

CHAPTER 2

The Drivers of Change



Prize winning Nelore cattle
at the Estancia el Carmen in
Santa Cruz, Bolivia (© Luiz
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IIRSA will unleash economic and social forces that will radically alter the Amazon. Many of these are well known and have been responsible for the ongoing process of deforestation and forest degradation over the past half century. The rapidly evolving dynamic of a global economy makes it essential to visualize the economic and social phenomena that are just beyond our cognizant horizon. In this chapter we describe the major drivers of change and their interrelationship with economic growth and infrastructure investments. Only by understanding the nature and dimensions of these forces can we understand the potential impact of IIRSA investments and develop an effective mitigation strategy to manage growth and development.