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# **FKCCI ECONOMIC FORECAST 2023**

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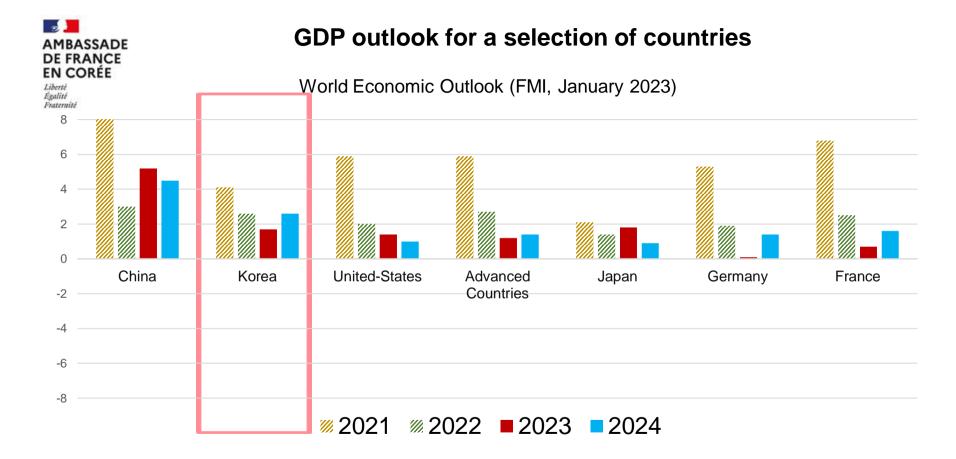
March 16th 2023

## Korea's growth in 2023 and 2024 : current estimates



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	2022	2023	2024
Korean government	(2.6 %)	1.6 %	
Bank of Korea	(2.6%)	1.6 %	1.9 %
Korea Development Institute	(2.8 %)	1.8 %	
OECD	(2.6 %)	1.8 %	1.9 %
ADB		1.5 %	
Fitch	(2.6 %)	1.5 %	
IMF	(2.6 %)	1,7 %	2.6 %

- In 2022. the Korean GDP grew 2,6 %. lower than forecasted in early 2022
- Korean economy shrank 0.4 % in the last quarter of 2022. a result of the impact of the Ukraine war and the lockdowns in China
- For the first time the projected growth of South Korea is under medium-term potential growth (2%)
- However the contraction of exports and the rates hikes could have a more negative impact on the Korean growth



#### **Economics trends of South Korea - Outlook**

Since 2022 Korea is no longer part of the top 10 world economies

World Economic Outlook 2023 (IMF, January 2023)

12	Korea	2 039 <b>1 792</b>	
12	Brazil	2 059	
11	Iran	2 044	
10	Italy	1 991	
9	Russia	2 136	
8	Canada	2 327	
7	France	2 807	
6	United Kingdom	3 479	
5	India	3 821	
4	Germany	4 120	
3	3 Japan		
2	China	19 244	
1	United States	26 185	
Rank	Country	GDP (current US \$Bn)	

Rank	Country	GDP per capita (PPP 2017 \$)
10	United States	63 353
19	Germany	54 049
25	Canada 49 131	
28	France	47 940
29	United Kingdom	47 448
30	Korea	46 523
35	Italy	43 345
38	Japan	42 338
61	Russia	26 580
75	China	18 905
85	Iran	16 025
51	Brazil	15 096
129	India	7 406

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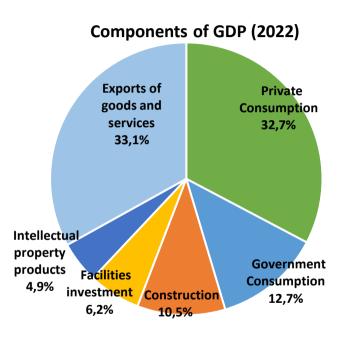
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### **Outlook by growth engines**

