

Infrastructure: Developing the Foundation for Growth

Overcoming the Challenge of Improving and Expanding Infrastructure Services in Brazil 



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September 6, 2018

I. Key Sectoral Challenges

Infrastructure investments are low and getting lower

- Investments in infrastructure are declining over time;
- Investments in Brazil are among the lowest in middle-income countries;
- Quality of infrastructure is low: There is a need to invest better!
- The low level of investments in infrastructure are one of the main bottlenecks for doing business in Brazil.

Figure 1: Infrastructure Investments
(% of GDP)

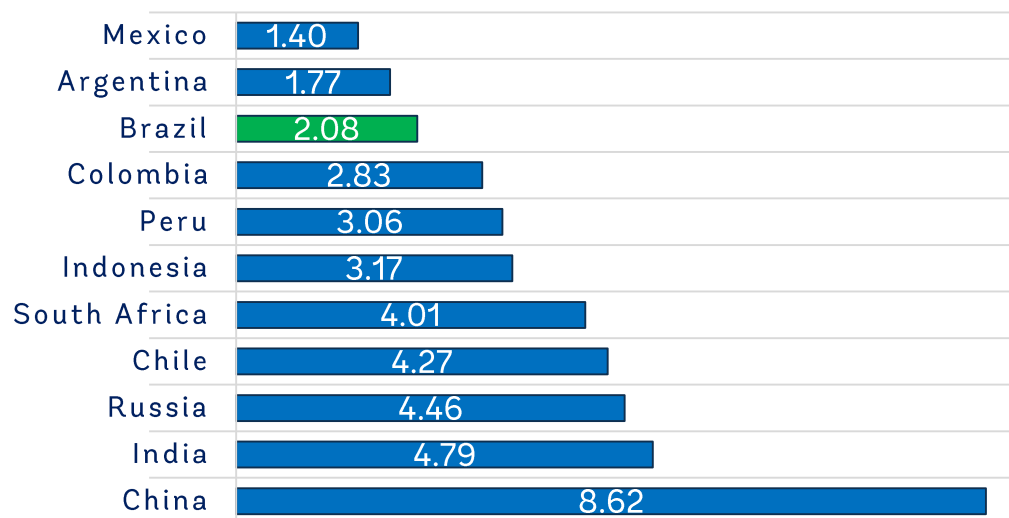
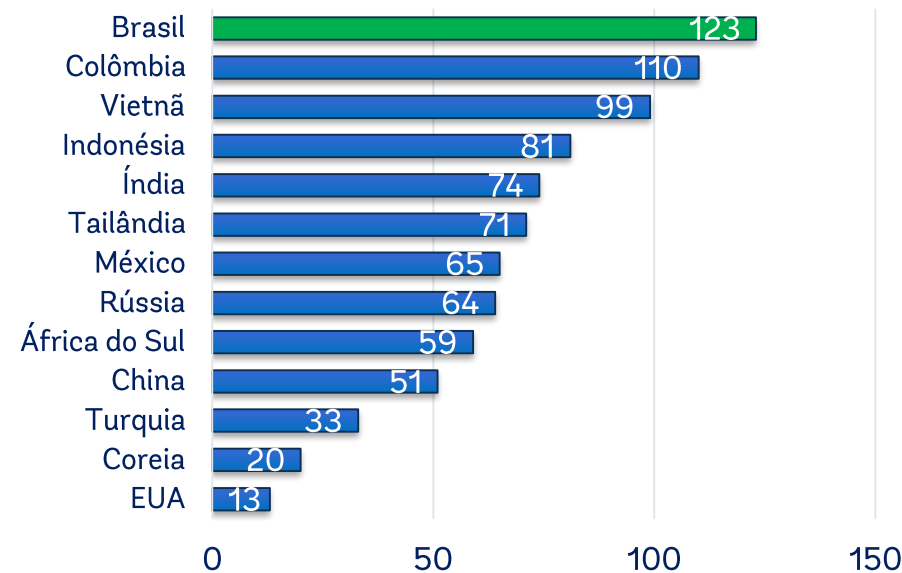


Figure 2: Quality of Infrastructure
(Ranking WEF)



I. Key Sectoral Challenges

Sector wide inefficiencies

- Besides increasing investment, Brazil needs to reduce operational inefficiency and improve allocations of resources.
- Inefficiencies in the transport and water sectors amount to 2.1% of GDP annually
 - More efficient operation and allocations in the Transport Sector in Brazil could save 1.4% of GDP, which is 2.2 times the current annual investment
 - Reducing operational inefficiencies in the water sector, could save an additional 0.7% of the GDP. This is more than three times the level of investment in the sector.

