### **Analyses and focus**

# Using Regulatory Sandboxes for an Innovation-led Economy



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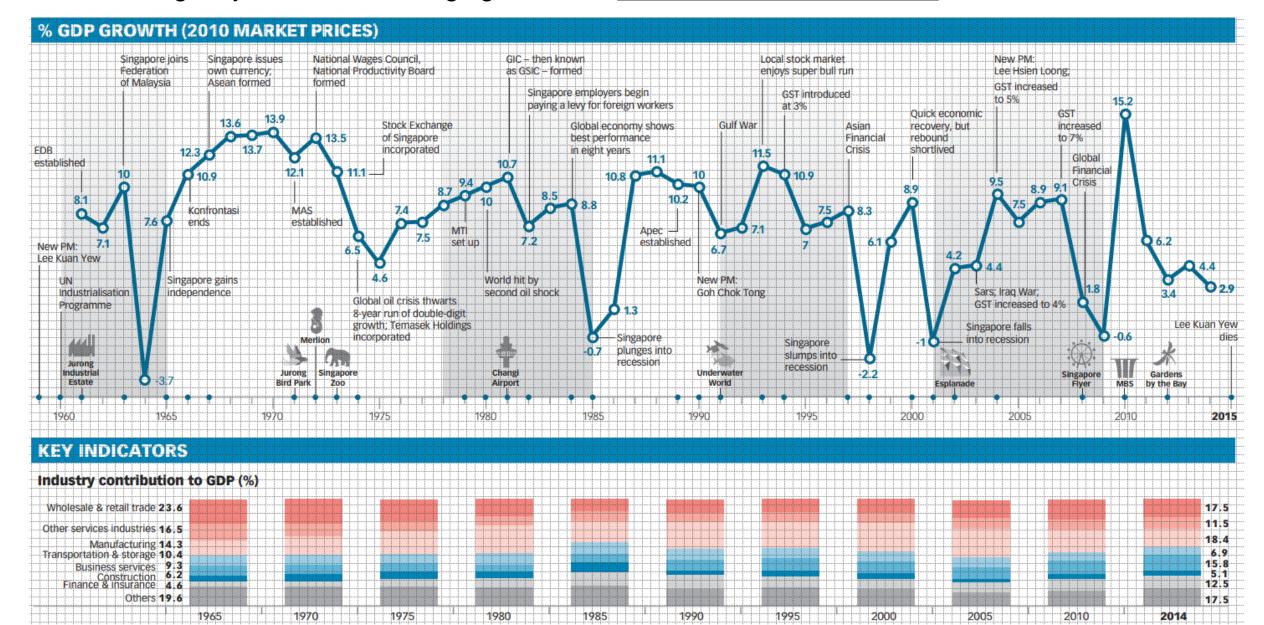
China-ASEAN Business Alliance
Singapore Digital Chamber of Commerce





### Singapore's Resilience

weathering 18 years of double-digit growth into finance and commerce hub



### **Singapore Economic Growth**

from export oriented, twin engine, productivity, skills-centric, future economy

# Taking the next step, again

Singapore's economic profile has changed significantly over the last 50 years, thanks to a series of growth strategies designed to keep the country competitive. *The Business Times* looks back on five decades of transformation, even as the Committee on the Future Economy charts a new way forward. BY KELLY TAY



#### 1960 - 1964

- 1960: First state development plan by UN team
- EDB set up to spearhead industrialisation effort, attract foreign investments
- Import-substitution approach, tariffs on imports

#### 1965 - 1978

- Export-oriented approach
- Attract foreign investors to grow manufacturing and financial sectors
- Investments in infrastructure, nationalised companies in areas where private sector lacked expertise

#### 1979 - 1985

- Shift to higher value-add and skills-intensive investments
- 1979: three-year wage correction policy to push up wages, induce efficient use of labour
- 1981: First productivity campaign, emphasising manpower development, automation

#### 1985 - 1991

1986 Economic Committee Report

- Cost-cutting measures: reduce employers' CPF rate, wage restraint
- Promote services

   eg tourism &
   banking as actively

   as manufacturing

#### 1991 - 1997

1991 Strategic Economic Plan

- Growth Triangle network of Singapore, Riau Islands, Johor
- Move to developed economy: enhance human resources & soft infrastructure; help local firms expand abroad

#### 1997 - 2001

1998 Committe Report

• Vision to become

- globally competitive knowledge economy • Manufacturing and
- services as twin engines of growth • Develop globally
- competitive local firms
- Government to be business facilitator

#### 2001 - 2010

2003 Economic Review Committee

- Ensure competitiveness, cut corporate & income tax to 20% from 25%
- Flexible foreign worker policies
- National continuing education & training body recommended

