

Findings of the OAS Pre-Summit Private Sector Survey

Presented by:

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OAS Pre-Summit Private Sector Survey

Over 70 respondents

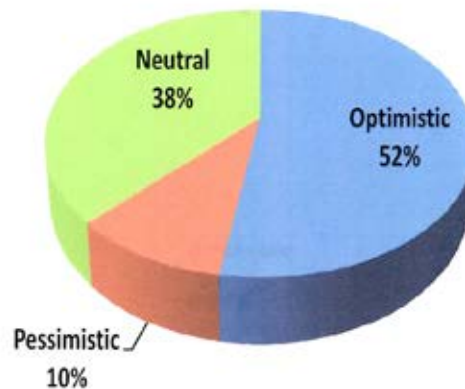
14 countries

**Covering North America, Central America,
South America, and the Caribbean**

**Infrastructure - Competitiveness - Trade Facilitation -
Investment Climate - Human Capital - Technology -
Corporate Social Responsibility**

Hemispheric Overview

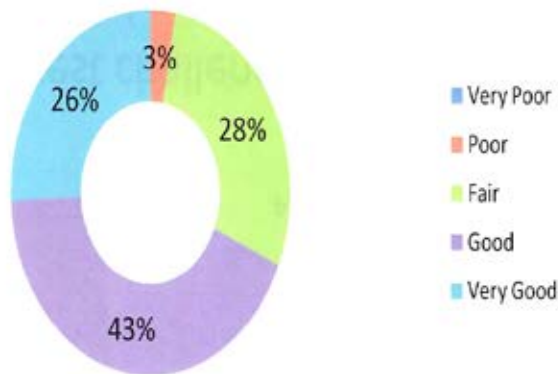
View of the Economic and Political Situation over the Next Four Years



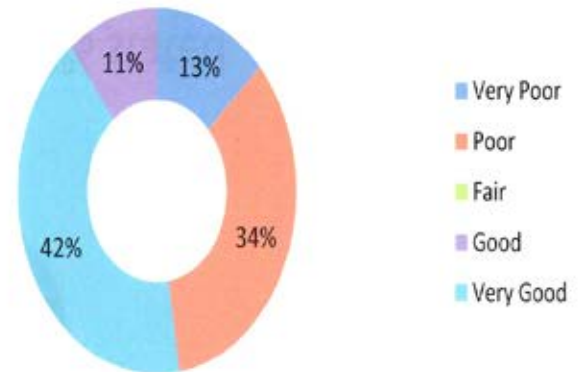
- Biggest challenge in the short term – 33% stated “Strengthening the rule of law and fighting corruption”
- Biggest challenge in the long term – 25% stated “Improving the education system”
- Biggest threat to democracy – 47% stated “weak institutions and corruption”

