

Development of Inflation Targeting in Georgia - Role of Fiscal Policy

Koba Gvenetadze Governor of the National Bank of Georgia

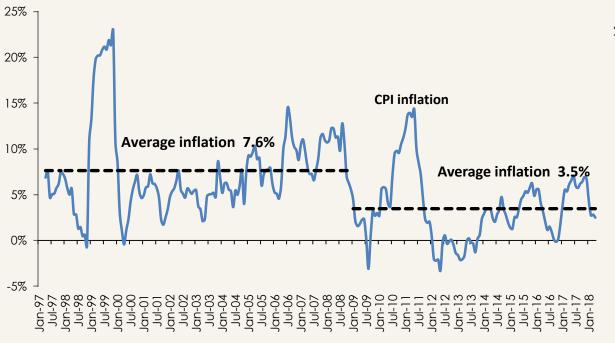
Role of Fiscal Policy under Inflation Targeting

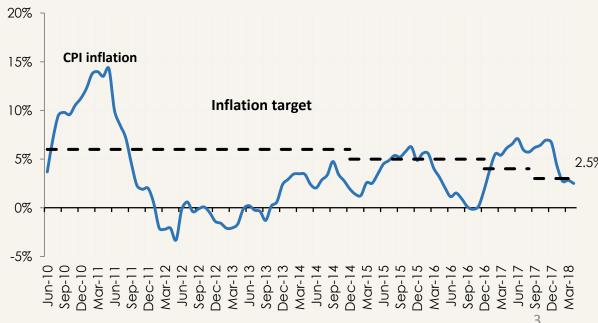
Interaction Between Monetary & Fiscal Policies

- ❖ Legal and institutional infrastructure:
 - Independent Central Bank;
 - No fiscal dominance;
- ❖ Coordination and communication between the government and the central bank
 - Improve liquidity forecasting and management;
 - Develop financial markets.

Introduction of Inflation Targeting

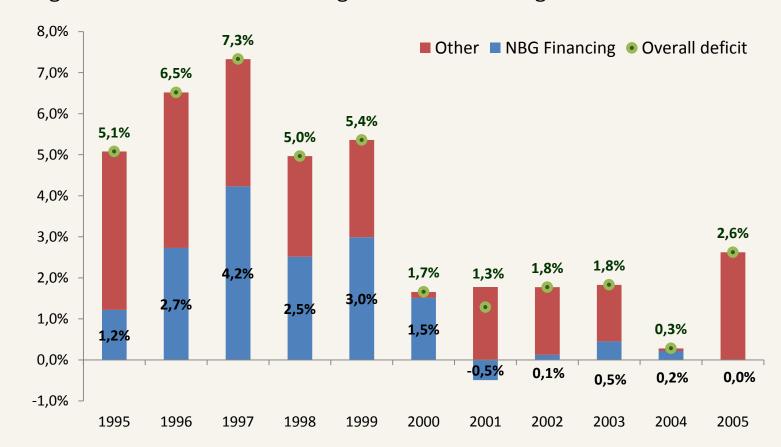
- The NBG switched to inflation targeting in 2009;
- The main objective of the monetary policy is to ensure price stability;
 - Financial stability;
 - Promote sustainable economic growth.





Fiscal Policy in 90s

- ❖ Turbulence in 90s;
 - Relatively higher level of deficit in mid 90s;
 - Difficulties in financing budget deficit.
- ❖ High share of the NBG in budget deficit financing.



Independence of the NBG

- For inflation targeting, an Independent Central Bank is a pre-requisite;
- ❖ The organic law on the National Bank of Georgia (2009):
 - * The NBG is independent in defining its objectives and main directions of monetary and exchange rate policies;
 - MPC determines monetary policy and and instruments used to achieve its goals;
 - 7 year tenor for the board.
- ❖ The NBG suspended the direct lending to the government (2005);

No Fiscal Dominance

- Budget deficit for the last decade stood at a moderate level;
- ❖ The operational balance for the last ten years is positive _____ budget deficit was used to finance capital spending.



