



Africa

An overview of our
regional capabilities

Stephenson Harwood is a law firm with over 1300 people worldwide, including more than 190 partners. Our people are committed to achieving the goals of our clients – listed and private companies, institutions and individuals.

We assemble teams of bright thinkers to match our clients’ needs and give the right advice from the right person at the right time. Dedicating the highest calibre of legal talent to overcome the most complex issues, we deliver pragmatic, expert advice that is set squarely in the real world.

Our headquarters are in London, with eight offices across Asia, Europe and the Middle East. In addition we have forged close ties with other high quality law firms. This diverse mix of expertise and culture results in a combination of deep local insight and the capability to provide a seamless international service.

The team “commands respect for its involvement across the region, with particular plaudits for its experience in East Africa.”

Chambers Global 2022, Africa-wide



Chambers Global 2023
– Africa-wide dispute resolution



The Legal 500 UK 2023
– Highly ranked

Africa group

Our leading Africa practice has been active on the continent for many years. We regularly advise on key mandates of economic, political and strategic importance across Africa. We have advised listed and private companies, financial institutions, high net worth individuals, family offices, investment companies, private equity houses, governments and state-owned entities on a range of Africa-related matters.

Our connection with Africa extends over decades. We visit regularly and many of our team were born and raised there. Our advice is set against a background of in-depth knowledge and cultural familiarity.

We are stand-out specialists in:

- arbitration, litigation
- fraud and asset tracing
- banking and finance
- capital markets
- oil and gas
- projects, construction and infrastructure
- renewables
- transportation, aviation, rail, shipping.

Our Africa practice, headquartered in London, includes members from our international offices in Paris, Dubai, Singapore, Seoul and Hong Kong. This allows us to offer a full range of services to our clients on a truly global scale.

Chambers Global 2023



Top ranked – Stephenson Harwood

The Legal 500 UK 2023



Top tier

The Legal 500 2023, Private Practice Powerlist



Team named in the Private Practice Powerlist: Africa Specialists’ 2023

Legal Week – The British Legal Awards 2018



Winner – Litigation and Dispute Resolution Team of the Year

“Stephenson Harwood is home to a highly respected Africa group with a diverse international disputes practice.”

Chambers Global 2022, Africa-wide

“Africa is my home, travelling there is never ‘work’.”

Kamal Shah
Head of Africa group



Supporting wider Africa initiatives

Events and initiatives

- Our Africa group regularly holds social and industry events across a range of practice areas and sectors with the LCIA Africa Users Council, Eastern Africa Association and Invest Africa.
- We co-sponsored ‘Companies to Inspire Africa’, a report by London Stock Exchange Group, which identified and celebrated some of Africa’s most dynamic growth businesses. The report featured over 360 businesses from 32 African nations.
- We co-sponsored the 1-54 Contemporary African Art Fair in association with Invest Africa, described as ‘the leading international art fair dedicated to contemporary art from Africa’.
- We regularly organise training and networking events at our London office for young African arbitration practitioners. For example, we hosted several aspiring African arbitration practitioners during the first day of the flagship Africa Arbitration Academy.

Leadership

- Kamal Shah, Head of the Africa practice group, is the President of the LCIA African Users Council and a LCIA Court Member.
- Kamal is also a Court Member of the Lagos Chamber of Commerce International Arbitration Centre and is an Executive Committee Member of the Eastern African Association.
- Kamal and the team have also joined a task force of eminent practitioners to support and advise the authors of a study examining the challenges faced by Commonwealth countries in settling disputes under international commercial contracts.

The African Promise

Kamal Shah co-published the text of the ‘African Promise’, which seeks to tackle the under-representation of Africans on international tribunals and improve the profile of African arbitrators.

Women in leadership

We are committed to championing women within law across Africa.

- We co-host women-focused events, such as the British Nigeria Law Forum’s Women in Leadership and Strategies for Success networking event.
- On the ground, we have hosted a series of roundtable events in Lagos with local firms that focus on barriers to progression for women and the gender pay gap with the aim of finding solutions and setting out commitment for change.

