#### **AAJI-OLIS Life Insurance Seminar 2013**

Life Insurance-Private Sector Roles in Social Security System Program

# Demographic challenges and opportunities for Japanese life insurers







## Demographic and social changes

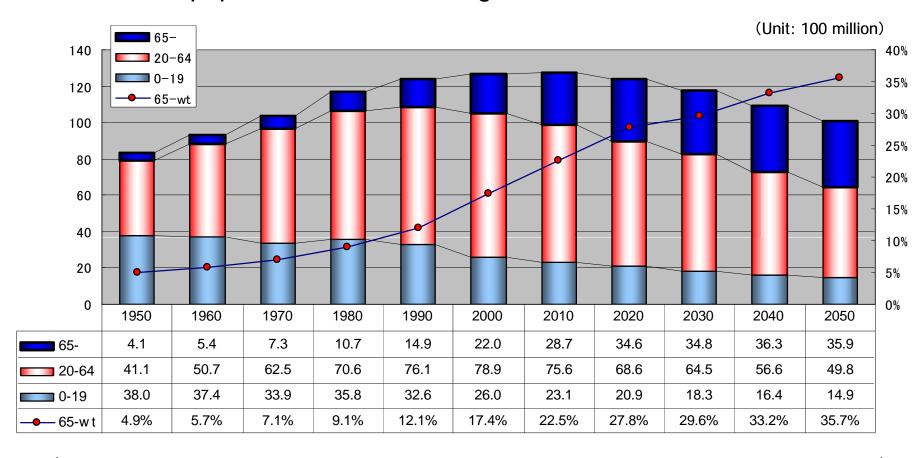
Market environment -Low interest rates and share prices

Aging and longevity – implications for social security and life insurers

Tao of supervision and risk management — Yin and Yang

## Japanese population demographics

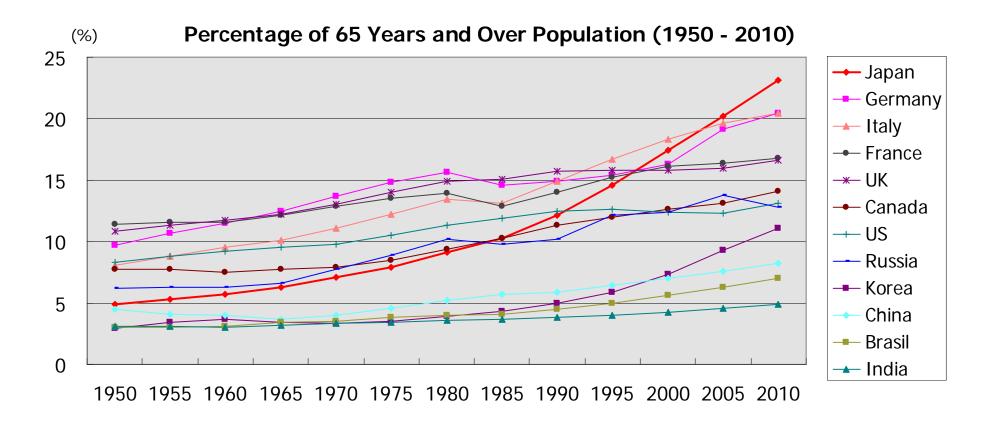
- Japanese population: 127 million 760 thousand as of 1 October, 2005, a drop of 0.02% from the previous year and decreasing since then
- Aged 65 and older reached 25.6 million, which exceeded for the first time 20% of total population and increasing since then



(Source: National Institute of Population and Social Security Research "Japan's projected population")

## Rapid aging

Japan was in the lower-rankings until the 1980s, in the middle in the 1990s, and is already the highest in the early 21st century

