LATIN AMERICA: SOCIAL CAUSES & GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES

BY: Mehul Raval
Why is it called Latin America?

- Latin is a language
- The two widely spoken languages are Latin-based

*Portuguese is spoken in Brazil*

*And Spanish just about everywhere else!!!*
# The Socio-economic conditions in Latin America

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage of people living on less than $1 a day...</th>
<th>11%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Life expectancy (years) in Latin America</td>
<td>71.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literacy rate (%) in Latin America</td>
<td>89.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average GDP per capita ($ in Latin America)</td>
<td>7,404</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average HDI in Latin America</td>
<td>0.797</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average GDP per capita ($ in developed countries)</td>
<td>25,915</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SOCIAL ISSUES IN LATIN AMERICA

AIDS
ALCOHOLISM
CORRUPTION
HUNGER
MAL-NUTRITION
POOR & POVERTY
PROSTITUTION
RACISM
SOCIAL SECURITY
## HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RANK</th>
<th>COUNTRY</th>
<th>HDI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>ARGENTINA</td>
<td>0.860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70</td>
<td>BRAZIL</td>
<td>0.807</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>111</td>
<td>BOLIVIA</td>
<td>0.723</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80</td>
<td>COLOMBIA</td>
<td>0.787</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79</td>
<td>PERU</td>
<td>0.788</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61</td>
<td>VENEZUELA</td>
<td>0.826</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Human Development Index (HDI) is a comparative measure of life expectancy, literacy, education and standards of living for countries worldwide.
The Education Index is measured by the adult literacy rate and the combined primary, secondary, and tertiary gross enrollment ratio.
FACTS & FIGURES:
LATIN AMERICA
GDP per Capita (US $)

- Bolivia: 1,017
- Colombia: 2,682
- Peru: 2,838
- Brazil: 4,271
- Costa Rica: 4,627
- Argentina: 4,728
- Panama: 4,786
- Venezuela: 5,275
- Cuba: 0
INCOME PER CAPITA

Nota: En US$ constantes de 1987

44 Ingreso per Capita
Adult Literacy Rate above 15 years (2005)

- Bolivia: 86.7
- Peru: 87.9
- Brazil: 88.6
- Panama: 91.9
- Colombia: 92.8
- Venezuela: 93
- Costa Rica: 94.9
- Argentina: 97.2
- Cuba: 99.8
Enrolment Data (2005)

- **Net Primary Enrolment Rate**
- **Net Secondary Enrolment Rate**
- **Net tertiary Enrolment Rate**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Net Primary Enrolment Rate</th>
<th>Net Secondary Enrolment Rate</th>
<th>Net tertiary Enrolment Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venezuela</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bolivia</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuba</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panama</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Costa Rica</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Employment in Industry (% of total employment)

- Argentina: 24%
- Costa Rica: 22%
- Cuba: 19%
- Panama: 17%
- Brazil: 21%
- Venezuela: 20%
- Colombia: 19%
- Peru: 24%
- Bolivia: 28%

1996 - 2005
UnEmployment Rate (Female rate as % of Male rate)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>1995 - 2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Costa Rica</td>
<td>192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panama</td>
<td>173</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>172</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bolivia</td>
<td>161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuba</td>
<td>129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venezuela</td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1995 - 2005
Unemployment Rate Total (%) of Labour Force

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>1996-2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cuba</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venezuela</td>
<td>5,275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panama</td>
<td>4,786</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>4,728</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Costa Rica</td>
<td>4,627</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>4,271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>2,838</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>2,682</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bolivia</td>
<td>1,017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: The table shows the unemployment rate percentage of the labour force for the years 1996 to 2005 for various countries.
Employment in Agriculture (% of total employment)

- Colombia: 22
- Cuba: 21
- Brazil: 21
- Panama: 16
- Costa Rica: 15
- Venezuela: 11
- Bolivia: 5
- Argentina: 1
- Peru: 1

