

2-2-1994

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Recommended Citation

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World Bank to Support Anti-Poverty Efforts In Eight States in Mexico

by LADB Staff

Category/Department: Mexico

Published: 1994-02-02

On Jan. 27, the World Bank announced plans to provide US\$400 million in loans for several investment and social projects in Mexico's eight poorest states: Chiapas, Oaxaca, Guerrero, Hidalgo, Veracruz, Puebla, Michoacan, and Zacatecas. The eight states together account for roughly one-fourth of Mexico's population.

Eugene McCarthy, the World Bank's representative in Mexico City, said a special team from the Bank was scheduled to visit Mexico in February to assess specific needs in the eight states and to make final recommendations on allocation of the loan funds. According to McCarthy, the US\$400 million represents about 45% of the US\$900 million the World Bank has set aside for anti-poverty programs in Mexico during 1994. Total World Bank lending to Mexico for 1994 is projected at US\$1.5 billion ([SourceMex, Jan. 26, 1994](#)).

McCarthy emphasized that the assistance is not a direct response to the uprising in Chiapas, but an ongoing program by the World Bank to fight poverty and promote social development in the poorest areas of Mexico.

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