

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES: PPP PROGRAMS IN LATAM REGION

CAF – CDP Workshop March, 2021



Private Participation in Infrastructure Investment



Infrastructure Projects with Private Participation in EMDEs, 2009-2018



2019 Infrascope Ranking environment for private investment in infrastructure in Latin America and Caribbean

Infrascope 2019 overall score

(neutral weights)



EMERGING (30-59) NA SCENT (0-29)

Score o-too where too-best. Rank out of st countries across LAC, t-best, - before the rank indicates a tie.





Business Environment: Doing Business 2020





- Latin American countries traditionally spread from around the 60th to the 150th position in the ranking, with a few below that.
- Positive signs in the recent years:
 - Regional leader: Chile (ranked 59th globally)
 - Colombia (ranked 67th globally) has implemented a total of 37 reforms since 2005 and continues to lead reform initiatives in the region. It has also launched three major reforms during a 12-month period ending in May 2019
 - Caribbean economies: implemented a record number of 19 reforms. 11 of the 16 regional economies implemented reforms to facilitate the operation of companies

Chile

Ranking Infrascope (2019): 1, Ranking Doing Business (2020): 59



Institutional

- In 2017, Chile's Law updated the country's PPP framework
- PPP Unit: General Directorate of Concessions

Characteristics

- Priority sectors: Roads and hospitals
- Most developed capital market in LA
- Recent legislation created an Infrastructure Fund, independent from the government, with its own governance and source of resources, but still pending regulation
- Best country to do business in LA
 - Bilateral agreement with the EU
 - Increased political support for PPPs
 - Commitment to increase spending on infrastructure, particularly through concessions, by 10% per year from 2018 to 2022
- Highly concentrated construction market, only three companies represent almost 80% of the projects

Risks

- Demand risk
 - Normally transferred to the private partner;
 - Problems in airports due to the pandemic

Political risks

- Constitutional reform, municipal (Apr) and presidential (Nov) elections
- □ Protests in 2019 with strong social demands
- Upside: political system quickly reacted to understand the demands and channel them into the mainstream political process.

Conflict resolution mechanism

- Independent Concessions Council for contract modifications and renegotiations
- The negotiation of supplementary contracts with concessionaires and the way in which they expand the concessions also present transparency problems

Colombia

Ranking Infrascope (2019): 2, Ranking Doing Business (2020): 67



Institutional

- In 2018, a law was approved to strengthen the general public procurement regime
- The target for PPP has been to provide greater certainty about the repayment of investments and loans in the event of contract cancellation

Characteristics

- Priority sectors: 5G, roads, railways, airports, waterways
- FDN, a bank exclusively dedicated to financing infrastructure projects
- It handles local and international banking, capital markets, debt and multilateral funds
- Free Trade Agreement between Colombia and the EU. Technology and innovation as key areas
- Corruption scandals have affected political support for large investments in infrastructure

- Demand risk
 - 4G revenue guaranties for less than expected demand
 - No mitigation mechanisms for regional airports and railways
- Currency risk
 - 4G: part of government payments USD denominates to reduce the FX risks
- Political risks
 - Post-conflict political tensions and COVID management
 - Presidential elections 2022
- □ Conflict resolution mechanism
 - Arbitrage processes enforced
 - Commitment to include civil society groups as observers in transport PPP renegotiations
- □ Environmental and social risks
 - □ Issues with indigenous communities in some areas

Peru

Ranking Infrascope (2019): 2, Ranking Doing Business (2020): 76



Institutional

- New PPP framework came into effect in 2015, seeking simplified processes and making them more efficient
- Legislative Decree in 2018, to improve the National System for the Promotion of Private Investment by granting ProInversión the power to hire and appoint project managers in all sectors
- Capacity building to enforce project schedules
- Creation of board of directors

Characteristics

- Priority sectors: Roads, ports, airports, water
- Local and international banking, capital markets and multilaterals. Private pension funds have invested almost 11% of their capital in infrastructure projects, including PPPs
- Trade agreement with the EU
- High-level political support for PPP
- Multiple trade and investment protection agreements
- Stable credit rating for its Global Bonds

