Based at Invest KOREA headquarters in Seoul, the Commissioner of Invest KOREA is supported by a staff of KOTRA employees, including recruited specialists and government officials seconded from other agencies and ministries. Invest KOREA works in close consultation with its network of 41 overseas branch offices, known as Korea Business Centers, in the major financial and industrial centers of the world. Invest KOREA implements government policies on foreign investment that have been formulated by the Ministry of Knowledge Economy (MKE) and coordinated by the Foreign Investment Committee.

**KOREA's Investment Promotion System**

- Foreign Investment Committee
- Ministry of Knowledge Economy
- KOTRA
- Commissioner of Invest KOREA
- 41 Overseas Korea Business Centers
- KOTRA Employees
- Specialists
- Government Officials
- Investment Ombudsman
- Aftercare Team

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**Invest KOREA, the Gateway to a Successful Future in Korea**

As the national investment promotion agency of Korea, Invest KOREA (IK) provides customized professional services to support the domestic entry and successful establishment of foreign companies.

Invest KOREA (IK), Korea’s national investment promotion agency, was established within the Korea Trade-Investment Promotion Agency (KOTRA) with the sole purpose of supporting the entry and successful establishment of foreign business into Korea. With assistance extending to pre-establishment and post-establishment services, Invest KOREA enables foreign corporations to maximize the benefits of the Korean investment environment to ensure their rapid settlement in Korea. The agency is committed to providing unmatched, comprehensive one-stop service that allows foreign investors to join many of the world’s most successful corporations to have selected Korea as an investment destination and been rewarded by high returns on investment.
What gives Invest KOREA its professional edge?

**One Stop Service** covers all services related to pre-investment consultation, execution and post-investment processes.

**Research/Consulting**

Invest KOREA provides data for feasibility studies and professional consultation in the areas of investment procedures, legal issues, tax and accounting. Invest KOREA also helps foreign corporate personnel in day-to-day matters such as healthcare, education and accommodation.

**Online Consulting Service**

Invest KOREA Online (www.investkorea.org) provides a wealth of detailed and updated information on investment in Korea.

**Support for Potential Investors and Investment Projects**

Invest KOREA provides support throughout the investment process, whether it’s with identifying target companies or delivering customized research assistance. The agency also gives policymakers substantive feedback from investors to improve the investment environment.

**Project Manager System**

IK’s investment promotion and support capability was considerably strengthened by the introduction of the Project Manager (PM) system. A PM is designated for investment projects to offer services customized to the client’s needs. A PM provides information at every step of the investment process, executes administrative services as a proxy, forms and operates task forces to resolve client grievances, and arranges meetings with relevant government agencies, organizations, and investment partners during a client’s visit to Korea.

**Post-Investment Service** [www-i-ombudsman.or.kr](http://www.i-ombudsman.or.kr)

The Office of the Foreign Investment Ombudsman and the Investment Aftercare Team help foreign-invested companies overcome obstacles in the course of doing business in Korea. Proactively seeking out potential grievances, the Investment Aftercare Team resolves problems on behalf of clients via the Home Doctor system. A specialist home doctor is designated to provide one-on-one services for the client until the grievance in question has been completely resolved.

4,609 cases of foreign-invested companies’ grievances have been resolved through the Home Doctor service from 1999 through July of 2011.
More than 14,000 foreign-invested companies in Korea

Invest KOREA provides comprehensive service by
- Giving potential investors information about Korea as a business location
- Helping investors identify emerging investment opportunities
- Answering questions on legal, taxation and accounting-related matters
- Helping investors identify potential joint venture partners
- Assisting with administrative and immigration-related matters
- Resolving difficulties experienced by investors through the Investment Ombudsman

For details, please contact IK at:
Investment Public Relations Team
Tel: (82-2) 3408-7820 / Fax: (82-2) 3408-7822
E-mail: invinfo@korea.kr
Investment Consulting Center
Tel: (82-2) 3408-1752 / Fax: (82-2) 3408-1411

One-Stop Service at a Glance
- Government agencies
- Local governments
- Pre-Investment Consultation
- Execution
- Post-Investment Service
  ● Provision of information and administration services
  ● Seeking partners
  ● Revocation of investment incentives
  ● Improvement of business environment
  ● Investment Ombudsman

