

Global Financial and Economic Distress The Likely Impact on Southern Africa

Konrad Reuss, Standard & Poor's

Johannesburg, 10 February 2009

Permission to reprint or distribute any content from this presentation requires the written approval of Standard & Poor's.

Copyright (c) 2008 Standard & Poor's, a division of The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. All rights reserved.

## **Main topics**

- Status quo and outlook for capital flows
- Ratings outlook



### Today's world

- Severe financial market dislocation
- Financial institutions: deleverage or bust
- Worldwide credit contraction
- Significant slowdown in global growth
- Fall in commodity prices
- Global trade is contracting for the first time in decades



### **Capital flows**

### The status quo of investment

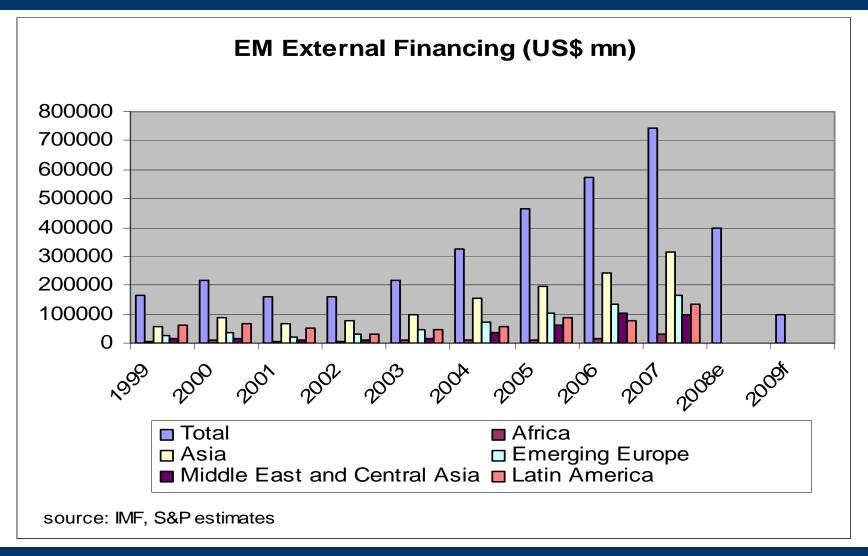
- Reduced investor risk appetite
- Home bias in portfolio allocation
- Banks deleverage

### The consequences

- Capital drought and crowding out
- Reversal of equity and carry-trade flows
- Emerging domestic capital markets another casualty
- Further significant reduction of cross-border capital flows including FDI
- Decline of capital accumulation in Emerging Market countries

