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Mexico, Infrastructure

### **Mexico: A Country Slowly Trying To Rebuild**

Mexico is one of the most popular countries in the world. Mexico is one of the most popular tourist destinations. It is the 11th most populated country with over 123 million people. Mexico is located in North America, bordering the Caribbean Sea and the Gulf of Mexico. It is between Belize and the United States and bordering the North Pacific Ocean, between Guatemala and the United States (Heathcote). Many Mexicans live in cities and as well as smaller rural communities. The vibrant culture enjoys things such as cooking, sports, enjoying time outdoors, music, and soap operas. It even revolves around religious values and the church. Most of the people are catholic (Heathcote). A Mexican family structure usually would start with a father or grandfather as the head of the household. They would commonly be in charge of everything. Then there would be a mother and a few children. Each had a role of either taking care of farm animals or cleaning around the house. It would be very organized in a household. The Mexican government is structured as a federal presidential republic. Through the years, the country has been stable but also still struggling to become and even better country for the people and the economy (Crow).

About 92.7% of the population speaks Spanish. 5.7% of the population speak Spanish and Indigenous languages. 0.8% of the population is indigenous spoken. 0.8% of other languages are spoken (Crow). Mexico's economy has been increasing since the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and usually towards the manufacturing side to receive materials and even sell materials and structures to other different countries. It is a very large source of import the US' second largest export market. Mexico's economy has an annual average of two percent growth (Crow). The main focus of this paper is about the infrastructure within Mexico. Yes, Mexico is doing well with business but is also still living a couple years back such as struggling to build homes and recreate a new economic system. So far families have been salvaging for themselves. Mexico's infrastructure doesn't fit with the numbers of their economy. Their unemployment rate is very low and most everyone is working all the time (Heathcote).

I assume the whole population is working all the time so that the main focus is the economy of Mexico and Mexico is doing well for their economy and not so much focused for the infrastructure. Spain, South Korea and Mexico have similar GDP. What's also similar is that the infrastructure needs to go through a lot of maintenance. All three countries are focused more on the people such as seeking jobs and finding what goal is best for them. Streets, buildings, utilities, and other supplies have been outdated in Mexico. The time has arrived that things have

been starting to not work for Mexico. Mexico does want to improve their infrastructure and make the population happier. About 1 million people live in Mexico without electricity. Mexico does want to fix this problem because they feel as if they don't fix this problem then the people wouldn't like this and this would create problems. This isn't the only problem they have. Running warm and clean water is another problem that the country wants to improve on. Water is a major source for Mexico because it gets so hot in Mexico that it is a need and valuable source. The water in Mexico is available but it isn't the finest water a country should need. Water usually comes from wells or even pipes as well.

Mexico's pipelines could be broken or outdated and is a concern for many cities. The country wants to make a new system or put water towers everywhere so that clean water is available. Mexico does have the power and value to improve on these things but they have to apply these values in order for the country to become an even better country. Since it is a great tourist attraction, I think it could become like the United States or Canada. It just looks old and that what needs to be improved on. It is just like getting a new update. Many people live in rural homes. These homes are usually made with poor materials. Most homes are unstable and unfit. These homes are also very small only containing a few rooms, a bathroom, and a kitchen.

Transportation networks such as buses has also been a problem in Mexico. Pedestrians and cyclist rights are neglected while priority is given to car vehicles. Some bus routes would never be available to the people and times would be off. There would also be buses that were unavailable or were down. It would be hard for buses to go around cities due to the bad roads implemented in Mexico. There would be roads that are made out of dirt or gravel.

It is a rough time in Mexico but there are many innovative solutions. The public-private partnership (PPP) law, a legal instrument that aims to regulate development in countries to benefit the public. It deals with problems associated with urban development. There are contractual relationships between the public and private sectors. This is also promoted by Fonadin, Mexico's national infrastructure fund. This organization gives many benefits to the country because it faces many things that are needed every day. They build new homes and also new buildings, roads, and even implement electricity and running water. The population could even use some of their talents such as construction worker and electricians to use their skills to improve structures and other things. This is a big improvement and more people would get educated on how to improve their homes and would receive some assistance as well.