IK’s Organization

Investment Promotion Department
- Major Industry Investment Promotion Team
- Service Industry Investment Promotion Team
- High-Tech Industry Investment Promotion Team
- Finance Industry Investment Promotion Team
- Emerging Market Investment Promotion Team

Investment Promotion Administration Department
- General Investment Administration Team
- Investment Public Relations Team
- Investment Information Team
- Foreign Company Service Team

KOTRA
Office of the Foreign Investment Ombudsman
Investment Aftercare Team
Head of Foreign Investor Support Office
Investment Consulting Center
Invest Korea Plaza

Upgraded One-Stop Service  Korea’s first business incubator for foreign investors is a “smart” building providing furnished office space and cutting-edge conference facilities in addition to on-site comprehensive services including business consultations and administrative support for investing in Korea.

The range of services offered by Invest KOREA has been significantly enhanced following the opening of the Investment Consulting Center (ICC) in the Invest Korea Plaza.

- ICC provides support for the following in English, Korean, and Japanese: Registration of incorporation, business registration, tax consultancy, co-site visa issuance, assistance with health insurance, credit card issuance, and more.
- Officials from the National Tax Service, Korea Customs Service, Courts of Law, and Korea Immigration Service are on-site to provide immediate assistance.

FAQ

Investing in Korea

1. How can I access information on foreign investment procedures or FDI incentive policies in Korea?

Invest KOREA provides a variety of FDI-related information in PDF format under “Library” on the Invest KOREA website (www.investkorea.go.kr). In particular, the “Guide to Investing in Korea” contains detailed information on the entire investment process. For more information, contact the Investment Consulting Center:

Tel: 82-2-3487-1000 / Fax: 82-2-3487-1616
www.dip.motr.go.kr

Investment Consulting Center
Tel: 82-2-1600-7119 / Fax: 82-2-3457-1611

2. What civil affairs are handled directly by Invest KOREA?

Officials from the Korea Customs Service oversee tariffs-related affairs with regard to exemption of customs tariffs on capital goods after confirming whether investment in kind is completed. Nine types of civil affairs, in regard to the status of entry visa, re-entry permits, and alien registration, for example, are handled upon request by officials assigned by the Ministry of Justice. Officials from the National Tax Service can issue registration certificates related to business registration within a week.

3. How can I learn about Korea’s overall investment environment?

Invest KOREA publishes “Investment Environment & Business Opportunities” every two years in eight languages (Korean, English, Chinese, Japanese, Spanish, French, Arabic, and German). You can download the file from the Invest KOREA website. To receive a printed version via air mail, contact the Investment Public Relations Team:

Fax: 82-2-3487-7202 / Email: investk@kotra.or.kr

4. How can I get an overview of Korea’s key industries?

Invest KOREA has published a series of brochures that provide a summary of Korea’s key industries and current FDI status along with statistics. Click on “Industries” on the Invest KOREA website, download them in PDF format from the Invest KOREA website, or contact the Investment Public Relations Team:

Fax: 82-2-3487-7202 / Email: investk@kotra.or.kr to receive the brochure.

5. Which team should I make initial contact with to get answers for specific inquiries related to foreign investment?

The Investment Consulting Center (Tel: 82-2-3487-1000 / Fax: 82-2-3487-1616) provides pre-investment consultation services for investment-related processes.

6. How can I contact a project manager in order to invest in Korea?

There are five teams in Invest KOREA that promote investment: Major Industry Investment Promotion Team, Service Industry Investment Promotion Team, High-Tech Industry Investment Promotion Team, Financial Industry Investment Promotion Team, Emerging Market Investment Promotion Team. Contact information for each team is available in “About Us” on the Invest KOREA website (www.investkorea.go.kr).

The Invest KOREA website offers answers to frequently asked questions on a diverse array of topics including FDI in General, FDI Notification, Tax, Customs, Finance, Factory Establishment, Business Establishment, Real Estate, Construction, Tourism, R&D, Environment, Labor, SME Support, Visa, Information Technology and Free Trade Areas. The website is updated on a regular basis, providing interested parties with the latest information.