

チリ大使館商務部 PROCHILE TOKYO

Chile: A land of opportunities for Japanese companies

Today, as the winds of crisis blow in some of the world's regions, Chile could be considered a leader in the region and has an excellent image internationally as a destination for foreign direct investment (FDI). The country is seeing the results of the work it has done to position itself as an attractive and reliable destination for FDI.

This work has helped to place Chile sixth globally in FDI as a percentage of GDP in 2012, according to the last World Investment Report published by UNCTAD. Chile was Latin America's second largest recipient, ahead of Mexico and after Brazil.

In the past two years, Chile has received record levels of FDI. Investment reached US\$28.2 billion in 2012, according to the Central Bank. This represented an increase of 62.7% on the previous record of US\$17.3 billion in 2011. These figures are a clear sign of the confidence that exists in the performance of our economy and institutional stability, even at a time of crisis.

Japanese investment in Chile

Gross Japanese investment in Chile through Decree Law 600 (one of the two legal mechanisms for bringing foreign capital into the country) reached US\$6.2 million between 1974 and September of 2012. This amount represents 7.2% of the total capital historically materialized in Chile, making Japan the fifth most important origin country for foreign investment in Chile and the most active Asian country.

In the last two year, Japanese investment in Chile has grown systematically. In 2011, investment from Japan represented 30.1% of the total historically materialized in Chile by this country and 32.8% of the total investments in Chile. Between January and September of 2012, Japanese investment represented 42.4% of total capitals.

Network for the promotion of entrepreneurship

The State of Chile supports productive activities, entrepreneurship, innovation and the competitiveness of all companies, independently of

their origin. It does this through a broad network of special norms and benefits available to companies legally established in the country. It should be noted that in Chile a foreign investor has the same benefits and obligations than a local company.

Also the Foreign Investment Committee (www.foreigninvestment.cl), the government agency in charge of the promotion of Chile as FDI destination, has a special unit for attracting investment and attending investors. This unit provides general and sector-specific information and investment project portfolios and also organizes meetings for investors with both the public and private sectors.

The Foreign Investment Committee is organizing a major forum for international investors to be held in Chile in January 2014. Top decision-makers representing at least 150 companies interested in investing in Chile from all around the world will attend this unique high-level event. The forum will provide an excellent opportunity for Japanese companies to visit Chile, pursue opportunities and network.

Source: Foreign Investment Committee, February 18

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