#### 2010 - 2015

2010 Economic Strategies Committee Report

- Raise productivity of workers in all sectors, with raising wages as end-goal
- Reduce reliance on foreign workers by raising levies progressively
- Budget 2010: National Productivity Fund set up, Productivity and Innovation Credit (PIC) introduced

#### 2016 and beyond

2016 Committee on the Future Economy

- Chaired by Finance Minister Heng Swee Keat
- 30-member panel to focus on five key themes

   new growth
   areas, corporate
   innovation, jobs,
   urban infrastructure,
   and connectivity
- Committee expected to complete work by end-2016

### **COMMITTEE ON THE FUTURE ECONOMY RECOMMENDATIONS**

3 significant shifts in our global environment



We should be the pioneers of the next generation:

- · Our people highly skilled and constantly learning
- · Our businesses innovative and nimble
- · Our city vibrant, connected to the world, and continually renewing itself
- · Our government coordinated, inclusive





#### DEEPEN OUR INTERNATIONAL

- CONNECTIONS
- Press on with trade Set up a Global
- Deepen knowledge of markets



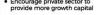
#### ACQUIRE AND UTILISE DEEP SKILLS

- Facilitate acquisition of deeper skills
- Strengthen utilisation of skills



#### STRENGTHEN ENTERPRISE CAPABILITIES

- Strengthen our innovation
- Support enterprises to scale up
- Encourage private sector to





#### **BUILD STRONG DIGITAL** CAPABILITIES

- Help small and medium enterprises adopt digital
- Build deep capabilities in analytics and cybersecurity
- Leverage data as an asset



#### OF OPPORTUNITY

- Invest in our external connectivity
- Continue to plan boldly
- Build partnerships for a vibrant city Develop exportable

capabilities



#### IMPLEMENT INDUSTRY TRANSFORMATION MAPS

- Tailor Industry Transformation
- Maximise synergies across

#### PARTNER EACH OTHER

- Encourage Trade Associations and Chambers and unions to work
- Create a regulatory environment to support innovation and risk-taking
- Use lead demand to develop promising industries
- Review and reshape Singapore's
- Create a sustainable environment



#### OUR PEOPLE CAN BECOME KEY DRIVERS OF CHANGE

- Prepare for jobs of the future: take ownership over your skills
- Think global: develop cross-cultural experiences and competencies

#### OUR ENTERPRISES CAN CREATE NEW IDEAS AND SOLUTIONS FOR THE WORLD

- Look beyond value-adding to value-creation
- Level up together to strengthen the Singapore brand





#### WHAT IS DIGITAL ECONOMY

Production and consumption of

Digital Digital Digital Products Services **Platforms** 

#### Examples

- . Data Sensors
- \* Uber . Paytah
- Netflix Carousell

and any business activity that is enabled by such technologies

#### WHY DOES IT MATTER



Digital technologies are changing

the way we live, work consume and create



Digital economy in ASEAN expected to grow to US\$200 billion by 2025



53,000 new jobs in infocomm roles expected in Singapore by 2018

#### SINGAPORE WELL-PLACED TO TAP ON OPPORTUNITIES

- Reliable IT infrastructure
- High adoption of digital tech
- Reputation of trustworthiness
- ☑ Well-educated workforce
- M Existing capabilities in e-commerce. cybersecurity, analytics, etc.
- Close ties to key markets in ASEAN

#### COMMITTEE ON THE FUTURE ECONOMY LOOKING INTO HOW SINGAPORE CAN:

Be key player in global digital economy

- Become a leader in fields such as cybersecurity, advanced analytics, 5C comms and e-commerce solutions
- · Make data our competitive advantage



- Tap on digital technologies to improve efficiency, develop new products, and reach new markets
- Develop digital talents





## Research, Innovation and Enterprise 2020

Research, innovation and enterprise are cornerstones of Singapore's national strategy to develop a knowledge-based innovation-driven economy and society. Public investment in research and innovation has grown over the last 25 years. Under the last five-year Research, Innovation and Enterprise (RIE) 2015 Plan, the Singapore government committed \$16 billion over 2011 to 2015 to establish Singapore as a global research and development (R&D) hub. The government will be sustaining its commitment to research, innovation and enterprise, and will invest \$19 billion for the RIE2020 Plan over 2016 to 2020.