Pro bono work

Over the years we have supported a number of programmes and initiatives by offering legal advice on a pro bono basis. This includes:

- Representing a Somali refugee in a dispute with a global NGO in Kenya.
- Representing the family of a deceased employee from Mauritius against a global NGO.
- Representing a minority community in an East African country with riparian land law issues against the Authorities.
- Working with The Institute of African Leadership for Sustainable Development (UONGOZI) and International Senior Lawyers Project (ISLP) to deliver seminars to government officials on topics such as oil and gas and project finance in a variety of African countries.

Secondment programme

What makes us unique is that we have developed more than just a strong working relationship with leading local firms in Africa. Our well-recognised secondment programme has seen dozens of secondees from leading African law firms and client entities spend time at Stephenson Harwood, along with members of Stephenson Harwood seconded to law firms in Africa, showcasing our commitment to the continent. We have received secondees from firms in Botswana, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mauritius, Nigeria, Tanzania and Uganda.

Nigeria Law School Prize

We sponsor the Nigeria Law School Prize awarded to the top performing student at the Law School annually. The winner is welcomed to the Stephenson Harwood London office to gain work experience across various practice areas.

Stephenson Harwood’s Academy

We provide training to lawyers on the continent on various subjects. This ensures that we not only maintain strong relationships with our legal partners on the ground but also empower them to continue delivering high quality advice and ensure that they keep abreast of developments in the law. Following this training, we offer a helpline to our partners and clients to help them resolve technical legal issues that they may come across.

Mentorship programme

We have launched the Stephenson Harwood Mentorship Programme for the winner of the Young African Arbitrator of the Year 2020. We provide the mentee with one to one sessions with both members of our Africa group as well as barristers and arbitrators from other organisations. We also include a helpline as part of this programme.



“We have a unique grasp of the cultural nuances involved in doing business in Africa.”

Jide Adesokan
Partner

“My internship placement at Stephenson Harwood remains an integral part of my personal and professional development. The rich interactions with partners and the opportunity to work on high level projects was fulfilling and exciting.”

Winner of Nigeria Law School Prize



Corporate

Comprising dedicated and pragmatic individuals, our corporate team services an international client base, many of whom are based in Africa or have interests in the continent. We offer expert advice, unparalleled service and a team of specialists committed to meeting your needs within the region. We advise on domestic and international financing transactions across a wide range of African countries and sectors.

Africa Finance Corporation (AFC)

We advised AFC on a 23% investment into an AIM-listed company, Ncondezi Energy Limited, an African power development company which is developing a coal mine and associated coal-fired power plant in the Tete region of Mozambique.

Ambience Ventures and Qalaa Holdings, Kenya and Uganda

Advised on the initial acquisition of a majority stake in the national rail operator of Kenya and Uganda, Rift Valley Railways. We subsequently advised on the buy-out of Transcentury, bringing Ambience’s overall holding to 85%.

Sale of Nigerian oil interests

Advised an independent oil and gas company on separate transactions to sell its interests in two different Nigerian assets to another independent oil and gas group for cash and shares.

Investment into e-Tutorial Group

Advising on an investment into an online hospitality training company.

“The Stephenson Harwood team are very strong in their field and knowledgeable. They are pragmatic, commercial and helpful.”

The Legal 500 2022, corporate and commercial

East Africa logistics group

Advised on the buy-out of an African specialist private equity fund by an East Africa logistics group.

Cross-border acquisition

Advised a French company on the cross-border acquisition of nine companies in nine different African jurisdictions.

Investment into sustainable forestry group

Advising a company on a new investment into sub-Saharan African sustainable forestry group by financial institution.

Grit Real Estate Income Group

Advised on the London IPO of Grit Real Estate Income Group Limited, which also raised US\$132 million for the group. Grit is a pan-African (excluding South Africa) real estate company with a market cap of US\$ 440 million and with listings in Mauritius and South Africa.

Jubilee Metals

Advised ACAM on \$8 million secured loan to subsidiary of AIM listed mine tailings processing group Jubilee Metals Group Plc (which is convertible into an unsecured convertible loan note in Jubilee Metals Group Plc) to finance the Zambian operations of the group.

Finance and restructuring

Our award-winning finance team is highly regarded by clients for its excellence, broad experience and versatility. We work on demanding and innovative deals across Africa.

Nigerian Upstream Financing

Acted for AFC and Shell Western in respect of a US\$300,000,000 Facility Agreement to the owner of a Nigerian oil field to repay existing debt and for other general corporate purposes. This involved complex intercreditor negotiations with the existing lenders.