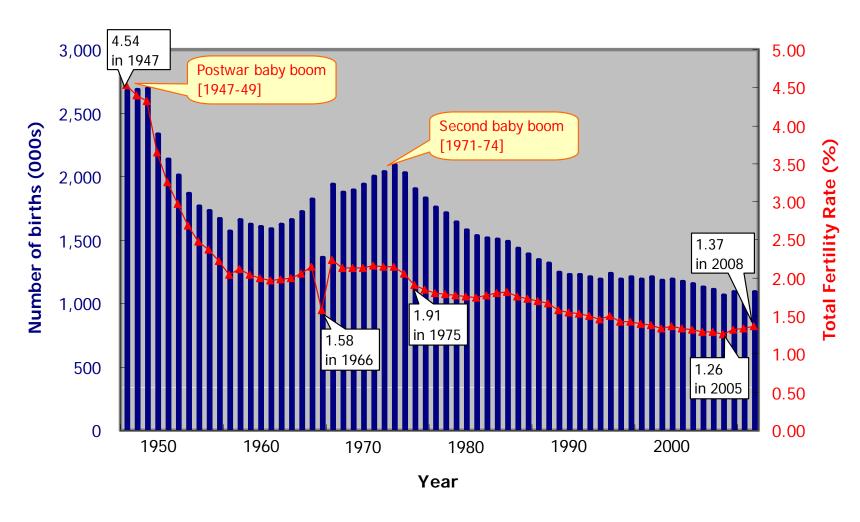


(Source: Statistic Bureau, Data is based on United Nations, "World Population Prospects," The 2010 Revision Note: Data for Japan is based on "Population Census of Japan")



## **Lower fertility rate - Trends in number of births**

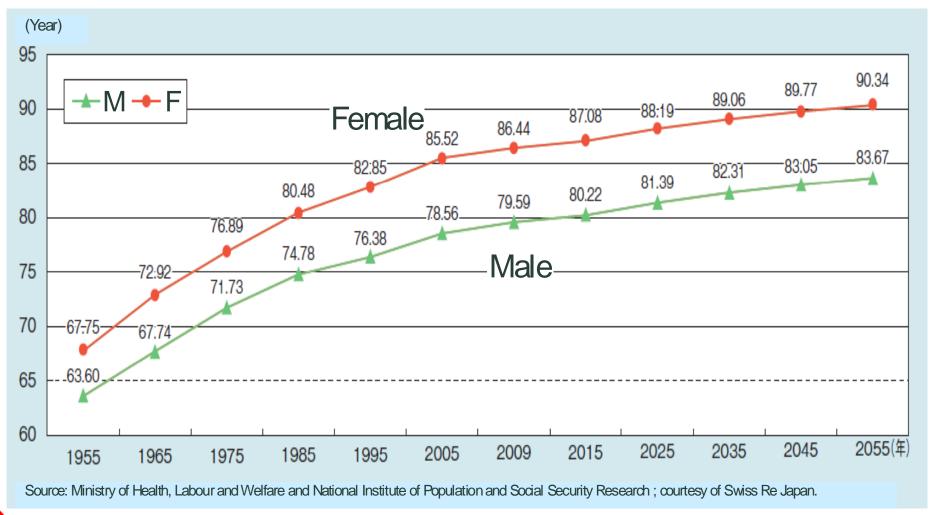
Total fertility rate has dropped from 4.54 in 1947, to 1.91 in 1975, and to 1.26 in 2005



(Source: Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare, Vital Statistics)

## Longer lifespan

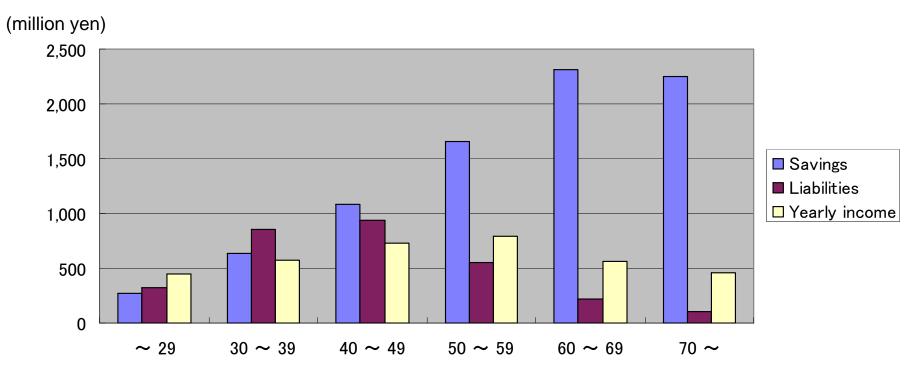
- Japanese life expectancy is among the highest in the world.
- Many Japanese women live alone for around 10 years after their husbands pass away.





