# PRÁCTICAS EXITOSAS EN LA PROMOCIÓN DE LA COMPETITIVIDAD A NIVEL SUBNACIONAL

Acciones para mejorar el ambiente de negocios e incrementar la competitividad de las ciudades

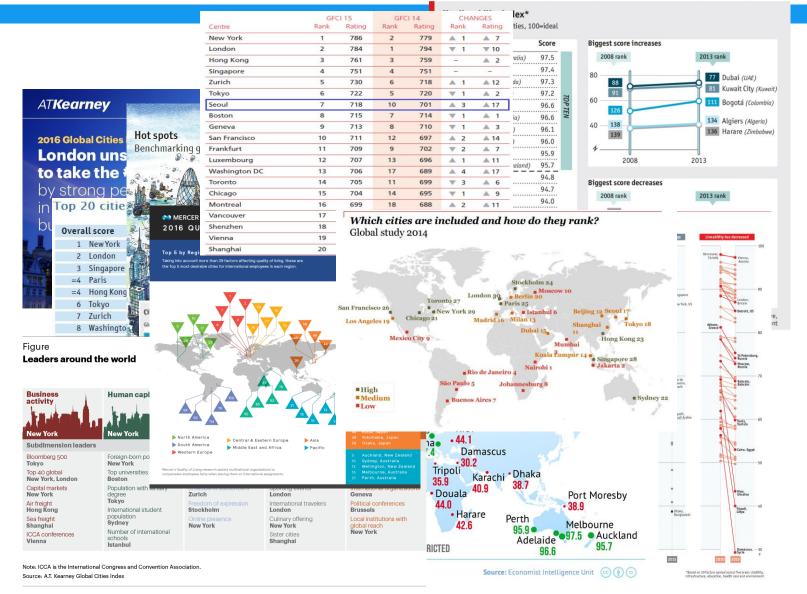
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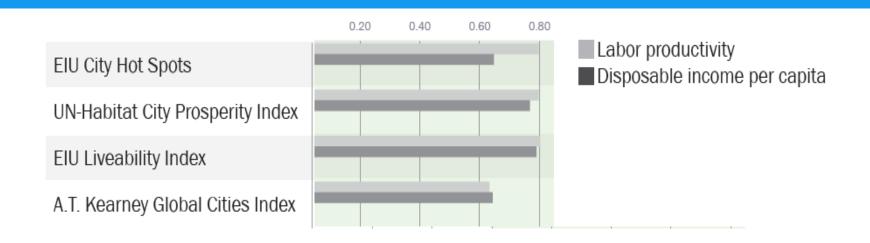
World Bank Group



There are a lot of indicators that aim at measuring city competitiveness



# In the end, it is all about productivity

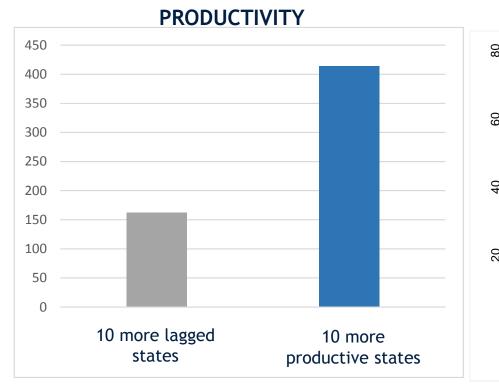


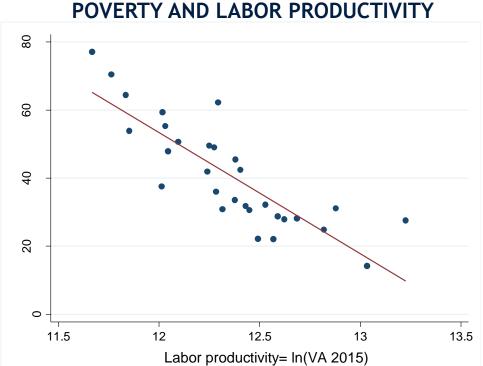
"The obsession with competitiveness is not only wrong but dangerous, skewing domestic policies and threatening the international economic system (...) It leads, directly and indirectly, to bad economic policies on a wide range of issues, domestic and foreign, whether it be in health care or trade."