1996 - 2005
Under Five Mortality (Per Thousand live Births)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>1970</th>
<th>2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cuba</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Costa Rica</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venezuela</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panama</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bolivia</td>
<td>243</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Infant Mortality (Per Thousand live Births)

Fertility Rate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>1970-75</th>
<th>2000-05</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cuba</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Costa Rica</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panama</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venezuela</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bolivia</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HIV Prevalence

HIV Prevalence age 15-49 in 2005

- Cuba: 0.1
- Costa Rica: 0.3
- Brazil: 0.5
- Argentina: 0.6
- Colombia: 0.6
- Peru: 0.6
- Venezuela: 0.7
- Panama: 0.9
- Bolivia:
Health Expenses (2004% of GDP)

![Health Expenses Chart]

- Cuba: Public: 0.8, Private: 1.1
- Colombia: Public: 5.5, Private: 6.7
- Costa Rica: Public: 1.5, Private: 1.9
- Peru: Public: 2.2, Private: 5.1
- Panama: Public: 25, Private: 5.2
- Venezuela: Public: 2.7, Private: 2.7
- Bolivia: Public: 4.1, Private: 2.7
- Brazil: Public: 4, Private: 4.8
- Argentina: Public: 4.3, Private: 5.3
Electricity

- **Electricity Consumption per Capita 1990-2004 (% change)**
  - Peru: 7.7%
  - Brazil: 6.5%
  - Colombia: 6.3%
  - Bolivia: 3.3%
  - Argentina: 1.8%
  - Cuba: 0%
  - Panama: 0.5%
  - Venezuela: 0.2%
  - Costa Rica: 0.5%

- **Population without Electricity 2004 ( Millions)**
  - Peru: 0.4
  - Brazil: 0.4
  - Colombia: 0
  - Bolivia: 0.4
  - Argentina: 0.7
  - Cuba: 0.5
  - Panama: 0.9
  - Venezuela: 0.5
  - Costa Rica: 0.1
POVERTY IN LATIN AMERICA, 2006

Percent of population in poverty:
- 9–25%
- 30–39%
- 40–54%
- 64–80%
- No data

GEOGRAPHY SKILLS

Place Which countries in Latin America have the lowest rates of poverty? Which countries have the highest rates?
Poverty Data

HDI and GDP data refers to 2005 as reported in the 2007/2008 Report.
Source: Indicator Table 2 - HDR 2007/2008
Argentina

HDI and GDP data refers to 2005 as reported in the 2007/2008 Report.
The graph illustrates the Human Development Index (HDI) for various regions over the years 1975 to 2005. The HDI is a measure of life expectancy, education, and GDP per capita. The regions compared include OECD, Europe and the CIS, Latin America and the Caribbean, East Asia, Arab States, South Asia, and Sub-Saharan Africa.

Argentina is highlighted in the graph, showing a relatively high HDI compared to other regions, indicating a higher level of human development.

Source: Indicator Table 2 - HDR 2007/2008
Peru

HDI and GDP data refers to 2005 as reported in the 2007/2008 Report.
New Lending to water projects in Latin America & Caribbean* ($US millions)

Year


Water Supply & Sanitation
Irrigation & Drainage
Water Resources Management
Hydropower

* per fiscal year - 12 months period ending on June 30th
Costa Rica

**Human Development Index**

- **Costa Rica**: 0.84
- **Saudi Arabia**: 0.81

**GDP per capita (PPP US$)**

- **Costa Rica**: 16,100
- **Saudi Arabia**: 15,200

HDI and GDP data refers to 2005 as reported in the 2007/2008 Report.
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) vs Tunisia

HDI and GDP data refers to 2005 as reported in the 2007/2008 Report.
Venezuela (Bolivarian)

Source: Indicator Table 2 - HDR 2007/2008
Panama

HDI and GDP data refers to 2005 as reported in the 2007/2008 Report.
HDI

Source: Indicator Table 2 - HDR 2007/2008
HDI and GDP data refers to 2005 as reported in the 2007/2008 Report.
The graph illustrates the Human Development Index (HDI) for various regions over the years from 1975 to 2005. Bolivia is highlighted and shows a steady increase in HDI over the years.