## Savings higher as age increases

- Savings per household by age in 2010
  - Savings are 2.7 million yen for a householder under age 30
  - 8.5 times larger at 23.14 million yen for a householder age 60 or older
  - ☐ Liabilities to be higher as age increases up to the ages 40 to 49, at which age they peak and begin to decrease

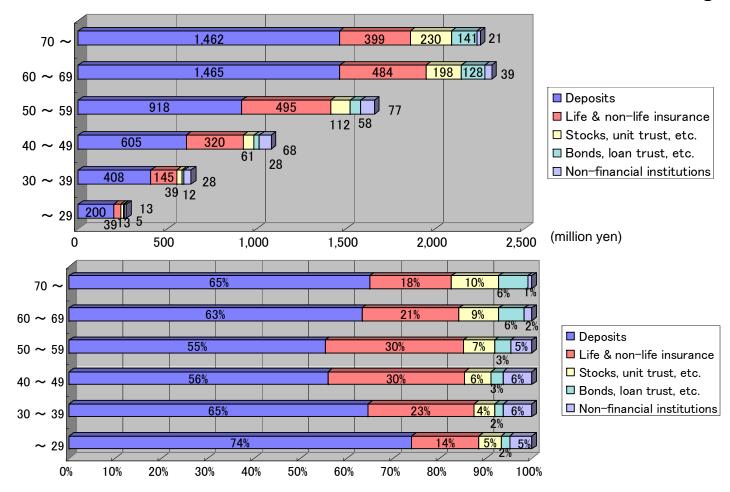


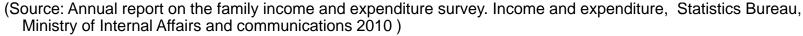
(Source: Annual report on the family income and expenditure survey. Income and expenditure, Statistics Bureau, Ministry of Internal Affairs and communications 2010)



## Financial profile of elderly

- As people get older, the portion of assets with risk increases.
- Younger generation prefer bank deposits. Those over age 50 tend to invest more in securities and less in insurance than those below age 40

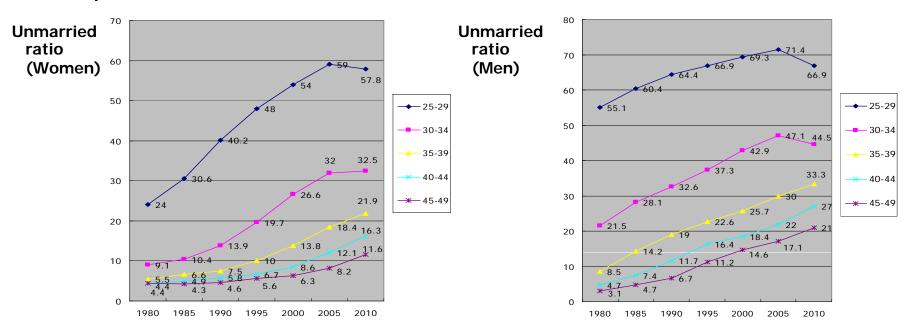




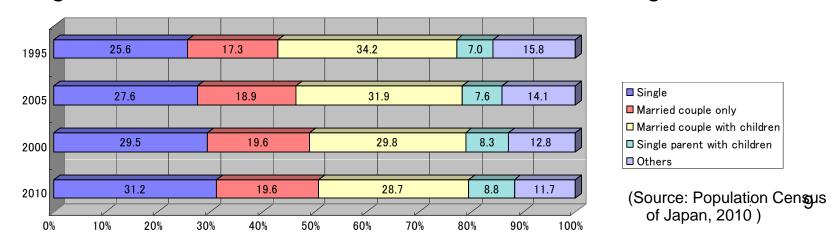


## Life style change

People tend to be unmarried or married late



Among the married, those without children are increasing





## Changing life insurance needs

■ In recent years, the baby boomers became aged over 50 with independent children, and needs are shifting from death protection to medical and post-retirement coverage

