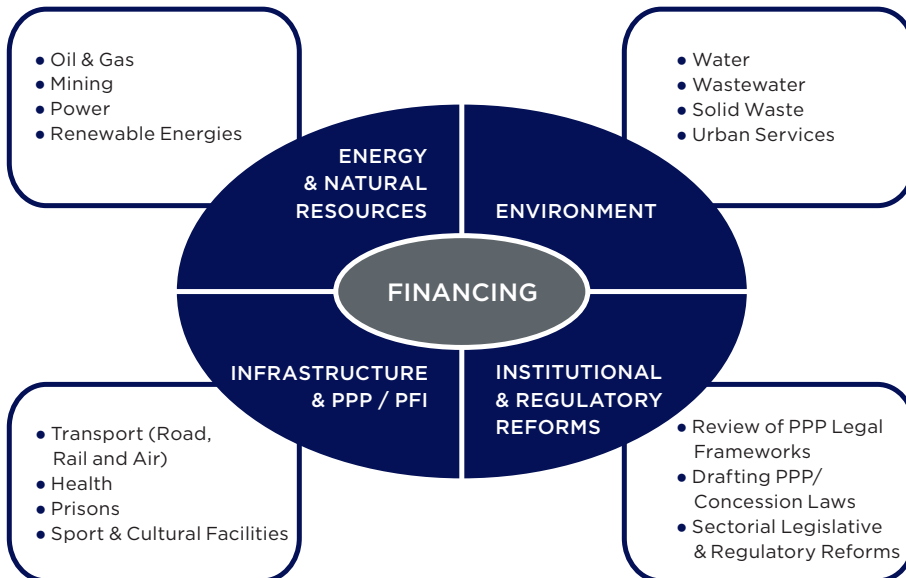


PROJECTS (FINANCE & INFRASTRUCTURE)

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 country's very first BOT. In Africa, we have been involved in pilot projects in the energy and water sectors. In addition, we have been selected to harmonise 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.

Our 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, in civil and common law countries alike.

Breadth of Experience



ALGIERS
BEIJING
BRUSSELS
CASABLANCA
HO CHI MINH CITY
HONG KONG
ISTANBUL
LONDON
MOSCOW
NEW YORK
PARIS
SHANGHAI
TUNIS
WARSAW

« Strong activity in Africa, where the team represents states, sponsors and lenders in projects in a variety of sectors including energy, water and waste, mining and infrastructure. Best known for advising on project development and public litigation. Also active in Europe, Asia and the Americas. 'Gide has a very experienced team in a lot of areas, but also particularly in the PPP space. The lawyers are very skilled and knowledgeable in PPP, they understand the governments and are able to give advisory support. They did a great job and I'd hire them again.' »

Chambers Europe 2016

Global Outreach, Local Knowledge

Gide boasts a 120-lawyer strong Projects (Finance and Infrastructure) practice, specialising in all the main areas of infrastructure & PPP projects and financing, located at the firm's headquarters in France and **throughout its network** of international offices.

The Paris team comprises 40 lawyers (of whom 9 are partners) and has tremendous experience in structuring highly visible pilot projects worldwide. We work closely with other teams and specialised groups, in particular with the Public Law & Environment practice.

With a presence in 12 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, Gide's lawyers have been involved for years
in shaping the legal and institutional framework for projects
in France, China, and African and other countries.

In continental Europe, Gide relies, through a network of independent law firms, on a close relationship (though not exclusive) with three other prestigious firms that share the same vision of client service, i.e. understanding client needs, quick responsiveness, and effective communication. These firms are Chiomenti in Italy, Cuatrecasas in Spain and Portugal, and Gleiss Lutz in Germany.

This strong network allows us to provide clients with a seamless, integrated service on complex cross-border transactions, international projects and litigation. Thanks to this network, we are in a position to offer our clients the very best in each country because each of us is a leading independent law firm in its own jurisdiction.

Wherever we do not have an office, we maintain close relationships with the best law firms in the region. Gide is the exclusive member firm in France for Lex Mundi - the world's leading network of independent law firms with in-depth experience in 100+ countries worldwide.

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.

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 into perspective: we know what makes a project succeed or fail, and what we offer is real, deal-oriented analysis.

« Varied projects practice that represents governments and sponsors in an array of PPP and project finance matters across EMEA and Asia, with particular strength in sub-Saharan Africa. Noted strength in mining, oil and gas and power, with additional experience in construction matters. »

Chambers Europe 2015

- **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.
- **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 lawyers are 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.

« Experienced team dealing with both contractual and regulatory aspects of energy and mining. Gains high praise for its expertise regarding electricity on the French market and its experience in contentious work. 'The lawyers are very responsive with excellent knowledge of the market players and an ability to find solutions respecting the interests of the client.' »

Chambers Europe 2016

« Gide Loyrette Nouel A.A.R.P.I. is often involved in international power and energy projects in Africa, Brazil and the UK; it also has strong oil and gas and natural resources experience in Africa and Mongolia. The firm is also a key player for regulatory and litigation work and renewable energy projects in France, and is advising the winning consortium on Cestas' 300MW photovoltaic solar project. EDF, Areva and Engie are also clients. John Crothers, François Krotoff and Stéphane Vernay are the key contacts for international projects, with Michel Guénaire and Thomas Courtel being recommended for domestic work. »

Legal 500 EMEA 2016

« Gide's credentials make it a natural choice for major European players investing in the Chinese energy sector or forming joint ventures with Chinese partners. It advised KME on its partnership with Golden Dragon Precise Copper Tube Group, which involved the construction of a new production plant in Henan province. »

Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2015

**Best ECA/DFI Finance Law Firm
Trade Finance Awards
2010 & 2011**

**Gold Trophy - Asset and Project
Financing, PPP
Trophées du Droit et
de la Finance 2010**



Clientele

The transactions handled by Gide 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

« A 'top firm for infrastructure projects in Eastern Europe' and France, Gide also has 'vast knowledge, experience and know-how in the energy sector'. It assisted Bouygues Bâtiment, Sodexo and OFI InfraVia with the Cité de la Musique project and is involved in nuclear, power and renewable energy projects in Brazil, Europe and Africa, including acting for Eiffage, Schneider Electric and Krinner on one of Europe's largest photovoltaic projects near Bordeaux. Key figures include John Crothers, François Krotoff, the 'very good and clear' Stéphane Vernay, Michel Guénaire, Thomas Courtel and Bénédicte Mazel. »

Legal 500 EMEA 2015

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