

GLOBAL FINANCE NAMES THE WORLD'S BEST EMERGING MARKET BANKS IN LATIN AMERICA 2008



NEW YORK, March 24, 2008 — *Global Finance* magazine has named the “Best Emerging Market Banks in Latin America” in an exclusive survey to be published in the May 2008 issue. *Global Finance* editors—with input from industry analysts, corporate executives and banking consultants—selected the best emerging market bank in the region and in 22 countries. Criteria for choosing the winners included growth in assets, profitability, strategic relationships, customer service, competitive pricing, and innovative products.

Regional Winner: Banco Santander

Argentina	Banco Macro	Guatemala	Banco Agromercantil
Barbados	FirstCaribbean International	Honduras	Banco Atlántida
Belize	The Belize Bank	Jamaica	Scotiabank Jamaica
Bolivia	Banco de Crédito	Mexico	Banamex (Citi)
Brazil	Banco Itau	Panama	Banco General
Chile	Santander Chile	Paraguay	Interbanco
Colombia	Bancolombia	Peru	BBVA Banco Continental
Costa Rica	Scotiabank Costa Rica	Puerto Rico	Santander Puerto Rico
Dominican Republic	Banco Popular Dominicano	Trinidad & Tobago	Republic Bank
Ecuador	Banco del Pichincha	Uruguay	ABN AMRO Uruguay
El Salvador	Banco Agrícola	Venezuela	BBVA Banco Provincial

This is the fifteenth year that the magazine has selected top banking performers in emerging markets. The report covers best banks in Asia, the Middle East, Africa, Latin America, and Central and Eastern Europe. “Emerging markets are attracting increased attention as the global economy expands,” says Joseph D. Giarraputo, publisher and president of *Global Finance*. “We have identified the banks that provide service to corporations seeking to take advantage of substantial opportunities for growth in a sometimes challenging environment.”

Global Finance, which celebrates its 21st year of publishing in 2008, has 50,000 subscribers and more than 284,000 readers in over 158 countries. This audience includes chairmen, presidents, CEOs, CFOs, treasurers, and other financial officers responsible for making investments and strategic business decisions for large global companies and financial institutions. *Global Finance* also targets the 8,000 key portfolio investors who control over 80% of all assets under professional management.

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