CBDC IN THE RAPIDLY EVOLVING PAYMENT SYSTEM LANDSCAPE

21ST FEBRUARY 2020, KIEV HARISH NATARAJAN WORLD BANK

AGENDA

- Historical perspective on linkage between payment and account
- Enter CBDCs why and how
- Perspective of CBs on CBDCs
- Risks
- Will CBDCs support financial inclusion?
- Conclusion



4th Wave of innovations in payment-account linkage

Finance, Competitiveness & Innovation



CONTEXT

Why a Central Bank could be interested in CBDCs? How would it be done?

DLT can be used to enable Central Banks to issue digital variants of fiat currency enabling transactions on P2P basis - CBDC





Money Flower





Source: Bech and Garratt, BIS

CBDC Pilots



¹ Share of respondents conducting work on CBDC.

Source: Central bank survey on CBDCs.



BIS Papers 107, Jan 2020

Motivations for General purpose CBDC



¹ Not so important" (1); "Somewhat important" (2); "Important" (3); and "Very important" (4).



Motivations for Wholesale CBDC



- Average 25–75th percentile:
 - Advanced economies
 - Emerging market economies

¹ Not so important" (1); "Somewhat important" (2); "Important" (3); and "Very important" (4).

BIS Papers 107, Jan 2020



Future Plans for CBDC



Short term: 1–3 years and medium term: 1–6 years. "Likely" combines "very likely" and "somewhat likely". "Unlikely" combines "very unlikely" and "somewhat unlikely". BIS Papers 107, Jan 2020



Future plans for CBDC





Each box shows the percentage of answers among the juristictions in a group. The number of jurisdictions in a group may differ across options.

World Bank GPSS, 2019

CBDCs could pose substantial risk

- Implications vary based on design and scope [whole-sale Vs retail]
 - Risks for whole-sale CBDC much lower
- Implications for role of commercial banks
 - Depository institutions?
 - Maturity transformation? Eliminate money creation role of banks?
- Implications for financial stability
 - CBDCs could accelerate bank runs
 - Increase in borrowing from central bank, as deposits become volatile
 - Implications on exchange controls and interest rate formation
- Implications for AML/KYC concerns
 - Pure value-based CBDCs present similar concerns to cash
- Implications for Global Monetary System



Speech by Mr <u>Agustín Carstens</u>, General Manager of the BIS, at the Central Bank of Ireland, 2019 Whitaker Lecture, Dublin, 22 March 2019.

The bitcoin hype is over but attempts to create new forms of money or to engineer new ways to pay still appear almost weekly. Central banks have entered the fray, with about 70 percent either exploring or experimenting with so-called central bank digital currencies (CBDCs). A CBDC would allow ordinary people and businesses to make payments electronically using money issued by the central bank. But what are the consequences of such a system? How would it differ from what we have now? <u>As money and payments form the</u> <u>backbone of the financial system, central banks need to understand</u> <u>the full consequences of opening up the monetary system for major</u> <u>surgery. Hence, central banks are treading cautiously, and only a</u> <u>very few central banks think it is likely that they will issue a CBDC</u>.



Central Bank attention to Global Stablecoin risks





Which of these reasons for financial exclusion would CBDC address?





Source: Findex 2017, World Bank

CBDC in the context of other innovations

Utility of CBDC in the context of rapid advances in payment systems needs to be assessed:

- Faster Payments
- SWIFT GPI
- Regional integration

• **APIs**



Changes in user engagement and business model

Integration with day to day interactions

Invisible payments

Big Data and Analytics







Other Trends powering financial inclusion

Diffusion of fast payments¹



Account ownership rises with income, but countries can leapfrog

Source: Bech, Shimizu and Wong (2017); FIS (2018); IMF, World Economic Outlook, October 2019; World Bank Findex data; Instapay; national data.

¹ The dashed part of the lines corresponds to projected implementation.



WIDE VARIATION IN PRICE BASED ON PROVIDER TYPE



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The cost of sending remittances through **Banks modestly decreased in the last year**; from 10.53% in Q4 2018 to **10.46% in Q4 2019,** and remained the most **expensive RSP type.**

The cost of transferring through **Post Offices increased over the past year**; recorded at 7.04% in Q4 2018 to 7.63% in Q4 2019

In the same period, the cost of sending through **MTOs remained stable;** 6.06% in Q4 2018 compared to 6.05% in Q4 2019.

The cheapest of RSP type in Q4 2019 were Mobile Operators (3.14%) but these still account for a very small share of the sample size.

IN CONCLUSION

- CBDCs should be seen in the context of ongoing innovations
- CBDCs per se will not address financial inclusion
- Further research on CBDCs is essential
- Cross-border payments needs particular attention
- Need to step-up international collaboration





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