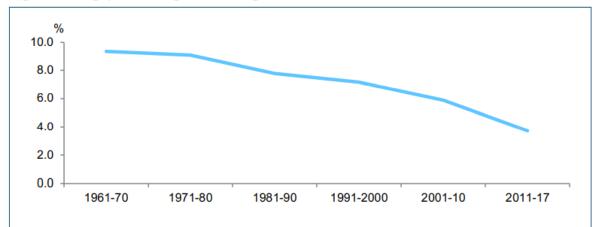
Plan	National Technology Plan 1995	National Science & Technology Plan 2000	Science & Technology 2005 Plan	Science & Technology 2010 Plan	Research, Innovation and Enterprise 2015 Plan	Research, Innovation and Enterprise 2020 Plan
Budget	\$2 billion	\$4 billion	\$6 billion	\$13.5 billion	\$16 billion	\$19 billion

# Research, Innovation and Economy 2020 Plan

- amidst 3 main challenges population, inequality, competitiveness (productivity)

#### White Space **Advanced Manufacturing** (\$2.5 billion) and Engineering (\$3.2 billion) 13% 17% **Academic Research** (\$2.8 billion) 15% Health and **Biomedical Sciences** (\$4.0 billion) 21% Manpower (\$1.9 billion) **Urban Solutions and Sustainability** (\$0.9 billion) Innovation and Enterprise Services and Digital Economy (\$3.3 billion) (\$0.4 billion)

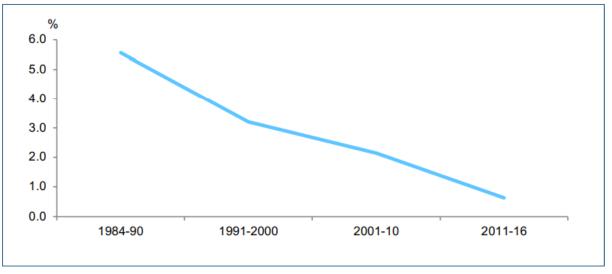
Figure 1: Singapore's long-term GDP growth



Source: Calculated by Centennial Asia Advisors using CEIC database

Domestically, Singapore's economy faces three main challenges: population; inequality; and competitiveness.

Figure 2: Singapore's labour productivity growth



Source: Calculated by Centennial Asia Advisors using CEIC database

### Challenges highlighted by Thinktanks

Table 3: Singapore's ranking on innovation, Global Competitiveness Index

	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18
Capacity for innovation	19	20	20
Quality of scientific research institutions	12	10	12
Company spending on R&D	11	15	17
University-industry collaboration in R&D	5	7	8
Government procurement of advanced technology products	4	4	5
Availability of scientists and engineers	11	9	9
Patents, applications/million population	14	13	12

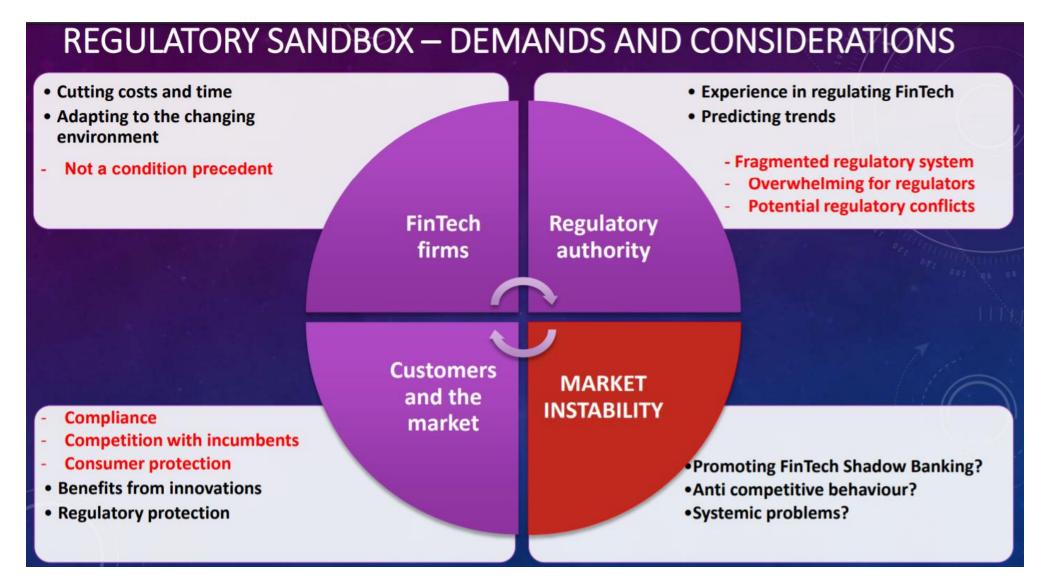
Source: World Economic Forum, Global Competitiveness Index

## Commentary from LOWY institute and Centennial:

- 1. Same favoured growth sectors
- 2. Continued commitment to retaining large manufacturing base
- 3. No change to economic openness
- **4. Deregulation** to spur innovation and digitization
- Scaling up and internationalizing
- 6. Tax reforms
- **7. Industry Transformation**Roadmap which SMEs did not find useful

