilities.

Green Transformation (GX)

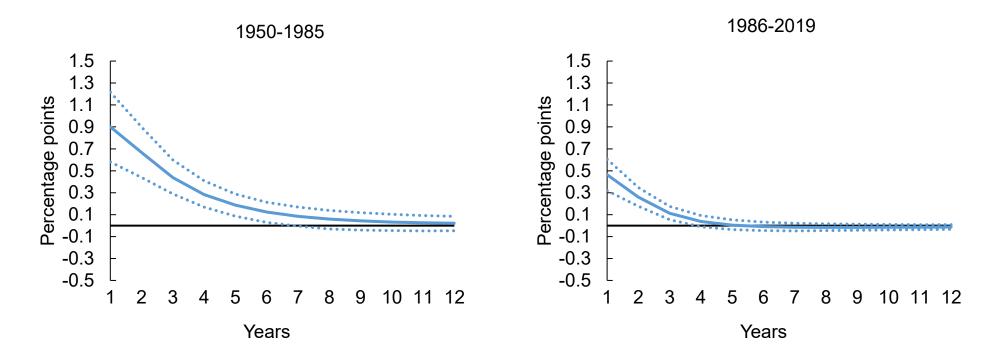
- **GX Economy Transition Bonds** will be established to provide upfront investment support in the amount of **20 trillion yen** over the next 10 years.
- The GX Economy Transition Bonds are going to be redeemed by future fiscal resources through embodying the vision of **Pro-Growth Carbon Pricing**.
- FY2023 budget includes 0.5 trillion yen, in addition to 1.1 trillion yen in FY2022 supplementary budget.

Policies related to children

- Based on "Policy on Future Strategy for Children", the Government will fundamentally strengthen its policies. Promote "Acceleration Plan for Child and Childrearing Support" without requiring the people to bear any substantial additional burden.
- The budget for "Acceleration Plan for Child and Childrearing Support " is currently estimated to be approximately 3 trillion yen.

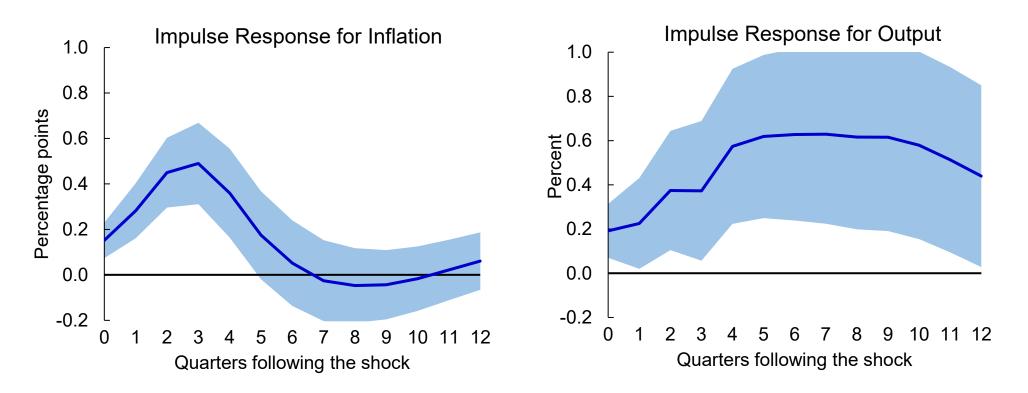
Panel evidence of fiscal policy impact on inflation, 1950-2019

Impulse response of 1% of GDP rise in government spending on inflation; - Bayesian Panel VAR encompassing 17 advanced countries, 1950-2019 (dotted lines show the 90% confidence bands)



Fiscal policy impact on inflation in the United States, 1939–2015

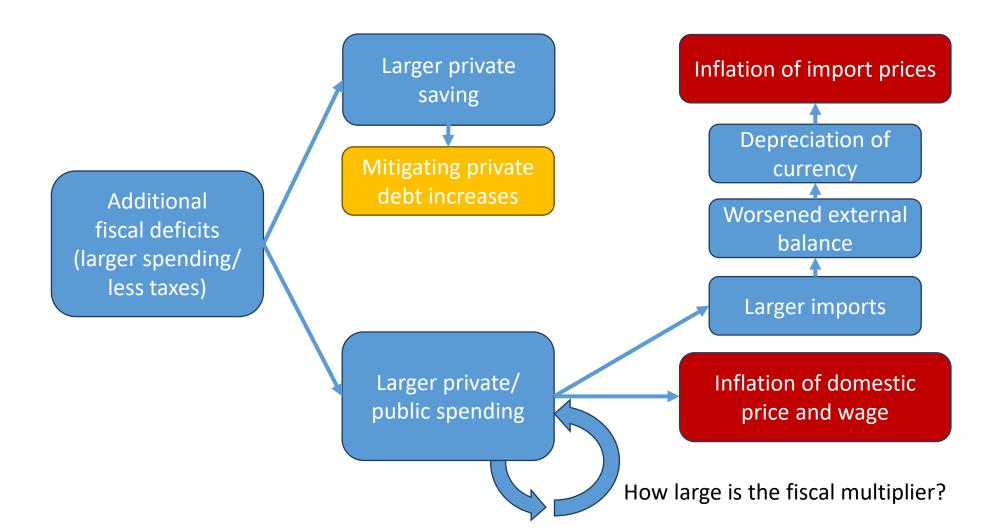
Impulse response of 1% of GDP rise in government spending on inflation; - identified by quarterly news of additional military spending in the US



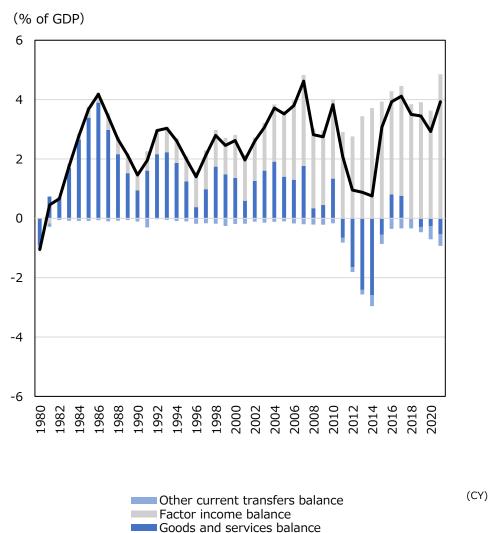
Impacts of fiscal policies (additional deficit) on inflation

Key questions:

✓ How are the additional fiscal deficit linked to public / private demands immediately?

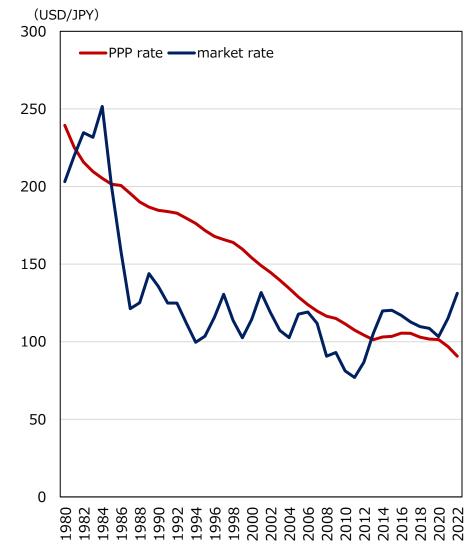


Exchange rate and external balance in Japan



External balance (SNA)





(CY)