



PROFIT

promoting regional opportunities
for investment and trade

Sources of information

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Sources of information

1. Introduction

You will quickly discover that there is no shortage of information on international trade and investment. The challenge is to work out which information will be helpful and which is completely unnecessary. You want to minimise the information with which you deal but inevitably there will be a great deal that you may need to consider as well. So set up systems to keep track of the information that you think will be useful. If you search the internet, use the bookmark facility on your browser. Or better, copy information to a note taking app such as OneNote or Evernote or Google Keep.

2. General research

- Boston University Libraries maintains a summary and links to a wide range of business and country information including country snapshots, country statistics, global trade and industry & markets. See <https://library.bu.edu/countries/information>

3. Trade data

- World Integrated Trade Solution (WITS) provides access to international merchandise trade, tariff and non-tariff measures (NTM) data. See <https://wits.worldbank.org/>
- World Trade Organisation has a range of trade and tariff data. Start at https://www.wto.org/english/res_e/statis_e/statis_e.htm
- International Trade Centre has a vast amount of market information. Start at <https://www.intracen.org/itc/market-info-tools/market-information/>. For agricultural produce, you may find its market price information service helpful. See <https://mpi.intracen.org/home>
- Trade promotion agencies in your own and your target countries, as well as customs authorities, may have good trade data available.

4. Documentation

- See PROFIT factsheet on Export Documentation

- Trade portals, where they exist, offer a quick way to establish the necessary documentation. The Info Viet-Trade Portal, <https://infoviettrade.vn/?l=en>, for example, is a fantastic resource, set up by VIETRADE with support from the International Trade Centre, which enables businesses in Vietnam to determine exactly what documentation is required for a wide range of possible exports and imports.

5. Standards

- See PROFIT factsheet on Standards
- Bureau of Indian Standards, <https://bis.gov.in/>; (TBT enquiry point is available at enquirypoint@bis.gov.in)
- Institute of Standards of Cambodia, <https://www.isc.gov.kh/en/>; (TBT is available at camtbt-info@isc.gov.kh)
- Thai Industrial Standards Institute, <https://www.tisi.go.th/>; (TBT for industrial products is available at thaitbt@tisi.mail.go.th and for food and agricultural produce is available at spsthailand@gmail.com)
- Vietnam Standard and Quality Institute, <http://www.vsqi.gov.vn/en/> or tcvn.gov.vn; (TBT enquiries: tbtvn@tcvn.gov.vn)
- A full list of TBT enquiry points with addresses and phone numbers is available at <http://tbtims.wto.org/en/NationalEnquiryPoints/Search>
- For SPS enquiry points, see https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/sps_e/spslinks_e.htm

6. Logistics

- See PROFIT factsheet on Logistics
- See PROFIT factsheet on INCOTerms
- Transporteca. See <https://transporteca.co.uk/international-shipping-guide/>
- CLN Worldwide. See <https://www.clnusa.com/post/2019/10/18/freight-forwarding-101-a-beginners-guide>
- Project Manager. See <https://www.projectmanager.com/blog/logistics-management-101>

7. Trade promotion agencies

- Vietnam Trade Promotion Agency (VIETRADE). See <http://en.vietrade.gov.vn>
- Cambodia: General Directorate of Trade Promotion. See <http://www.moc.gov.kh/en-us/contact/organisation/8> (but note that the GDTPMOC website is currently not working).

- Thailand: Department of International Trade Promotion. See https://ditp.go.th/ditp_web61/index_en.php
- India Trade Promotion Organisation. See <https://www.indiatradefair.com/>

8. Investment promotion agencies

- Invest Vietnam. See <https://investvietnam.vn/>
- Cambodia Investment Agency, see <http://cia-investment.com/>
- Board of Investment of Thailand. See <https://www.boi.go.th/en/index/>
- Invest India: Investment Promotion and Facilitation Agency. See <https://www.investindia.gov.in/>

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