Trade and Development Assistance Services

Aid for Trade - making trade work as a tool for sustainable development

PricewaterhouseCoopers (www.pwc.com) provides industry-focused assurance, tax and advisory services to build public trust and enhance value for its clients and their stakeholders. More than 140,000 people in 149 countries across our network share their thinking, experience and solutions to develop fresh perspectives and practical advice.

In the area of trade and development assistance, PricewaterhouseCoopers is committed to working with public and private clients in the following areas:

- Trade and investment promotion
- Sustainability, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and supply-chain management
- Worldtrade management services
- International development aid and capacity building

Our trade and investment promotion practice

PricewaterhouseCoopers advises public entities in designing and managing trade and investment promotion institutions. Our services comprise technical assistance and capacity building for trade and investment support institutions as well as connecting them to governmental, multilateral and private sector organisations. Across the supply chain we assist these organisations to offer trade-related advice on finance, insurance, risks as well as administrative support. At the core of our capabilities, we design all processes needed to establish risk mitigation instruments, organising trade related conferences, establishing networks, workshops and training sessions to strengthen trade-related knowledge in private companies and governments.

We also act as advisors to public and private institutions to assist in financial risk management and compliance with environmental and social standards. Our capabilities of managing trade and investment promotion bodies also include setting up special support facilities tailored to the needs of small and medium enterprise (SME) and assessing the economic, financial and environmental impact of investment projects (1000+ projects have been assessed in the past decade). On behalf of our public sector clients, we also undertake representation, support negotiation and discussion on multilateral expert-level (OECD, EU) and thus implement the processes needed to comply and integrate with multilateral trade and investment standards. There are further capabilities to analyse structural strengths and weaknesses in trade-related institutions and trade bottlenecks of countries.

Our sustainability and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) services

Our global Sustainability Services team (www.pwc.com/sustainability) comprises more than 400 business and policy advisors in almost 40 countries. Our professionals are fully dedicated to sustainable development and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and work with public and private sector clients to put in place policies that ensure economically sustainable, long-term growth, protect the environment and foster social development.

For example, we use our expertise to help the public sector engage with stakeholders (including private sector), build capacity to meet product standards, promote clean energies and tackle climate change or assist trade policy makers in integrating social and environmental issues into trade agreements. A good example, of the trade policy-related work we do, is the Sustainability Impact Assessment (SIA) of trade negotiations between the European Union and the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of countries, we have recently completed for the European Commission (see list of selected publications).
Our specialists also work with clients on responsible supply-chain management both at the strategy level with head offices in importing countries or in exporting regions, where we assist in meeting product standards or requirements (e.g., ethical trading, organic, fair trade, carbon footprinting) and building export capacity. We have experience across a range of sectors including a broad range of agriculture commodities, home furnishings products, retailing, apparel, footwear, sporting goods, jewellery and the oil & gas and industry.

We also provide Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) related services to assess the environmental footprint of products and services in various industry sectors. LCA is an ISO defined tool aiming to quantify the environmental impact of a product or a process across its value chain. LCA is particularly used by policy and decision makers to assess the environmental risks of a project on a holistic basis. It provides valuable information on the distribution of such risks across the stakeholders of a value chain.

Our World Trade Management Services Network

PricewaterhouseCoopers is also largest provider of Customs and Trade consulting services in the world. Our Customs and International Trade professionals have backgrounds and experience that cover all of the fundamental areas of Customs and international trade consulting. The Customs and International Trade team is comprised of licensed customhouse brokers, attorneys and accounting professionals, who have served in government, in industry and as consultants.

International Development Assistance Network

Our International Development Assistance Network (www.pwc.com/prodev) is designed to serve international financial institution with extensive knowledge and contacts within these organisation and local contacts in developing countries across the world. We connect global knowledge and local experience, enabled by appropriate strategies and technology, to provide sustainable development solutions. Sustainable development requires the collaboration of governments and donors in effective partnership with NGOs, civil society, and particularly the private sector.

PricewaterhouseCoopers, with its global network of locally owned and resourced organisations, is fully committed to development partnerships. We connect global knowledge and local experience, enabled by appropriate strategies and technology, to provide sustainable development solutions.

Knowledge is now as important as cash in the pursuit of successful development solutions. We bring deep capabilities, experience and insight, as well as fresh perspectives, from around our global network—or around the corner—to development initiatives.

Contacts

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PricewaterhouseCoopers
Selected examples of recent publications

PricewaterhouseCoopers’ assessment of Economic Partnership Agreements looks at economic, social and environmental impact of trade deals between the European Union (EU) and African Caribbean Pacific (ACP) countries and makes recommendations for future trade deals
This independent study conducted by PricewaterhouseCoopers at the request of the European Commission not only evaluates the economic impact of future trade deals between the EU and the ACP, but also looks at environmental and social consequences. The study covers in-depth regional sector studies including horticulture in Eastern and Southern Africa (ESA), rules of origin in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Group, financial services in Central Africa, agro-industry in Western Africa, tourism services in the Caribbean and fisheries in the Pacific. For more information www.sia-acp.org.

Horticulture in Eastern and Southern Africa (ESA) – assessing the economic, environmental and social impacts of a future Economic Partnership Agreement with the European Union (EU)
This regional sector study looks at the competitiveness of the horticulture sector in Eastern and Southern Africa (ESA) and assesses the potential impact of a future Economic Partnership Agreement between the EU and the ESA region. The study stresses the crucial importance of both maintaining preferred market-access to the EU and building capacity related to sanitary and phytosanitary standards in the region. It concludes that research and implementation of new technologies are required to help the region address sustainability issues and recommends that natural resources co-management should be developed and that Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and renewable energies should be further disseminated through training programs. It also suggests that private standards and labels should be more coordinated and recommends communication campaigns to raise awareness, promote “sustainable” product and stimulate good practices in the ESA region.

Integrating sustainable development into the EU-Central Africa Economic Partnership Agreement – Stakeholders’ views
This publication reports on the conclusions of a workshop organised by PricewaterhouseCoopers for the European Commission. The workshop focused on the economic, social and environmental impacts of a future EU-Central Africa economic partnership agreement on the forestry and services sectors and brought together nearly sixty representatives from government, regional organisations, universities, the private sector, NGOs, and farmers’ organisations from Central African countries, the Democratic Republic of Congo, São Tomé e Príncipe, and the European Union.

Trade Intelligence (July/August 2007) - Export licensing and trade compliance failures – Don’t let it cripple you!
The latest issue of Trade Intelligence, a quarterly publication of our Worldtrade Management Services group in Asia covers various multilateral and regional trade issues including the Doha round, the ongoing Free Trade Agreement negotiations within the Asian region as well as specific country reports from Australia, China, Hong Kong, the Philippines, Taiwan and Thailand.