

SCCE Buenos Aires Regional & Ethics Conference

Managing and Mitigating Compliance Risks in M&As and Joint Ventures Melina Llodrá – Florencia Ortiz





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Compliance in M&As and JVs How M&As have evolved in terms of compliance

- Compliance Due Diligence is a must, essential
- Law 27401, art. 3
- Ongoing and comprehensive DD approach





Cultural Issues in Compliance DD of Cross Border Transactions

- Standard steps: comparing Code of Conduct of Target and Acquirer

- Reviewing target procedures, policies and programs.

- And if not????

- In the absence of code of conduct, much more time will have to be spent in coming to know target's culture

- External interviews and site visits



Compliance DD: Major Compliance Issues to Check

- Defining scope of compliance DD
 - > Industry
 - ➤ Market
 - > Jurisdictions
 - > Parties/entities involved
 - > Third parties
 - ➤ Target compliance program?

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Third Party Due Diligence

- International laws seek to prevent companies paying bribes through intermediaries
- Law 27.401 holds companies liable for 3rd party actions in breach of the law
- Contracts to be scrutinized: Risk approach
- ➤ Public officials
- ➤ Country risk CPI
- > Industry
- ➤ Contract value
- ➤ Nature of services



Does Target Size Matter??

- Many companies determine level of DD based on size operation or stake of participation
- Eg. M&A of renewable energy projects: Issues are the same for a 1 MW acquisition and a 50 MW acquisition
- Seller DD

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Impact of Compliance DD Findings No GO Restructure transaction Price reduction Conditions Precedent