Table 1: Potential Efficiency Gains in the Transport Sector

	Potential Gains (%GDP)	Bottlenecks or What would it take to Unleash these Resources
Increasing use of Railways	0.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulatory issues Long-term planning and proper budgeting Effective PPPs or bolder role of the public sector
• Mineral cargo	0.494	
• Agricultural bulk cargo	0.197	
Solving Deficiencies in FHS	0.7	As one off investment: 0.89% GDP over 4 years (13.7 US\$-billion) → 0.2%GDP/year, a return of over 250%
• Quality of Roads	0.069	* 2.5 US\$-billion over 4 years
• Congestion	0.227	* 6.5 US\$-billion over 4 years
• Congestion and Quality	0.188	* 2.2 US\$-billion over 4 years
• Under-engineering	0.215	* 2.6 US\$-billion over 4 years
Adding up:	1.4	This is 2.2 times current spending in the sector

Table 2: Potential Efficiency Gains in the Water Sector

Category	Potential Gains (%GDP)	Bottlenecks and What would it take to unleash these resources
Collection inefficiency (unpaid bills)	0.36%	Governance, increasing metering coverage and changing collection policies
Technical losses (unaccounted for water)	0.31%	Targeting investments for maintenance and replacement of assets
Under-pricing	0.07%	Regulations and targeted subsidies
Adding up	0.7%	This is 3 times current spending in the sector

I. Key Sectoral Challenges

Quality of investment in infrastructure is low and declining

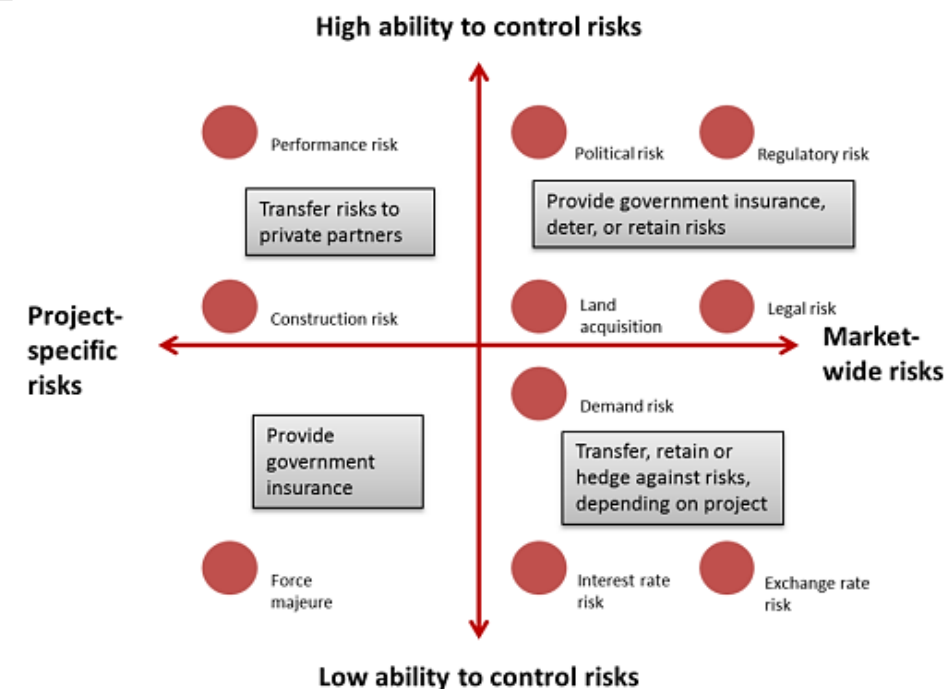
- To expand and improve the **quality of infrastructure services** in Brazil, the government needs to spend much more efficiently and leverage more private finance;
- Lack of **long-term planning** and a robust pipeline of projects based on clear priorities reduces predictability and attractiveness of investments;
- The poor quality of **technical designs** and the lack of detailed risk assessment results in delays, increased costs and disruptions;
- High degree of **political interference** in prioritization of projects, contract negotiations and regulatory oversight brings uncertainties to the market;
- **PPP Contracts** often lack clear definition of roles and responsibilities, performance requirements and financial equilibrium and renegotiation clauses, etc.;
- It is necessary to change the current focus on **debt financing** by public banks towards project finance based on innovative instruments to crowd-in private sector finance.

II. Policy Recommendations

Building a long-term pipeline for planning and structuring

- **Reduce use of expressions of interest (PMI)**
 - Biased, asymmetry of information, overall perception
- **Strengthen strategic planning capacity within the federal government**
 - Strategic and sector specific plans (PPA)
 - Ministry of Planning, EPL, MME, MCities
- **Provide support to project preparation and structuring**
 - Led by PPI with development banks (BNDES, Caixa, BB)
 - Operationalize project structuring facilities (subnational)
- **Identify critical risks and mitigation measures:**
 - Detailed engineering designs
 - Estimated costs and cash flows
 - Environmental impacts and risks
 - Potential land acquisition and resettlement
 - Licensing and permit requirements
- **Allocate risks to different actors**

Proper risk transfers in public private partnerships



Source: Akash Deep, Harvard Kennedy School; adapted from Miller et al (2001).

