



COLOMBIA: IN FOCUS

A WEEKLY UPDATE FROM THE EMBASSY OF COLOMBIA

July 31, 2012

In Case You Missed It...

Colombia: A Dynamic Economic Powerhouse for Trade & Investment

With 46 million consumers, the third largest GDP in South America, a robust free market economy and strong economic indicators, Colombia has grown into a leading economic force in the region. On Wednesday, July 25, 2012, *MarketWatch* highlighted Colombia's significant growth, including its building sector, and recognized the country as one of the world's leading emerging economies. Below are excerpts from the coverage.



“Latin America’s New Tigers Forge Ahead: Investor Interest Growing as Colombia and Peru Economies Boom”

“...Colombia’s economy has been lifted by the commodities boom...Colombia has also built a middle class that has propelled industries such as retail, manufacturing, telecommunications, housing, transportation and tourism. It also has a youthful population — a key factor in driving growth. Forty percent of the total population is below 20 years old, and 80% is below 50 years old. Colombia’s government has also pledged to spend \$100 billion over the next 10 years on rebuilding infrastructure.”

To read the full text, visit: <http://tinyurl.com/cklpj2u>

“Peru, Colombia Consumers Draw Investor Interest: Consumer Goods, Infrastructure, Mining Surface as Solid Bets”

*“...Colombia is projected to grow by 4.7% this year and 4.4% in 2013. Colombia, meanwhile, has touted a near doubling in foreign direct investment over a year. ... Colombia and Peru saw jumps of at least 20% in local currency terms this year before paring year-to-date gains. **Investor interest in these markets reflects a remarkable improvement** for both countries... Now, ‘the two of them are extremely attractive markets [that] have gone through political and economic turnarounds,’ said Christian Deseglise, who heads sales in the Americas at HSBC Global Asset Management.”*

To read the full text, visit: <http://tinyurl.com/d5n2mvy>

“Colombia’s Building Sector Poised for Growth: Plans to Grow Infrastructure Should Offer Sector a Big Boost”

*“...Foreign direct investment in Colombia has been growing at a brisk pace, up 25% in the first four months of 2012 over the same period a year ago. **Oil and energy still make up a large portion of that, but infrastructure projects could lift that even higher over the next six months.**”*

To read the full text, visit: <http://tinyurl.com/d265ctu>

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