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Fast Forward China: How

Covid-19 Accelerates Five Key Trends in the Chinese Economy

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As the first country to grapple with Covid-19, China has been on the frontlines of both economic recovery and of the societal changes the pandemic has precipitated. Efforts to stabilize the economy are well underway, and though China's first quarter GDP declined 6.8 percent over the previous year, McKinsey simulations suggest that economic activity had bottomed out in the first quarter. As the recovery takes shape, several shifts in China's economic landscape have become apparent. Covid-19 has accelerated pre-existing trends, ushering in the arrival of a future we were likely already on track to realize.

Jeongmin Seong is a Partner at the McKinsey Global Institute (MGI), McKinsey & Company's business and economics research arm. He leads MGI research teams in China, working on global as well as China-focused themes. Jeongmin's recent research has focused on technology, innovation and China's economic transition. He has coauthored several MGI reports and discussion papers. Prior to joining MGI, Jeongmin worked with companies around the world focusing on consumer facing industries including consumer electronics, retail, and automotive at McKinsey Greater China, and also led McKinsey's emerging market growth service line. Prior to McKinsey, Jeongmin worked as a product marketing manager at Dell China. Jeongmin is a graduate of Harvard Business School where received his MBA.

<u>China Crossroads</u> hosts talks on all topics related to China, including business, foreign policy, and other areas as they relate to China, the idea being that China is both already a "crossroads" of the world and itself at a "crossroads" in terms of its future global influence. For more information, contact Frank Tsai at <u>editor@shanghai-review.org</u>.