



Gide Loyrette Nouel

International Law Firm



**Projects
Finance & Infrastructure**

Projects (Finance & Infrastructure)

Algiers
Beijing
Brussels
Bucharest
Budapest
Casablanca
Hanoi
Ho Chi Minh City
Hong Kong
Istanbul
Kyiv
London
Moscow
New York
Paris
Saint Petersburg
Shanghai
Tunis
Warsaw

Projects

Finance & Infrastructure

"The group is famed for its oil, gas and mining work and has been particularly successful in the project finance and PPP arena. [...] Sources say: 'The lawyers are extremely committed and proactive, and take a personal approach'."

Chambers Global 2010

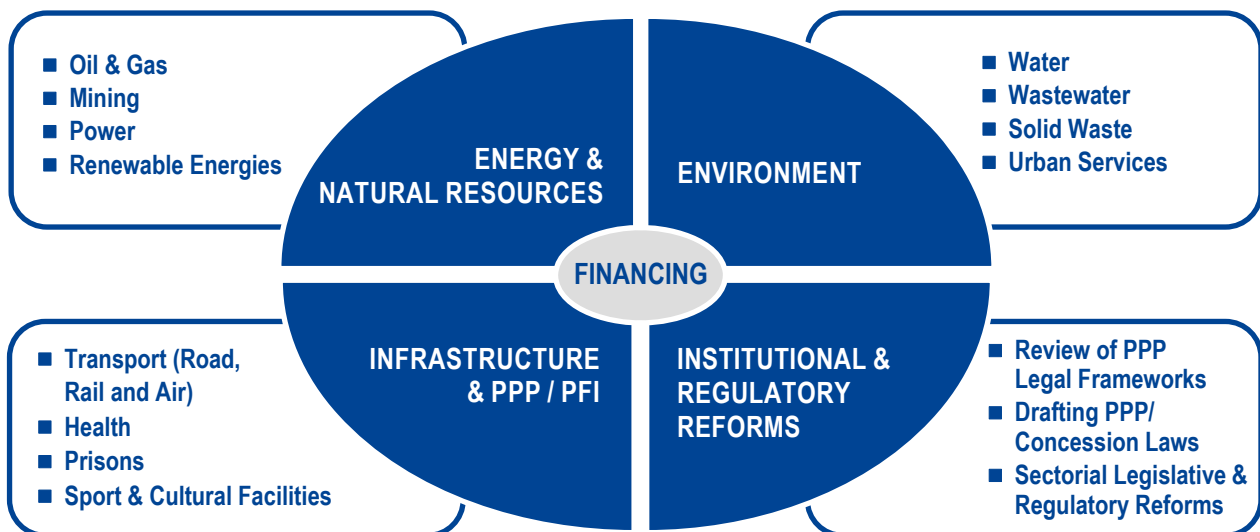
Gide Loyrette Nouel once again wins the **"Best Legal Counsel" award for 2011** in the **Concessions and PPP** categories (number of transactions). **This award is all the more noteworthy as it covers the whole 2004-2011 period.**

Magazine des Affaires 2011

Consistently ranked among the best in the sector, our Projects practice dates back to the construction of the Channel Tunnel between France and the United Kingdom. The Projects (Finance & Infrastructure) practice group has been involved in all the leading French infrastructure concessions and participated in all major public-private partnership projects. In China and Vietnam, we have advised on infrastructure deals since the very first BOT in the country. In Africa, we have been involved in pilot projects in the energy and water sectors. In addition, we have been selected to harmonize African hydrocarbons legislation and have helped to set up the legal framework for PPPs in several emerging markets in the Middle East, Eastern Europe and Africa.

The Projects (Finance & Infrastructure) practice group now has more than twenty years of significant cross-disciplinary experience, regularly advising every type of industry player on all aspects of infrastructure deals and financings in the most diverse, innovative and challenging projects in Europe, Africa, Asia and the Middle East.

Breadth of Experience



"This Paris-based firm benefits from a wide European reach, particularly in CEE, Russia and the CIS, where it has been active in a number of sizeable PPP and infrastructure mandates. The firm has 24 offices in major jurisdictions across the globe, and has seen considerable activity in emerging markets, especially in Africa."

Chambers Global 2010

Worldwide Outreach, Local Knowledge

With **over 50 dedicated lawyers** located at the Firm's headquarters in France and **throughout its network** of international offices, Gide Loyrette Nouel's Projects (Finance & Infrastructure) practice group specialises in all the main areas of Infrastructure & PPP projects and financing.

We have acted on groundbreaking projects throughout Europe, Africa, Asia and the Middle East, in **civil law and common law countries alike**.

Best ECA/DFI Finance Law Firm
Trade Finance Awards 2008, 2009, 2010 & 2011

With a presence in 15 countries, our offices are fully integrated in the cultural, legal, economic and political context of the countries in which they are located and are in regular contact with national administrations and agencies. **In many jurisdictions**, members of our Projects (Finance & Infrastructure) practice group have been involved for years in **shaping the legal and institutional framework for projects in France, China, and African and other countries**.

