The 420th Forum on Research Work July 10, 2015

#### JAPAN

# **Outlook for Gas Markets**

### The Institute of Energy Economics, Japan

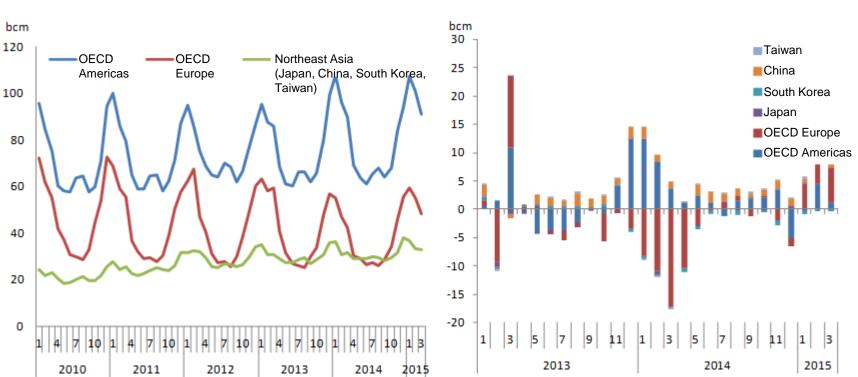
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# Natural gas demand in major consuming regions

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Year-on-Year Changes

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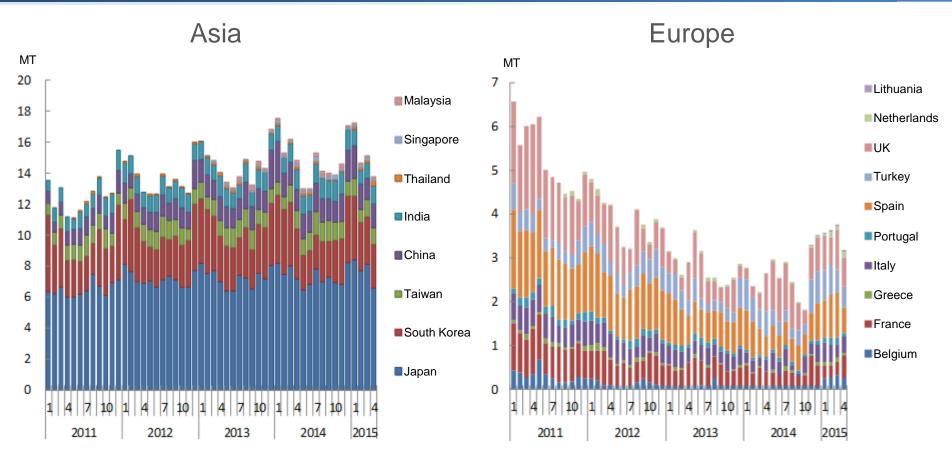
Monthly demand

(Sources) IEA; China OGP; Bureau of Energy, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Taiwan

Demand in 2014:

- OECD Americas 930 bcm (up 32 bcm or 4% year on year)
- OECD Europe 447 bcm (down 52 bcm or 10%)
- Northeast Asia 360 bcm (up15 bcm or 2%)
- While demand in Europe increased from early 2015, the sovereign debt risk resurfaced.

# Monthly LNG imports in Asia and Europe

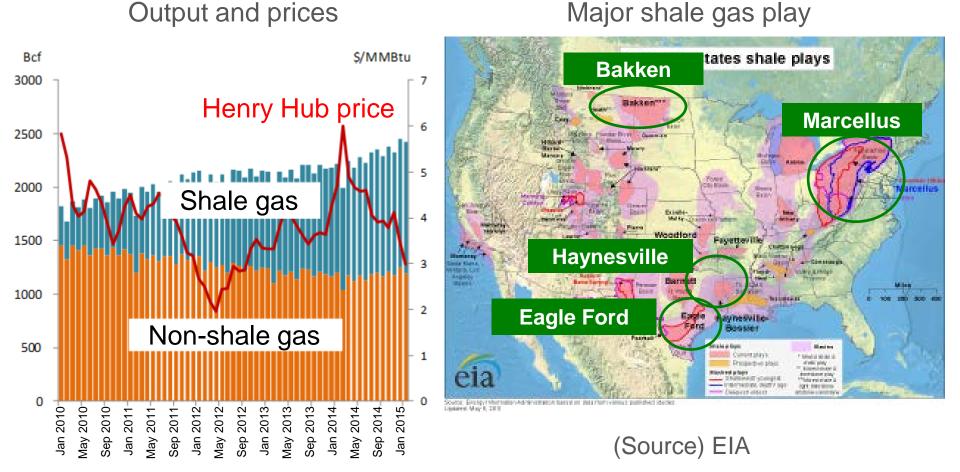


(Sources) Customs statistics in each country, IEA, etc.

