

IISD Programs

# Economic Law and Policy

Rethinking the design of our  
economies for low-carbon  
and equitable growth



International Institute for  
Sustainable Development

# Why We Are Needed



Global commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) calls for building resilient infrastructure and promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns.

It demands sound land and agricultural development, and ecological and efficient transport systems.

Our experts work alongside policy-makers, businesses and civil society in the design of innovative, yet implementable, economic policies for the achievement of the SDGs.

We focus on those areas of economic policy-making that are essential to shifting trillions of dollars in private and public investment in the right direction, including finance, trade, government procurement and industrial policy. Our sector-specific work focuses on agricultural and mining

investments in developing countries, given the urgency of the reforms needed and the impact on sustainable development.

Because poorer countries are often at a disadvantage when negotiating with wealthier countries and investors, a core focus of our work is building the capacity of developing country government officials. Through trainings, forums and applied research, we equip public officials with the knowledge needed to design policies, treaties and contracts that contribute to inclusive and sustainable growth.



## How We Are Effective



IISD has helped shift public procurement policies from Bhutan to Brazil towards greater sustainability, and has been at the heart of efforts to rethink green financial regulation in China.

We provide supply chain decision-makers—public officials, investment advisors, CEOs, policy-makers and NGOs—the data and analysis needed to navigate the complex world of sustainability standards, and deliver technical support to government officials in Africa, Asia and Latin America in their investment-related negotiations.

We are leaders in providing one-of-their-kind global platforms for government officials and other stakeholders on mining and on international investment. Since its launch in 2007, for example, the IISD Annual

Forum of Developing Country Investment Negotiators has convened investment treaty negotiators from over 60 developing and emerging economies each year to share experiences, widen their legal knowledge and polish their negotiating skills.

On mining, we host the Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals, Metals and Sustainable Development, a unique global venue for sustained discussions on sustainable management and development of the mining sector.

# Our Services



IISD holds a pioneering lead in economic law and policy know-how. With more than 20 years of experience, we field a team of non-partisan and experienced specialists whose discretion inspires trust and whose reach is global.

Our services include:

- Policy and technical support to governments seeking value-for-money when procuring goods, services and infrastructure.
- Legal and policy advice on drafting, negotiating and implementing investment treaties and contracts, especially in mining and agriculture.
- Analysis and recommendations on the use of industrial policies to support green industries.
- Reporting on best practices, innovations and market growth across sustainable supply chains.
- Assessments and recommendations around high-impact reforms to align the finance sector with green growth.

**More information:**

**Nathalie Bernasconi-Osterwalder,**  
Director,  
IISD Economic Law and Policy Program  
[nbernasconbi@iisd.org](mailto:nbernasconbi@iisd.org)

**More on IISD Programs:**  
[www.iisd.org](http://www.iisd.org)

 [@IISD\\_ELP](https://twitter.com/IISD_ELP)



International Institute for  
Sustainable Development