	2021	2022	2022 Q4	2023 Outlook	
Private consumption	3.6 %	3.6 % 4.3 %		3.1 %	
Public consumption	5.5 %	4.1 %	2.9 %	, 4.5 % OCDE	
Facility investment	8.3 %		0.7 %		
Construction	-1.5 %		0.8 %	0.2 %	
Goods exports	10.0 %	3.4 %	-5.1 %	1.0%	
(in value)	25.7 % Customs		,.	-5.7 % KDI	
Goods imports	11.9 %	4.7 %	-5.0 %	1.1 %	
(in value)	31.5 % Customs	18.8 % Customs	-9.8 % Customs	-6.7 % KDI	



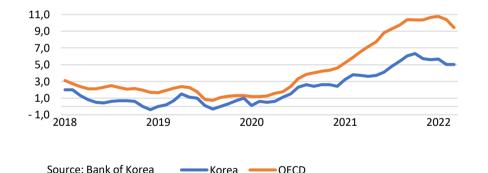
Sources: Bank of Korea



#### Private consumption and investments to slow

BoK decided to freeze its **base rate at 3.5 %** in regard of the economic slow down

Monthly inflation rate (year over year, %)



BoK asses that inflation could be up to 3.6 to 3.8 % in 2023

Inflation will reach at least 3.2% in 2023 (OECD)

In February 2023 consumer price index grew by **4,8 %** compared to last year :

- Agrofood : + 1.1 %
- Services : + 3.8 %
- Industrial products : + 5.1 %
- Petroleum products : 1.1 % (first decline in 2 years)
- Electricity, gas and water : + 28.4 % (highest level in Korea history)

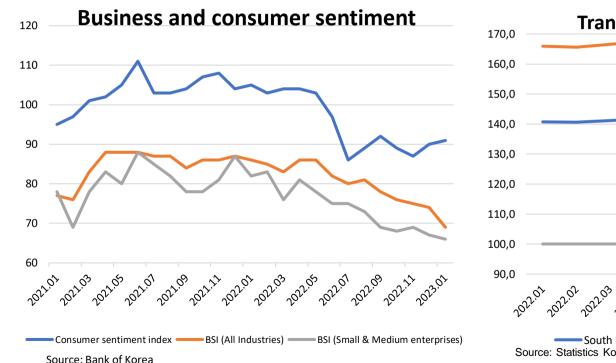
#### Limited growth budget for 2023

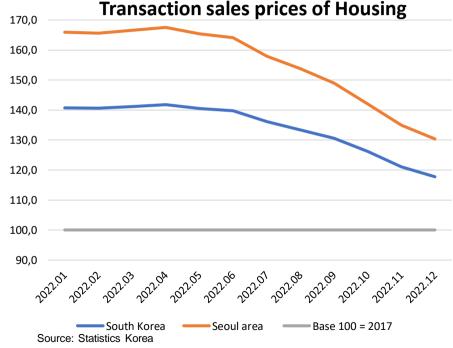
- Public spendings : + 5.8% vs fiscal revenues: + 13.1%
- Public infrastructures: 10.7 %
- Industry, SME, Energy: 4.2 %

Construction investments to graduadlly decrease : the number of traded house decreased by 46% from a year earlier

## Business Confidence has been worsening since the beginning of the EN CORÉE War

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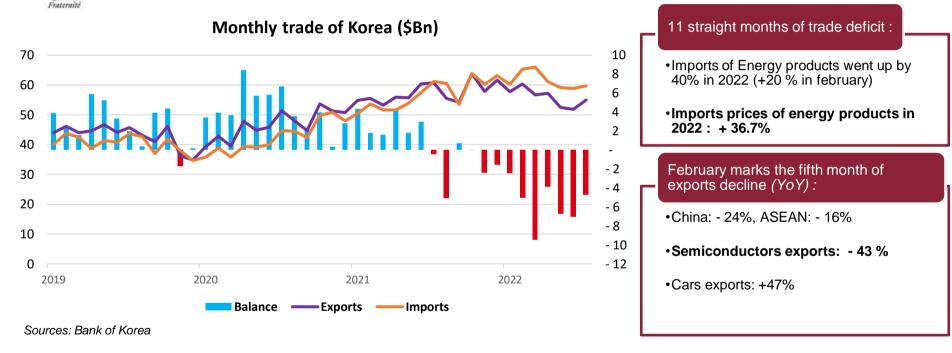