Afreximbank

Acted for Afreximbank on a number of trade and project financings in sub-Saharan Africa, including the project financing of the first GSM mobile telephone network to be established in Nigeria).

Nigerian downstream financing

Currently acting for the lenders in respect of a proposed \$1 billion project financing to NNPC in order to fund the refurbishment of certain downstream oil facilities.

Mining assets refinancing

Acting for Russian bank on proposed refinancing of heavily indebted holding company with mining assets throughout Africa.

Mauritius Commercial Bank (MCB)

Advised on the partial dilution of MCB’s shareholding in a Mozambican bank, Mauritius Commercial Bank Mozambique, through a significant investment by Société Générale.

We have also acted on several trade finance facilities for petrochemical imports to Kenya, Tanzania and Zambia; and on an acquisition finance for a corporate in Madagascar.

“Strong team with attention to detail. They have a really personal approach to their clients.”

The Legal 500 2022, restructuring and insolvency

BNP Paribas ship financing, Nigeria

Advised Bonny Gas Transport, a subsidiary of Nigeria LNG Limited, on the purchase of six Korean newbuild LNG vessels partly financed by complex arrangements. We represented each of the lenders of these facilities in this US\$1.1 billion deal.

Leading Nigerian banks

Advised banks in Nigeria on the financing of support vessels operating in offshore oilfields in Nigeria.

UK oil and gas company

Acted for a UK oil and gas company financing exploration operations in Nigeria, which provided experience of loan and security issues relevant to the oil and gas market and to the particular circumstances of West Africa.

Nigeria – oil

Acted for NNPC on US\$1.4 billion pre-export financing structure involving a group of international banks and other financiers, which was repeated with a second large follow-up transaction.

African trade finance

Acted for the London branch of an African bank on several trade finance facilities, include pre-export facilities for several commodities.

NOC pre-export financing

Advised NOC in relation to the pre-export financing facility with a large lending syndicate for approximately US\$1.5 billion which was raised through a forward sale of barrels of crude oil structure; and a subsequent increase of facility.



EBRD, IFC and NEFCO

Advising the EBRD, IFC and NEFCO in respect of the project financing of a soda ash plant in Kenya.

Upstream development

Representing the lender/joint venture partner on a proposed financing of an upstream development in Angola.

Bond issuance – Guaranty Trust Bank

Acting for the dealers on a Reg S/144A Bond issue by Guarnty Trust Bank Plc, Nigeria.

Sovereign Bond – Cameroon

Acting for the managers on the debut sovereign bond for the Republic of Cameroon.

Note issuance – GRIT

Acting for the issuer on a perpetual guaranteed exchangeable note issuance by the GRIT real estate group, Mauritius.

Dispute resolution

Our market-leading commercial litigation and arbitration team acts on some of the most significant and widely-publicised disputes in Africa. Our team is truly international in what it does, and is often engaged on cases involving multiple jurisdictions.

Misappropriation of assets from the Arab Republic of Egypt

Advising and managing the global tracing and recovery of US\$ billions in misappropriated assets by the former regime. Involving allegations of fraud, corruption and money laundering over nine jurisdictions.

Large African-based mining and metals company

Defending a US\$400 million claim in arbitration proceedings and concurrent English High Court proceedings which resulted in clarifying the High Court’s view on seeking interim relief in support of arbitration.

Kenya and Uganda Railways

Advising on several LCIA arbitrations following the privatisation of Rift Valley Railways with proceedings in London, Uganda, Mauritius, South Africa and Kenya.

Oil major, Chad-Cameroon petroleum development and pipeline project

Represented a client before the Chadian courts and the OHADA Common Court of Justice in Abidjan against numerous subcontractors in a commercial dispute in relation to the project.

Shareholders’ dispute

Advising a shareholder in a joint venture concerning a major real estate development in Nairobi in a LCIA arbitration, including advising on related Mauritius court proceedings.

Libyan Investment Authority

Representing the Libyan Investment Authority (LIA) headquartered in Tripoli in a dispute with rival bodies in Libya, a dispute over competing claims to chairmanship of LIA and in relation to the appointment of a Receiver and Manager to run the LIA.

