

COMMERCIAL LAW DEVELOPMENT

CLDP's work helps level the playing field for American businesses overseas

Key CLDP Program Areas:

- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Bankruptcy
- Competition
- Corporate Governance
- E-Commerce
- Energy
- Entrepreneurship
- Environment
- Ethics
- Franchising
- Government Procurement
- Insurance
- Intellectual Property Rights
- Investment
- Product Standards
- Project Finance
- Services
- Technology Transfer
- Telecommunications
- Trade Facilitation
- Transparency
- WTO Accession

Commercial Law Development Program Office of the General Counsel

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Who We Are

Established in 1992, CLDP is a division of the U.S. Department of Commerce that helps to achieve U.S. foreign policy goals in developing and transitioning countries through commercial legal reforms. CLDP's unique, government-to-government technical assistance draws upon highly-experienced regulators, judges, policymakers, business leaders and attorneys from both the public and private sectors to deliver results that make meaningful and lasting changes to the legal and business environments of our host countries.

Who Benefits from CLDP Assistance

Both the United States and foreign countries benefit from CLDP efforts. Working closely with U.S. embassies, CLDP has helped develop the legal infrastructure to support domestic and international businesses alike through programs in more than 40 countries. U.S. businesses benefit from growing overseas markets that have transparent systems and fair regulations. CLDP's work to help countries increase compliance with international and bilateral trade obligations levels the playing field for U.S. businesses to compete. CLDP serves as a technical assistance catalyst to help countries make the reforms they seek to modernize the laws and regulations that will lead to economic growth and opportunity for their people.

The CLDP Team

CLDP lawyers, resident advisors, program specialists and administrative personnel are multicultural and have expertise in international business, commercial law, trade relations and development assistance. Most members of CLDP's staff speak at least two languages fluently, and much of CLDP's work is conducted in the language of the host country. Partnering with Commerce Department bureaus, the federal judiciary, U.S. government agencies, and international organizations, CLDP designs and implements conferences and workshops, utilizes long and short-term advisors, and trains foreign delegations in the U.S. and other countries to improve commercial legal frameworks.

CLDP in Action

MIDDLE EAST

Business Law Development

CLDP provided advice to governments in the Middle East regarding the drafting of new business laws designed to enhance entrepreneurship and international trade in the region. In Bahrain, Oman, and in the United Arab Emirates, CLDP has supported the development of new commercial companies laws, corporate governance codes and contract laws that are consistent with international standards.

EUROPE & EURASIA Intellectual Property

CLDP's program with Ukrainian government officials on the identification and interdiction of counterfeit medicines in Ukraine incorporated experts from the U.S. government, international organizations, NGOs, and the private sector, and resulted in the Ukrainian parliament passing legislation to enforce stricter sentencing for trafficking in counterfeit medicines.

NORTH AFRICA Entrepreneurship

CLDP published a *Manual on Entrepreneurship in the Maghreb* in French, English and Arabic. The book, co-written by Tunisian business owners and scholars, helps to promote economic development in the region by providing aspiring entrepreneurs with the practical tools needed for the creation of new enterprises. The book can be accessed on CLDP's web site: http://cldp.doc.gov/resources/documents.

ASIA & SOUTH ASIA Technology Transfer

CLDP assisted Pakistan's National University of Sciences and Technology (NUST) to establish the first university-based combined technology transfer office and technology incubator. Creating a formalized framework for commercialization of innovation will help spur Pakistan's economy and promote job growth.