Source: Indicator Table 2 - HDR 2007/2008

Regions included in the graph:
- OECD
- Europe and the CIS
- Latin America and the Caribbean
- East Asia
- Arab States
- South Asia
- Sub-Saharan Africa
HDI and GDP data refers to 2005 as reported in the 2007/2008 Report.
The graph shows the Human Development Index (HDI) trends from 1975 to 2005 for several regions and countries, including Colombia. The HDI ranges from 0 to 1, with higher values indicating higher human development. Colombia's HDI has increased over this period, as indicated by the red line. Other regions and countries, such as the OECD, Europe and the CIS, Latin America and the Caribbean, East Asia, Arab States, South Asia, and Sub-Saharan Africa, are also plotted on the graph, showing their respective HDI trends. The source of the data is indicated as Indicator Table 2 - HDR 2007/2008.
Country Name – Brazil
Capital – Brasilia
Location – East South America
Area – 8500 Sq. Km (in ‘000)
Population - 184,101,109
Language Spoken – Portuguese
Currency – Real (Brl)
Brazil’s Cultural Life

- **Population**
  - Brazil is considered the fifth country in the world in population.
  - The language of Brazil is Portuguese.
  - The Lifestyle of Brazilians is similar to that in the U.S.
Brazil’s GDP rose by 5.8% year-on-year in the first quarter of 2008
Composition of average household spend

- Food, Beverages & Tobacco: 22%
- Clothing & footwear: 18%
- Housing & household fuels: 15%
- Household goods & services: 12%
- Health: 8%
- Transport & communications: 6%
- Leisure & education: 8%
- Hotels & restaurants: 6%
- Other goods & services: 5%
BILATERAL TRADE

BRAZIL EXPORTS
- Transport equipment
- Iron ore
- Soybeans
- Footwear
- Coffee
- Others

NET VALUE – US$681M

BRAZIL IMPORTS
- Machinery
- Electrical and transport equipment
- Chemical products
- Oil & Petroleum Products
- Others

NET VALUE – US$454M
Basic rights, taken for granted in developed countries, are scarce in Brazil.

Education, health, safety (physical and juridical) are deficient in Brazil.

However, being a fully democratic country, Brazil is slowly improving several social indicators;

The governments have been compelled by the citizens to attach more and more importance to social issues.
BRAZIL

- **Education**: 8 years of fundamental education (COMPULSORY)
- The situation has been improving over the past few years thanks to two official programmes:
  - **Bolsa Escola**, by which parents who keep their children in school and with good health receive a small stipend
  - **FUNDEF**, by which municipalities receive federal funds in accordance to the number of children enrolled.
- Brazil is participating of the **One Laptop Per Child** project (aiming at providing low cost laptops to poor children in Third World countries), but the program moves slowly.
AIDS: First AIDS case was reported in 1982.

The Brazilian Ministry of Health laid the groundwork for a National AIDS Control Program (NACP) which was established in 1986.


AIDS Project II also composed of both domestic funds and a World Bank loan totaled $370 million between 1998 and 2002.
Cities with at least one AIDS case. Brazil, 1990 – 2007

New cases/year - 32,000
**HIV/AIDS in Brazil**

- **190,010,647**: population of Brazil (2007 est.)
- **710,000**: Estimated number of people living with HIV/AIDS by the end of 2007
- **0.6%**: Estimated percentage of adults (ages 15-49) living with HIV/AIDS by the end of 2007
- **34%**: Estimated percentage of HIV cases that occurred among women (ages 15-49) by the end of 2007
- **15,000**: Estimated number of deaths due to AIDS during 2007

**Source**

BRAZIL

» Government policies

» a) Universal ARV provision

Free, universal provision of anti-retroviral drugs (ARVs),

» B) Social policies

Brazil's response has been characterized by reaching out to groups which account for a high percentage of AIDS transmission, including relationships with non-governmental organizations.