Construction of emergency power generation facilities, Tanzania

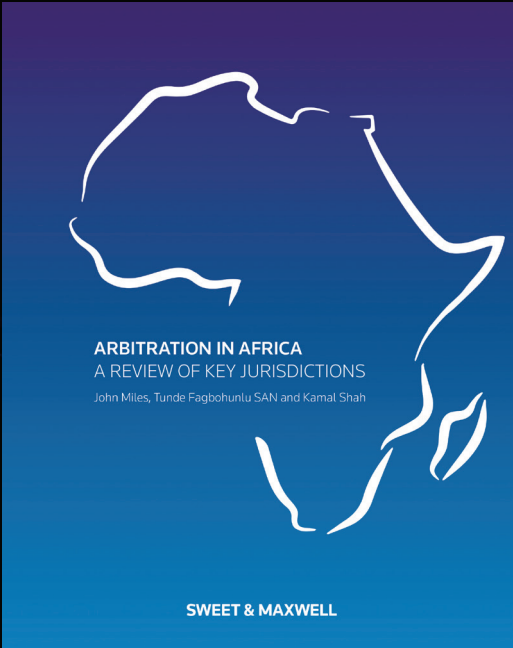
Advising Dowans Holdings SA and Dowans Tanzania on a US\$100 million arbitration related dispute with the Tanzanian State Electricity Company relating to the construction of power generation facilities.

Arbitration in Africa

Kamal Shah, head of the Africa group, co-authored **Arbitration in Africa: A Review of Key Jurisdictions** with other members of the Stephenson Harwood Africa Group, and prominent African practitioners. This is a valuable text for African arbitration practitioners, arbitration users or in-house counsel operating within Africa, and provides a thorough and comprehensive account of the market.

The book is written by three internationally renowned arbitration lawyers and is a valuable text for African arbitration practitioners and specialists from outside the continent seeking guidance in conducting arbitrations or enforcing awards, as it provides a thorough and comprehensive account of arbitration in various jurisdictions in Africa.

This title also has forewords from renowned international arbitration specialists Chief Bayo Ojo SAN CON and Prf. Albert Jan van den Berg.



Energy

Our international energy team has a strong presence within Africa. They have specialist expertise within the broad energy sector, specifically in oil and gas, offshore, power and renewable and mining and minerals. The team have hands on experience when dealing with issues in various African countries and work in close collaboration with clients to achieve their commercial objectives.

Eland Oil & Gas Plc, Nigeria

Advised on the IPO of Eland Oil & Gas Plc on AIM (raising £118 million); the associated acquisitions from Shell, Total and Eni of a 45% stake in a Nigerian oil field; and the associated investment by Helios.

Equator Exploration, São Tomé

Advised on agreements and negotiations with São Tomé & Príncipe and Nigerian Governments together with drilling contracts, interim funding, and joint ventures with Korean Oil Corp and ONGC Videsh.

West African Gas Pipeline

Advising in relation to confidential issues related to the multi-jurisdictional gas pipeline in West Africa.

Emerald Energy Resources Ltd

Representing a Nigerian member of a consortium which holds an Oil Production Licence over a Nigerian oil block. Acting in a multi-jurisdictional claim for around US\$50 million brought by a Chinese finance provider seeking to recover funds provided pursuant to agreements for the exploration and exploitation of the oil block.

“Kamal Shah is well known to the market – great experience, particularly in African energy arbitrations.”

The Legal 500 2022, international arbitration

Soma Oil & Gas Holdings

Advising Soma Oil & Gas Holdings (a Somalia focused oil and gas company) on an equity investment of US\$50 million from private equity investment company Winter Sky Investments Limited and advised Soma on the negotiations with the government of the Federal Republic of Somalia on a Seismic Option Agreement and the form of the PSC to be granted to Soma.

ICC arbitration

Acted on behalf of an energy company in a US\$100 million ICC dispute against a state entity concerning the purported withdrawal from an onshore field in East Africa.

US\$8.6 billion award challenge

Acting for a West African sovereign state in English High Court proceedings to challenge a US\$8.6 billion arbitration award concerning the supply of gas.

West Africa offshore oil blocks

Acting in a major LCIA arbitration (with claims and counterclaims valued at over US\$750 million) concerning the management of two deep offshore oil blocks in West Africa.

