Bolivia is a landlocked country in South America that borders the countries of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, and Peru. It is located in the rugged Andes Mountain with highland plateau and lowland plains of the Amazon basin. Bolivia shares control of Lago Titicaca, the world’s highest lake navigable to large vessels, lying at 12,500 feet above sea level. The government system is a republic; the new constitution defines Bolivia as a “Social Unitarian State.” The chief of state and head of government is the president. Bolivia has a mixed economic system which includes a variety of private freedom, combined with centralized economic planning and government regulation. In addition, Bolivia is a member of the Andean Community (ANCOM).

Location: South America
Capital City: La Paz (-4 GMT)
Chief of State: President Juan Evo Morales Ayma
Head of Govt.: President Juan Evo Morales Ayma
Currency: Bolivian boliviano (BOB)
Major Languages: Spanish (official) 60.7%, Quechua (official) 21.2%, Aymara (official) 14.6%, foreign languages 2.4%, Guarani (official) 0.6%, other native languages 0.4%, none 0.1% note: Bolivia’s 2009 constitution designates Spanish and all indigenous languages as official; 36 indigenous languages are specified, including some that are extinct (2001 est.)</p>

Primary Religions: Roman Catholic 76.8%, Evangelical and Pentecostal 8.1%, Protestant 7.9%, other 1.7%, none 5.5%

Calling Code: 591
Voltage: 220/230

Risk Assessment (Provided by Coface)
Country rating: C - A very uncertain political and economic outlook and a business environment with many troublesome weaknesses can have a significant impact on corporate payment behavior. Corporate default probability is high.
Business Climate rating: B - The business environment is mediocre. The availability and the reliability of corporate financial information vary widely. Debt collection can sometimes be difficult. The institutional framework has a few troublesome weaknesses. Intercompany transactions run appreciable risks in the unstable, largely inefficient environments rated B.

Strengths
• Significant mineral (gas, oil, zinc, silver, gold, lithium, tin, manganese) and agricultural (quinoa) resources
• World’s 15th largest exporter of natural gas
• Member of the Andean Community and Association Agreement with Mercosur
• Tourism potential

Weaknesses
• Poorly diversified economy and dependent on hydrocarbons
• Poor development of private sector and heavy reliance on public sector
• Landlocked country
• Size of the informal sector
• Insecurity, drug trafficking, and corruption
• Risk of social unrest

U.S. Embassy
Avenida Arce 2780
Casilla 425
La Paz, Bolivia
P.O. Box 425
La Paz, Bolivia
APO AA 34032
Tel: (591) 2-216-8111
https://bo.usembassy.gov