



Smart Promotion Network

UNCTAD: Investing in Sustainable Development

FDI Trends

What are the emerging trends in investment policy? The recently published UNCTAD Investment Policy Monitor reveals three broad trends in international investment policy making. First, it signals a move towards regional International Investment Agreements (IIAs) with ongoing negotiations on the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement and the US-East African Community Trade and Investment Partnership. Second, it highlights increased attention on sustainable development features in IIAs and intensified public discourse on the pros and cons of IIAs. The Monitor also shows the continuing dichotomy in national investment policy: while some countries undertook partial liberalization steps in sensitive sectors, including services, other governments strengthened their control over key domestic industries or took administrative decisions to restrict foreign investment. [< more >](#)

Strategy, Did You Know?

Rejuvenating London's Old Street Roundabout with high-tech investment. Two years since committing government support to developing East London into a tech cluster, the Tech City initiative of London has attracted a host of major international investors, including Cisco, IBM, Microsoft and Salesforce.com. It also helped high-tech start-ups through the provision of readily available facilities as well as business facilitation, financing and export support. Following this success, the United Kingdom Government will put about US\$ 80m towards a project to transform the Old Street Roundabout civic space in East London into Europe's largest innovation centre, hosting co-working spaces and workshops for use by start-ups and entrepreneurs. [< more >](#)

Smart Promoter Practices

Regional cooperation for FDI promotion. On 27 and 28 November 2012, the 19 members of the Caribbean Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (CAIPA) met in Nassau, the Bahamas, for their 2012 General Assembly Conference. CAIPA looked back at a successful year for regional cooperation and used the conference to discuss further advancement of collaboration in investment promotion, especially with respect to joint staff training, FDI market intelligence gathering, international marketing and the revamping of the CAIPA website. At the Conference, CAIPA awarded its members from Antigua and Barbuda, the Dominican Republic, Grenada and Trinidad and Tobago for regional excellence in investment promotion. [< more >](#)

What's On

WAIPA World Investment Conference 2013. The World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (WAIPA) will hold its 13th World Investment Conference in Geneva from 11 to 12 February 2013. At its General Assembly meeting, members will elect a new WAIPA President as well as other office bearers. The Conference will focus on infrastructure investment, business environment rankings and ways to attract knowledge-intensive FDI. WAIPA members include 244 national and sub-national agencies from 162 countries. [< more >](#)

Read of the Month

The emerging FDI frontier along the Silk Road. According to a 2012 Kazakhstan Attractiveness Survey by Ernst & Young, Kazakhstan is, after Russia, the second most attractive FDI destination within the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). 85% of existing investors in Kazakhstan find the country the most attractive CIS market for investment in view of its vast natural resource and agriculture base, as well as its geographic position at the crossroads of Europe, Asia and the Middle East. Among non-established investors this figure is only 18% which shows a large perception gap. To promote foreign investment in Kazakhstan and other markets along the Silk Road, UNCTAD will soon publish an updated version of its 2009 Investment Guide to the Silk Road. [< more >](#)



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