Infrastructure

Quality of Telecommunication



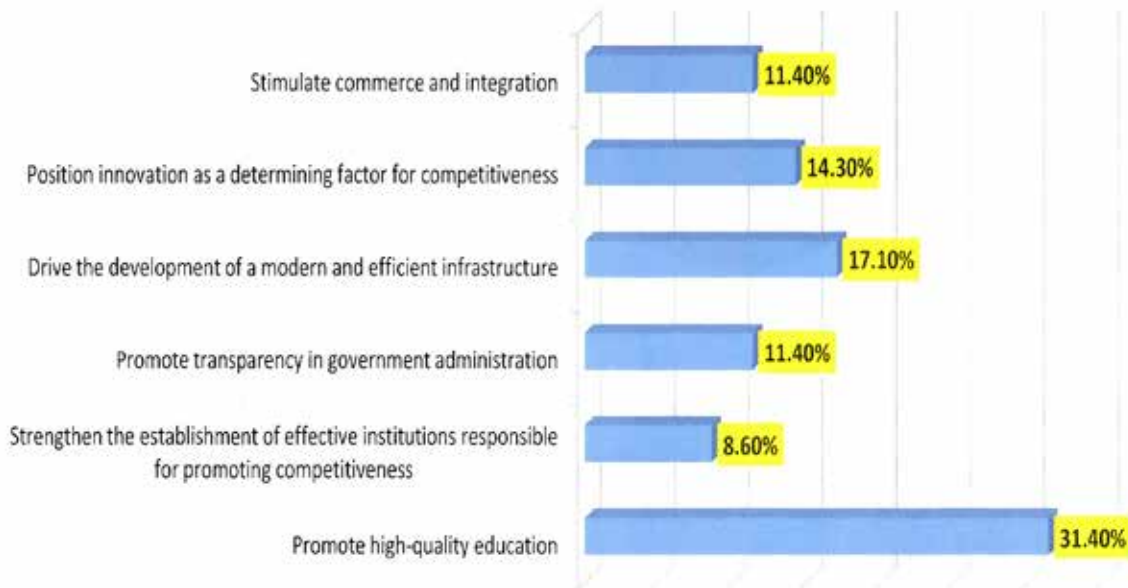
Quality of Commercial Roads



- Only 22% and 24% of those that responded stated that their company is prepared for a security crisis or natural disaster respectively.

Competitiveness

Key principles to focus on in order to improve competitiveness:

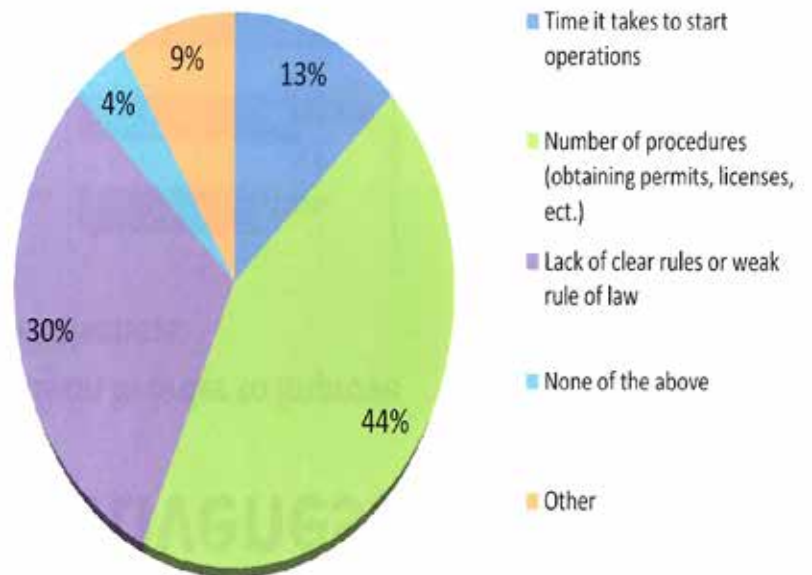


Seventy percent of the respondents ranked Rule of Law as Very Important to foster competition in the region.

Trade Facilitation

More than 80% said negotiating WTO-plus trade agreements and harmonizing existing regional trade agreements were high or top priority. Concluding Doha Round talks was a slightly lower priority for respondents.

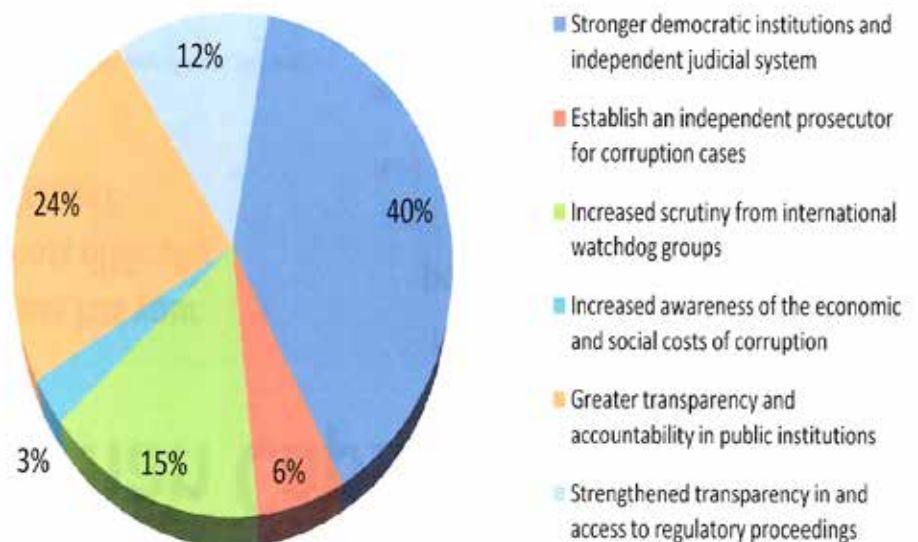
Where is a start-up company most likely to encounter problems in the region?



