# FDI and the environment in Chile - Some inputs -

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# Trends

- Away from exploitation of natural resources (except for the case of mining)
- Increased use of domestic financial sources
- Increased participation of services, especially basic and financial services, but also others
- Mergers and acquisitions flows bi-directional
- Increased reinvestment of profits (accounting for 94% of FDI in 2006)
- Increased investments in the services sector (hotels, real estate, call centers, finance)

### Key aspects determining environmental impacts

- Existence of specific government regulation
- Existence of international pressure
- Existence of enforcement procedures and enforcement capacity
- Existence of social capital (experts, quantity and quality of NGOs)
- Existence of mechanisms of information disclosure
- Specific policies and institutions regarding the exploitation of natural resources
- Policies and human capital to orient and promote sustainable investments
- Commitment by the individual company (example Masisa)

## FDI and large scale operations

 Imposes special requirements onto the receiving countries

#### Lessons from forestry

- Strong government, NGOs and academic sector is crucial
- Risk assessments are crucial
- NGOs making use of judicial system, beyond administrative mechanisms
- Conflicts do not finish with an approved EIA
- Lack of integration into social structures backfires at any moment
- Foreign participation on the NGOs' side
- If international pressures do not have a local counterpart they might eventually lose strength (certification schemes)



## Some of today's challenges (in the area of large scale projects)

- Hidroaysén and the transmission lines
- Infrastructure projects
- Mining companies' utilities and taxes



