

Project Management Report from São Paulo ¹



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Coronavirus: The Situation in Brazil

Since March 11th, when World Health Organization decreed coronavirus passed to be treated as a pandemic, around the world people have been living a bad dream.

Instead of China, here in Brazil the pandemic is just starting a few weeks after Europe and America. Below are the numbers of cases of Coronarivirus in Brazil until April 4th.

Confirmed cases -10.278 people

Deaths – 432 people

With the exponential increase forecast of the number of patients with coronavirus in the next two months the main cities in the country are building field hospitals in football stadiums and convention centers, in order to increase available beds.

The growing of the coronavirus in Brazil's been exponential like in other countries. In this way, the pre-existing problems in the country increase considerably. With a still fragile economy, Brazil was moving towards the advancement of many economic reforms. Coronavirus opens a gap in this growth. With the determination for people to stay at home, the economy has felt the reflexes a lot.

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Photo: Pacaembu Stadium Eduardo Anizelli / Folhapress



Photo: 25 de Março Street, a famous market center in Sao Paulo, before and after Coronavirus – Marcelo Brandt / G1

A significant increase in unemployment is expected. Currently, Brazil has 11.9 million unemployed and it is projected that after the coronavirus there would be an increase for up to 25 million unemployed people.

The gross domestic product growth forecast for 2020 was 1.8% before Coronavirus to up to -4.4% On March 20, the senators passed a decree recognizing the state of public calamity in the country.

With regard to projects in Brazil they are on hold due to the Coronavirus, awaiting important reforms approval (tax and administrative reforms). After this reforms approved an increase in foreign investments is expected and thus a significant increase in projects, especially in engineering & construction.

All the present moment we are witnessing the non-conciliatory conduct of the president. Bolsonaro disagrees with state governors about people should be isolated from the virus. Unlike the vast majority he strongly defends the need for partial people isolation (only people at high risk), as this would result in irreparable losses for the country's fragile economy. Due to Bolsonaro's conduct we should really trust just in God.

God Bless Brazil, America and the all countries in the world!

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About the Author



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Maurício Lopes, PMP is a Project Management Specialist. He is a PMP certified in 2000. He is a civil engineer with MBA in Project Management. He was one of the founders of the São Paulo PMI Chapter and Financial Director, Administrative Director, member of the Steering Committee from 1998 to 2003. He was vice-coordinator of the Project Management Division of the Engineering Institute of São Paulo from 1998 to 1999. Since 2004 Mauricio Lopes has been speaking in project management courses for CPLAN, FATEC, INPG, IETEC and FIA. He has 20 years of experience in project management with main focus in the engineering & construction area. Currently, he is associate director of M2L Project Management (www.M2L.com.br), a company specialized in project management consulting and implementation operating in over 40 large engineering & construction projects. Mauricio Lopes is author of articles for Revista Grandes Construções, a magazine specialized in engineering & construction, and he has the main characteristics related to project management - lean, practical and systematic ways. Mauricio is an International Correspondent for PM World Journal in Brazil. He can be contacted at mauricio.lopes@M2L.com.br.