#### Recent evolution of the Korea's trade balance (goods)

Decline for key exporting items

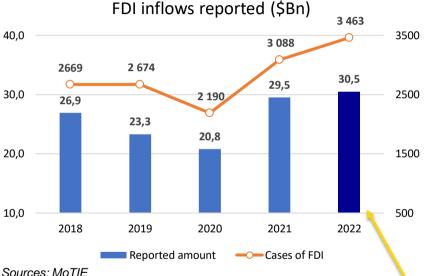


→ A 47.4 Bn \$ trade deficit in 2022 (worst in history) versus a 29.3 Bn \$ surplus a year before

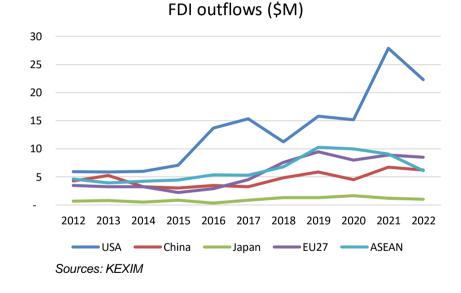


Recent evolution of the Korea's FDI

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Korea FDI pledges hits record high in 2022 at \$ 30.5 bn



Sources: MoTIE

Investments in 2022:

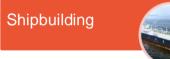
- Manufacturing: +149 % -
- Greenfield: + 23 % -

18 \$Bn arrived amount which is the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest in history



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- Strong demand for LNG carriers
- DSME's purchase by Hanwha
- Chinese competition



- Strong investments for the expansion of nuclear plants
- · Less political enthusiasm on renewables but target still high

## Main industrial trends

- Hyundai now #3 globally, #4 in EU
- Conversion to electric, H2 limited success
- IRA boosts battery investment in US, but CN competition

Automotive & **Batteries** 

- Unbalances on the real estate Market
- Rising interest rates
- Risk following the SVB collapse

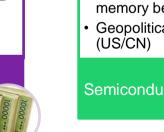
Finance

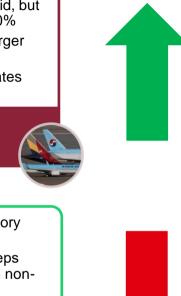
- 2022 domestic traffic back to pre-Covid, but int'l still down 80%
- KAL-Asiana merger under EU probe
- Sinking cargo rates

Aerospace

- Decline in memory ٠ chips
- Samsung's keeps CAPEX high on nonmemory bet
- Geopolitical disruptions (US/CN)

**Semiconductors** 



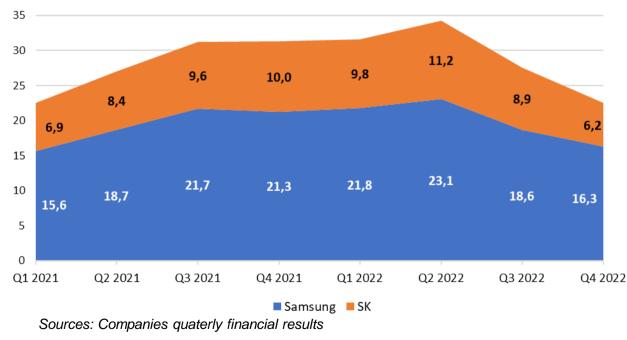


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#### Semiconductors industry faces difficulties