- LNG imports: 180.10 MT in Asia (up 2.06 MT year on year), 32.44 MT in Europe (down 1.49 MT)
- LNG imports in Europe increased since late 2014.

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### U.S. natural gas production

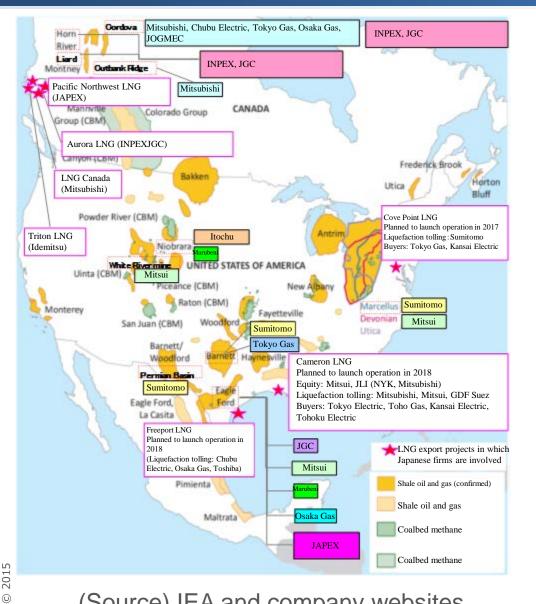


Shale gas production has been robust despite price falls as productivity is improving. In January 2015, shale gas output exceeded 50% of total natural gas output for the first time.

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# LNG export projects in North America



(Source) IEA and company websites

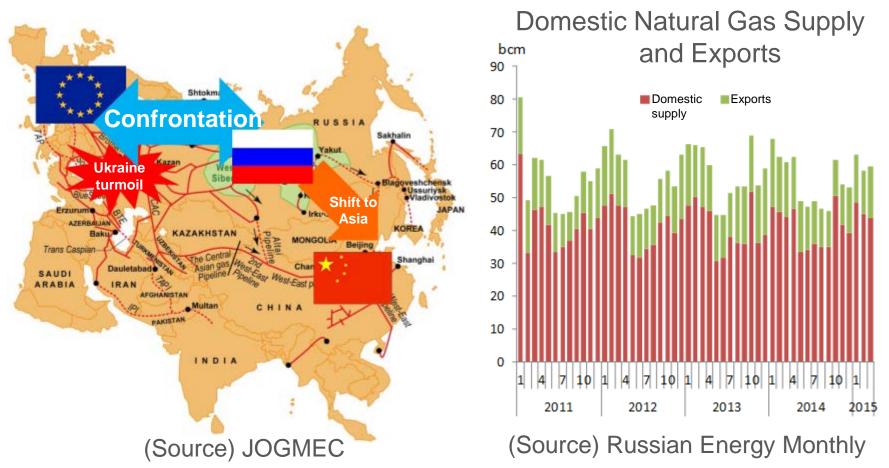
#### U.S.

- 54 projects (350 MT)
- Four export projects have won approval for exports to non-FTA countries and for the construction of natural gas liquefaction facilities, (52 MT/year)
- Sabine Pass will launch operation in late 2015 or early 2016

#### Canada

- 35 projects (390 MT)
- While 10 projects (about 120 MT/year) have won approval for exports, only LNG Canada has received approval for construction.

### Russia's shift to Asia



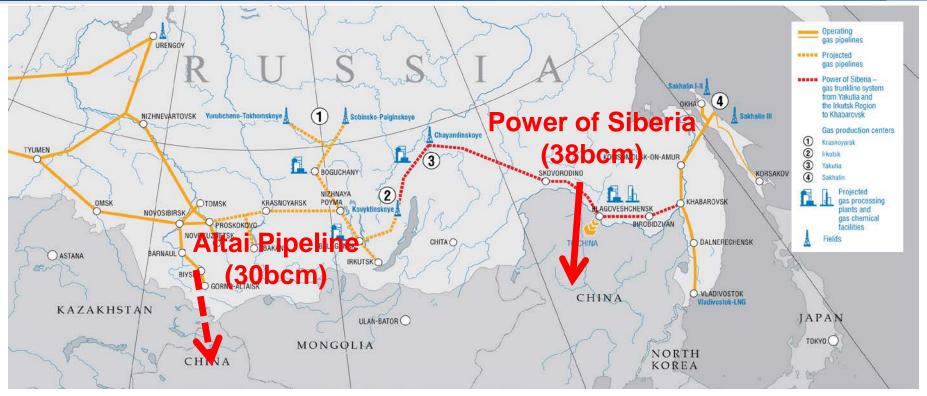
Exports in 2014 totaled 193 Bcm, down 12% year on year.

