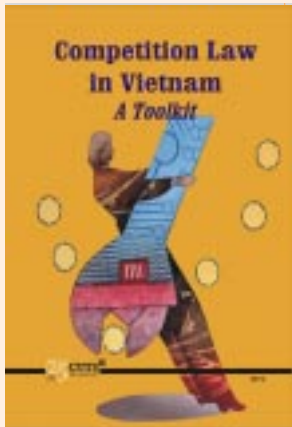


CUTS LATEST PUBLICATIONS

COMPETITION AND INVESTMENT



Competition Law in Vietnam *A Toolkit*

Competition Law in Vietnam: *A Toolkit*, researched and compiled by CUTS and customised in the Vietnam context, is a simple and concise handbook on various implementation issues surrounding the Competition Law 2004. It provides the definitions, the characteristics of and the mechanisms to deal with all the major Restrictive Business Practices (RBPs) and Unfair Trade Practices (UTPs) which are prevalent in the Vietnam markets currently, with real-life case studies. Wherever possible, similar cases from other developing countries have also been cited in the text, which can help the reader understand the issues through case studies.

The Toolkit analyses the constraints and challenges that the competition authority of Vietnam may face in building a healthy competition culture in the country and suggest essential elements for success.

It is meant for competition authority officials and administrators. However, it can also be useful for activists, journalists, academics, etc., as an advocacy tool, and by the business community for compliance education and self-regulation. The Toolkit examines the competition scenario in Vietnam market *vis-à-vis* enforcement of competition law against RBPs.

Toolkit

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Consumer Unity & Trust Society

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Opportunities for Trade in Services between GMS and India *Challenges and Options for Future*

(HRC No 4/2007)

The share of the service sector in the gross domestic product (GDP) of most developing countries has been increasing. India and the Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS) have not been an exception to this trend, since these countries have liberalised their service sectors. For India and GMS countries, there are some significant benefits from services liberalisation, including the choice of the media for liberalisation, e.g., multilateral or bilateral agreements or unilateral policy measures.

This Policy Brief focuses on the potential relationship in trade in services between the GMS, i.e., Vietnam, Thailand, Myanmar, Cambodia, Laos and Yunan Province of China and India, by analysing the existing and future issues affecting trade in services between the two trading blocs. The paper comes up with specific policy measures for the respective governments to improve trade in services between India and the GMS.

It also explains the potential benefits for India and GMS countries in pursuing the mutual interests.

This Policy Brief can be viewed at:
<http://www.cuts-international.org/HRC/pdf/PB-4-07.pdf>



Facilitation of trade and investment in the GMS

What role for whom?

(HRC No 5/2007)

Vietnam and other countries in the GMS are moving towards greater regional and global integration. This is also the prevailing trend in almost every economy in the world in which those that fall behind are bound to lose their competitiveness and market positions.

Opportunities aside, the key issues and challenges for GMS countries, including Vietnam, also derive largely from these global and regional trends. Pressures from globalisation, such as new business practices, advanced technologies and the operations of regional and global supply chains, would help modernise the local industry and, thus, make it more productive.

However, the rural-urban gap, the risks to the environment, land and natural resources, lack of labour efficiency and jobs in rural areas exist. The key thrusts for GMS countries, therefore, would include: (i) creating a conducive environment for trade, investment and private sector development; (ii) human resources development; and (iii) protecting the environment and ensuring equitable development.

This Policy Brief examines the various factors responsible for facilitation of trade and investment in GMS, with a special focus on Lao Cai Province of Vietnam.

This Policy Brief can be viewed at:
<http://www.cuts-international.org/HRC/pdf/PB-5-07.pdf>



Border Trade in the GMS

Ground Realities and Future Options

(HRC No 6/2007)

Trade between countries in the GMS has seen an increasing trend over the past decade, primarily due to two reasons: the opening up of the Cambodia-Laos-Myanmar-Vietnam (CLMV) countries to trade and the rise in trade and development co-operation among the GMS members. However, the intra-regional trade volume in this sub-region still represents only a small proportion of total trade, compared with the rest of the world.

This Policy Brief analyses the border trade in the GMS and explains that the co-operation within GMS is quite progressive, especially taking into account the low level of economic development of most of the member states. It emphasises the need for more intensive studies on the impact of border trade policies and the governance of border trade and border towns as well as existing economic structures, so as to ensure overall welfare of local people and the growth of the local economy.

This Policy Brief can be viewed at:
<http://www.cuts-international.org/HRC/pdf/PB-6-07.pdf>

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