#### Sales of Korean semiconductor manufacturers (\$Bn)



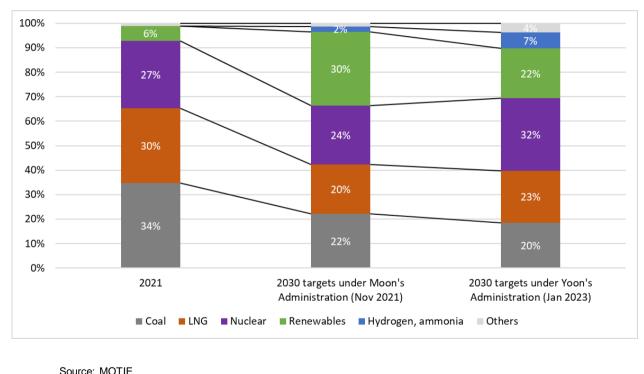
- Decline in memory chips sales (50% globally in H2 2022), only partially offset by nonmemory.
- Samsung's keeps investment plan for 2023 at same level as 2022 to catch up with TSMC on non-memory business. SK investment plan halved for 2023.
- Geopolitical disruptions: new subsidies rules by US banning high-tech investment into China



#### Promoting a new energy policy

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Korea' Electricity mix

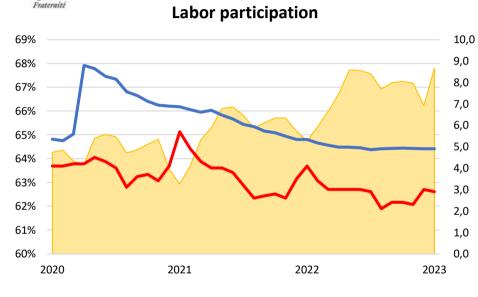


- New electric plan came out in January 2023, with a confirmed push on nuclear as well as H2.
- Renewables target lower but still high and will be difficult to implement
- New NDC strategy to be published in March and energy security bill under preparation (early warning, procurement, stockpiling)
- Like for batteries, US to attract major chaebol investment (e.g. Hanwha)



#### Slowing job market in 2023

After a strong year in 2022



- ratio of Active population on total population (15-64 yrs)
- Unemployment rate (right scale)
- OECD's Unemployment rate (right)

2022 Q4	Unemployment rate	Youth unemployment rate (15 – 24 yrs old)
France	7.0	16.9
Euro area	6.1	14.6
OECD average	4.9	10.9
United States	4.2	8.1
Korea	3.0	6.4
Germany	2.9	5.8
Japan	2.5	4.5

Source: OECD

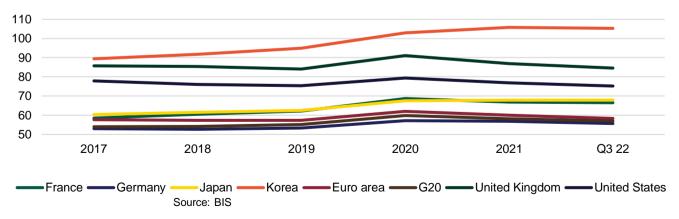
#### Source: KOSTAT

#### Public debt and Private debt are high but remain largely manageable AMBASSADE DE FRANCE **EN CORÉE**

	Public Deficit	Public Debt	Private Debt *	Household Debt *
2022 (as % of the GDP)	3.3 %	49.7 %	224.5 %	105.3 %
2023 (MOEF forecast)	0.6 %	50.4 %		

Source: MOEF, BIS \*Third Quarter of 2022

Household Debt



Non-performing loan ratio is very low : 0.16% at the end of Q2 2022

Banks provisions were above 200% of NPL at the end of Q2 2022

With SVB recent collapse new risks may surge.

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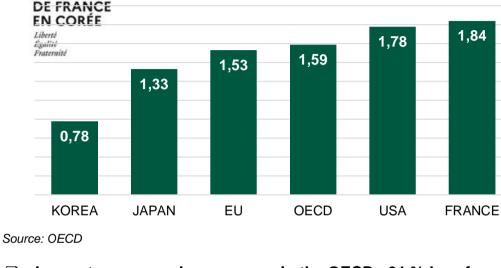


# Preliminary observations:

## **SVB collapse**

The biggest bankrupcy since 2008 ....

