RESOURCES EFFICIENCY
Cross-Cutting Advisory Solutions

OVERVIEW

Cutting costs and conserving resources are a top priority for every company, big or small. IFC’s resource efficiency experts can help make this goal a reality. Our customized solutions help companies reduce energy and water use, minimize waste, and deploy climate-smart technologies, all while strengthening their bottom line. Most importantly, we are there for the long-term—our commitment can extend through the full cycle of development, financing, and implementation.

Our approach goes beyond individual projects. We also work at the sector and market level to achieve greater impact, support industries to develop low-carbon roadmaps, and help key global brands to green their supply chains. Our global reach, independent assessments, and deep technical and market expertise provide unique insight and innovative solutions. By partnering with industry associations, financial institutions, and other stakeholders, we are fuelling private sector growth, reducing risks for pioneering firms, and creating new opportunities to scale-up climate friendly investment.
WORKING WITH SUPPLY CHAINS: GREENING TEXTILES IN BANGLADESH

Bangladesh’s 28-billion-dollar garment industry is the second largest in the world. It is the highest foreign currency earner for Bangladeshis—employing over four million workers, 80 percent of whom are women. But the country’s textile factories, which do the washing-dyeing, and finishing work, consume 1,500 billion liters of groundwater annually and contaminate surface waters, adversely affecting the lives of some 12 million people.

To minimize this costly environmental footprint, IFC works with some of the world’s biggest fashion brands, such as C&A, H&M, and G-Star, to build green supply chains. IFC starts by identifying low or no cost solutions for wet mills and apparel factories to minimize energy and water consumption, which simultaneously improve productivity and competitiveness. More detailed assessments lay out technology investments that generate even greater savings for suppliers, for example in clean energy sources such as solar power or water-efficient equipment. IFC leverages its worldwide network of partners to facilitate financing where needed—delivering benefits for the Bangladeshi textile sector, its workers, and surrounding communities.

Following IFC’s advice, 200 textile suppliers invested almost $40 million dollars in resource efficiency projects. To date, these companies have reduced their water consumption by almost 21 billion liters per year—which is enough to meet the drinking water needs of 840-thousand Bangladeshis. In addition, they have slashed greenhouse gas emissions by 460,000 tonnes per annum. Buyers are going green too. IFC is helping H&M become one of the first companies in the world to implement climate-smart goals along its value chain.

ABOUT IFC

IFC, a member of the World Bank Group, is the largest global development institution focused on the private sector in emerging markets. Working with 2,000 businesses worldwide, we use our six decades of experience to create opportunity where it’s needed most. In FY16, our long-term investments in developing countries rose to nearly $19 billion, leveraging our capital, expertise and influence to help the private sector end extreme poverty and boost shared prosperity.

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WORKING WITH COMPANIES: TRANSFORMING WASTE INTO BIOFUEL IN UKRAINE

Astarta-Kyiv, one of Ukraine’s largest agricultural producers, has been an IFC investment client since 2012. When the company needed to boost profitability, it turned to IFC Advisory to identify new markets for sugar beet molasses, a by-product of sugar production. IFC’s Resource Efficiency experts conducted a comprehensive feasibility study, which included potential markets and off-takers. It recommended the company invest in a bioethanol plant to transform this waste into renewable energy.

Once operational, the plant is expected to produce 26,000 tons of bioethanol annually. This would allow the company to recoup its $20 million investment within five years. In addition to providing biofuel, the plant will save over 190,000 MWh of energy, avoid 47,000 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions, and slash waste by 115,000 tonnes annually.

WORKING WITH INDUSTRIES: LOW CARBON ROADMAPS FOR THE CEMENT INDUSTRY IN INDIA AND BRAZIL

Cement is vital for economic development, and emerging markets account for more than 90 percent of consumption worldwide. However, its production can have significant environmental impacts: the sector is responsible for at least five percent of global manmade greenhouse gas emissions. With cumulative investments of more than four billion dollars in cement firms, IFC has joined forces with industry associations and leading companies to create low carbon roadmaps that will slash damaging emissions while improving operating costs.

In India, the world’s second largest cement producer, IFC, the International Energy Agency, the national cement association, and other partners developed a countrywide roadmap that aims to cut emissions by 45 percent by 2050. IFC is also helping to create a similar low carbon roadmap in Brazil. Both promote the increased use of alternative fuels and clinker substitutes, greater energy efficiency, and low carbon, climate-smart technologies. In India, Brazil, and across the globe, IFC helps individual companies put these goals into action by providing tailor-made solutions that boost profits while minimizing carbon emissions and energy consumption.

Low-carbon roadmaps are supported by major cement producers with operations in more than 100 countries. These include many of IFC’s long-term clients, such as Cemex and LafargeHolcim, who are well placed to deploy these solutions worldwide. IFC also produces in-depth country, regional, and global studies to help the sector adopt low-carbon strategies. Recent reports examined alternative fuel use in Africa and Egypt, and international best practices in energy efficiency.