

Legal certainty for foreign investment

Signing Reciprocal Investment Promotion and Protection Agreements (RIPPAs) is part of a strategy established by the Mexican government to provide national and foreign investors a legal framework that offers stronger protection for foreign investment in Mexico and Mexican investment abroad.

In general, RIPPAs include the following topics: investment definition, scope of application, promotion and admission, investment treatment, expropriation, transfers and resolution of Investor-State and State-State controversies.

Mexico has signed 30 of these agreements, as shown in the next table.

RIPPAs signed by México					
Country	Year	Country	Year	Country	Year
Switzerland	1996	Korea	2002	United Kingdom	2007
Argentina	1998	Cuba	2002	Trinidad and Tobago	2007
Netherlands	1999	Greece	2002	Spain	2008
Denmark	2000	Italy	2002	India	2008
Finland	2000	Uruguay	2002	Slovak Republic	2009
France	2000	Belgium-Luxemburg	2003	China	2009
Portugal	2000	Czech Republic	2004	Belarus	2009
Germany	2001	Iceland	2006	Singapore	2011
Austria	2001	Panama	2006	Bahrain	2014
Sweden	2001	Australia	2007	Kuwait	2016

Source: Secretariat of Economy, 2016.

Furthermore, some of the Free Trade Agreements that Mexico has signed include a chapter on investment that is similar to a RIPPA, for example, the agreements signed with the US, Canada, Chile, Colombia and Japan.

This institutional framework brings legal certainty to businesses that decide to establish operations in Mexico.