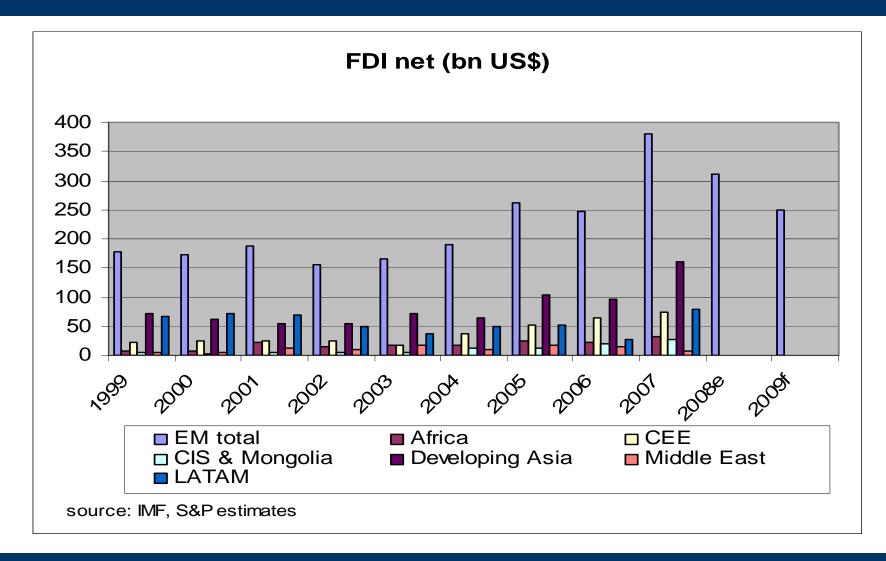


## External financing (bonds, equities, loans)





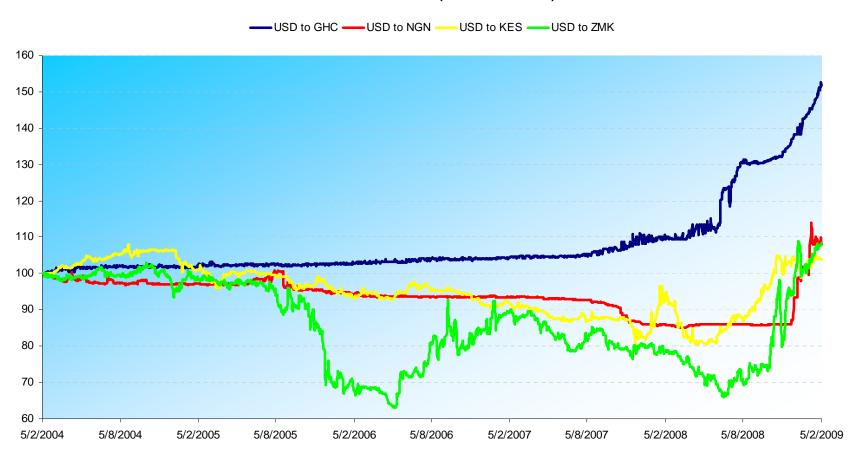
### **Foreign Direct Investment**





# Pressure on African Currencies

### Selected Currencies (Indexed 5/2/2004)





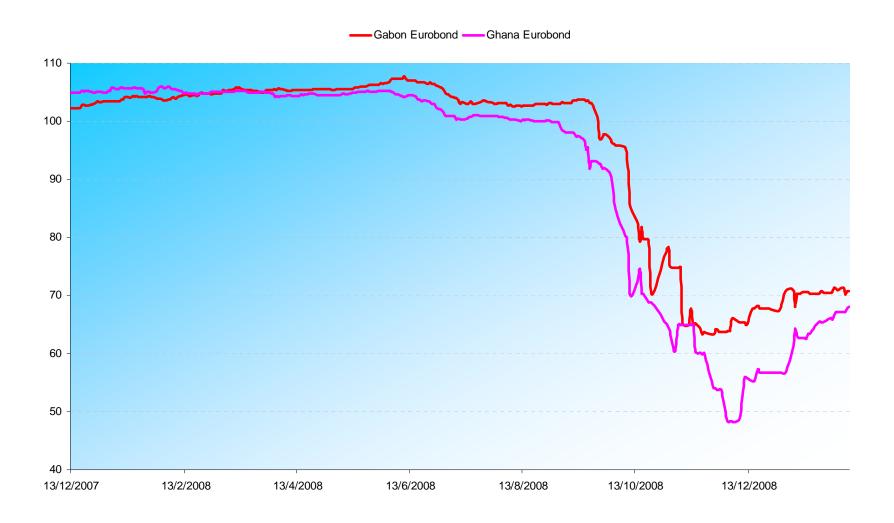
# **Emerging Markets Currencies**

### Selected Currencies (Indexed 5/2/2004)





# African Eurobonds – Yesterday's Flavour

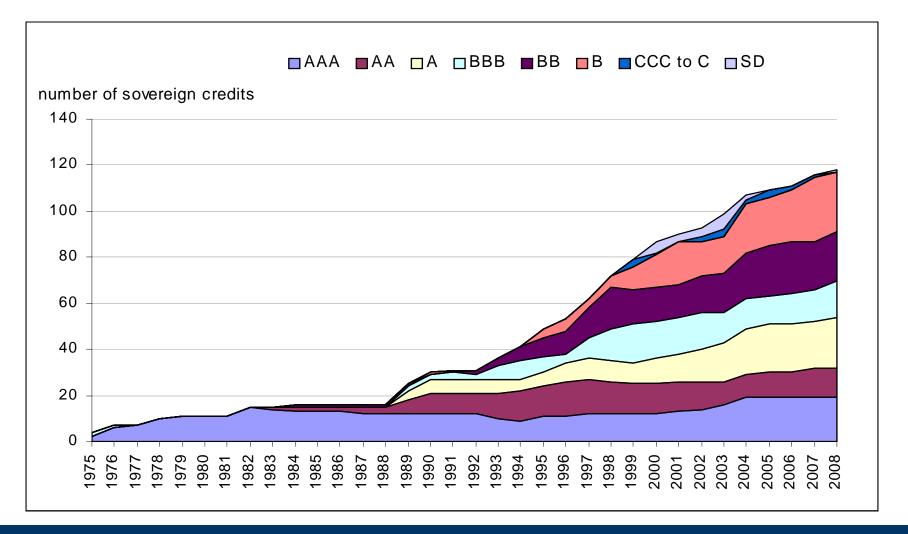




# **Ratings Outlook**



### Sovereign Ratings -- Growth, Ratings Distribution 1975-2008





### **Sovereign Ratings Under Pressure**

### Developed world

- Fiscal stimulus and bank recapitalisation
- Negative rating action on Greece, Portugal, Spain, Ireland