- NPS owned 101 000 shares in SVB at the end of 2022 : concerns are rising since the fund is expected to depleted faster
- · No systemic risks for the Korean banking sector
- BoK and government declared that the risk is limited for the local market since banks have different asset-liability structures from those of SVB
- Concerns are growing about FED's rate hikes despite the easing of US' inflation in February (6% vs 6.4% in January)



- Largest gross gender wage gap in the OECD : 31 % less for women
- $\hfill\square$  47 % of women employees were non-regular workers in 2020
- □ Family benefits public spending is only 1.5% of GDP (2.1% for OCDE)
- □ Korean women tend to leave the labour force following childbirth at very high rates compared to the OECD average

### Medium and long term challenges

Demographic decline

Korea to become a super-aged country in 2025: **+ 20 %** of the population is more than 65 years old.

The total population could reach as low as 38 to 32 **M people in 2070** according to Statistics Korea (versus 52 M in 2021)

Korea has the highest poverty rate of eldery (65 years and +) : 37.5 % in 2021

Higher poverty rate for eldery women : 43 % for women vs 31 % for men

Current social spending : 14 % of GDP (OECD : 21%)

Most of national pensions are below the poverty line

The average amount of **basic pension is very low : 550 000 KRW (less than 450\$)** 

Government last projected that the NPS would dry up in 2055

New migration policy ?

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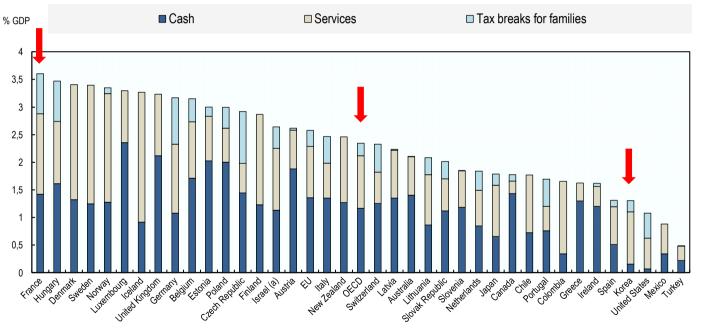


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#### Medium and long term challenges

Demographic decline

#### Family benefit public spendings



Source: OECD data from 2019 to 2021

#### Medium and long term challenges

Low productivity cause and consequence of a strong dualism

- The Korean GDP per hour of work is just 81
  % of the OECD average (2021) : representing 43 \$/hour (29th of the OECD) compared to 67
   \$/hour in France (12th of the OECD)
- Service productivity represents only 44 % of the manufacturing productivity (BoK 2023)

Source: OECD

Ireland nbourg

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110

90

70 50

30

10

> Service sector is dominated by SME which is characterized by low productivity. SMEs account for 90% of the service-sector jobs

Estonia Korea Poland Latvia Portugal Hungary Romania Greece Chile Bulgaria iosta Rica Mexicc

>50 % of SME are considered as "Zombie" enterprises. Benefits are not sufficient to cover interest payments

cealan

- > Firms with at least 300 employees pay youth 50% higher wages than those with less than ten, and the gap widens with age
- > Generous government support for SMEs discourages their growth in order to maintain SME status.

Labor productivity

USA Sweden Belgium Austria Germany France Iceland G7 Finland G7 Finland Uranda Lurzone EU27 Italy Canada OECD Turkiye Spain Span Japan Japan Slovenia Lithuania Republic





#### Main challenges Korea will have to face

Short-term

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Real estate falling prices Exports falling SVB collapse Reopening of China Economy Medium-term

Household debt High dependency to foreign trade

Low labor productivity



Demography → Slower economic growth



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### Sectorial composition of Korean foreign trade