As supply to Europe is not likely to expand, Russia urgently needs to explore Asian markets. As well as pipeline gas supply to China, the expansion of LNG supply to other Asian countries including Japan is an issue.





## Russian gas supply routes to Asia

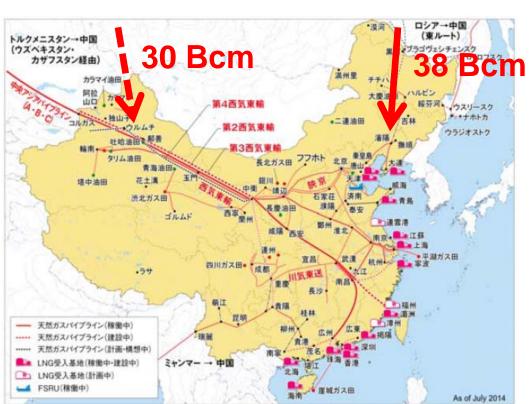


(Source) Gazprom

- Russia signed a gas sales contract for 38 bcm/year (for Power of Siberia) in May 2014 and a memorandum of understanding for 30 bcm/year (for Altai Pipeline).
- The oil price plunge has cast a shadow on investment in Eastern Siberian gas fields development and in the Power of Siberia construction.
- Greater priority might be given to the Altai Pipeline project in which no upstream development is required.

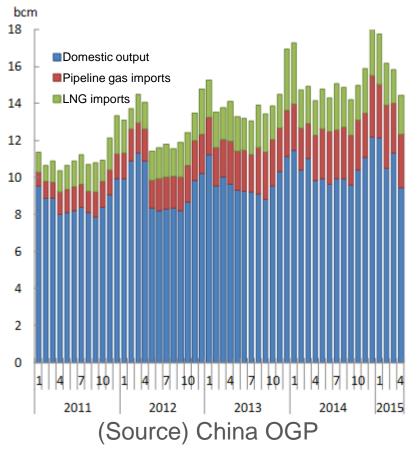
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# Natural gas supply and demand in China



Gas infrastructure development

#### Domestic production and imports



#### (Source) JOGMEC

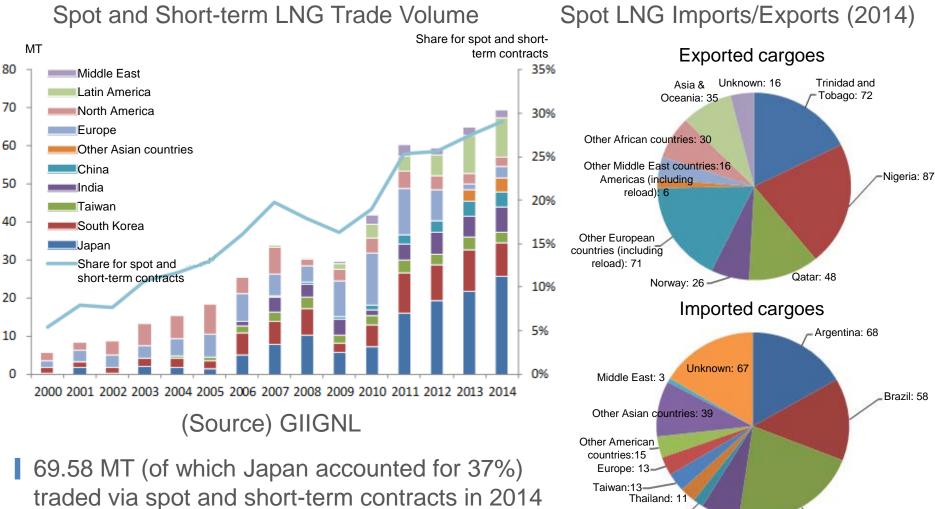
Demand in 2014 totaled 183 Bcm (up 7% year on year).

Pipeline gas imports posted remarkable growth (up 15% year on year).