Investment Climate

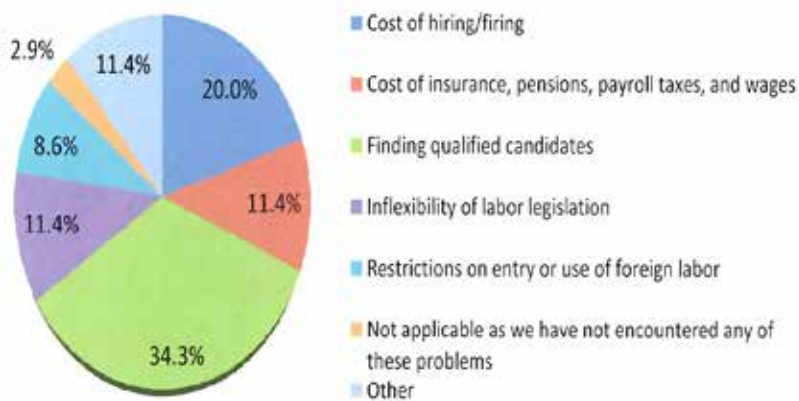
More than half (54%) thought the region lacks a widespread understanding that intellectual property laws contribute to innovation and attract investment. 26% disagreed (the rest weren't sure).

What is the most important step that needs to be taken in order to reduce corruption and strengthen the rule of law in the region?

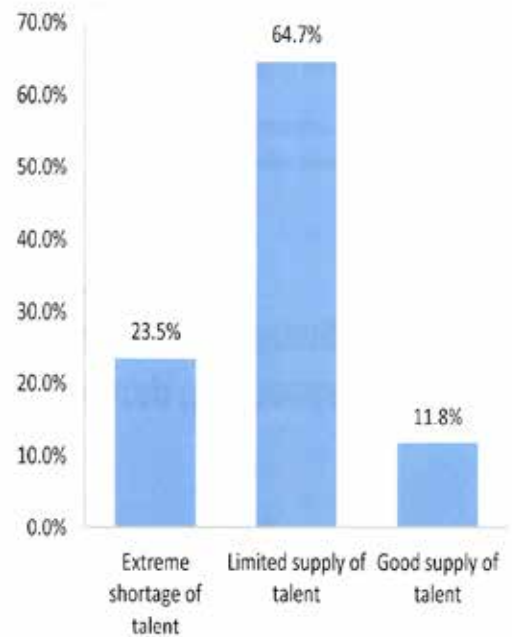


Human Capital

In which of the following areas has your company encountered the most difficulty with regards to labor issues?



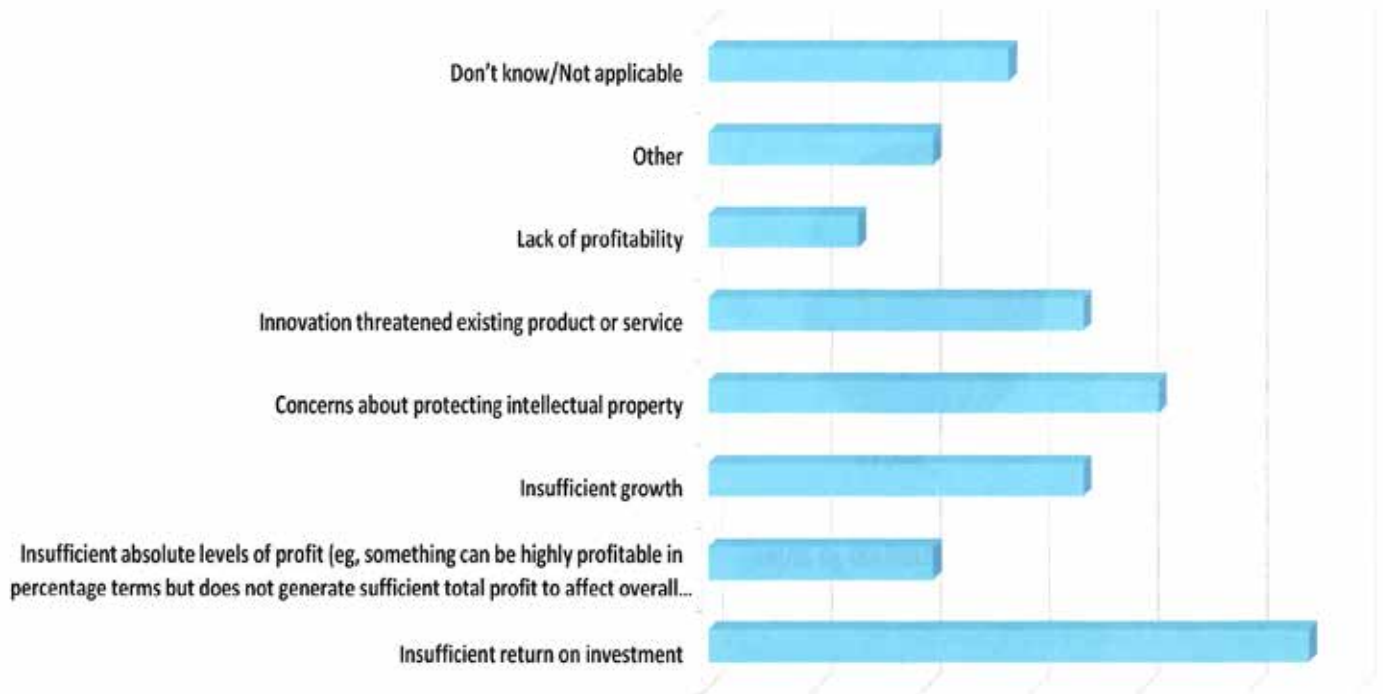
Market for qualified, high potential employees in the region?



