

FIAS CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE OF DONORS MEETING
Paris, France
November 9-10, 2009

The IFC “SmartLessons” Program

SmartLessons is an awards program to enable IFC clients, partners, donors, and staff to share lessons learned in their day- to- day work. Instead of lengthy academic articles and formal reports, SmartLessons represent first-hand and straightforward project stories with pragmatic useful analysis, written by professionals and for professionals. Through the prism of their own experience, good and bad, these authors aim to capture practical insights and lessons that could help advance development-related operations for private sector-led growth across the globe.

Between November 2006 and October 2009, there were 107 SmartLessons on Investment Climate 36 of which were authored by CIC/FIAS staff. While the majority of these SmartLessons are for internal use, some have been published on the external SmartLessons website (smartlessons.ifc.org).

Competitions in regular intervals create a high profile incentives and foster high quality SmartLessons, such as the five examples below.

CIC/FIAS Winners of first and second prizes of three most recent competitions

- Art or Science? Measuring the Impact of Business Environment Reforms at the Subnational Level, by Margo Thomas and Ana Batic, CICRS, and Cesar Cordova Novion, Jacobs and Associates ;
- Show Me the Money II: From Concept to Practice, by Sanda Liepina, Sanwaree Sethi, and Chris Miller, CEUEP;
- Stakeholder Engagement in Post-Conflict Countries: The Liberian Experience by Nana Yaa Ofori-Atta;
- Support Emergence of Home-Grown Policies by Putting Local Partner in the Drafting Seat by Martin Norman;
- Dividing the Wheat from the Chaff: How to Get at the True Picture of Entrepreneurship behind Misleading Statistics by Yuriy Kuzmyn and Florentin Blanc.