CASE STUDY

Enforcement of a Nigerian arbitration award

Client: Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC)
Value: US\$400 million (plus annual interest of almost US\$20 million)
Location: Nigeria and UK

We have been advising the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) in a long running dispute against IPCO (Nigeria) Ltd in relation to IPCO’s contract to build the Bonny Export Terminal in Port Harcourt, Nigeria in the 1990s. Following arbitration proceedings in Nigeria, IPCO was awarded US\$150 million in 2004, with annual interest running at 14%. NNPC immediately challenged the award in the Nigerian courts.

Since 2004, IPCO has repeatedly sought to enforce the award in England before the proceedings in Nigeria have been concluded. During the course of one of those enforcement attempts, NNPC discovered evidence of fraud, that IPCO had forged documents relating to the claim and the related arbitration in Nigeria, and as a result in 2009 the parties agreed to adjourn the enforcement proceedings.

Despite that agreement, in 2012 IPCO sought to enforce the award in England. The matter went to the Court of Appeal and it was decided that the length of the delays in the Nigerian legal system required the English Court to lift the adjournment and to decide whether to allow enforcement following a trial of the fraud allegations in the English Court.

The Court of Appeal concluded that the fraud allegations against IPCO had a realistic prospect of proving that the whole award should be set aside. However, the Court of Appeal ordered NNPC to provide an additional security of US\$100 million (having previously provided security of US\$80 million) as a condition of being entitled to advance a defence that enforcement should be refused because the award had been procured by IPCO’s fraud.

This matter was then referred to the Supreme Court, and in early 2017 it considered whether the English Court, as an enforcing court of a Nigerian arbitral award, was entitled to require a party resisting enforcement to provide security for the money payable under the award as a condition of being entitled to advance a good arguable defence that enforcement should be refused on grounds of English public policy, e.g. because the award was procured by fraud. The Supreme Court unanimously set aside the Court of Appeal’s order, allowing NNPC to advance its defence in the English Court free of any such conditions.

The case concluded by way of a settlement on confidential terms at a trial before the Commercial Court which had been fixed to last for over six weeks.

In recognition of the success, the team was awarded the prestigious ‘Litigation and Dispute Resolution Team of the Year’ prize at Legal Week’s The British Legal Awards 2018.

“They’re very strong in Africa.”

Client quote



Projects, construction and infrastructure

Our projects and infrastructure team has a long history of working on major international projects based in Africa. We advise all of the key project parties, throughout the lifespan of the project. Our team's vast experience in the continent means we can think strategically, with commercial nous and get the deal done with the minimum of fuss, which is valued by our African clients.

Transport for Cape Town, South Africa

Advised the City of Cape Town on the establishment of its new transport authority, Transport for Cape Town. Now advising on the development of its integrated transport strategies.

Government of Guinea

Advised the Government of Guinea on a complex infrastructure project involving rail, ports and an iron ore mine.

Port re-development in Kenya

Advising on the re-development and construction of new berths at the port of Mombasa including the negotiation of building and operational contracts on a Build Operate Transfer basis.

Construction of emergency power generation facilities

Representing Dowans Holdings SA and Dowans Tanzania in a US\$100 million arbitration related dispute with the Tanzanian State Electricity Company relating to the construction of power generation facilities.

“Our work in Africa gives the real sense of being involved in matters that shape the continent and its future.”



Aviation

Our team of leading practitioners have genuine in-depth knowledge and understanding of the aviation industry in Africa. Combined with their global expertise, our international team have worked with various African airlines, advising on all legal aspects, opportunities and outcomes

Air Côte d'Ivoire

Advising on numerous financings and acquisitions, including the financing by Export Development Canada for the purchase of two new Dash 8 Q400 aircraft from Bombardier.

Libyan Arab Airlines, Buraq Air and other Libyan carriers

Advised various Libyan airlines on a number of high-value commercial disputes, arbitrations and leasing and purchasing transactions. We achieved the first removal from the EU airline blacklist for Buraq Air.

BCI Aircraft Ireland Limited, Namibia

Advised on Commercial Court proceedings in respect of a dispute worth US\$60 million arising from the redelivery by Air Namibia of two Airbus A340 aircraft that it leased from BCI.