### Emerging markets

- Confidence sensitive external financing, fragile financial sectors, inadequate policy responses, weak public finances
- 16 downgrades in the last five months of 2008
- 11 EM sovereigns with negative outlooks



### **Outlook for Emerging Africa**

### Emerging Africa

- Ratings are holding up well, but some negative outlooks. Hence downside risks dominate.
- No 'safe havens' as commodity prices and external demand decline and capital flows dry up
- Slowdown in growth and capital accumulation in 2009 will be severe
- Less developed banking sectors, hence no need for bank recap
- Little-to-no room for fiscal stimulus as fiscal and BoP pressures are emerging
- Policy makers are challenged

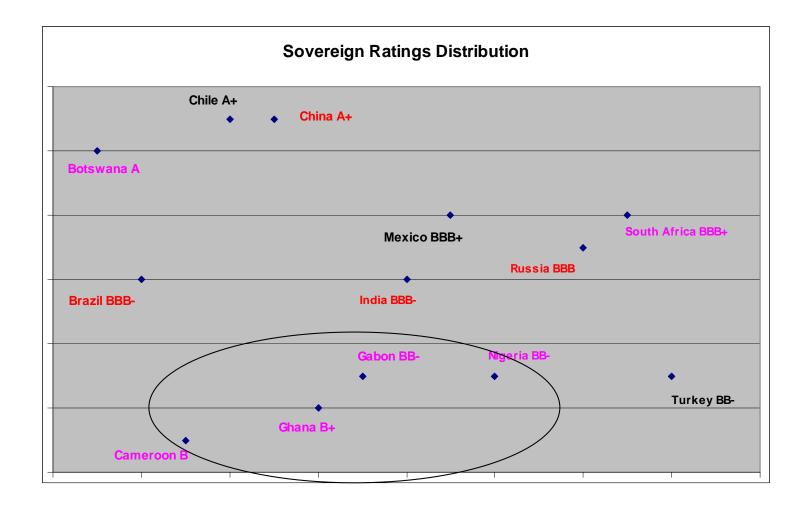


# **Sovereign Ratings Africa**

	FC LT Rating	Outlook
Benin	В	Positive
Botswana	Α	Stable
Burkina Faso	В	Stable
Cameroon	В	Stable
Egypt	BB+	Stable
Gabon	BB-	Stable
Ghana	B+	Stable
Kenya	В	Positive
Madagascar	В	Negative
Morocco	BB+	Stable
Mozambique	B+	Stable
Nigeria	BB-	Stable
Senegal	B+	Negative
Seychelles	SD	
South Africa	BBB+	Negative
Tunisia	BBB	Stable

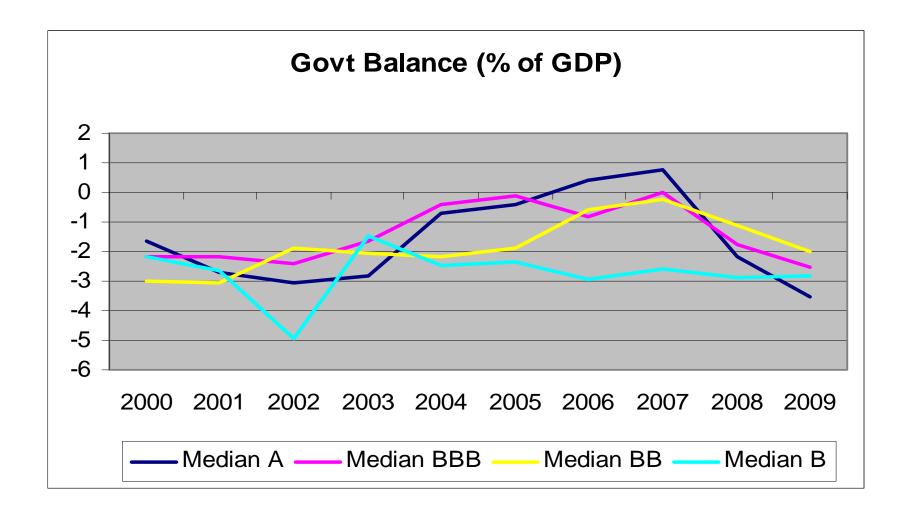


# **Sovereign Ratings in Africa**





### Rating Vulnerability: Government Finances





## Rating Vulnerability: External Financing

