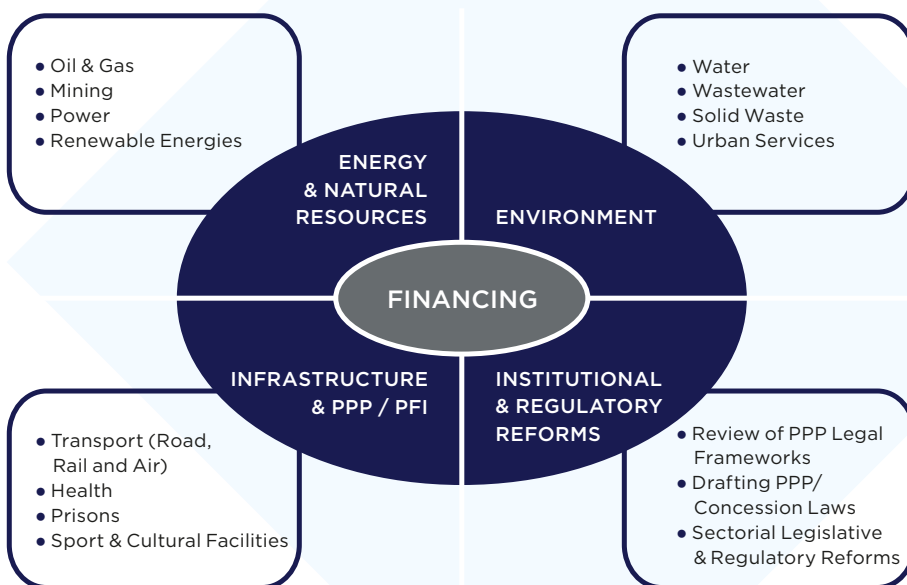


PROJECTS (FINANCE & INFRASTRUCTURE)

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



“Widely regarded practice group with particular proficiency operating in francophone regions and in OHADA law. Represents a number of international conglomerates and equity firms on their acquisitions and divestments on the continent. Active in sectors including manufacturing, energy, oil and gas and hospitality with experience advising government entities. The practice is run from offices in locations including Paris, London, Algiers, Casablanca and Tunis.”

Chambers Global 2018

ALGIERS
BEIJING
BRUSSELS
CAIRO
CASABLANCA
ISTANBUL
LONDON
NEW YORK
PARIS
SHANGHAI
TUNIS
WARSAW

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 11 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.

“Well-regarded French practice with considerable experience in both domestic and international PPPs, not only in France but also in jurisdictions such as Australia and the USA. Advises sponsors, lenders, governments and other public entities on infrastructure and transport projects, with particular skill in the related contractual negotiations and banking and finance matters. Clients hail the lawyers for being proactive and efficient, admiring the team for ‘putting all necessary resources into the job, with various partners working in close co-operation.’ Assisted Agence Française de Développement with the rehabilitation and improvement works of the Douala airport in Cameroon. Advised DCNS Group on the design and construction of the future Australian submarine fleet.”

Chambers Europe 2018

- **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.

Strong French firm with an enviable presence in francophone Africa. Established name in the representation of state-owned companies, as well as advising IFIs and private sponsors and developers on renewable energy projects and infrastructure developments concerning ports and municipal services. The Paris-based team is equally highly adept in oil and gas projects and transactions. Sources are quick to praise the team's francophone Africa expertise, adding: 'The firm has proven expertise in infrastructure projects. It demonstrates a greater commitment and a willingness to go beyond the expected services to ensure the success of projects.' »

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Gide Loyrette Nouel A.A.R.P.I. has 'strong experience in infrastructure projects in Africa'. With almost 30 lawyers, the practice is involved in several port and airport projects and is also advising energy producers and sponsors on hydropower and other energy projects. It is assisting EGL and the three contracting states in the African Great Lakes region with the 147MW Ruzizi III hydropower plant, as well as acting for the Kingdom of Jordan in the Red Sea-Dead Sea water desalination and pipeline project. »

Legal 500 EMEA 2017

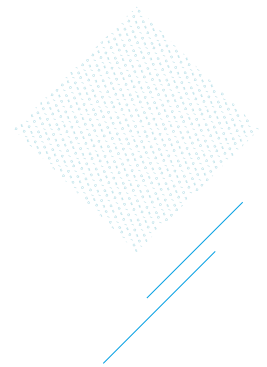
Gide Cuatrecasas Casablanca delivers 'very good service in a timely fashion'. It has 'in-depth knowledge of the Moroccan oil and gas sector' and 'a strong multi-disciplinary team of specialist partners' such as Wacef Bentaibi. The firm advised Société Générale des Travaux du Maroc on a €200m cement plant project in El Jadida. »

Legal 500 EMEA 2018

**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

“The practice is also highly involved in large projects in Africa, often alongside sponsors and governments: it is advising on a series of port, airport and transport projects, and is also involved in high-profile power and renewables projects such as assisting SNEDAI with the financing and construction of a 2x350MW coal-fired plant in Ivory Coast. Finally, the firm produces ‘excellent work on international industrial defence projects’ and is advising DCNS on the development of the future Australian submarine fleet.”

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