Inequalities in the Global Financial Safety Net under COVID-19

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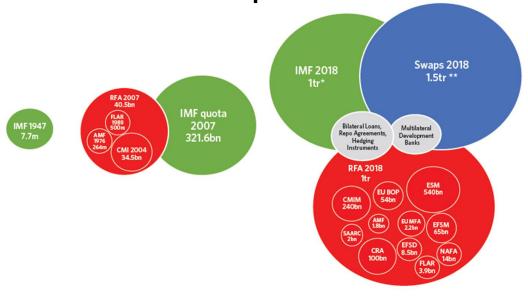
with L. Mühlich (FU Berlin), William Kring and Kevin Gallagher (Boston University)





Global Financial Safety Net:

IMF & RFAs & swaps



1944-1976

1976-2007

2008-2018

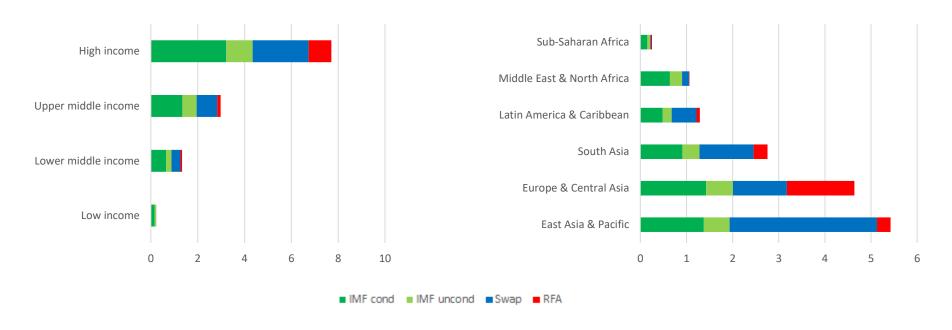
Source: Mühlich et al. 2020





GFSN lending capacity 2020

(in % of GDP, weighted GDP share, by income group and by region)

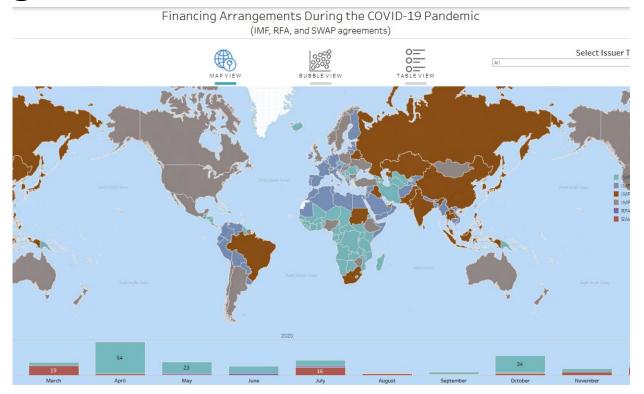


Notes: CMIM, CRA: only IMF-delinked portion; swaps: active in 2020; IMF conditional: SBA, CCR, EFF, ECF; IMF non-conditional: RCF, RFI, FCL, PLL, SLL





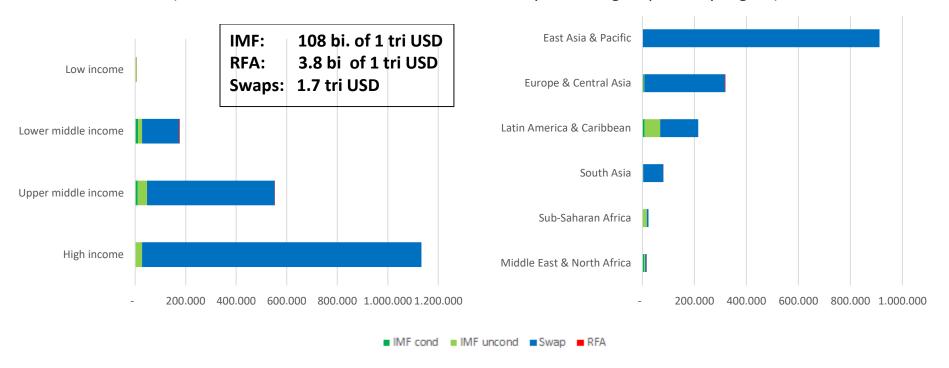
www.gfsntracker.com





Lending under COVID-19

(from Feb. 2020 to March 2021, in USD mi, by income group and by region)



Notes: CMIM, CRA: only IMF-delinked portion; swaps: active in 2020; IMF conditional: SBA, CCR, EFF, ECF; IMF non-conditional: RCF, RFI, FCL, PLL, SLL





GFSN: Unequal, de-multilateralizating?

- 1. Multilateral institutions: IMF, RFAs in little use until now
 - Calm before the storm?
 - If demand grows, poorer countries / regions under-insured?

2. Shifting weights:

- Dominated by national interests, reliability?
- New "liquidity diplomacy" of swaps crowding out IMF and RFA?
- 3. Make multilateral institutions more attractive!
 - cooperation between IMF and RFAs
 - Further reform of IMF: conditionality!







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