Lower LNG prices have not impacted on import increase to a significant extent. LNG import terminals' operating rates remain low.

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# Spot and short-term LNG trade



Japan's spot procurement in 2014 estimated at 87 cargoes (about 5.2 MT accounting for 6% of total LNG imports)

Japan: 87

Mexico: 7

South Korea: 26

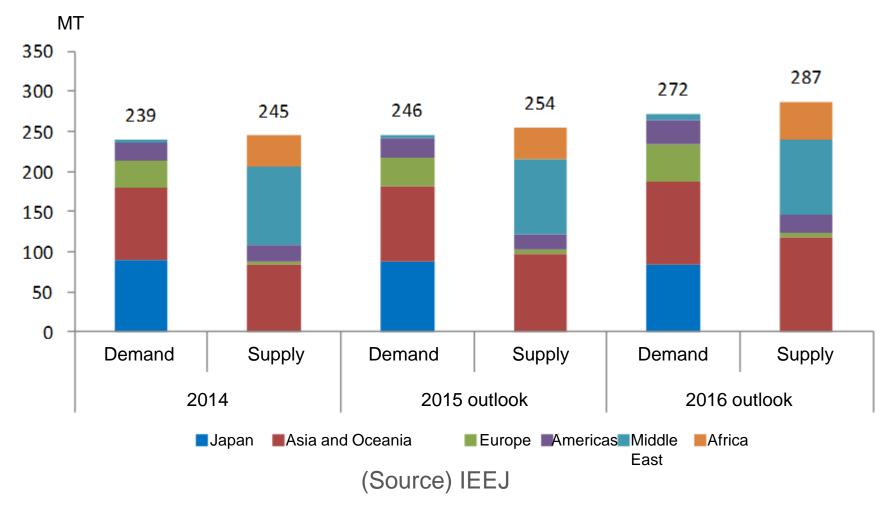
(Source) ICIS Heren

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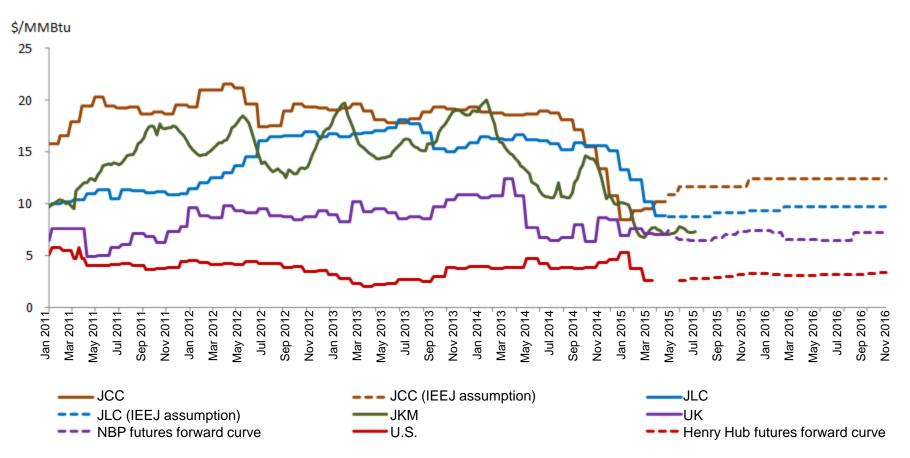
# LNG supply and demand outlook



As new supply sources have launched operation one after another, supply-pushed growth in demand will be increasingly clear.

Emerging markets especially in Asia will continue to expand imports.

### Natural gas prices



(Sources) Energy Intelligence, EIA, Platts, CME, IEEJ

Japan's average LNG import price (JLC) has fallen since early 2015 due to the crude oil price decline. While Asian premium has substantially shrank, the rationality of oil-indexation remains an issue. Japan's average LNG import price in the second half of 2015 and 2016 is projected at \$8.8-9.7/MMBtu.

# Conclusions



Natural gas supply and demand in major markets

- Demand has been firm in the Americas and Asia. Future demand in Europe is uncertain with sovereign debt risks.
- U.S. shale gas has remained competitive despite price falls.
- Demand growth has been decelerating in the Chinese market. The oil price decline is affecting Russian pipeline gas export projects to China.

#### LNG markets

- Demand growth has decelerated in Asia while turning upward in Europe recently.
- Market liquidity has been enhanced with growing spot trade.
- While the Asian premium has shrunk, the rationality of oil-indexation remains an issue.
- Substantial supply growth will accelerate buyers' market situation.