Death protection

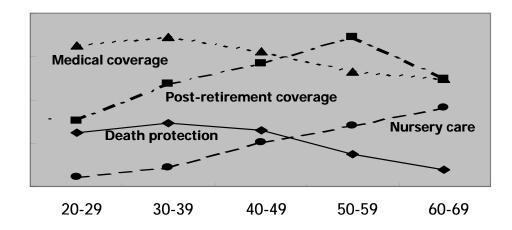
Medical coverage

Post-retirement coverage

Nursery care

20-29 30-39 40-49 50-59 60-69

(Women)



(Source: Japan Institute of Life Insurance "Survey on coverage")



Demographic and social changes



Market environment -Low interest rates and share prices

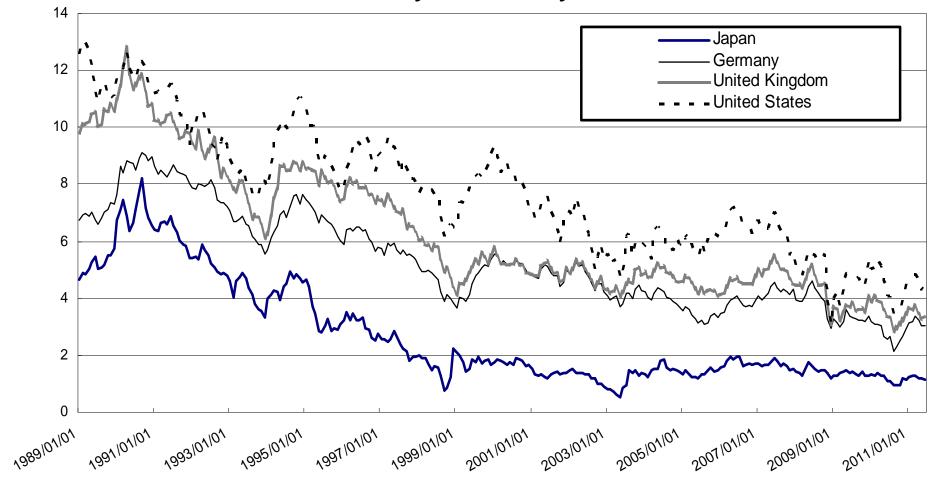
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## Japan experienced a low interest rate environment

Low interest rates becoming a worldwide trend

#### Government / Treasury Bonds (10 year) Interest Rate





## Stock market has been also disappointing

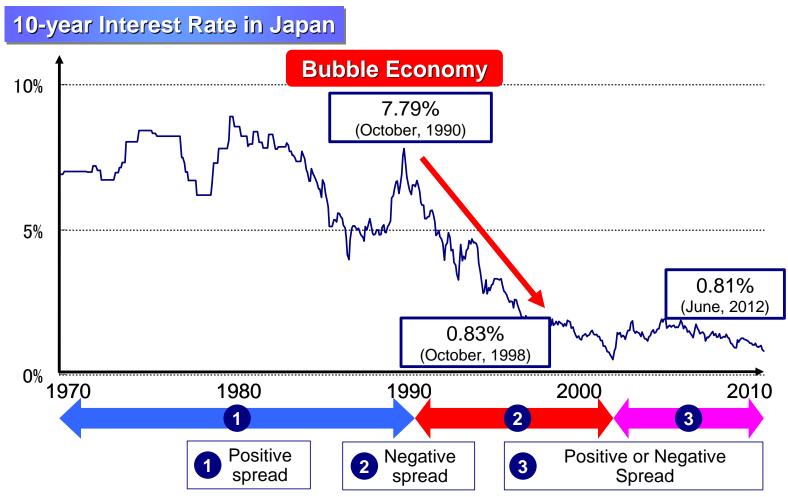
Low interest rate coincided with poorly-performing stock prices





## **Negative spread problems in 1990s**

■ After the collapse of the bubble economy, Japan experienced a long-lasting, severe investment environment with low interest rates and poor performing stock prices. This, combined with a market dominated by long-term insurance products with high guaranteed returns, led to negative spread problems in the mid 1990s, although most Japanese life insurers endured the severe business environment.