Kenya Airways

Advised on various EU Regulations including Denied Boarding Regulations and Passengers with Reduced Mobility Regulations.

CASE STUDY

Air Côte d'Ivoire

Client: Air Côte d'Ivoire
Value: US\$260.5 million
Location: Côte d'Ivoire

We are advising Air Côte d'Ivoire, the Côte d'Ivoire's national airline (the **Airline**), on the acquisition and the financing of five Airbus A320 aircrafts (the **Aircraft**), by way of a finance lease involving a partial risk guarantee (**PRG**) mechanism.

The Airline entered into a purchase agreement with Airbus S.A.S. for the acquisition of the Aircraft. The first two Aircraft were delivered and financed respectively by Investec Bank Limited and the public sector of the African Development Bank (the **AfDB**) via a subordinated sovereign debt loan to the State of Côte d'Ivoire in support of the transportation sector.

The private sector of the AfDB will also make financing available to the Airline for both the refinancing of the first two Aircraft and the financing of the three Aircraft yet to be delivered. A request for proposal was issued in order to raise additional senior secured debt. This is a structured financing using a special purpose vehicle (**SPV**) and because the AfDB can only lend to African entities, it is imperative that the SPV is organised in an African country, Mauritius being an acceptable jurisdiction to the parties involved. We are working with the Airline and the designated arrangers for the transaction to structure the financing through one or more Mauritius SPVs, who would acquire and lease the Aircraft to the Airline.

In addition to the customary securities for aircraft finance lease transactions, this transaction will be supported by a partial risk guarantee (**PRG**) to be issued by the AfDB. The PRG will work in conjunction with a standby letter of credit (the **LC**) to be issued by an investment grade bank in favour of the SPV and would be called should the Airline fail to fulfil its payment obligations. The LC and the PRG are designed to provide additional securities and comfort to the senior lenders.

This financing is part of Air Côte d'Ivoire's expansion program and the renewal of its fleet will contribute to the largest development project in the African aviation sector supported by the AfDB. This transaction is key for the growth of such a young African airline. Général Abdoulaye Coulibaly, Chairman of the board of directors of the Airline, stated "Thanks to this new Airbus aircraft, Air Côte d'Ivoire will also improve its operating efficiency to better meet the need for traffic growth."

We have accompanied the Airline since its inception in 2012 through the leasing of aircraft from various international operating lessors as well as the financing of the Airline's first four Bombardier Q400 aircraft acquisitions.

CASE STUDY

Grit Real Estate Income Group

Client: Grit Real Estate Income Group Limited

Value: US\$132 million

Location: UK, Mauritius and South Africa

We acted on the London IPO of Grit Real Estate Income Group Limited (Grit) in July 2018, which raised US\$132 million. Grit is a pan-African (excluding South Africa) real estate company with a current market capitalisation of US\$440 million. Grit was already listed on the SEM (Mauritius) and the JSE (South Africa) and is now also listed on the Official List of the FCA.

Stephenson Harwood advised on the suitability of the various London listing venues and co-ordinated the advice and input from Mauritian, South African and UK professional advisers and sponsors. It is the first (and currently only) Mauritian company to list on the LSE since 1994. As a Mauritian company, Grit's shares cannot be held in CREST (the UK system for settlement of trades in uncertificated shares). Stephenson Harwood advised on the depositary interest arrangements.

“There is an exceptional quality of service. The people and professionals we are dealing with have deep and detailed knowledge. They deliver what they promise.”

Client quote

This involved a detailed consideration of Mauritian law relating to share capital including transferability of shares under the Companies Act 2001 and the Registration Duty Act.

In addition we worked closely with local advisers to understand the provisions of the Mauritian Securities Act 2005 and the Mauritian Securities (Takeover Rules) 2010, and summarised them in our prospectus.

The listing of Grit in London was a large transaction and allowed us to establish some deep and helpful relationships with Mauritian counterparts. For example, we are pleased to continue to work closely with BLC Roberts, Perigeum, Axys, and C & A Law.

Marine and international trade

Our world-leading marine law practice has specific expertise in Africa. We offer a breadth of services to our African clients in the shipping, offshore and commodities sectors. Our extensive experience in the region combined with our market-leading practice, means we are able to provide African clients and those with interests in Africa top quality advice. Our clients include many of the world's largest shipowners, shipyards, major ship finance banks, marine insurers and IG P&I clubs, energy services companies, oil and gas business and commodities traders.

