



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

GUATEMALA

SNAPSHOT

A Strong Vision for National Competitiveness

Working together with the public and private sectors the Nation forges a path for future economic growth.



*Photo: Ministry of Economy Guatemala
Official launching of the National
Competitiveness Agenda*

The outdated and divergent ministry strategies were replaced with concise operational strategies that reflect the goals of the National Competitiveness Agenda to achieve Guatemala's economic goals through the year 2021.

The Government of Guatemala (GOG) had a unified vision for inclusive economic development, but different and sometimes opposing plans within its own ministries made it difficult to turn that vision into reality. In 2012, the GOG came to the realization that in order to increase competitiveness, accelerate trade, and sustain broad-based economic growth, the country needed to develop a streamlined plan. It enlisted the help of the USAID Policy Regulatory Support for Economic Growth (PRS) Project to analyze the numerous ministerial strategies and combine them into a comprehensive plan, or roadmap, for the future.

The program worked closely with the Ministry of Economy (MINECO, Spanish acronym), the National Competitiveness Program, and 15 other ministries to eliminate excessive policies, decrease barriers to trade, and create a comprehensive, multi-year, National Competitiveness Agenda. The Agenda focuses on six critical development goals:

1. A safe, educated and inclusive society;
2. The development of strong governmental institutions;
3. Environmental and social sustainability;
4. Decentralization;
5. The strengthening of technology and infrastructure; and
6. The promotion of an economic environment conducive to job creation.

The outdated and conflicting government strategies were then replaced with concise operational strategies that reflect the goals of the National Competitiveness Agenda.

For the first time, this coordinated approach to a competitiveness agenda lays out a national framework, objectives, and concrete steps for all 15 ministries to coordinate their efforts and achieve Guatemala's economic goals through the year 2021.

Telling Our Story

U.S. Agency for International Development
Washington, DC 20523-1000
<http://stories.usaid.gov>