Source: IPEA/2006
Hunger: is the most extreme manifestation of the huge problem of poverty in Brazil.

Few people die of starvation, but there is widespread chronic food insecurity and malnutrition.


Zero Hunger shares FAO's philosophy of eradicating world hunger, following the two-pronged approach of FAO's Anti-Hunger Programme - to both develop income-generating household agriculture and ensure adequate access to food.

FAO (FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION)
The Zero Hunger Project recognizes that low incomes are the main cause of chronic hunger and that an income supplement needs to be provided.

It will be done through an electronic card. The beneficiaries will have to show that funds received have been spent mainly on basic food items and cooking fuel.

They will have to proof that their children go to school and that adults have enrolled in a training programme which will improve their employability, and thus reduce their dependence on future help.
Racism is one of the main structuring factors of social injustices that afflict Brazilian society.

Half of the Brazilian population is black and most of it is poor.

The unacceptable gaps that still separate black and white people in the 21st century which is reflected in unequal access to goods and services, to the labour market, to higher education, and to civil, social, and economic rights.
Two Refresher Programmes in Brazil in co-operation with the Brazilian government and with its Ministries for Racial Equality, Culture, Education, Finance and Sports.

One of the programmes will bring together Brazilian and Latin American media professionals, government and religious leaders to debate this issue and find ways to promote racial equality on all fronts.

The other programme is a conference between Latin American and African journalists under the sponsorship of Brazilian Ministry for Racial Equality.
ARGENTINA

- **Health**: Objective was to reach to the most needy families, offering them health and medical aid.

- **Programs for children and adults for** basic needs of the population: nutrition, healthcare, and literacy.

- The vaccination campaign carried out the year there was a national measles epidemic. In the end there was only one case registered.
ARGENTINA

- **Hunger:** 53% of the 36 million inhabitants of Argentina live in dire poverty.

- The people are dying of hunger even after they are food-rich as this country is forced to export its products to other countries in order to pay its national debt, with the interests.

- Argentinean Government has stopped all exportations of products outside of Argentina, and to begin to create new money in direct proportion to the value of the cereals and the other products in the country, so this money could be distributed to the Argentineans. Then they would be able to get for themselves this food immediately, and thereby save their lives.
Racism: In Argentina there has been discrimination based on ethnic characteristics or national origin.

The government of Argentina has taken significant formal steps toward the elimination of racial discrimination over the last decade to recognize itself as a multicultural, multiracial society.

Argentina's indigenous peoples face struggles concerning fundamental issues of survival, maintenance of cultural and linguistic integrity, land rights and bilingual education.
Under the sponsorship of the National Institute of Indigenous Affairs, INAT, various programmes have been established for furthering land re-distribution, bilingual education, health programmes, and rural economic development.

INADI was established by law in 1995 to combat discrimination, and racism.

INADI has held anti-discrimination training sessions for schoolteachers and law enforcement officials, and has launched public education campaigns.

It also has established a mechanism to receive complaints and take action thereon in the courts.
ARGENTINA

▶ **AIDS:** 120,000 people were found HIV positive, only 29,000 of them have had contact with the official health system, and of that number, only **65%** of them is receiving proper treatment.

▶ The incidence of HIV/AIDS among children in Argentina is 7%, the highest in Latin America, and 97% of the cases are the result of mother-to-child infection.

▶ Argentine women who are poor and between the ages of 15 and 24 are the group most vulnerable to HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases.
Promotion of use of condoms and several other activities are taking place throughout the country like lectures, seminars, talks and festivals to raise awareness.
ARGENTINA

Alcoholism:

- Drinkers (last year) 73%
- Abusers (last year) 10% of drinkers
- 1/10 starts drinking before age of 13
- Most before 18 years
- Govt is planning to ban alcohol selling to people less than 18 years of age
Corruption has become a norm in Argentine culture.

75% of Portenos (people who live in Buenos Aires) do not pay the correct bus toll, 70% have illegal cable television or that 90% pay their way out of traffic tickets.

