The government presents a new investment plan with the private sector for \$228.6 billion

- President Andrés Manuel López-Obrador announced today new infrastructure projects as part of the Agreement for the Economic Reactivation with Mexico's business chamber Consejo Coordinador Empresarial
- This new plan details 29 projects for a total amount of \$228.6 billion (US\$11.4 billion), equivalent to 1.0% of GDP. Out of these, 3 are slated to begin this year, with the remaining 26 starting in 2021
- By sectors, \$116.7 billion (51% of the total) are in energy, \$110.2 billion in communications and transportation (48%) and \$1.7 billion in environment and water works (1%)
- This is a follow up of the <u>plan announced on October 5th</u>, which had a total investment of \$297.3 billion (US\$14.8 billion), with 39 projects. Summing up both plans the total represents \$526 billion (US\$26.2 billion) around 2.3% of GDP
- From the first package, the government stated that ten have begun, with a total investment of \$43.5 billion (US\$2.2 billion)
- Today's announcement is positive as it reinforces signals about greater coordination and follow through of projects between the private and public sectors. In addition, these support our call for GDP to grow 4.1% in 2021, significantly above consensus expectations

The government presents a new investment plan with the private sector. Today, at his daily press conference, president Andrés Manuel López-Obrador presented the joint investment plan with Mexico's chamber *Consejo Coordinador Empresarial* (CCE) and other business leaders. The plan details 29 projects for a total of \$228.6 billion (US\$11.4 billion), equivalent to 1.0% of GDP, as shown in the table below. Out of these, three are expected to begin this year, with the remaining 26 slated for 2021. This comes on top of the previous plan —announced on October 5th—, which had a total investment of \$297.3 billion (US\$14.8 billion) on 39 projects. Once again, they stated that at least 50% of total financing would come from private sources. In addition, the Finance Minister, Arturo Herrera, and the president of the CCE, Carlos Salazar, mentioned that they expect to continue presenting new projects, as their feasibility is determined. This comes as a result of a detailed action plan, discussed at greater length later in the document.

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Winners of the award for best economic forecasters for Mexico in 2019, granted by *Refinitiv*



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Infrastructure projects
Number of projects, \$ million, % of GDP

	First announcement				Second announcement				Total			
	Projects	\$ millions	US\$ millions	% of GDP	Projects	\$ millions	US\$ millions	% of GDP	Projects	\$ millions	US\$ millions	% of GDP
Total	39	297,344.0	14,808.0	1.29	29	228,632.0	11,386.1	0.99	68	525,976.0	26,194.0	2.28
Transportation and communications	33	197,870.0	9,854.1	0.86	18	110,214.0	5,488.7	0.48	51	308,084.0	15,342.8	1.34
Energy	5	98,980.0	4,929.3	0.43	9	116,705.0	5,812.0	0.51	14	215,685.0	10,741.3	0.94
Water works and environment	1	494.0	24.6	0.00	2	1,713.0	85.3	0.01	3	2,207.0	109.9	0.01

*Note: Using nominal GDP for 2020 calculated by the MoF in the 2021 Economic Policy Criteria

Source: Federal Government, MoF



Investment remains focused in three key areas. Similar to the previous plan, main focus is centered in three sectors: (1) Energy, with \$116.7 billion (51% of total resources); (2) transportation and communications, with \$110.2 billion (48%); and (3) water works and environment, at \$1.7 billion (1%). Within the first, the government included eight projects related to CFE, amounting to \$69.7 billion. Although most resources will come from the state-owned company, a lot of activities will be tendered to private companies. It should be noted that six out of the eight include combined cycle power plants. Turning to the second, some of the most important projects include the *Naucalpan – Ecatepec highway* (\$20.0 billion), the *Monterrey bypass* (\$19.0 billion), and *highways in the southern part of the State of Mexico* (\$15.4 billion). Finally, there are only two projects dedicated to water works, both located in Los Cabos, BCS.

Orderly strategy that allows the development of high-impact and efficient projects. The MoF stated that there are four guidelines to meet the selection criteria, which are: (1) More than 50% of total investment for each project must be from the private sector; (2) it should be directed to the energy, communication and transportation, water and environmental sectors; (3) there needs to be clarity about their social benefits, cost and implementation time; and (4) they must not impact public debt. Once these eligibility criteria are met, there is a five-stage program, starting from the initial analysis to see the potential opportunities until its fruition. This serves as a mechanism to ensure that projects get underway, and those with higher probabilities get completed. This explains why the rollout of projects has been segmented, and why it will continue to be this way going forward.

Closer focus on investment provides some support to our view of a stronger GDP rebound in 2021. Apart from unveiling more projects, we believe the announcement reinforces recent signals about higher coordination between the private sector and the government about the need to reactivate the economy. In this sense, we also highlight that the Federal government seems increasingly open to adjust its proposed bill on outsourcing, which is currently being debated. Specifically, the President said that a meeting will be held today with the private sector on this matter, following concerns that some of the initiatives might have on employment levels. Moreover, we see additional positives. Among them, we highlight that: (1) Today's plan included a brief update about the progress of previously announced projects, with 26 out of the 68 so far already starting works, based on our understanding; and (2) the fact that there seems to be very specific eligibility criteria and cost estimates. Broadly speaking, these actions may help foster lower uncertainty, which remains elevated despite recently optimistic news about a COVID-19 vaccine. Specifically, clear rules and higher coordination between sectors may boost these projects' estimated profitability if they lead to a lower chance of cost overruns and/or delayed construction and development times. In turn, it is our take that this combination may help boost business confidence, which remains relatively depressed and in our view is a key ingredient to kickstart stronger investment dynamics. Lastly, and as stated before, we applaud that the agreement aims to finance these projects with a significant share of private resources.