PAUL KRUGMAN
COMPETITIVENESS: A DANGEROUS
OBSESSION

# Why does this matter for Mexico? There are huge differences in productivity between states

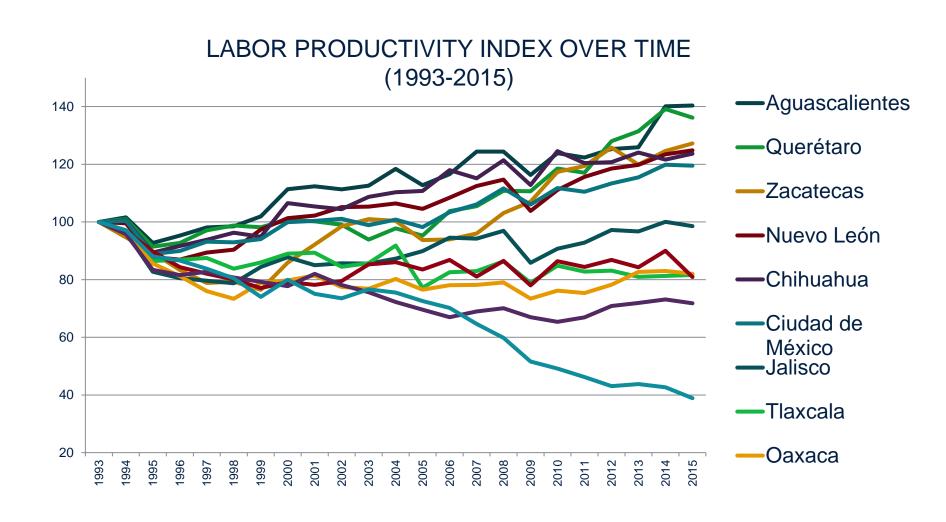
- The 10 more productive states have almost twice the productivity of the 10 more lagged states.
- More productive states exhibit lower poverty rates.





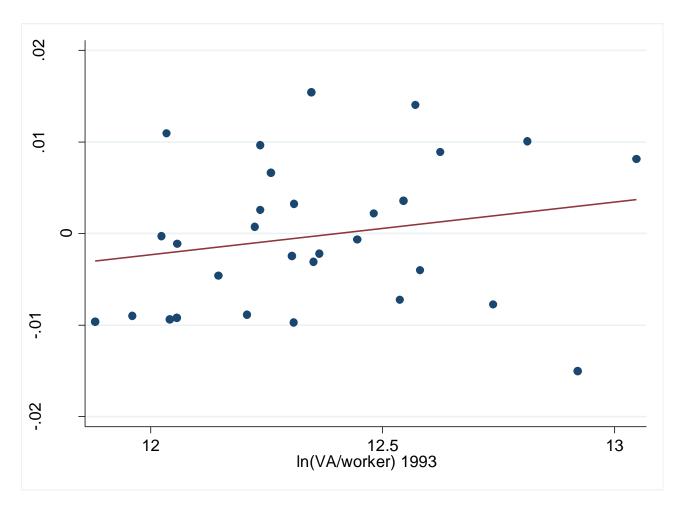
<sup>\*</sup>Campeche and Tabasco are excluded from the sample

# And there are also huge differences in growth patterns



### Moreover, there is no catch-up

#### ANNUAL AVERAGE GROWTH 1993-2015 VS. VA/WORKER 1993



Source: Own calculations with data from INEGI \*Campeche and Tabasco are excluded from the sample

# Which factors can explain low productivity?

**Factors allocation** 

- An important group of MSMEs that does not grow.
- Informality (labor market distortions)
- Lack of access to finance and capital

