



Private Participation in Infrastructure in Latin America and the Caribbean in the Last Decade

Between 2000 and 2009, the 29 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean implemented 845 infrastructure projects with private participation (PPI). Those projects involved investment commitments (hereafter, investment) of \$152.2 billion¹. That investment, together with additional investment in previously existing projects, brought the total in the region to \$310.3 billion². With this, Latin America accounted for 22% of the activity in developing countries by number of projects and 30% of the activity by investment. Investment in the region amounted to \$32 billion in 2006 and rose to around \$40 billion in 2007 and 2008. Large projects (over \$1 billion) and additional investment in existing projects drove the growth in investment.

Private activity in infrastructure in Latin America was concentrated in **Brazil** and **Mexico**, with Brazil accounting for over one half and Mexico accounting for approximately one quarter of total investments.

Telecom has been the most successful sector, attracting 47% of regional investment (\$146 billion) and implementing 47 projects in 20 countries.

- New telecom projects accounted for 17% of the investment in the sector, and additional investment in projects implemented in the 1990s for the remaining 83%.
- New projects were greenfield projects (43) and divestitures (4).
- Most projects were stand alone mobile operators followed by fixed access networks.

Energy was the second most active sector, accounting for 31% of regional investment (\$94.7 billion) and 209 projects in 25 countries.

- New energy projects represented 51% of the investment in the sector, and additional investment in projects implemented in the 1990s for the remaining 49%.
- Electricity generation accounted for most of the activity: 184 projects and \$52.4 billion investment. Those projects had a total capacity of over 47.3 GW.
- Transmission was the second active segment with 42 projects and investment of \$8.9 billion.
- There were nine natural gas transmission and distribution projects with investment of \$9.1 billion.
- Greenfield projects were the most used type of PPI: 188 projects and \$58.8 billion investment. Of these, 60 were hydro-electric plants, 15 were wind power plants and 4 were geothermal plants.

Transport accounted for 20% of regional investment (\$60 billion) and 187 projects in 19 countries.

- The activity in transport was dominated by roads with 100 projects and \$38.7 billion investment.
- There were also 42 seaports, 29 airports, and 16 railroads with investments of \$21.2 billion which were roughly evenly distributed among the three subsectors.
- Concessions were the prevalent type of PPI with 101 projects and \$42.6 billion investment. Greenfield projects followed with 59 projects and \$17 billion investment.

Water and sanitation had 102 projects involving investments of \$9.8 billion in 17 countries.

- Concessions were the most common type of PPI with 69 projects, of which 68 were for utilities.
- Greenfield projects were the second common type of PPI with 18 projects, of which 17 were for treatment plants.
- There were also 12 management and lease contracts for utilities and 3 divestitures, also for utilities.

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¹Data are reported in 2009 US\$ dollars adjusted by the US Consumer Price Index. 2009 data are preliminary and include only investment in new projects.

²The data on additional investment cover the period of 2000-2008, and includes projects that reached financial or contractual closure in 1990-1999.