Coordination of Policies

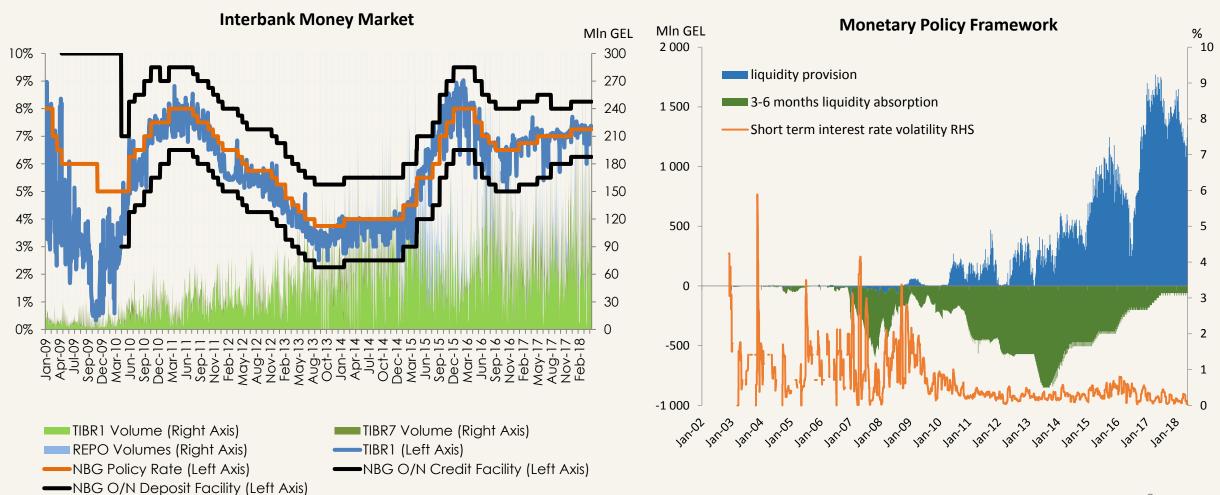
- Coordination of fiscal and monetary policies efficient liquidity management;
- ❖ The NBG and government coordinate:
 - Usage of different tools to absorb excess liquidity;
 - Guidance on the long-term reference interest rates for the market;
- ❖ The exchange of information is key for accuracy of liquidity forecasts;
- The NBG & government cooperate on debt management issues;

Low Budget Deficit and Regular Policy Coordination

Lower risks for fiscal dominance

Increased efficiency of monetary policy

Efficiency of the Monetary Policy

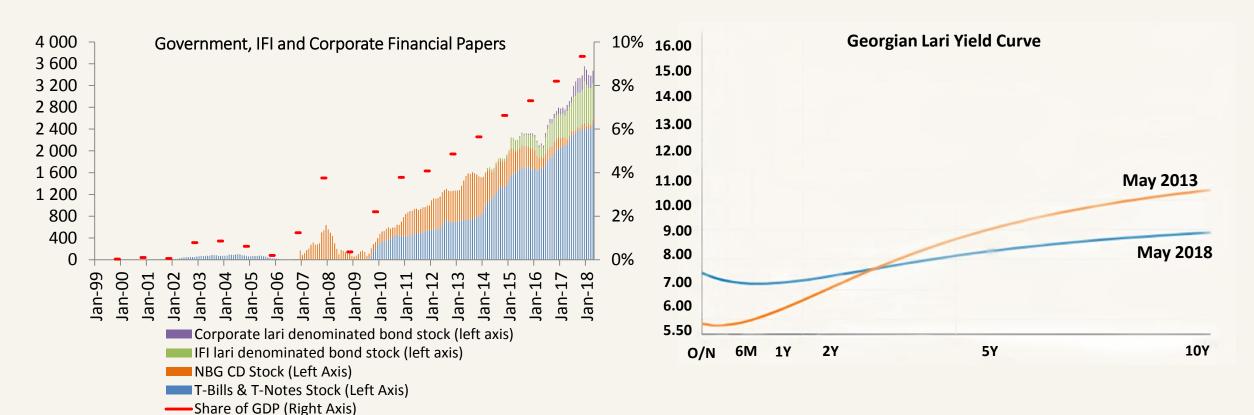


Development of Financial Markets

- Development of liquid financial markets is keystone to the efficiency of monetary policy transmission;
- Financial markets mainly consist of:
 - NBG's Certificates of Deposits;
 - Treasury securities;
 - ❖ IFI bonds issued in local currency.
- The government and the NBG cooperate on increasing the volume and maturity of securities;
 - Used as a collateral for refinancing loans.
- Currently, the portfolio of traded securities stands at 9.3% of GDP;
- Transactions are concentrated on primary market.

Development of Financial Markets

- The deepening of a secondary market is important to develop and increase the availability of non-bank funding;
- The NBG provides modern high tech infrastructure for the market;
- * Regulatory and legislative reforms.



Benefits of Inflation Targeting

- ❖ The inflation targeting framework, combined with the floating exchange rate regime, has served Georgia well;
 - ❖ Low inflationary environment 3.5% annual rate of inflation on average;
 - ❖ Low long term interest rates including on the government Bills and Notes 10 year notes are traded with 9 percent interest rates;
 - Stable exchange rate in the long term;
 - ❖ Favorable macro environment for long term economic growth.

Thank you!