Lack of innovation and skills

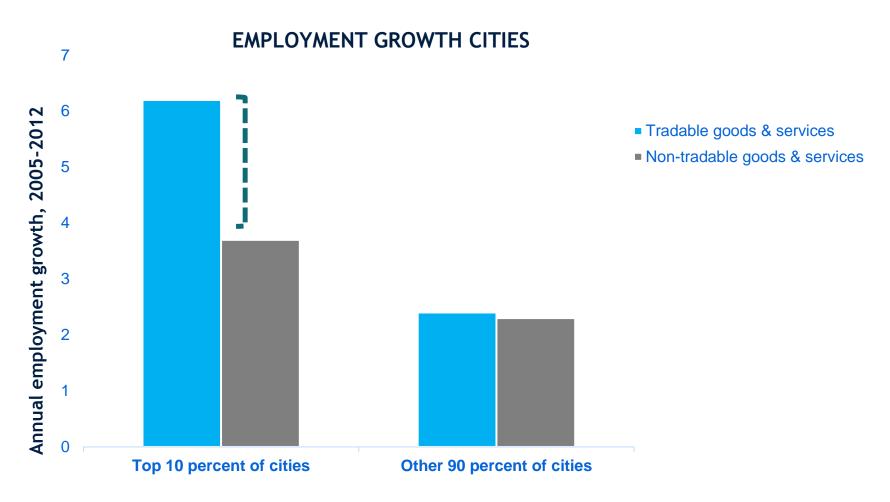
- Low quality of education
- Low investment in Human capital, innovation (products and processes), R&D and ICT.
- Poor management practices

Business environment and investment

- Overregulation
- Lack of legal certainty
- Low competition
- Crime
- Lack of flexibility in inputs markets.
- · Lack of infrastructure, mainly in the South

# What do we know from successful subnational development globally?

### Capacity to integrate into global markets matters a lot



Source: Kilroy et al. (2015)

# What do we know from successful subnational development globally?

		Institutions and Regulations	Infrastructure & Land	Skills and Innovation	Enterprise Support and Finance
Na	ational government	Macroeconomic management National investment and trade policy Legal framework amd property protection Industry-specific taxes and regulations	Highways, roads, airports, ports Power grid Regulations for infrastructure provision, such as PPP laws	Public education system Immigration policies to attract talent R&D funding, support schemes Healthcare	Export and trade facilitation Access to finance support schemes
	District / city / local governments	Municipal taxes and incentives  Zoning and land use policies  Construction permits; business licenses  Public safety and law enforcement	City roads and public transportation Water and sanitation Public safety Housing/slum upgrading	Talent attraction programs  Cluster development support  Linking firms with academia	Business support services Investment policies, promotion, and aftercare Facilitation of seed, catalyst, and risk capital
,	Private sector	Standards and certification associations	Additional infrastructure and shared services	Vocational training programs R&D	Business associations and support networks Market intelligence and business information Equity and debt

Source: World Bank.

Source: World Bank (2015) Competitive Cities for Jobs and Growth: What, Who, and How

*Note*: PPP = public-private partnership; R&D = research and development.

What have been focusing on at the World Bank?

# From a subnational pilot initiative to a national competition policy program and reforms on the ground in Mexico

Findings at the macro and the micro level:

Lack of competition still costs its economy 1% of GDP growth each year

51 of 78 municipalities
allow incumbents in the
tortilla market to veto entry,
have minimum distances
or rules in place that allow
for coordination.

 $\rightarrow$ 

6 cartel agreements detected in the tortilla markets since 2005 Pilot to prioritize feasible and impactful reform at

the local level

Subnational Competition Assessment in Oaxaca (2013-2014) Replication and building widely applicable methodology

Joint implementation in 2 additional states with COFEMER (2014-2015) Nation-wide implementation under highpriority initiative for central government

Ministry of Economy Decree adopted WBG methodology to identify regulatory impact on competition and improve regulations (2015)

Knowledge transfer to **COFEMER** to integrate approach in their standard program with 32 states and become advocates for competition reforms
(2016-2017)



#### Reforms already achieved

Impact on jobs and investment
Oaxaca: 6.8% higher retail sales, 20 new
outlets

State of Mexico: retail, construction (2016)