Risks

- Political risks
 - Political instability. Presidential elections 2021
 - Highly affected by Lava-a-Jato shockwaves

□ Conflict resolution mechanism

- Lacks specific provisions on compensation in early termination, they describe the reasons but do not discuss compensation for investors
- Opinions of the regulators and auditors for renegotiations are not binding
- □ Environmental and social risks
 - Lenghtly environmental licensencing process

Expropriations

 Some concessions have been affected by delays in expropriations, specially in the road sector

Brazil

Ranking Infrascope (2019): 7, Ranking Doing Business (2020): 124



Institutional

- Investment Partnership Program, which centralizes the structuring and execution of priority projects in the Ministry of Economy
- The quality of the PPPs has been improved

Characteristics

Priority sectors:

- Roads, ports, airports, power plants, Sao
 Paulo metro (oct 2020, USD 2300 MM line 6).
- Recently Brazil approved a new legal framework for basic sanitation, which should favor PPP projects in water at the subnational level
- BNDES has a fund to help companies prepare PPP projects and still is the main of financing for PPP projects,
- Foreign investors have a 30-year track record of sponsoring and financing PPPs in the country.
- Well organized capital markets and an uprising liquidity for infrastructure bonds

Risks

- Currency risk
 - Challenges for international investors due to currency risks
 - Difficulty diversifying sources of financing outside of institutional investors

Political risks

- Congested political landscape
- Presidential elections 2022
- □ Conflict resolution mechanism
 - It allows all administrative decisions made by the Government to be appealed through the judiciary
 - Multiple stakeholders involved in renegotiation processes, impacting specially the road and airport sectors
- □ Environmental and social risks
 - Transparency and well-organized consultation processes, but time consuming due to interference of multiple stakeholders

Uruguay

Ranking Infrascope (2019): 7, Ranking Doing Business (2020): 101



Institutional

PPPs implementation began after the approval of the corresponding Law in 2011 and the regulatory decrees of 2012, 2015, 2017 and 2018

Characteristics

- One of the most stable and consolidated markets in LA and low unemployment rates.
- Private pension funds and insurance companies have participated in the financing of the PPPs. Multilateral
- Not a priority for the new government
- Trade Agreement between the EU and Mercosur still to be ratified

- Political risks
 - The challenge is identified in whether the rightwing coalition can articulate internally to maintain a power that it achieved by the minimum
- Conflict resolution mechanism
 - It does not allow appeals by investors in cases of early termination of the contract
- □ Environmental and social risks
 - Conflicts with the Central Railway PPP
- Political support for APP has been reduced in the recent years

Costa Rica

Ranking Infrascope (2019): 7, Ranking Doing Business (2020): 74



Institutional

- The ongoing PPP regulatory framework over-regulates the initiatives, specially in terms of procurement process, and lacks incentives to private participation.
- For specific sectors, social infrastructure, GoCR has edited decrees to provide better conditions.

Characteristics

- Priority sectors: Roads, railways, airports, ports, water
- International banking
- Association Agreement between Central America and the European Union (ADA) for the promotion of political and economic cooperation
- Long history of widespread resistance to concessions, especially in highway projects
- It is essential that the country approve the fiscal adjustment within an agreement with the Monetary Fund, in order to assure creditworthiness.

- Political risks
 - Great impact of the pandemic due to its strong dependence on tourism
 - The reform of the public employment system stands out.
- □ Conflict resolution mechanism
 - It does not allow appeals by investors in cases of early termination of the contract
- □ Environmental and social risks
 - They require that the private have insurance to cover the risks of natural disasters, and the coverage amounts must be specified in the PPP contract
 - Tolls remain sensitive issues and could provoke renewed opposition to PPPs

México

Ranking Infrascope (2019): 10, Ranking Doing Business (2020): 60



Institutional

- PPP legislation aplicable at federal, regional and municipal levels
- States and municipalities have developed their own reglulatory frameworks
- Lack of a centralized PPP agency

Characteristics

- Priority sectors: highways, railways, airports, power transmission
- BANOBRAS: national bank that supports the infrastructure financing
- Political support of PPP
- Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) signed with the European Union