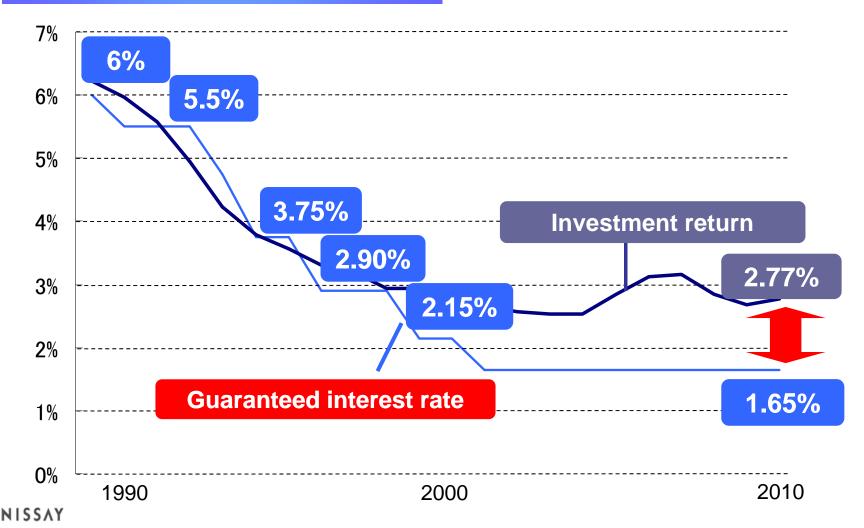




## Lowering guaranteed interest rate

■ Reducing the guaranteed interest rate gradually for new policies

### Lowered guaranteed interest rate



## **Providing protection-oriented products**

- Developing a wide range of products
- Securing stable mortality profit
- Adding non-monetary values for customers

#### **Protection-oriented products**

Customers can select insurance products from a well-balanced product portfolio

Whole life
Term life

Death coverage

Dread Disease

Nursing care

Serious diseases and nursing care coverage

Medical coverage

Medical

Cancer

Saving and retirement coverage

Endowment

Annuity

#### Stable mortality profit

(Billions of Yen)

	2005	2010
Mortality profit	540	437.4

Undistributed	236.8	231.2
earnings		

#### Value added for customers

Counseling services

Benefits in kind

Contribution to the community





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## Issues for discussions: social security and pensions

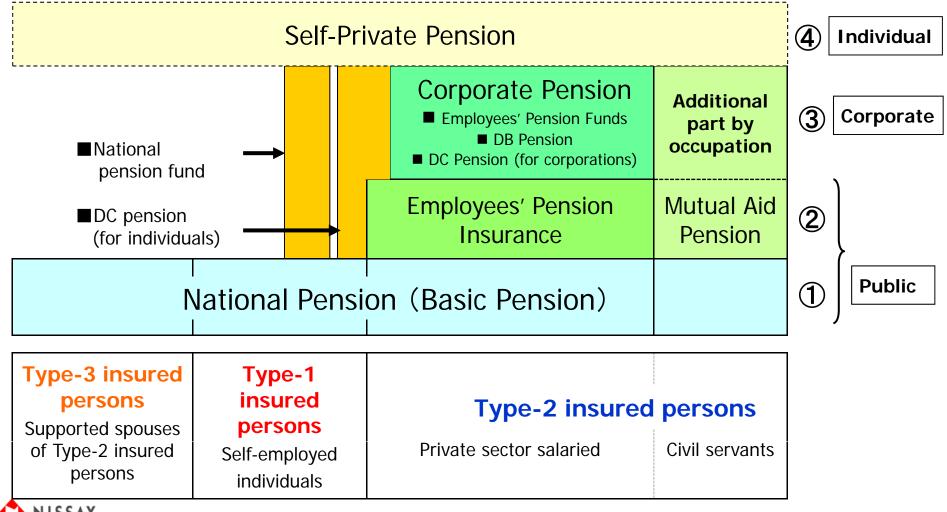
- The following issues may arise under these circumstances
  - What are the roles of life insurers in social security?