### MARKETS AND COMPETITION POLICY ASSESSMENT TOOL (MCPAT)

Identify sectors where sub-national authorities have legal mandate or role in implementation

Prioritize sectors that are key for the development of the local economy and exhibit signs of lack of competition

Understanding the inherent market characteristics (natural barriers to entry, economies of scale)

Identify the specific market scenarios in the subnational markets

Identifying regulatory barriers to competition

**Assess implementation issues** 

Prioritizing reforms based on likelihood of actually affecting competition dynamics

Prioritizing reform based on feasibility/impact

 Rules that reinforce dominance or limit entry

- Rules that are conducive to market outcomes or increase costs to compete in the market
- Rules that discriminate and protect vested interests

Measure the impact of the reforms

# Improving market functioning

# Competition in local markets



Not just solid enforcement of competition laws but also proper design and implementation of government intervention in markets

WBG MARKETING AND COMPETITION POLICY ASSESSMENT TOOL (MCPAT) SUBNATIONAL MARKET ASSESSMENT OF COMPETITION (SMAC)

### Advocacy objectives

- Change the way in which governments intervene
- Activities that increase knowledge of benefits of competition policy
- Change firms' behavior in the market and compliance

### Areas of analysis

- Regulatory reform and economic policies.
- Investment incentives and public aid.
- Deregulation
- Privatization, SOEs and competitive neutrality.
- Competition policy in regulated sectors.
- Compliance.

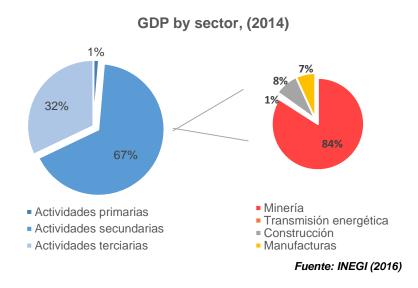
#### Tools

- Impact assessment of regulations and policies
- Assessment of potential benefits of privatization
- Neutrality analysis prior to change in SOEs mandate.
- Guidelines for trade
- Guidelines for public officials.

Source: Goodwin and Licetti (2016)

# EXAMPLE: REMOVING EXCLUSIVITY RIGHTS IN THE CARGO TRANSPORT SECTOR TO BOOST POTENTIAL FOR LOGISTICS HUB

1. State's strategic objective is to diversify its economy and exploit its geographical potential to become a logistic hub



2. Efficient road cargo transport services are key to reaching this goal, both in transport of goods (cold chains) as well as construction material (for road works).

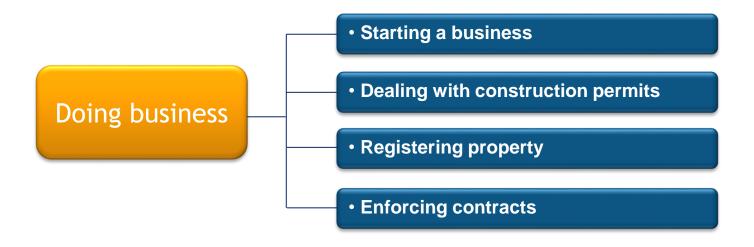
- 3. However state regulation grants monopoly rights to local transport associations to provide cargo transport services in each municipality.
  - Construction firms are often even rejected a license to transport their own materials.
  - Lack of incentives and capacity for local transport associations to invest in new and larger trucks: Union trucks are 7-14m<sup>3</sup> and 20-30 years old while large construction firms require modern 32m<sup>3</sup> gondolas.
  - These inefficiencies raise the cost of constructions overall by 30% and increase the cost of public road works by 15%.



