

Investing in  
**CR COSTA RICA**



**Taxation**

**CINDE, July 2009**

# Taxes

Under the Costa Rica tax system, residents and corporations are taxed only on income earned in Costa Rica.

The tax year begins on October 1<sup>st</sup> and ends on September 30<sup>th</sup>, for both individuals and corporations. Companies may request filing returns on a different tax year, subject to the approval of the Ministry of Finance.

Unless proof to the contrary exists, the Ministry of Finance establishes a presumptive net income for professionals as well as corporations, and constitutes a minimum taxable base.

The following table summarizes the different existing taxes in Costa Rica:

TAX OR MANDATORY CONTRIBUTION	TAX RATE	TAX BASE
General Sales Tax	13.0%	Value added
Stamp duty	1.0%	Transaction value
Tax on interest	8.0%	Interest income
Property tax (land)	0.25%	Rental value
Property transfer tax	1.5%	Sale price
Municipal patent license	0.3%	Turnover
Corporate income tax	30.0%	Taxable profits
Import duties	Varies	Import value
Vehicle tax	Varies	Vehicle value

If the company has submitted and been approved for a free zone regime, it receives a 100% exemption on the above statutory taxes for at least eight years (see document *Free Trade Zone Regime in Costa Rica*).