Senegalese shipyard dispute

Advising a group of Underwriters that are reinsuring the PI insurer of a Senegalese shipyard in ongoing proceedings before the civil courts in Dakar. The claim arose from the loss of a tuna-fishing vessel destroyed by fire during repair work conducted at the shipyard.

National oil company

Advised on liabilities arising from its oil exploration agreements with several International Oil Companies.

Global shipping company

Advised on the commercial and legal issues of its negotiations in respect of a seven year US\$360 million charter, including operation and maintenance.

West African piracy, Benin and Nigeria

Advised London market cargo insurers on the theft of oil off the coast of Benin, including attendance onboard following the attack and tracing the cargo to tanks in Nigeria.

“The experience of working with this team has been excellent. They are commercial, hard-working, very skilled and knowledgeable.”

Chambers & Partners 2022, shipping





Mining and minerals

Our significant experience of advising international and African clients on mining projects, project finance, and international arbitration and disputes based in Africa, means we are perfectly placed to advise you on a full range of mining related matters. With experienced lawyers across a network of offices globally, we deliver practical, commercial advice for every aspect of your transaction.

Long term off-take and supply and shipping agreements

Drafting and advising on the terms of long term off-take and supply and shipping agreements for iron ore shipments from mines across Africa.

Mining consortium

Advising a consortium of international mining companies and a development agency on social, health and housing arrangements in connection with its bid for Zambian mining interests.

Major South African mine

Advised our client in relation to off-take disputes and on drafting off-take agreements (pre-and non pre-payment for coal).

Financing of mines

Advising separate investors on the financing of more than one mine tailings processing operation in sub-Saharan Africa, using convertible debt and equity instruments.

Equator principles

Training a number of organisations including the African Development Bank on the Equator Principles.

“Stephenson Harwood is a brilliant team in real world international contractual disputes across various sectors.”

The Legal 500 2022, international arbitration

Renewables

We have handled transactions concerning offshore and onshore wind farms, solar, biomass, energy-from-waste, anaerobic digestion, biofuels, marine power and cleantech projects. With specialist lawyers who advise on energy projects from a corporate, commercial, financing, marine/shipping, environmental, property, construction and intellectual property perspective, our combined sector expertise is unique. We have an appreciation of the impact of de-carbonisation incentives, and the wider political landscape in which renewable energy operates.

Green Africa Power LLP

We have advised Green Africa Power LLP on a number of matters including on its mezzanine financing into the Project Akiira geothermal project in Kenya and due diligence of Project Corbetti, the geothermal power project in Ethiopia.

CDC Globeleq

Acquisition of the Songo Songo project, a 148.5 megawatt gas to electricity plant in Tanzania and the Kelvin power plant in South Africa.

Roshini International Biotechnology

Advising on the operation of biofuel processing plants in India and Africa and the international distribution of biofuel products, including obtaining approvals under the Kyoto Protocol Clean Development Mechanism.

International investments

Advising a US\$100 investment fund on renewable energy and related projects in Africa.

“They are rationale, approachable and knowledgeable, which when blended together results in strong advice and support. Their advice is always timely and proactive.”

The Legal 500 2022, projects energy and natural resources

InfraCo Africa Limited

Advised on the procurement of solar panels and batteries for micro-grid project in Sierra Leone. This project involved providing power assets for 21 unelectrified communities in the southeast of Sierra Leone.

Bujagali

Advising on post-closing issues with respect to this hydroelectric plant in Uganda.

AES

Advised on the development and financing of the Bujagali hydro power project in Uganda and the Songas power financing in Tanzania.

Utilities project (wind and solar) in Oman

Advised an Omani government-owned developer in the development of a multi-hundred million-dollar utilities project (providing wind and solar power) in the South of Oman to generate a total of approx. 12GW.

Yellow Door Energy Limited

Advising this UAE-based sustainable energy provider on a US\$50 million revolving construction facility deal with Arab Petroleum Investments Corporation. The financing will be used to develop solar photovoltaic plants across the MENA region, with a key focus on Jordan and Pakistan.



London

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