    Life insurers vs. Public Pensions/Healthcare
  - How to report pension and insurance liabilities?
    IFRS: Fair value accounting for pension/insurance liabilities
  - How to secure retirement income? Who are taking risks? Defined benefit plans vs. Defined contributions plans Long-term protection products vs. Investment products
  - How to deal with longevity risk?
    Joint Forum is now looking at this issue



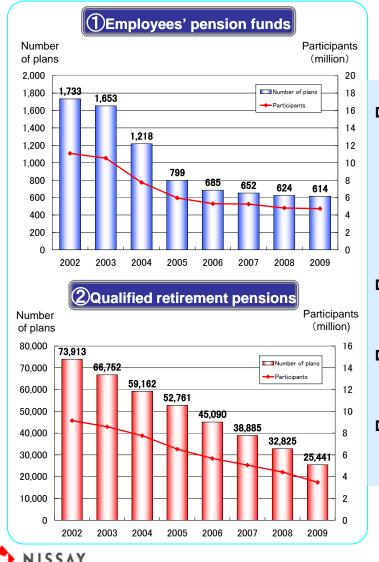
## Structure of the pension system in Japan

- ■The Japanese pension system is made up of 4 tiers including "private pension"
- The public pension provides a national minimum protection for all individuals and private pension provides additional protection tailored to the needs of each individual.

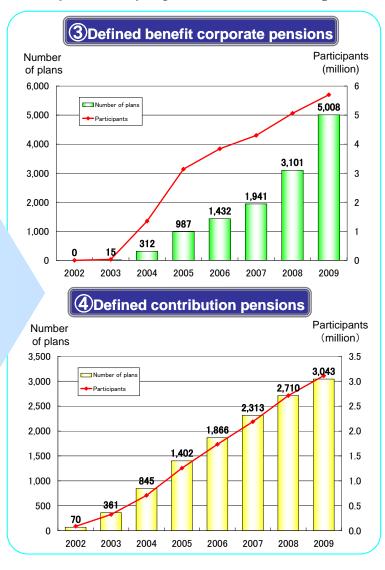


## Trends for corporate pensions market

Corporate pension system was restructured in the context of increased unfunded plans after the collapse of bubble economy and the introduction of post-employment accounting



- Employees'
  pension funds
   "Daiko Henjo"
  started in 2002
  (※the cessation of
  employee retirement
  benefit payments on
  behalf of the
  government)
- □ Qualified retirement pensions to be discontinued in 2012
- □ Defined benefit corporate pensions started in 2002
- □ Defined contribution pensions started in 2001





## The pension system in Japan and longevity risk

The public pension provides a whole life annuity and the corporate pension provides a supplement in the form of a lump sum retirement payment or fixed-term annuity

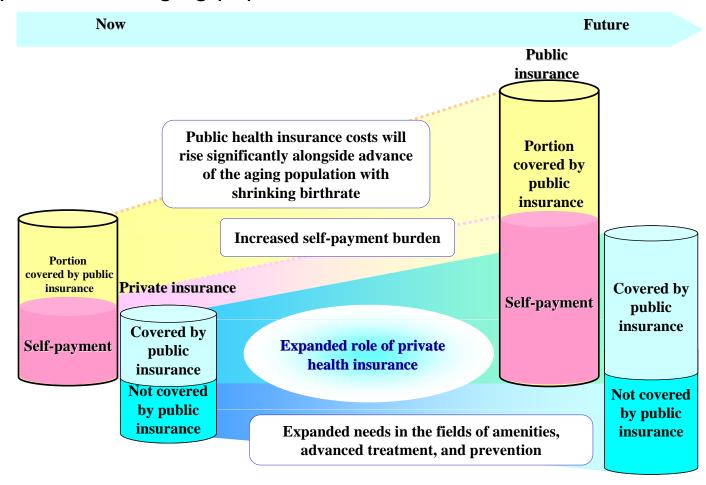
Pension system	Typical form of payment	Other features
<b>1</b> National Pension	whole life annuity	-
② Employees' Pension Insurance	whole life annuity	survivor's pension
③ Corporate Pension	lump-sum retirement allowance or fixed-term annuity	some companies provide whole life annuities with a guaranteed term
4 Self-Private Pension	fixed-term annuity	options for <b>whole life annuity</b> with guaranteed term and lump-sum are available