As an active member of the Lex Mundi association of independent law firms, we have also developed strong ties with well-established local law firms in the jurisdictions where we do not have offices. Given our vast track record in most emerging markets, these ties are not just on paper - they have been tested and hold fast

Multidisciplinary Teams

The members of our Projects (Finance & Infrastructure) practice group combine expertise in **public law, financial law, M&A and corporate law, industrial contracts and dispute resolution**.

As part of a truly **full-service** law firm, our practice group can seamlessly call upon our other teams and specialised groups when required. This helps us provide our clients with a full range of business and legal advice, extending well beyond project issues to matters related to corporate, tax, insurance, employment, intellectual property and competition.

"Gide Loyrette Nouel has a balanced project finance practice advising lenders, public entities and sponsors, making it one of the most active practices in the market and well deserving of a tier-one ranking, according to competitors. 'Gide in Paris is a well-known firm and they have real experience in public-private partnerships and project finance,' says one client."

IFLR 1000 2010 - France

Tailor-made Solutions - From Project Inception to Post-financial Close

- **Legal Due Diligence and Transaction Structuring** - whether in the context of a negotiated project, an acquisition or restructuring, a response to an international tender, or advising on the project financing, our team systematically reviews relevant laws, regulations, institutional arrangements and existing documentation. Then we put things in perspective: we know what makes a project succeed or fail, and what we offer is real, deal-oriented analysis
- **Project Documentation** - we do not force a project into a template. Our Projects (Finance & Infrastructure) practice group has worked on all types of project agreements for diverse clients: concessions and related agreements; contracts for design, construction, operation and maintenance, supply, offtake; mining contracts and production sharing agreements; share or asset sale contracts, consortium and JV agreements, joint operating agreements. We consistently prepare documentation that is tailored to fit the client's needs and specific objectives, and we advise on optimizing risk allocation and ensuring project bankability.
- **Financing** - our practice group boasts financial lawyers qualified in France, New York, London and Hong Kong, among other jurisdictions. We assist clients at all stages of financing: designing the structure, negotiating the documentation and implementing the deal. We advise on the entire range of financial documents, extending to intercreditor agreements, direct agreements, sponsor support documentation, government guarantees and project-specific security packages, on both conventional and Islamic finance facilities. We also have extensive experience in negotiating with commercial bank lenders, export credit agencies and international financial institutions.

"Involved in the China market for over two decades, this French firm has gained a highly positive reputation for its project capabilities, especially in project finance. The group focuses on the sponsor side, and it acts for a variety of clients in the water, electricity, nuclear energy, waste treatment, energy, transport, sports infrastructures and seaports arenas. The team has substantial experience of concessions and BOTs (build-operate-transfer) and has been involved in numerous projects relating to the 2008 Olympic Games."

Chambers Asia 2009 - China

"A high-quality firm that can rival any English-speaking one without a problem thanks to its great international practice and experience."

Chambers Global 2011
Europe-wide/Projects & Energy

Projects

(Finance & Infrastructure)



"This outfit is unanimously regarded as having cornered the market in francophone Africa. It combines the international strength of its Paris office together with the local expertise of its branches in Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia to provide clients with all-round advice. The group is famed for its oil, gas and mining work and has been particularly successful in the project finance and PPP arena."

Chambers Global 2010

Key Contacts

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Gide Loyrette Nouel

- **National and International Public Tenders** - We assist clients in all types of tender procedures, including under the EU competitive dialogue scheme. Given our track record of working for public entities as well as project sponsors/bidders, we assist our clients in developing a bidding strategy and clearly assessing project risks.
- **Legal and Regulatory Reforms** - The Projects (Finance & Infrastructure) practice group has developed a specific track record in reviewing and/or drafting "best-practice" multi-sector and sector-specific laws and regulations. Our team regularly advises on the establishment of relevant institutional structures in order to encourage and/or regulate the development of PPP projects in the countries concerned.
- **Contract Performance/Dispute Resolution and Prevention** - Our Projects (Finance & Infrastructure) practice group is committed to ensuring that our clients' deals are a success. We offer assistance throughout the project lifecycle, and regularly advise on preventing or managing disputes.

Clientele

The transactions handled by the Firm originate from and involve an internationally diverse client base:

■ Sponsors

- Industrial sponsors and utility groups from Europe, the Middle East, North America and Asia.
- Bidding consortia and joint venture/project companies.

■ Public Entities

- Governments.
- Regional authorities.
- Municipalities.

■ Financiers

- Investment and commercial banks from Europe, the US and Asia.
- Investment and infrastructure funds in Europe and the US.
- International financial institutions, European and Asian development agencies and export credit agencies.

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