







# **External Support for Decentralization Reforms & Local Governance Systems in the Asia Pacific:**Better Performance, Higher Impact?

## SUBNATIONAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL REFORMS IN CHINA

## Roy Bahl Georgia State University

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FISCAL PROFILE INDICATORS (SNGs)	VALUE
Expenditures as a % of GDP	36
SNG Expenditures (percent)	80
SNG Taxes (percent)	0
Intergovernmental Transfers	
(Derivation based Shared Taxes)	53%
(Unconditional Grants)	29%
(Conditional Grants)	18%

## THE SETTING FOR REFORM

- China Outgrew the Present System
- Slower Economic Growth

## EXPENDITURE ASSIGNMENTS

- PROBLEMS
  - Separating Government and Private Sector
  - Questionable Assignments
  - Central Government Too Small
- REFORMS: NEW REGULATIONS ON
  - Incentives
  - Involvement with Private Sector

## **OWN SOURCE REVENUES**

- PROBLEMS
  - No Local Taxing Autonomy
  - Land Leasing
  - Pension Contributions
- REFORMS
  - State Council Regulations
  - Abolish Business Tax

## INTERGOVERNMENTAL TRANSFERS

#### PROBLEMS

- Regional Disparities, not much equalization
- Economic Development Bias
- Complications
- Compliance Costs

#### **REFORMS**

- Reduce Conditional Grants
- Regulations on Provincial-Local Grants

## **SNG DEBT**

#### PROBLEMS

- No SNG Borrowing Power
- High Demand For Infrastructure
- UDICs
- Unsustainable Burdens

#### REFORMS

- SNG Borrowing Framework
- Refinance Existing Debt

## WHAT NEXT FOR SNG REFORM?

- MANY UNDERLYING PROBLEMS REMAIN
- IS A COMPREHENSIVE REFORM COMING?









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