Of the 15 options, 24% of respondents stated that the *Inability to attract qualified candidates* is the primary workforce-related issue facing organizations in the region.

Technology

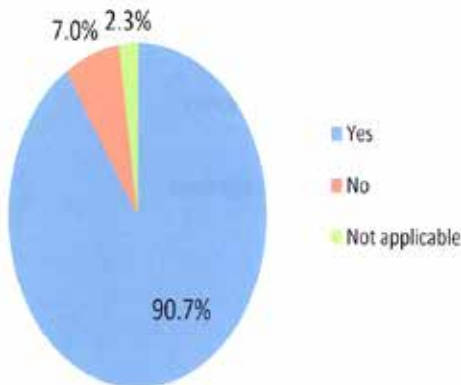
The main economic obstacles for proposed private-sector innovations to go unrealized in the region:



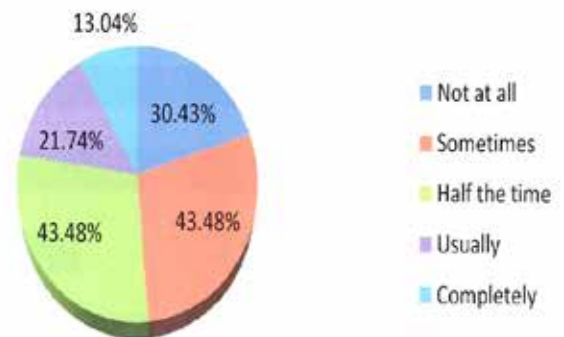
Sixty-six percent say it's extremely important for governments to provide incentives to the private sector to spur investment in low-cost connectivity to sparsely populated areas.

Corporate Social Responsibility

Does your company incorporate corporate social responsibility as part of its core business strategy?



Do governments in the region appreciate the value of corporate social responsibility (CSR) and thus encourage and promote CSR?



Fifty-four percent say business can most effectively help improve education by engaging in more public-private partnerships; twenty-nine percent say focus on training and internship programs; and fourteen percent point to increased advocacy in the policymaking process.

Respondent Recommendations

“Focus on education to help grow our way out of poverty.”

“Meet routinely with the business community, listen to concerns, and then either address them or explain why they cannot be addressed.”

“Trabajemos en desarrollo humano, distribuyamos mas la riqueza y reduzcamos las desigualdades marcadas.”

“Harmonize and simplify regulations to promote efficiency and stimulate growth.”

“La pequeña y mediana empresa es la mas afectada por la inseguridad, juridica y del crimen organizado, se debe crear un ente que regule y califique los gobiernos estatales y municipales que no combatan o legislen para disminuir la inseguridad por y para el bienestar de sus pueblos.”

**¡GRACIAS!
THANK YOU!**

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