Govt has taken steps such as lobbying for a bill that mandates more access to public information, reforming the infrastructure of political parties, reforming election laws, as well as creating a information database on all representatives in government.
## Corruption Perceptions Index 2005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>2005 CPI score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>2.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uruguay</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>5.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chile</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>7.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Transparency International
Social Security: The Argentinean social security system covers retirement, pensions, unemployment benefits and disability.

Unemployment Benefits

If you lose your job in Argentina, you can apply for an unemployment benefit. Benefits are payable in the event you do not have another job.

The level of benefits is calculated on a base of 41.5% of the highest net monthly wage received in the previous six months. The amount paid will not exceed AR$ 300 or be less than AR$ 150/month.

If you have a family or other persons that depend on your
Retirement, Pensions & Disability

In Argentina there are two retirement programs: (RPP or Sistema de Reparto) and the (Sistema Mixto or RCI).

The RPP or Reparto is the retirement program managed by the State.

The Sistema Mixto or RCI is run by private retirement funds and supervised by the State.

When starting to work for the first time in Argentina you have 90 days to decide which one of two different retirement systems you want your contributions to go to. Employees are free to choose their private retirement fund and allowed to change among them.
Peru

▶ **Alcoholism** The prevalence of alcoholism for the Peruvian men is higher than Peruvian women.

▶ The high prevalence among men is likely due to cultural mores but may also be linked to the stresses found in impoverished societies undergoing rapid social, cultural, and economic change.
PERU

- Variable Gini Index
- Population living on less than $1/day
- Population living on less than $2/day
- Poverty Gap $1/day
- Poverty Gap $2/day
- Access to improved sanitation
- Access to an improved water source
- Literacy rate (all adults)
- Life expectancy (both sexes)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>55</th>
<th>13%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>32%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>88%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**PERU**

- **Education:** Compulsory for children from the age of 7 years to 16 years.
- Secondary education in the government institutions in Peru is free of cost since 1946.
- According to an estimate in 2000 the adult literacy rate was 10.1% in Peru.
- In order to spread education in the remote areas like Sierra or Selva many long-term projects have been initiated.
- The Ministry of Education was empowered in 1972 so that it had control over the appointments of teachers in the public schools and also in the private sector.
**Malnutrition:** Can be attributed to multiple causes,
- both direct (including insufficient amounts and variety of food consumption) and
- indirect (exclusion from markets, food insecurity, education levels, unclean water, inadequate sanitation, cultural preferences and ineffective governance).
PERU

- Peruvian Government Action and Programming

Table 1. Selected Public Food Assistance Programs in Peru

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Public Programs</th>
<th>Oversight Institution</th>
<th>US ($)</th>
<th>Population Served</th>
<th>US per Capita</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Programa Comedores Populares</td>
<td>Pronaa</td>
<td>25,804,594</td>
<td>897,303</td>
<td>$29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desayunos Escolares</td>
<td>MoH</td>
<td>51,428,571</td>
<td>1,891,600</td>
<td>$27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vaso de Leche</td>
<td>Municipal districts</td>
<td>92,892,571</td>
<td>4,009,739</td>
<td>$23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
World Food Programme:
Initiated its operations in Peru in 1964, and since then it has pursued its objectives to reduce poverty and food insecurity by providing food assistance and introducing systems for sustainable food production.

The 'Glass of Milk' Subsidy Program
Well targeted to poor households and to those with low nutritional status.
**PERU**

- **Social Security:** Modern system of social security (referred to as SNP).

- Workers are entitled to receive benefits covering disability, medical attention, hospitalization, maternity, old age, retirement, and widows and orphans.

- In 1991, the government introduced a new system of individualized capitalization through private pensions (SPP), which exists alongside the national social security system.

- The original program is administered by the Ministry of Labor, while the private system is supervised by the Pension Fund Administrators.
VENEZUELA

- Government social programmes, known as ‘missions’, have helped to decrease poverty. Nonetheless, 27.5 per cent of households live in poverty, and 7.6 per cent live in extreme poverty.

