

Scaling the Great Wall to Understand RMB Internationalization

- The Opportunities and Challenges -

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Overview

- Background to Renminbi (RMB) Internationalization
- Developments involving RMB Internationalization
- Opportunities available to capital market firms
- Operational Challenges of RMB Internationalization for capital market firms

China is accelerating its economic reforms by internationalization of its currency

Salient features of Chinese economy



Largest Economy in the world



In International Trade



Largest recipient of remittance



Closed economy to foreigners for a long time



Negligible share of RMB in international transactions

Source: World Bank, Celent

RMB internationalization

- China's efforts to grow the role of RMB in global transactions
- Part of long term plans of liberalizing the economy and attract foreign capital

Key objectives

Step 2: RMB as an investment currency

Step 1: RMB as a trade currency

Well established already.

RMB being used to settle a significant proportion of China's international trade.

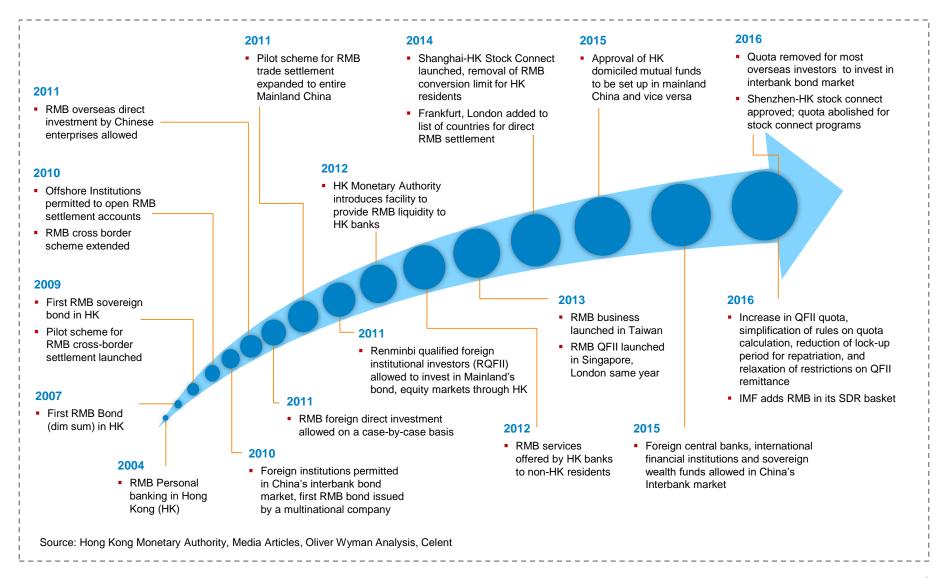
Step 3: RMB as a reserve currency

Now in infancy.

RMB inclusion in IMF's SDR basket should expedite this Effort is well under way process.

Key global financial hubs shaping up to be major offshore RMB centres.

Several key milestones have already been achieved in the RMB Internationalization journey



Key Questions on RMB Internationalization

- What are the developments taking place involving RMB Internationalization?
- What opportunities does RMB Internationalization present to capital market participants?
- How do capital market firms get ready to capitalize on RMB Internationalization?

Are there any operational challenges for capital market firms keen to participate in the China Story?

Developments shaping the RMB Internationalization journey

- Opening up of mainland's stock market and asset management industry for global investors
 - Stock Connect schemes, mutual recognition of funds between Hong Kong and China
- Policy changes to encourage greater foreign participation
- IMF's inclusion of RMB in its SDR basket, the World Bank to issue bonds in China backed by SDR basket
- The World bank has decided to issue bonds in China backed by the SDR basket that will be settled in RMB
- Leading global index providers likely to include RMB denominated A-Shares in their key indices
- Hong Kong is the dominant offshore centre in RMB Internationalization
- Leading market infrastructure providers to develop new links and platforms to further develop RMB market

Opportunities for capital market participants

- Investment managers and hedge funds gain easier and wider access to Chinese assets with high return and better risk management features
- Financial intermediaries and market infrastructure providers can develop new products and services that connect global players with local markets, and help them navigate local complexities
- These developments will expand the product and service offerings involving the RMB, and also expedite adoption of technology in capital market

Getting Ready for RMB Internationalization

- Local Rules and practices on key issues can differ from international standards (e.g., naked short selling, day trading, a short and complex settlement cycle, and delivery versus payment)
- Currencies in onshore and offshore markets are the same legal tender but need to be identified separately
- Language differences are not adequately addressed in current systems
- These operational challenges create inefficiencies at a firm level it is expensive and redundant for individual firms to solve these common challenges

Market participants need to be aware of the challenges and ways to overcome them to benefit from the RMB Internationalization process

The Road Ahead...

- Establish industry wide standards and frameworks to strike a balance between global and local practices
- Coordinated efforts among market participants and active engagement with regulatory authorities
- All in the capital market ecosystem to work together

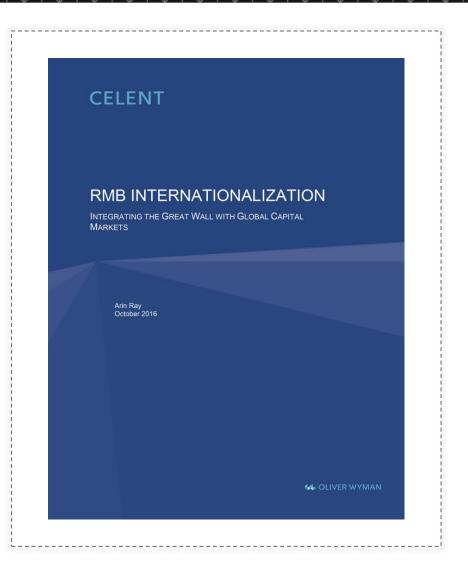
The Road Ahead

- Transformation of the Chinese economy and its currency likely to continue
 - There will be occasional speed bumps, as is expected for any such undertaking, and should not derail the overall process
- Journey likely to be shaped by complex evolution of regulatory changes, need for accurate understanding and implementation of regulations into firm level policies, and a patchwork of different processes and systems
- Heavy reliance on manual processes to address operational challenges
 - This would not be sustainable as the markets develop and volumes grow
- Developing internal systems and capabilities to overcome local nuances will likely be operationally difficult and expensive for individual firms
 - Specialist external providers can help navigate the complexities in a timely and cost-effective way
- Need for more concerted efforts among industry participants, and active engagement and coordination with regulatory authorities on current issues and future direction of changes

More information on...

...RMB Internationalization...grab a copy of the white paper, "RMB Internationalization: Integrating the Great Wall with Global Capital Markets" at www.dtcc.com.

Published by Celent, a division of Oliver Wyman, and commissioned by DTCC.





Thank You

