

The Pacific Alliance (AP)

Concept

Latin America is one of the most dynamic regions in the world in terms of economic growth as a result of its demographic bonus, increase of competitiveness, trade and investment. Four countries of this region, with similar trade and economic development policies decided to integrate “*La Alianza del Pacífico*” in order to facilitate and increase trade in the Asia-Pacific region.

Objectives

1. Promote trade, services, capital and professionals exchange among member-countries
2. Increase the group competitiveness towards social inclusion and equality
3. Become a political, economic and commercial platform

About

- **Members:** Colombia, Chile, Mexico, Peru
- **Population:** 210 million
- **GDP:** US\$ 1.9 trillion
- **GDP per capita:** US\$ 10,000 (average)
- **GDP growth:** 5.7% (average)

Background

- The AP had five high-level meetings since 2011 in order to define the framework for the alliance and will have the first macro business round next June 2013 in Cali, Colombia.
- Last November, the members defined the group framework, including technical groups, in which each country will be in charge of the following issues:
 - **Mexico.** Business people mobility, transit and migration facilitation; including cooperation among immigration and related institutions
 - **Chile.** Trade and integration, including trade facilitation and customs cooperation
 - **Colombia.** Services and capital, including the stock exchanges integration
 - **Peru.** Cooperation, controversy resolution and institutional affairs

Observers:

- In order to be member of the alliance, applicant countries must have a FTA or EPA with the four member countries. Existing bilateral or multilateral agreements will not be affected by the AP.
 - Costa Rica, Panama, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, Uruguay, Spain
 - In November 2012, Japan expressed its interest to become an observer

Key sectors:

- Agricultural business
- Energy
- Manufacturing
- Mining and oil services