# Regulations

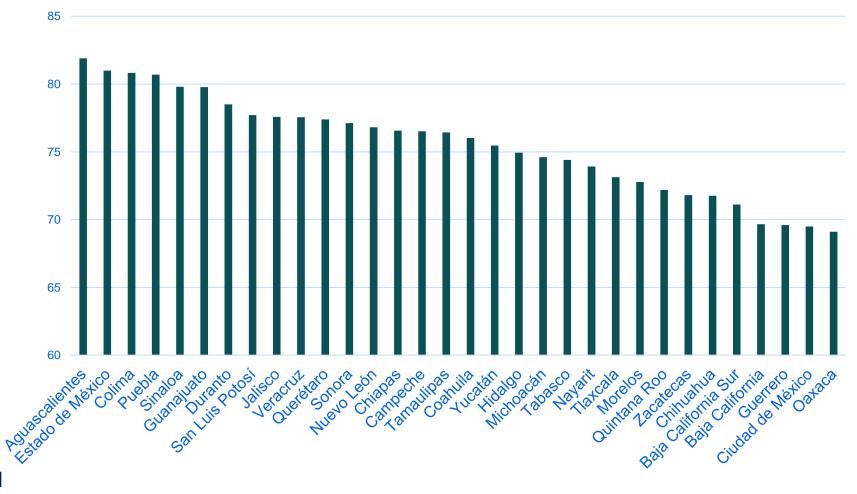
A Dynamic private sector requires regulations that help it thrive.
 Regulations need to be efficient, accesible to all who use them and simple.

### SUBNATIONAL DOING BUSINESS (DOING BUSINESS IN MEXICO 2016)



# Regulations: there are great differences between states

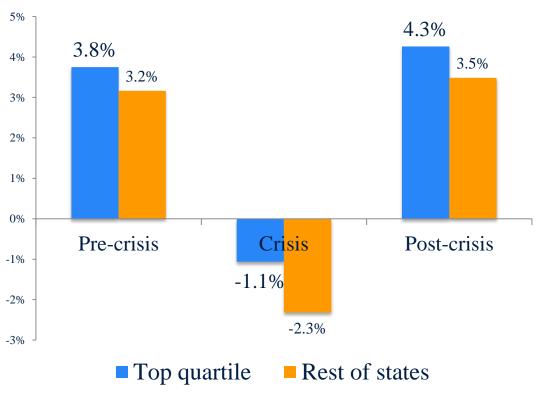




# Regulations are important for employment generation

Mexican states with better regulations recovered faster from the 2008 crisis.





Source: lacovone et al. (2017)

Note: "Top quartile" refers to the 8 Mexican states with better ranking in Doing Business in Mexico 2007. "Rest of states" refers to the remaining 24 states.

# Effectiveness of spending: Are resources allocated to local public programs improving welfare?

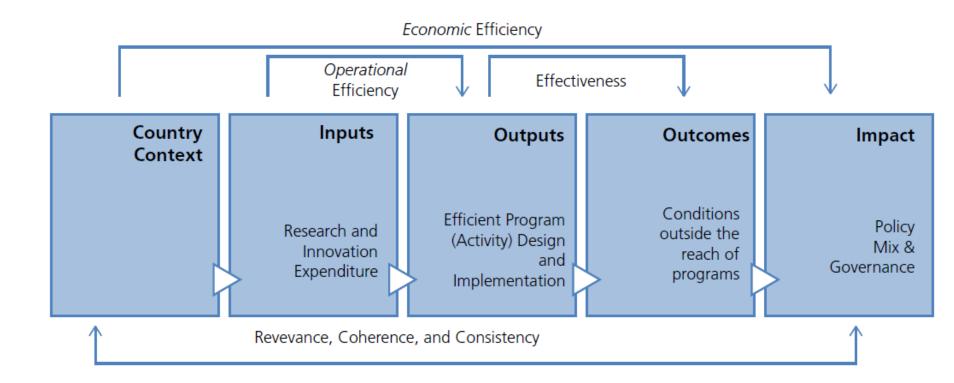
#### PUBLIC EXPENDITURE REVIEW (PER) AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

- 1) How much is spent by the government, by whom, with what objectives?
  - How much is spent in each of the intermediate outcomes?
  - What is the state consolidated budget?
  - Are there complementarities or overlaps?
- 2) Are expenditures generating the expected outputs? Are they doing it efficiently? Do programs and funded activities generate the expected output with a reasonably level of inputs?
  - Design and implementation issues affecting performance of programs
- 3) Are public expenditures effective? Are outputs translating into intermediate outcomes?
- 4) How does the composition and level of public expenditures (the policy mix) affect its impact? Is the composition of public expenditures relevant to the state's development stage, consistent with existing higher-level goals, and coherent in terms of the funded measures?