- Political Risk
 - Better prospects under the new US Government
 - Recently government has suspended some initiatives, but informs that is still committed to expand PPPs to provide infrastructure.
- Exchange rate risks: relatively low volatility of the Mexican Peso and well-organized FX hedge market

Ecuador

Ranking Infrascope (2019): 12, Ranking Doing Business (2020): 129



Institutional

- The Productive Development law (2018) enables the local and small PPP projects without the approval of the PPP Interinstitutional Committee
- Institutional barriers: a national PPP agency is needed with resources and legal capacity

Characteristics

- Priority sectors : highways, ports
- Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with the European Union
- Doing business: the less attractive country in LA to start a business
- Local banking system is a bottleneck for channeling resources for infrastructure initiatives.

Risks

- Exchange Risk
 - Dollarized economy

Political Risk

- 2020 was a turbulent year.
- □ Elections going on in 2021

Conflict resolution mechanisms

□ Lacks a standard on the PPP contracts: 4 projects with different approaches to this issue

Panamá

Ranking Infrascope (2019): 14, Ranking Doing Business (2020): 86



Institutional

- New PPP law (2019). Law regulation is due this year
- Public procurement law that stipulates the mechanisms for private capital to finance big infrastructure projects is inefficient and non-transparent
- PPP Secretariat recently created: still building up the technical capacity

Characteristics

- Priority sectors : highways, metrocable
- Political support of PPP
- Association Agreement between the European Union and Central America (AACUE): political and economic cooperation
- Financing: international banking system and multilateral development banks
- Public procurement framework poses some barriers to competition.

- Exchange Risk
 - Dollarized economy
- Political Risk
 - Big swings are unlikely, even on a change of government.
 - Biggest challenges: boost the economy and reduce the high unemployment rates

República Dominicana

Ranking Infrascope (2019): 16, Ranking Doing Business (2020): 60



Institutional

- New PPP law (2020). Pending further regulation
- National Development Strategy 2030 aims to strengthen the turism and agriculture sectors and prioritize the public infrastructure in terms of social benefit
- PPP Office recently created: lack of technical capacity

Characteristics

- Priority sectors : highways, airports, housing
- Political support of PPP
- PPP recent law introduces new financing mechanisms in 2011 (mortgage and trust funds) and the update of the stock market law
- Financing: international banks
- Pension funds: compulsory social security system and fully financed. Little infrastructure investment due to the legal restrictions

- Political Risk
 - Serious economic crisis: the economy relies on the tourist sector. High unemployment rates. High external debt
- □ Conflict resolution mechanisms
 - Two PPP expropriated projects in 10 years: because of fraud (2012) and environmental damage (2017)

Paraguay

Ranking Infrascope (2019): 17, Ranking Doing Business (2020): 125



Institutional

- Incipient efforts to foster PPP projects
- Early stages of PPP: just one contract awarded in 2016 (highway) and a second awarded and cancelled contract to expand and modernize the Silvio Pettirossi international airport (Asunción)

Enhanced technical capacity needed

Characteristics

- Priority sectors : no PPP Project Pipeline
- Little experience to identify mistakes and learned lessons
- Undeveloped stock market and local banks
- Lack of guidance about private sector participation in financing infrastructure projects.
- Agreement between the EU and Mercosur still to be ratified

- Political Risk
 - Political support of infrastructure investment. Lack of infrastructure plan: national priorities are not clear for investors
- □ Conflict resolution mechanisms
 - Appellate procedure is not allowed in case of anticipated termination of contract

Argentina

Ranking Infrascope (2019): 19, Ranking Doing Business (2020): 59



Institutional

- The previous Government approved a PPP law (2016)
- New Government has other priorities in the economic front to handle the present challenges.
- A specific PPP unit was created, but has limited experience

Characteristics

- Priority sectors: renewable energy and transport
- Agreement between the EU and Mercosur still to be ratified
- Complex tax system
- Limited Access to the bond markets. Few private capitals are interested in investing locally

- Political Risk
 - Two main challenges: to renegotiate the external debt and to boost the economy.
 - Parliamentary elections in October 2021
 - □ Many cases of unilateral tariff review.
- □ Highly restricted oficial FX market
- □ Social and environmental risks
 - The results of community consultations must be published on-line



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