- Longevity risk is mainly borne by government and individuals.
- Life insurers are subject to longevity risk, in case where the option for whole life annuity is chosen by policyholders for self-private pension.



## **Evolving roles of public and private health insurance**

Separate roles of public and private health insurance are evolving to respond to the aging population



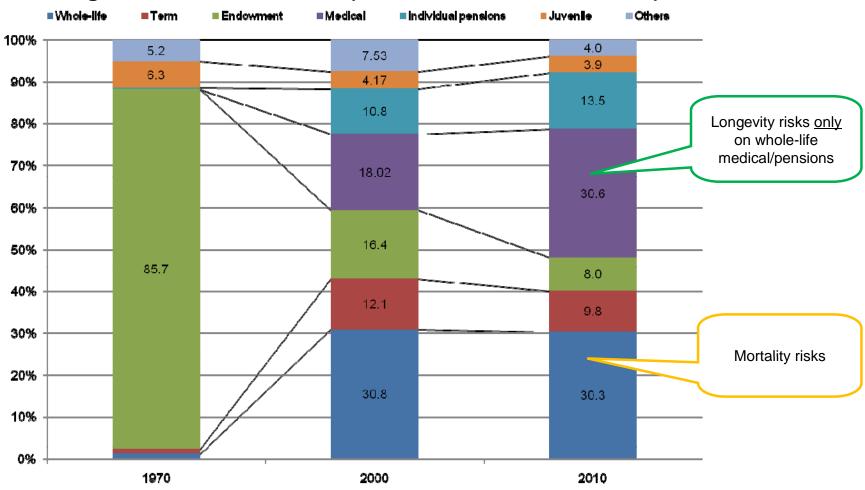
■ Life insurers are subject to longevity risk, in case where the option for whole life medical insurance is chosen by policyholders.



## Offsetting between longevity risk and mortality risk

Japanese life insurers' exposure to longevity risk is limited but gradually increasing

#### **Changes in Product Portfolio (Number of Policies in Force)**

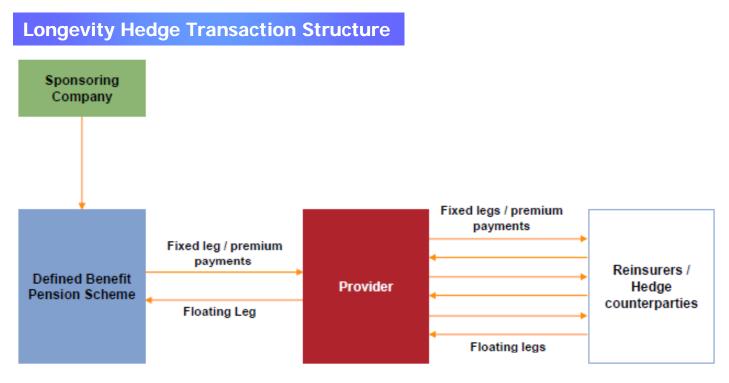




(Source: Life Insurance Association of Japan)

## Other measures to mitigate longevity risk

- Longevity Risk Transfer
  - ■Buy-out & Buy-in
  - Longevity Swaps
- Longevity as asset class for investors?