II. Policy Recommendations

Strengthen regulatory framework for more transparency and predictability

- Reduce political interference in the process.
- Adopt more transparent and standardized procedures and contracts clauses (PPI)
- **Strengthen regulatory agencies (PL 6621/16)**
 - Have more technical independence; and
 - Consolidate Transport and WWS.
- **Clear revenue structures and price adjustments:**
 - Tariffs, tolls, subsidies, etc.
 - Guarantees and back-stop options
- **Strengthen contractual arrangements**
 - More focus on service delivery
 - Performance indicators
 - Payments based on results
 - Financial equilibrium and renegotiation clauses
 - Termination and step-in-rights clauses

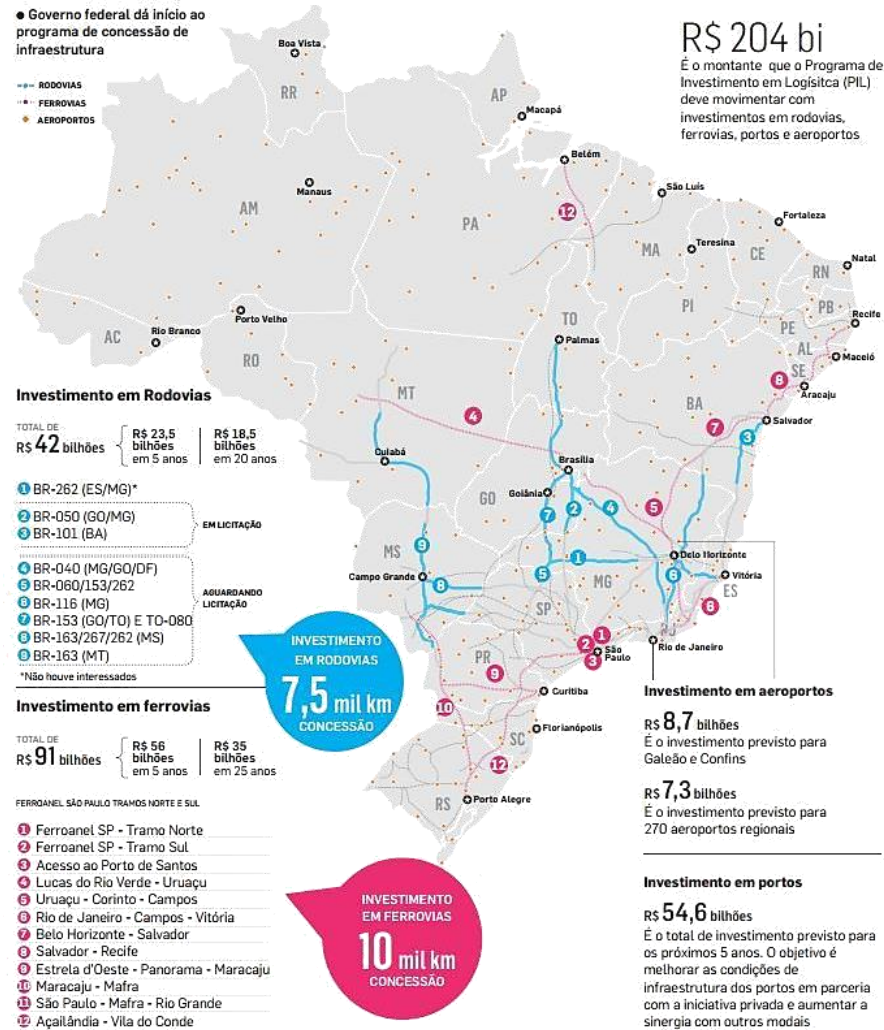
II. Policy Recommendations

Leveraging private finance for innovative finance mechanisms

- Budget constraints and limited capital of public banks, will require more private investments in infrastructure and service delivery.
- Move from concessional financing (TJLP) to market based rates (TLP) is very positive development.
- **Public banks should become catalysts of (private) investments**
 - Financial structuring based on project risks and cash flows
 - Performance based on leveraging of private finance
 - Risk sharing with private investors
- **Introduce innovative instruments to leverage private financing:**
 - Guarantees, Mini-perms, Mezannine financing, etc.
- Increase attractiveness of infrastructure bonds and other long-term debt instruments for large institutional investors.
- Strengthen banking regulatory framework to develop a more competitive market, less dominated by a small group of banks.
- Impose effective Chinese walls between different business areas, particularly banks with its subsidiaries

III. Main Messages

- Develop the capacity of federal and subnational governments for strategic planning involving all stakeholders.
- Ensure that economic, social and environmental criteria are applied in identifying, evaluating and prioritizing investments.
- Strengthen the role of PPI to develop and coordinate a pipeline of bankable projects based on transparent selection criteria.
- Improve PPP contracts and move focus from short-term infrastructure investments to long-term service delivery.
- Consolidate regulatory agencies and ensure their political and technical Independence.
- Strengthen the role of public banks in supporting project structuring, managing construction risks and develop innovative financial instruments to share risks and crowd-in private finance.





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