



David Vivas Eugui

PROFILE

Chief of Section, a.i. at the Trade, Environment and Sustainable Development Branch, UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD). Attorney at Law with more than 25 years of experience in trade, environment, oceans economy, intellectual property, and sustainable development. Representation of UNCTAD to the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment and to the WTO Dialogue on Plastic Pollution. Widely published on trade in plastics, plastic pollution, non-plastic substitutes and alternatives, biomaterials, ocean and circular economy and applicable regulatory principles and practices.

LANGUAGES

Spanish (mother tongue)
English & French

PUBLICATIONS

More than 70 publications and books on Trade Environment, Ocean Economy, Plastic Pollution and Intellectual Property.

- Beyond plastics: A review of trade-related policy measures on non-plastic substitutes, UNCTAD, 2024
- Plastic Pollution: The pressing case for natural and environmentally friendly substitutes to plastics, UNCTAD, 2023
- Enabling concerted multilateral action on plastic pollution and plastics substitutes, UNCTAD, 2021
- Plastic Production and Trade in Small States and SIDS: The Shift Towards a Circular Economy. The Commonwealth, 2021.

WORK EXPERIENCE

UNCTAD, Chief of Section, Economic Affairs, a.i. Geneva

Feb 2023 – Present

Management of programmes and projects under the TED Branch including the ones on Oceans Economy, Circular Economy, Trade in Plastic and South-South cooperation. Deputy of the Branch and responsible of programmatic planning, reporting, budgeting, preparation of branch inputs for the OSG and Divisions and as front office of the branch.

UNCTAD, Legal Officer Geneva

2013–2023

Management of the Oceans Economy, trade in plastic and blue BioTrade programmes. Policy, legal and economic advice related to UN SDGs, trade and environment, ocean economy, gender, and social inclusion.

ICTSD – Deputy Programmes Director Geneva

2002–2010

Strategic design, management, fundraising, implementation and impact assessment of ICTSD's Trade and Sustainable Development Programmes. Substantive programmatic areas cover intellectual property, trade and environment, biodiversity, climate change, market access in environmental goods and services, innovation and public health dispute settlement, and regionalism.

Centre for International Environmental Law (CIEL) - Senior Attorney Geneva

1996–2000

Senior Attorney in charge of CIEL's Project on Intellectual Property and sustainable development, which sought systemic reform of international intellectual property system to promote the public interest and sustainable development.

Instituto de Comercio Exterior (ICE) - Mission of Venezuela, Attaché for Legal Affairs

1996–2000

Representation of the Venezuelan Government at the WTO, UNCTAD WIPO and UNEP on multilateral trade, environment and intellectual property negotiations.

EDUCATION

Universidad Externado, Bogotá - Colombia

1995 - Especialización en Negocios Transnacionales

Georgetown University, Washington D.C. - USA

1994 - L.L.M. in Common Law Studies

Universidad Católica Andrés Bello, Caracas - Venezuela

1992 – Attorney at Law