



WAIPA and UNCTAD put sustainable investments on the agenda of the World Investment Forum #WIF2016

From July 17 until July 22 the 14th United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) took place in Nairobi, Kenya. The UNCTAD 14 – World Investment Forum brought together Heads of State and Government, ministers and other prominent players from the business world, civil society and academia to tackle global trade and economic development issues. The 2016 WIF featured a number of events of direct interest to IPAs, WAIPA is proud to have partnered up with UNCTAD to host these events. In this newsflash you can read all about these meetings.

Investment Promotion Workshop

On July 17 WAIPA and UNCTAD co-hosted the Investment Promotion Workshop. This workshop was tailored for IPAs and attracted over 150 participants. WAIPA gave a presentation on best practices in investment promotion. Following the presentations, participants discussed data on investment promotion; best practices for investment efficiencies and the role of investment agencies in promoting Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The workshop highlighted the need for investment agencies to be empowered by governments; to identify the best methods of facilitating investments and how sustainability needs to be factored in when letting in investments into host countries. WAIPA CEO, Bostjan Skalar stated, "We have a responsibility to enable investment agencies to have the right assessment tools to quality check FDI." Bostjan Skalar's thoughts were shared by UNCTAD Director of Investment and Enterprise, James Zhan, who reaffirmed that the joined partnership between UNCTAD and WAIPA will assist in making sustainable investments a reality.



The Grand Opening and Global Leaders Investment Forum

The Forum took place on July 18 and was followed by the WIF Opening Reception and announcement of the winners of the 2016 UNCTAD Investment Promotion Awards. WAIPA was awarded with Special Recognition for outstanding partnership with UNCTAD. This was for WAIPA's tireless efforts to make IPAs the center of all investment decisions within governments. As a result, private sector investors across different regions find the investment process more effortless and business-centered as opposed to being overly bureaucratic.



High Level Tripartite Conference on Investment Promotion in Sustainable Development Goals



On July 19, WAIPA and UNCTAD co-organized the High-level Tripartite Conference on Investment Promotion in Sustainable Development Goals. At this conference, more than 200 participants such as heads of IPAs and outward investment agencies, business executives, and high-level policymakers discussed ways to promote FDI in Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) sectors. The conference featured three sessions, on partnerships for investment promotion, support for investment in ICT, and the role of non-traditional investors in SDG financing. WAIPA CEO Bostjan Skalar spoke about the role of non-traditional investments such as sovereign wealth funds and pension funds in propelling SDGs.

James Zhan appointed WAIPA Chief Strategic Adviser

The Vice President of WAIPA, Rufat Mammadov from Azerbaijan's investment agency, Azpromo, on behalf of the Steering Committee awarded James Zhan with a certificate of appreciation on behalf of WAIPA. James Zhan is the Director of the UNCTAD Investment and Enterprise Division. As the newly appointed Chief Strategic Adviser of WAIPA, Mr Zhan stated, "[We need to work together to create a new narrative on investment promotion.](#)"

Other activities:

In the Leader's Luncheon Bostjan Skalar said, "IPAs have the potential to act as ombudspersons to facilitate #FDI."



"The main point is to tackle the Sustainable Development Goals. We need to create new jobs – a lot of investments are needed. And these investments need to be sustainable. The focus is the well-being of people."

Bostjan Skalar, Executive Director, WAIPA



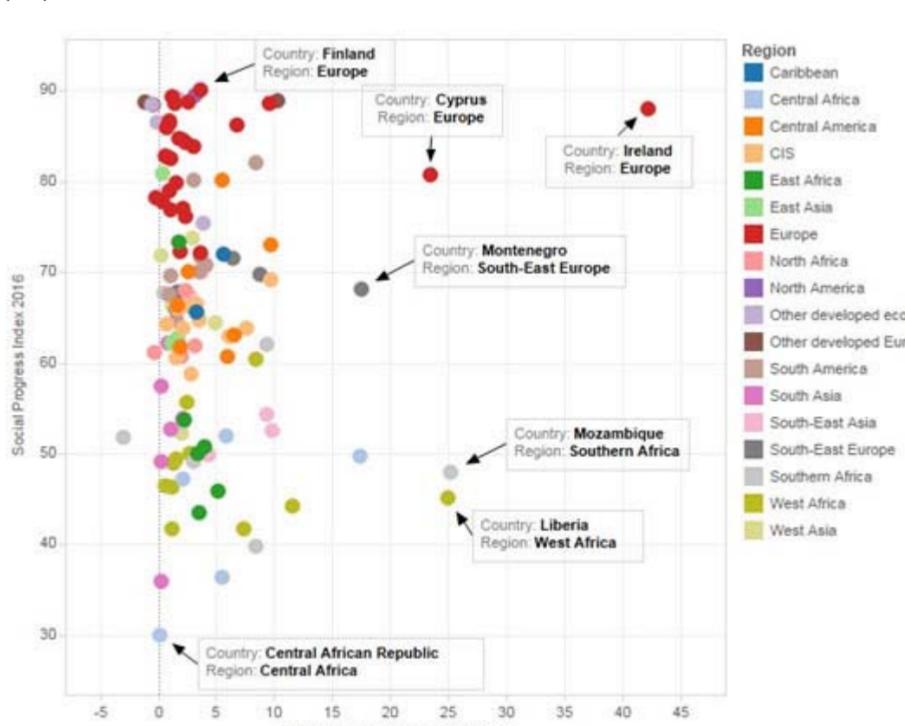
On the sidelines of the #WIF2016, WAIPA held an institutional meeting with its steering committee. This committee is formed by investment agencies from different regions across the globe. The Permanent Secretariat presented its new vision for WAIPA, elaborated on WAIPAs strategy and reported on past and future activities.



More on WAIPA: www.waipa.org
More on UNCTAD: www.unctad.org

Related Research:

In 2015 FDI inflows have increased worldwide, although not proportionately. It's again M&As that account the most for the rise and the number of announced greenfield projects remain high as well. Looking for a little bit of less aggregated picture of the world FDI, we decided to start a series of blog posts with the intention to focus each time on different regions and modes of investments. The main purpose of "Mapping the World FDI" series would be to unravel some of the key regional characteristics of foreign investments and to try to catch both FDI and SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals) in one picture. The latter we would do by using some alternative measures of growth and well-being of people.



WAIPA recently started a blog series about FDI. For other blogs in this series, go to www.waipa.org/blog. You're welcome to contribute to this blog series. If you're interested to share your ideas or research on FDI and the role of IPAs, please contact maartje.jansen@waipa.org.

Yours Sincerely,

WAIPA Permanent Secretariat