The latter is especially important in an environment with a strong financial sector and some public finance pressures due to the pandemic, with the federal government limited as it must cope with more immediate needs in the health sector, among others. All in all, and despite being relatively modest, we think these efforts to boost investment –among other factors– provide support to our call for GDP to grow 4.1% in 2021, significantly above consensus at 3.2%, according to the latest central bank survey.

Annex 1: Infrastructure projects

	Category	Project	Construction start	Amount (\$ million)	Amount (US\$ million1)	% of GDP ²
1	Highways	Naucalpan - Ecatepec highway	Nov-2020	20,000	996	0.087
2	Highways	Junction to the main access of the Santa Lucía Airport	Dec-2020	1,500	75	0.007
3	Highways	Highways in the southern part of the State of Mexico	Dec-2020	15,358	765	0.067
4	Energy	Natural gas liquefaction terminal Energía Costa Azul	Jan-2021	47,000	2,341	0.204
5	Highways	Colima bypass	Jan-2021	2,692	134	0.012
6	Highways	Cuapiaxtla - Cuacnopalan highway	Jan-2021	4,211	210	0.018
7	Logistics	T-MEC Park	Jan-2021	13,020	648	0.056
8	Highways	Brownsville - Matamoros vehicular bridge	Feb-2021	108	5	0.000
9	Highways	Altar - Sásabe highway	Mar-2021	1,617	81	0.007
10	Energy - Electricity	Tecolutla Lerdo compression stations	Apr-2021	1,598	80	0.007
11	Ports	Heavy components manufacturing plant	May-2021	3,960	197	0.017
12	Water works	Block water supply (Desalination plant Los Cabos)	May-2021	1,106	55	0.005
13	Water works	Improved water management in Los Cabos, BCS	May-2021	607	30	0.003
14	Energy - Electricity	Power plant in Baja California Sur	Jun-2021	4,921	245	0.021
15	Energy - Electricity	Power plant in Tuxpan (Phase 1)	Jun-2021	12,157	605	0.053
16	Highways	Centinela La Rumorosa highway modernization	Jul-2021	426	21	0.002
17	Highways Transportation and	San Miguel bridge modernization (Sinaloa) + Los Mochis - Topolobampo bypass	Jul-2021	3,286	164	0.014
18	storage of hydrocarbons	Transisthmian Gas Pipeline	Jul-2021	9,030	450	0.039
19	Highways	Tultepec - Santiago Tolman highway (Tultepec - Pyramids highway)	Aug-2021	8,671	432	0.038
20	Energy - Electricity	Power plant in González Ortega	Aug-2021	10,707	533	0.046
21	Energy - Electricity	Power plant in Mérida	Aug-2021	7,210	359	0.031
22	Energy - Electricity	Power plant San Luis Río Colorado	Aug-2021	10,729	534	0.047
23	Energy - Electricity	Power plant in Valladolid	Aug-2021	13,353	665	0.058
24	Highways	La Gloria - Colombia highway	Sep-2021	3,585	179	0.016
25	Highways	Orizaba - Cd. Mendoza bypass	Oct-2021	3,700	184	0.016
26	Highways	La Piedad - La Barca highway construction	Nov-2021	3,200	159	0.014
27	Highways	Silao - San Miguel de Allende highway construction	Dec-2021	5,180	258	0.022
28	Highways	Monterrey bypass	Dec-2021	19,000	946	0.082
29	Highways	Samalayuca - San Jerónimo border connector bypass	Dec-2021	700	35	0.003

Note: MRO: Modernization, rehabilitation and operation; 1. Using an exchange rate of USD/MXN 21.40; 2. Using nominal GDP for 2020 calculated by the MoF in the 2021 Economic Policy Criteria Source: Federal Government, MoF



Analyst Certification

We, Gabriel Casillas Olvera, Alejandro Padilla Santana, Delia María Paredes Mier, Juan Carlos Alderete Macal, Manuel Jiménez Zaldívar, Marissa Garza Ostos, Tania Abdul Massih Jacobo, Francisco José Flores Serrano, Katia Celina Goya Ostos, Santiago Leal Singer, José Itzamna Espitia Hernández, Valentín III Mendoza Balderas, Víctor Hugo Cortes Castro, Hugo Armando Gómez Solís, Miguel Alejandro Calvo Domínguez, Luis Leopoldo López Salinas, Leslie Thalía Orozco Vélez, Gerardo Daniel Valle Trujillo, Eridani Ruibal Ortega and Juan Barbier Arizmendi, certify that the points of view expressed in this document are a faithful reflection of our personal opinion on the company (s) or firm (s) within this report, along with its affiliates and/or securities issued. Moreover, we also state that we have not received, nor receive, or will receive compensation other than that of Grupo Financiero Banorte S.A.B. of C.V for the provision of our services.

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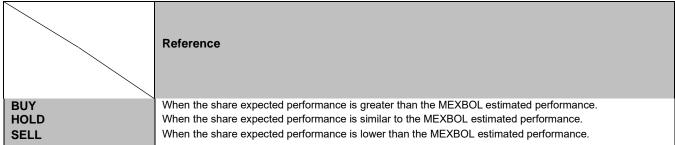
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