- Mortality and birth rates decreased during the last 15 years. General mortality fell from 5.1 to 4.3 deaths per 1,000 persons, while the birth rate dropped from 32.8 to 21.5 births per 1,000 persons.

- The HIV/AIDS epidemic is concentrated among vulnerable groups. Some 110,000 people were living with HIV in 2004. Although the infection ratio of men to women in 1990 was 17 to 1, by 2004 it was 4 to 1, indicating a feminization of the epidemic.
Gender disparities persist regarding women’s access to decision-making positions, engagement in full-time employment, and participation in income-earning opportunities.


The programme strengthened the national capacity to generate socio-demographic information and provided training in population and demography.
ECONOMIC ISSUES

- Bolivian Economy has been dependant on natural resources since colonial times
  (The curse of Natural Resources: Galeano)

- Commodity export (Tin, Minerals, Rubber and recently hydrocarbons, logging and soy)

- Tin represented about 76% of the Bolivian economy until 1985.
INEQUALITY

Unequal distribution of resources that characterizes the region today follows a pattern set with specific traits of European colonization in the region.

"We are not a nation of equals, there are two Bolivias" Former indigenous leader Felipe Quispe
MIGRATION

More than 20,000 families from Highlands mining region migrated to urban cities (red line) and to the tropics (yellow line) after the economic reform of the mid 1980s.
ECONOMIC REFORMS

1952
Nationalisation of Mines
Agrarian Reform
Universal Vote

1994
Capitalisation & FDI
Decentralisation
Popular Participation
Bolivia was among the first Latin American countries to initiate a far-reaching and relatively orthodox SAP, which did greatly contribute to forest clearing for soybean exports and to higher timber exports (Kaimowitz et al)

1985
Liberalisation of the Economy
Market Economy Reform
supported by IFIs
Mining industry collapsed

2005
A New Development Plan
Dismissal of the Neoliberal State and SAPs
Issue

• Unemployment and under-employment have increased continuously over the last five years, encouraging internal and external migration.

• Unemployment currently affects 11% of the labour force and the informal sector accounts for more than 65% of economic activity, providing sources of marginal employment and under-employment to a large percentage of adults of working age and even to school-age children.
The main features of this informal sector which includes small-scale agricultural activity are low productivity and poor quality products which limit the scope for growth.

The **greatest challenges for Bolivia in the economic field are creating jobs, promoting economic opportunities and generating income**, as well as integrating the informal sectors into the formal economic circuit and increasing productivity and competitiveness at all levels.

Bolivia suffers from serious problems of poverty and social exclusion that particularly affect the indigenous majority of the population.

The ethnic group and place of origin of a person, family or social group have a strong influence on the potential for social mobility and on available opportunities.
Bolivia, with a low human development index (0.687), ranked 115 out of 177 countries in the world in 2005.

An estimated 64% of the population was affected by poverty in 2004.

The Gini index is estimated to have increased from 52 to 62 between 1985 and 2003.
Initiatives

- In the latter half of the 1990s Bolivia gave priority to programmes to resolve the social situation.

- Efforts were made to achieve a better level of coverage in education, health and basic sanitation services, with positive.

- In 2001 the maternal mortality rate in Bolivia was 420 per 100,000 live births, the highest rate in Latin America.

- The infant mortality rate fell from 89 per 1,000 live births in 1990 to 54 per 1,000 live births in 2004.
Initiatives

- Between 1994 and 2003, the proportion of births attended by skilled health staff increased from 47% to 67%.

- In the education sector, primary school enrolment has remained constant at 95%, with no increase since 1998.

- The adult literacy rate in Bolivia is the lowest in the region, at 87% of the population aged 15 or over in 2004; the rate had increased from 78% in 1990.
Initiatives

- Under the NDP, the Government proposes to increase the involvement of local community organisations to ensure that, through “social control”, social services are more accountable to end-users.

