

Federal Trade Commission

Technical Assistance Program

COMPETITION LAW & POLICY

About Our Program

The FTC operates a technical assistance program to meet the need that has arisen with the explosion of relatively new competition authorities around the world. To fill the experience gap that exists at these authorities, we focus on:

- o *transferring investigational skills*
- o *analyzing effects on consumer welfare*
- o *addressing appropriate remedies, and*
- o *engaging with the parties in a transparent, reciprocal exchange*

How We Work

After assessing the specific needs of the recipient, we design an assistance plan that includes some, or all, of the following:

- **Short-term Missions and Workshops:** These range from roundtable brainstorming over draft statutes or regulations to workshops on applying complex economic analysis when authorities have been functioning for several years.

In between, where most of our assistance is concentrated, we conduct interactive investigative skills workshops on anticompetitive agreements, monopolization/abuse of dominance, or mergers.



Career FTC lawyers and economists, often along with DOJ's, using real or hypothetical cases, guide participants through the standard investigational and enforcement process:

- o *Identifying issues*
- o *Organizing and investigational plan*
- o *Gathering and analyzing facts and evidence from witnesses and documents*
- o *Evaluating the results, and*
- o *Designing an appropriate and effective remedy*





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Resident Advisors

Placement of advisors directly in the office of a competition authority for several months is another effective means of delivering assistance. They are in place when cases present the proverbial “teachable moment.” Their regular presence also develops trust and rapport and permits input on case selection, internal procedures and priority setting.



Staff Fellowships and Internships

Staff from newer agencies work at the FTC for six weeks to six months under the authority of the US SAFE WEB Act. This allows them to see how our experienced attorneys actually conduct investigations and enforcement actions.



For more information about our program,
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