Source: Correa (2014)

# Effectiveness of spending: Are resources allocated to local public programs improving welfare?

### PUBLIC EXPENDITURE REVIEW OF PRODUCTIVITY PROGRAMS (PER) AT THE LOCAL LEVEL



Source: Correa (2014)

### This is a very diverse instrument:

Туре	Development objective	Size	Location	Activities	Markets	Examples
Free trade zone	Support trade	<50 h	Port of entry	Entrepot and trade-related activity	Domestic re- export	Colon Free Zone (Panama)
Traditional EPZ	Export manufacturing	<100 h	None	Manufacturing or other processing	Mostly export	Bangladesh, Vietnam
Free enterprises (single unit EPZ)	Export manufacturing	No minimum	countrywide	Manufacturing or other processing	Mostly export	Mauritius, Mexico
Hybrid EPZ	Export manufacturing	<100 h Only part of area is EPZ	None	Manufacturing or other processing	Export and domestic	La Krabang, Thailand
Freeport/SEZ	Integrated development	>1,000 h	None	Multiuse	Internal, domestic, and export	Aqaba, Shenzhen

Source: Farole (2011)

1) Attract FDI 2) Serve as pressure valves to alleviate large-scale unemployment. SEZ objectives 3) Support a wider economic reform strategy (develop and diversify exports) 4) Experimental laboratories for the application of new policies and approaches. Incentive packages Ownership and management schemes to attract and facilitate dynamism Corporate tax breaks SEZ components One-stop-shops Independent zone regulators Good infrastructure and logistics Source: Faxole (2011)

### Trends

- Emphasis on physical, strategic and financial links between SEZ and local economies.
- Greater focus on differentiation through the investment climate.
- Growing importance of privately owned, developed and operated zones.

#### Lessons

- SEZ should REALLY be special
- Effectiveness of design, implementation & management is determinant for success or failure.
- Leverage countries' comparative advantages.
- It takes time (incubation period)- provide consistent support.
- Infrastructure reliability is key to success. (high-quality ports and roads connection to zones)
- Fiscal incentives are not enough and could pose risks in the long-term
- Focus on "smart incentives" beyond just tax breaks
- Integration with local economy is critical (backward and forward linkages)
- Importance of skills, training, knowledge sharing, clusters and public and private cooperation.

Source: Farole (2011)

### Key challenge for SEZ...avoid encalves

### How to achieve the double objective of:

- (a) Attract new investment to promote growth, investment and exports; and
- (b) Avoid developing "enclaves"?
- 1. Actively promote the establishment of suppliers relationship between the large "anchor investors" and local
- 2. Generate "capacity" for responding to "new demand" and promote human capital development

Source: Farole (2011)

**SMEs** 

### Evidence

- Mixed evidence. Some programs were successful in attracting investment in the short-term but failed to be sustainable (once advantages reduce).
- Many SEZ were successful in generating exports and employment and came out marginally positive in cost-Benefit.

#### **SUCCESS STORIES:**

- East Asia's tiger economies- SEZ were critical to facilitate industrial development and upgrading.
- China- SEZ provided a platform for FDI and export oriented manufacturing
- Dominican Republic (at peak 7.5% of GDP and 90% of national exports), El Salvador and Honduras used them to generate large- scale manufacturing

Source: Farole (2011)

### Conclusions

- In the end, the problem of competitiveness is a problem of productivity
- Mexico exhibits huge regional differences in productivity and in growth patterns. There is no catch-up...Mexico is not unique in Latin America
- There are different factors capable of improving productivity at the regional level:
  - Improving market functioning
  - Better regulations
  - Improving the effectiveness of spending.
  - Special Economic Zones
- All of them require strategic design, intelligent experimentation (coupled with M&C) and long-term commitment.

# **THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION!**

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