- Government plans a critical review of existing reform processes in the social sectors.
Colombia

- Colombia can cut tax rates and reform labor market institutions. Some important reforms have been made. This would increase labor supply to formal taxed sector and probably increase tax revenue.

- A system with forced saving for retirement would not distort the work incentive. It also results in people having an equity position in their country.

- It is important to have individual accounts with independent management. They must be regulated to insure financial soundness.
U.S. Companies Contribute to Economic Prosperity and Social Development

- **Future Business Leaders - Citigroup Costa Rica**
  - Financial education simulation has benefited more than 3,000 high school students in developing skills such as teamwork, decision-making, leadership and resource management.

- **Promoting Education – Intel**
  - reaching over 18,000 teachers (30% of Costa Rica’s teacher population) with different training programs and indirectly benefiting over 500,000 students. Intel makes an annual investment of around $700,000 for a total of $6.5 million to date.
• **Helping Children in Need - Procter and Gamble**
  – helping children in need to *Live, Learn and Thrive.*

• **Sustainable Development – Eaton**
  – Eaton’s “Comité de Proyección a la Comunidad” aims to promote a socially responsible culture among the company’s personnel and encourages volunteer work to contribute to the sustainable development of the community in which it operates.
  – Eaton employees donated 178 hours to volunteer work and in 2006 employees donated over 235 hours.

• **Aiding Schools - Sykes**
  – Contributions to the schools include classroom materials, uniforms, backpacks, as well as materials to repair school and classroom facilities.
Conserving the Environment - Merck

- Merck awarded a $52,000 grant to INBio Parque, a natural theme park created by INBio, the Costa Rican National Institute of Biodiversity, to support INBio's initiative to promote biodiversity and educate the public about its value.

- Need to focus more attention on participation of indigenous women

- Need for more systematic incorporation of indigenous knowledge and culture into project designs

- Need for culturally appropriate monitoring and evaluation indicators

- Need to link indigenous development projects with other sectoral projects (human development, infrastructure, rural development and finance, etc.)
Projects

Argentina: Community Biodiversity Protection Project ($6m)
Belize: Community Managed Sarstoon Temash Conservation ($7.5m)
Colombia: Conservation and Sustainable Development of the Mataven Forest ($tbd)
Ecuador: Rescuing Ancient Knowledge and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Coastal Ecuador ($1.05m)
Ecuador: Conservation, Management, and Sustainable Use Planning of Natural Resources in Pastaza ($tbd)
Guatemala: Management and Protection of Laguna del Tigre National Park ($1.66m)
Guatemala: Community Management of the Bio-Itza Reserve (Peten) ($tbd)
Mexico: Indigenous Conservation of Biodiversity ($18.7m)
Peru: Participatory Conservation and Sustainable Development with Indigenous Communities in Vilcabamba ($1.14m)
Peru: Indigenous Management of Protected Areas in the Amazon ($24m)
Venezuela: Dhekuana Nonodo Biodiversity Conservation ($1m)
Colombia: Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in the Andes Region ($30m)

Colombia: Community-Based Management for the Naya Conservation Corridor ($0.94m)

Costa Rica: Sustainable Cacao Production ($tbd)

Ecuador: Choco-Andean Corridor ($2.7m)

Guatemala: Biodiversity Conservation in the Altiplano Occidental ($45m)

Honduras: Biodiversity Conservation in Priority Protected Areas ($9.5m)

Nicaragua: Atlantic Biological Corridor ($21.5m)

Panama: Effective Protection with Community Participation of the New Protected Area of San Lorenzo ($2.23m)

Peru: Collaborative Management for the Conservation and Sustainable Development of the Northwest Biosphere Reserve ($2.1m)

Peru: Consolidation of Protected Area System (PROFONANPE II) ($32m)
Conclusions

- Labor markets are not national.
- Macroeconomic conditions matter.
- Youth is a problem.
- Equality of pay helps.
- Flexibility.
- Small countries have an advantage.
- Policies started off very poorly.
- But there is hope for the future.