



Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs: **Working for American Businesses**

The Department of State advances the United States' economic agenda worldwide, leveraging a network of almost 2,000 Economic Officers at our diplomatic posts overseas and at the Economic and Business Affairs Bureau (EB) in Washington. The Department offers numerous [tools for U.S. businesses](#), many in coordination with other U.S. government agencies. This document provides information about a number of these programs relevant to U.S. businesses. The State Department stands ready to help U.S. businesses succeed - please address any inquiries on the programs outlined below to USBusiness@state.gov.

COUNTRY AND MARKET INFORMATION

[Direct Line](#)

U.S. businesses discover overseas market opportunities during free webinars with Ambassadors and experts.

[Business Information Database System](#)

BIDS identifies leads on active and potential projects funded by the Multilateral Development Banks.

[Investment Climate Statements](#)

EB produces annual reports on more than 170 economies. These form part of the Department of Commerce's [Country Commercial Guides](#).

[Commercial Services at Embassies and Consulates](#)

State Department officers provide commercial services at [60 "Partner Posts"](#) in addition to the over 75 posts hosting Commerce's Foreign Commercial Service officers.

BUSINESS ADVOCACY

[Advocacy Center](#)

EB leads Department of State efforts to advocate for U.S. companies bidding on foreign government procurements, in close cooperation with the Department of Commerce.

[Aviation Negotiations](#)

EB negotiates and enforces air transport agreements to level the playing field for U.S. airlines and their workers.

BUSINESS SUPPORT

[Threat Finance](#)

EB implements the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme to protect the \$85 billion U.S. jewelry industry from trade in conflict diamonds. EB also supports U.S. industry efforts to responsibly source conflict minerals through a public-private alliance.



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POLICY ADVOCACY

Office of Commercial and Business Affairs

Advocates for U.S. business abroad, promotes entrepreneurship, and integrates U.S. business concerns into our foreign policy.

Office of Intellectual Property Enforcement

Builds political will to effectively protect and enforce intellectual property rights (IPR) around the world.

Biotechnology Exports

Our Office of Agricultural Policy keeps markets open for U.S. products derived from modern biotechnology, saving water and pesticides and increasing yields.

Trade

The Trade Policy and Negotiations division opens markets for U.S. products and services overseas and strengthens trade relationships around the world.

Office of Monetary Affairs

OMA expands markets for U.S. businesses by promoting sound macroeconomic policies, fiscal stability, and sound debt management globally.

Office of Investment Affairs

OIA promotes fair resolutions of investment disputes between U.S. companies and foreign governments, presses for the removal of investment-related market barriers, and liaises with the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC).

Office of Communications and Information Policy

CIP leads U.S. efforts to promote international telecommunications, ICT standards, emerging technologies, and internet regulation policies. CIP also secures spectrum frequencies for the U.S. technology sector through international negotiations.

SANCTIONS AND EXPORT COMPLIANCE

Sanctions Policy and Implementation

EB helps the business community understand and comply with U.S. foreign and sanctions policy.

RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS CONDUCT

RBC

EB's RBC team promotes RBC globally and houses the U.S. National Contact Point, the U.S. government mechanism for dispute resolutions consistent with OECD guidelines.

Award for Corporate Excellence

The annual Secretary of State award recognizes U.S. firms that uphold the highest standards of responsible business conduct in their global operations.

ORGANIZATION FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT

OECD

EB's Office of Economic Policy Analysis and Public Diplomacy leads U.S. efforts with the OECD, supporting an open, transparent, market-based economic system that fosters a level playing field for U.S. business.

ANTI-BRIBERY

Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials

EB's Office of Monetary Affairs leads U.S. efforts to fight against bribery of foreign officials in international business, leveling the playing field for U.S. companies.

VISAS

Business Visa Center

For Consular and visa-specific inquiries, please contact the Business Visa Center in the Bureau of Consular Affairs at BusinessVisa@state.gov.



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