



iFUSE

PAVING THE WAY FOR BUSINESS
BUILDING A BETTER INVESTMENT CLIMATE



Photo: Simon Davis/DFID

INTRODUCING IFUSE

IFUSE supplies specialist government-to-government expertise to support business environment improvement in the Department for International Development's (DFID's) partner countries and regions. Governments which need targeted world-class assistance to improve the environment for private sector investment have access to a rapid and efficient mechanism, managed by PwC, for securing that support.

IFUSE matches developing country demand for specialist, investment-relevant skills, with the wealth of UK government expertise. IFUSE works with 14 UK government departments and public bodies to deliver short term, targeted deployments.

The facility takes the burden of organising support away from beneficiary governments, DFID country offices and the UK government departments, allowing experts and their counterparts to concentrate on the key issues affecting the business environment.

IFUSE covers primarily countries where DFID has bilateral programmes, regional programmes and also aid-dependent UK overseas territories:

- **DFID partner countries** – Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Burma, DR Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique, Nepal, Nigeria, Occupied Palestinian Territories, Pakistan, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Uganda, Vietnam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe
- **Regional programmes** – Africa, Middle East and North Africa, Asia and the Caribbean
- **UK overseas territories eligible for development assistance** – Anguilla, Montserrat, Pitcairn, St Helena, Tristan da Cunha.

WHY INVESTMENT CLIMATE REFORM?

Sharing UK expertise on investment climate reform helps countries to encourage more businesses – both domestic and foreign – to invest in their country and promotes a thriving private sector. This helps to deliver:

- More jobs for local people;
- Better prospects for economic growth; and
- A greater range of products and services for consumers at more competitive prices.

Ultimately, the wealth generated from increased private sector investment can be reinvested into basic services – such as education, healthcare, water supplies and sanitation – which helps to improve the lives of the poorest people.

Growth in developing countries can also generate opportunities for international businesses, including UK businesses, for investment and trade. The IFUSE model contributes to DFID's wider work on private sector development, supporting its partner countries to improve their growth and development prospects.

WHAT INVESTMENT CLIMATE THEMES CAN IFUSE HELP WITH?

- Taxation
- Trade facilitation
- Improving business regulation
- Competition law and policy
- Intellectual property
- Public-private partnerships
- Privatisation
- Land legislation and administration
- Financial sector regulation
- Infrastructure development
- Natural resources management
- Commercial law and justice
- Improving the general interface between business and government



Photo: Robert Stansfield/DFID

WHICH UK GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS PARTICIPATE IN IFUSE?

The IFUSE programme gives access to the following departments and agencies:

- Bank of England
- Better Regulation Delivery Office
- The Crown Prosecution Service
- Department for Business, Innovation and Skills
- Department of Energy and Climate Change
- Government Actuary's Department
- Her Majesty's Land Registry
- Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs
- Intellectual Property Office
- Infrastructure UK
- Ministry of Justice
- Office of Fair Trading
- Ordnance Survey
- Serious Organised Crime Agency
- UK Trade and Investment.

As IFUSE advances and new areas of demand are identified, additional government departments are being brought on board.

“The workshops were a huge success and were appreciated by the entire Commission. The candid sharing of experiences and energetic discussions on case studies were very useful for the learning of the staff at the Commission.”

Dr Joseph Wilson, Commissioner,
Competition Commission of Pakistan

“The expert understood the area and had a cross-country experience to share with the team. Their contributions became much more solid under the circumstances of sharing experiences about how others addressed some of the problems we face with inspection.”

Assistant Minister for Commerce and Trade,
Ministry of Commerce and Industry Liberia



Photo: Abbie Trayler-Smith / Panos Pictures / DFID

“IFUSE is expected to enhance the impact of DFID’s investment climate work in developing countries in the areas of increased firm productivity, increased investment, more jobs, increased consumer welfare, and stronger long term growth prospects.”

Lynne Featherstone MP,
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for International
Development

HOW DOES IFUSE WORK IN PRACTICE?

IFUSE assistance usually takes the form of a short in-country deployment by an expert or group of experts from the UK government, but the facility is designed to be flexible. This means that deployments can involve visits to the UK by DFID partner country government personnel, virtual learning and knowledge sharing events and even desk-based reviews. IFUSE can also be used to support reviews of DFID programmes or to help in developing a business case for a more sustained programme of support and inform the work of partner governments and agencies in order to increase development impact.

Depending on the conditions of the specific deployment, repeat visits may be possible. IFUSE also promotes the setting up of peer networks between UK experts and partner country governments to enhance the longer-term impact of deployments.

DFID’s Managing Agent, is responsible for matching requests for support with the best available expertise. Governments and DFID country offices are able to apply directly to the MA to request support from UK government experts on a wide range of investment climate issues.

HOW DOES IFUSE BENEFIT UK GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS?

Developing country governments often seek UK government expertise to help them improve their business environment. IFUSE helps channel this demand by matching it efficiently with supply from the appropriate government departments and taking care of the administrative and logistical arrangements which might otherwise be a barrier to getting things off the ground. IFUSE deployments enable people from the UK government to play a pivotal role in investment climate projects in developing countries, gaining new technical skills and experiences which enriches their careers.

More broadly, IFUSE promotes a genuinely cross-Whitehall approach to supporting improved investment climate overseas which links directly with the UK prosperity agenda. Business environment improvement in partner countries creates more opportunities for international business, including UK ones, to invest and trade overseas.

“By lifting the heavy administrative and logistical burden, IFUSE allowed IUK to focus on the project itself.”

Javier Encinas,
Infrastructure UK (IUK)

“I have gained considerably from a personal development perspective... It's important for HMRC in terms of contributing to the wider remit of HMG's international priorities.”

David Yellowley,
Her Majesty's Revenue & Customs (HMRC)



Photo: Russell Watkins/DFID

CONTACT DETAILS

IFUSE is managed by DFID's appointed Managing Agent, PwC. For further information on IFUSE, or if you would like to make a request for assistance, please contact the team on:

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