(Source: Deutsche Bank AG)



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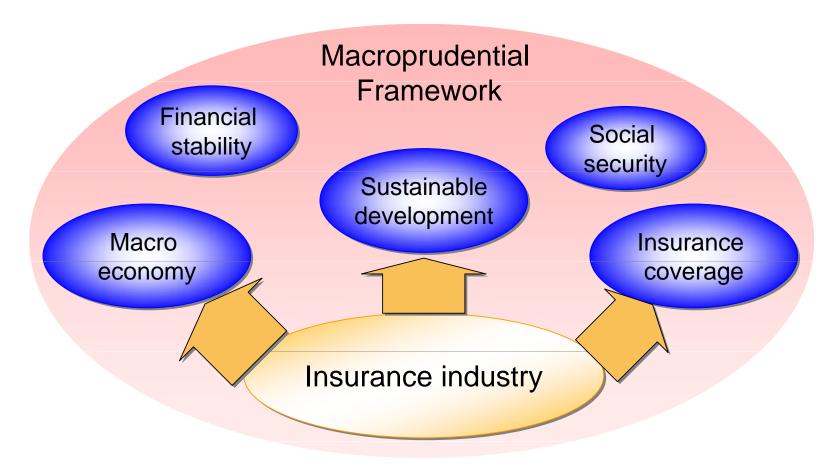


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## **Macroprudential Framework**

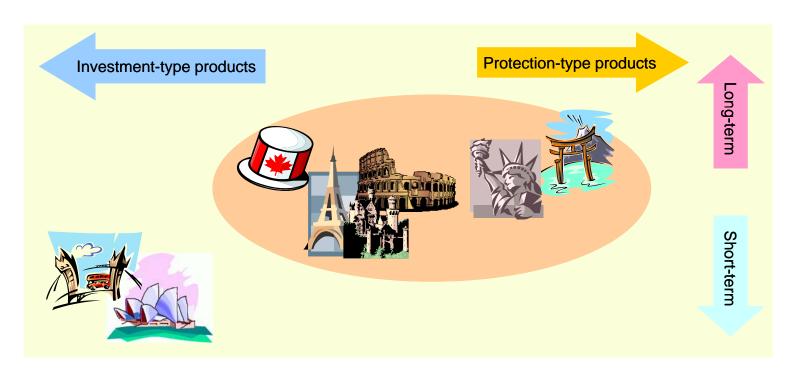
Macroprudential Framework would not mean merely monitoring of systemic risks, but should holistically cover all the key dimensions





#### Insurance business models and consumers

- Different business models by jurisdiction that reflect:
  - □ Different risk preference
  - Expected roles of the insurers
  - State of development of financial markets





## Regulatory implications

- Economic-based regime should have a long-term vision
- If a short-term-minded solvency regime were implemented
  - Significant volatility for long term products
  - Driven to transfer risks over to customers
  - Refrain from investing in non-fixed income assets



- Insurers play an important role as long term investors
- Life insurers play an increasing role in the social security system
- Diversity needed to support a sound development of the environment



(Photo – Buenos Aires, Argentina)

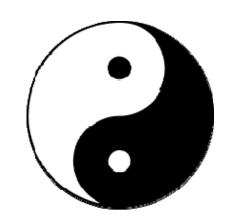


(Photo - Sydney, Australia)



## Conclusion: yin and yang

- Tao of supervision and risk management with a holistic framework
- Some words from Taoism
  - ■Be aware that the world is cyclical
  - □ Don't go to the extreme, otherwise you will fall
    - Bring the balance of yin and yang to the universe
  - □ In order to manage the world, you should control yourself
    - In order to implement international standards, you should first know your own country





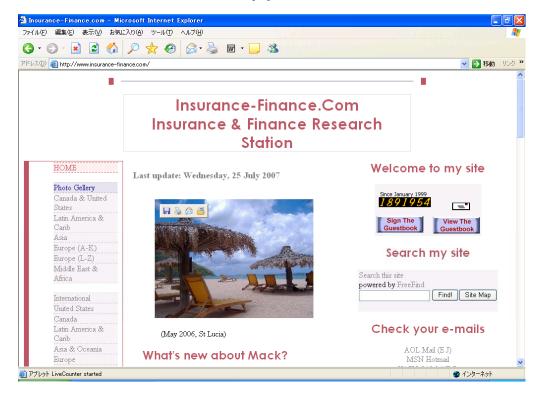
(Photo - Tao Garden, Chang Mai, Thailand)



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