Investment Bridge Americas Europe

DWF's Latin American Group Newsletter – March 2026

Our latest LATAM Group highlights, including deals, team successes, people news, and marketing and business development activities.

Industry News & Events

DWF Latam Day

As part of our ongoing efforts to promote the DWF Latam Group, we are currently planning a dedicated event to be held in London. Several members of the DWF Latam Group are already involved in shaping the content and agenda.

The event is planned as a three-hour session (provisionally scheduled for 16 June) and will explore inbound and outbound opportunities between the UK, Europe and Latin America. It will conclude with a drinks networking session. We look forward to discussing key areas where we have particular strength, including disputes, construction, energy, insurance, M&A, and related topics.

Please feel free to get in touch if you would like to be involved in this initiative and help promote your practice and your clients' exposure to the Latin American market and related opportunities.

DWF (UK) & Coloquium

Coloquium is a newly formed arbitration association in Mexico that brings together Mexican and international law firms with strong arbitration capabilities. The initiative aims to promote alternative dispute resolution in response to recent judicial reforms in Mexico that have raised concerns within the legal and business communities. Its members include law firms such as Herbert Smith, Cuatrecasas, Pillsbury, and King & Spalding, as well as prominent international firms operating in Mexico, including White & Case, Clyde & Co, Baker McKenzie, and Greenberg Traurig, alongside highly regarded Mexican firms.

DWF is currently the only London-based firm admitted to Coloquium. We are in the process of organising a webinar focused on why London is an attractive seat for international arbitration. A similar event is scheduled to take place in Madrid in April 2026, following a previous session held in Houston earlier this month.

Mercosur – EU Treaty

After more than 25 years of negotiations, the European Union and the Mercosur bloc (Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay) concluded a landmark trade agreement in January 2026. The pact establishes one of the world's largest free-trade zones, covering around 700 million people, and aims to eliminate or reduce thousands of tariffs across goods, services, and investments.

The agreement promises major economic gains, including tariff reductions worth approximately €4 billion annually, improved EU access to South American agricultural and mineral markets, and expanded Mercosur access to European industrial goods.

Although signed, the treaty still faces a complex ratification process, especially within the EU, where unanimous approval is required for the broader political agreement. An interim trade agreement is expected to enter into force earlier, pending full ratification.

Sponsorship of 11th Infrastructure Forum (Monterrey, Mexico 2026)

We participated in the 11th Infrastructure Forum in Monterrey, Mexico, where more than 250 C-suite leaders from across Mexico's energy, projects, and infrastructure sectors came together to discuss emerging trends and opportunities.

DWF was a proud sponsor of the event, showcasing our brand and capabilities across these key areas. Attending companies included Iberdrola, Engie, Enel, Blackstone, Actis, Mota-Engil, TC Energy (TransCanada), AES, among others.

LATAM Investment Matrix

DWF Latam Group has finally launched the LATAM Investment Matrix, offering a 360° perspective of doing business and investing in Latin American countries. This is a tailor-made solution developed under clients' industry, sector, country and even regional interest and concerns. The solution is based on DWF's seamless global offer of Legal Services, Legal Operations, and Business Services.

For more information, please read the full article: LATAM Group launches Investment Matrix Service - rubix

New PPP Energy Projects in Mexico

The Mexican Electricity Commission has launched a new PPP Scheme for the joint development of 7,000 MW capacity in Mexico. A hybrid between Independent Power Producer and pure PPP, this scheme looks to attract multibillion-dollar investments in solar, wind and storage projects in Mexico.

For more details, please read the report from Reuters: Mexico forecasts growth bump from public-private investment plan | Reuters

Brief Notes on Investment News in Latin America (2026)

Region positioned for a major investment upswing:

Latin America enters 2026 at a pivotal moment, with analysts highlighting new opportunities linked to global demand for critical resources, the AI revolution's power needs, and investors' desire for geographic diversification. Resource-rich economies are seen as increasingly attractive, although past underperformance still shapes investor sentiment.

"Trifecta of change" may drive an investment-led growth cycle:

According to market strategists, Latin America may be shifting from consumer-driven cycles toward an investment/CapEx-led cycle, boosted by shifting geopolitics and supply-chain rewiring, interest rates that are expected to decline into 2026, and policy changes associated with elections in major economies like Brazil and Colombia.

This environment could make infrastructure, AI-related industries, manufacturing, and domestic capital markets more investable.

2026 economic outlook supported by resilience and targeted investment:

Forecasts suggest stable growth around 2.3–2.4% for the region, underpinned by strategic investments—particularly in digital transformation, renewable energy, and nearshoring-friendly infrastructure. Resilience in 2025 sets the stage for continued but uneven opportunities across markets.

Davos 2026 highlights private-sector readiness and resource-based opportunities.

Discussions at the World Economic Forum emphasised Latin America's macroeconomic stability, strong renewable energy potential, and critical mineral reserves. An "investment-ready private sector" and expanding digital ecosystems are seen as catalysts, though geopolitical tensions—particularly involving Venezuela—remain a drag on investor confidence.

Growth expected despite geopolitical tensions with the U.S.

Although strained relations between the U.S. and several Latin American countries (Venezuela, Brazil, Mexico, and Colombia) create uncertainty, projections indicate Latin America may still outgrow the U.S. and Europe in 2026. Investment drivers include rising metals prices, greater foreign direct investment, and growing digital productivity.

Investment outlook tempered by global uncertainties.
Despite improved financial conditions and stronger export demand, region-wide investment remains constrained by external factors such as weaker global demand, muted commodity prices, and geopolitical volatility. The sustainability of growth is still questioned due to limited long-term capital inflows and fiscal vulnerabilities.

DWF Latam Group

See the LATAM Group's complete information at: LATAM Group | DWF

LATAM Quick Quiz

Which is currently the friendliest Latin American country towards foreign investment?

(Answer in our next newsletter)