### Innovation Efficiency with Sandboxes

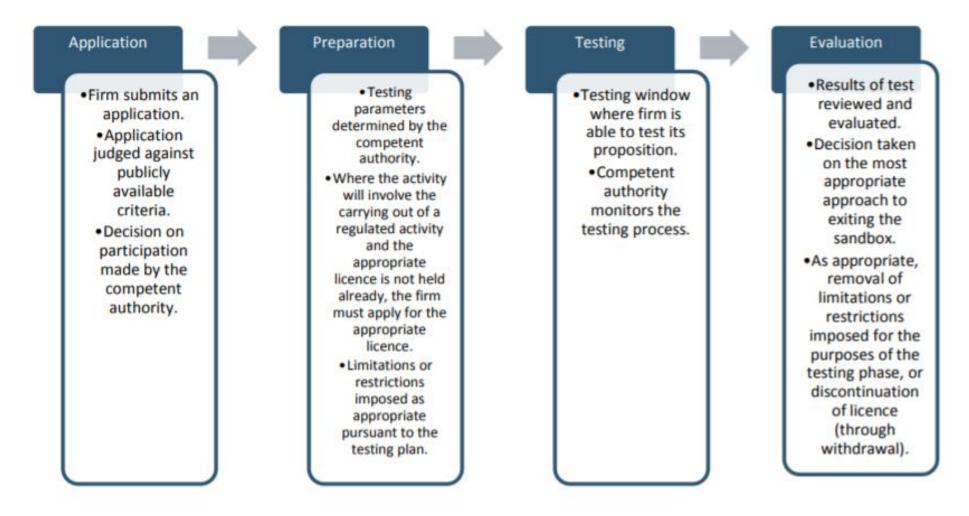
- balancing market forces, multiple regulators and unprecedented conditions



### Balancing Regulations with Innovative sectors

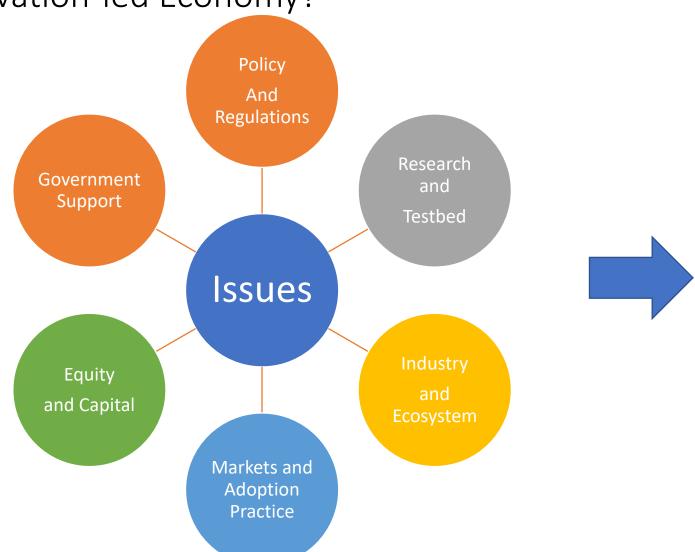
- innovation progresses with authority monitoring

Diagrammatic representation: Regulatory sandbox phases



## Objectives of Panel Discussion

Can Sandbox help to preempt regulatory hurdles to catalyse an Innovation-led Economy?



- 1. What are the <u>challenges and</u>
  <u>Impediments</u> to Innovation in
  Singapore? Are our <u>ecosystems and</u>
  <u>regulations suitable</u> for innovation?
- 2. What approach will accelerate market or industry practice to adopt Innovation?
- 3. Fintech is a nascent and highly regulated sector which MAS has applied the <u>sandbox</u> approach to enable innovation catapulting Singapore as a Global Fintech hub.
- 4. Can the other sectors (medical, healthcare, transport etc) follow suit?
- 5. Distil learning points from **Entrepreneurs' case studies**:
- Industry
- Enterprises

### Panel's Discussion

Perspectives from entrepreneur, government, association, innovator across Environmental, Financial, Technology sectors 1. Environmental Sector Frank Phuan **Environmental Sector** Chief Executive Officer & Executive Director Pioneering as the **Sunseap Group Pte Ltd** region's largest solar Installations on water Ken Chua 2. Fintech Sector **Deputy Director,** Government Fintech Infrastructure Office, Regulations and **Monetary Authority of Singapore** Infrastructure 2. Fintech and Environmental Jayaprakash Jageteesan b. Establishing Singapore's **Chief Executive Officer** Most comprehensive Digital Exchange and **RHT AIDigi Financial Holdings Pte Ltd** Carbon Exchange 3. InfoTechnology Ms Yean Cheong a. Association perspective **Executive Director** b. Members' challenges and predicament SG Tech