Mexico's PPP provides a range of advantages that are designed to be conducive to higher levels of private investment in infrastructure development projects (Heathcote). These turn into funds and then use the money to build structures that are important to the country. This is a great way for Mexico to regain its cities. The people well deserve new things in the country. The president of Mexico does want a change. He sees Mexico as being like New York or California once everything is restored and updated. There are also fundraisers and other organizations set up by

schools and universities in Mexico. They are also promoted by the government. These schools try to save up money in order for their schools and towns to get better. Many want a change in their community.

Alongside, the US is also looking out for Mexico wants to create a partnership with Mexico. The US does want to fund to Mexico in order for it to turn just like the United States. These are private funds and run by the government (Heathcote). Usually, the two countries trade with each other but I think Mexico has plenty to offer to the United States in order to get those private funds. Finally, in 2014, something big happened. The National infrastructure program aimed to pour in 60 billion US dollars, about 8% GDP, to modernize infrastructure in Mexico. This takes care of pulling funds from both public and private sources and targeting around 750 projects in the country.

This improves new ports, expanding existing ports, paving more roads, extending railways, and expanding electricity generation capacity. This is just the beginning of a new change in the Country. Many more projects are being worked on now. With many organizations just like this, things such as communication, water, health, urban development, and tourism can be fixed and improved making Mexico much more popular and a better place to live for the population. Mexico is ready for whatever challenges that need to be accomplished in order to apply better things for the community. The country's aggressive overhaul will ensure a stable Mexican economy and serve as North America's manufacturing hub. This could bring more investment money needed for Mexico. Mexico's goal is to reach 600 billion US dollars in order to accomplish all goals.

This also requires a shift from a fossil fuel based economy to a renewable energy and from raw material economy to a recycled material economy. People will need to learn new techniques in order to change. The population will need to learn new engineering and green building techniques and as well cooperate with the US to access clean water. I, myself, have a strategy to rebuild Mexico. First of all, repair all broken systems and promote and employ new sustainable systems. This takes care of all the things that work and does not work.

This second thing is to limit the government's control of infrastructure systems and encourage more investment that is unsubsidized. I think it is also best to develop communities in ways that guarantee the non-violation of humans or ecosystems. This is a way not to get into any trouble with the country permission has to be well notified. It is true that America hasn't heard about Mexico's infrastructure. If the US helps Mexico, much more can be solved in a matter of time. It would serve everyone to bring in experts to explain the problems in their fields and work together on new ideas and innovative solutions. Therefore the U.S could even have benefits such as on there trade. Trade, financially, could be cut back when trading with Mexico.

It could be televised on the news or addressed. Earlier in this paper, I also mentioned the cost.

Mexico is aiming for \$600 Billion, which could be accomplished in a couple of years. The cost of infrastructure is ongoing. It makes sense to evaluate all foreseeable costs including construction, maintenance, operation, environmental impact and other associated costs. The price should match with whatever the country wants to accomplish so they wouldn't be in a situation to regain more money to fix any other things. I also think Mexico's electricity grid is outdated and is not suitable for today's electricity. The demand for electricity has gone up 25% and that means Mexico has poor electricity quality.

I think switching to wind power would help meet the increased demand and would shift to a renewable source. Switching would also increase revenue for farmers who could lease a small portion of land to wind companies. Wind power electricity could power up cities more than ever. Some cities wouldn't even have electricity with the old power grids.

I feel as Mexico still has a long way to accomplish the goals of their own and it is going to take a lot of knowledge. The country still wants to be a popular tourist attraction but not as poor as they were before, Changing the infrastructure does not mean that they are changing their culture. The population just wants a better place to live and the government wants what is best for the people. Everything will be the same, just the setting is different. Mexico does have intelligent minds and will do its very best to change the country in a couple of years.

So in conclusion, I feel as if Mexico needs to create a budget and start all over building things. It is just like getting an update that needs to be paid for that is all. It will take a couple of years due to the learning process and the materials gathered. The country does want to be like all the other popular countries. I can see Mexico soon to be a rich country and sort of like a mega-country. If Mexico does change, we could see an impact on the lives that live in Mexico. The result, a bigger impact for not only Mexico but for everywhere around.

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