



Law, At The Heart Of Africa



About Us

Like the city of Epena, we are at the center of the legal scene in Africa.

Through our deep understanding of both civil and common laws system, we are able to seamlessly navigate through the various legal systems in Africa. We serve the needs of corporates, investment funds, growth companies and financial institutions by providing advisory services on a wide range of corporate and commercial transactions. Our core focus is Africa, where we have uniquely deep roots and knowledge of markets, regulations and key players.

We are passionate about innovation and are committed to working with our clients to deliver commercially driven legal solutions tailored to their businesses, disrupting traditional law firm models. We believe that innovation drives diversity and inclusion.

Epena's client relationships are aimed at building long-term partnerships, we work as an extension of the client's team rather than as external lawyers. We take into account the way the client works and his objectives.



Our Values

With over 50 years of cumulative experience acquired by our founders in the most prestigious international law firms, we can provide our clients with best-in-class services based on our foundational values:

Experience

With a wealth of international experience, our team offers unparalleled insights into market practices and tactics. Our unique blend of expertise truly sets us apart in delivering exceptional value to our clients.

"Our unique mix of experience sets us apart."

Client Focus

Dedicated to our clients' goals, we provide strategic legal advice, uphold commitments, and offer effective communication. Each client has a dedicated team of lawyers for personalized guidance, ensuring successful outcomes.

"Each client has a dedicated team of lawyers."

Excellence

Our elite international law firm experience drives us to provide state-of-the-art legal counsel. With technology at our core, we exceed client expectations and excel in complex negotiations, setting a standard that only compares with the best.

"We only compare with the best."

Empowerment

Our agile corporate structure fosters entrepreneurial thinking, empowering our team members with resources to cultivate expertise in their chosen domains. Committed to community betterment, we embody our values through initiatives that add value to local areas.

"Our team members are given the resources to develop expert knowledge in areas of their choice."

EPENA LAW

YOUR GATEWAY TO FRANCOPHONE AFRICA

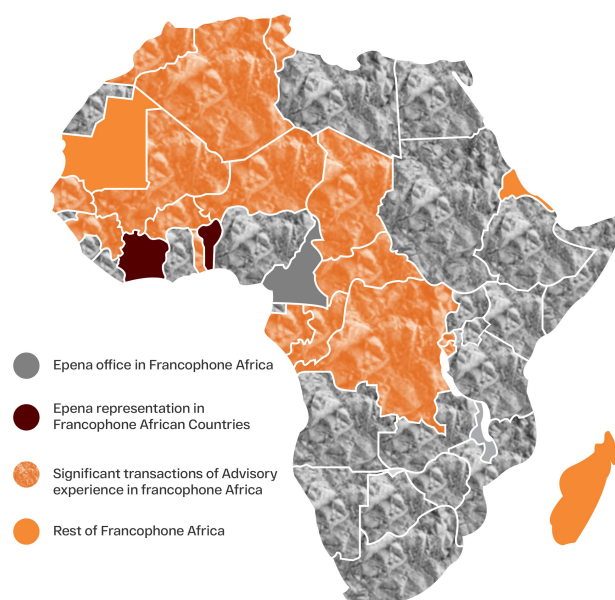
LIKE THE CITY OF EPENA, WE ARE AT THE CENTER OF THE LEGAL SCENE IN AFRICA.

With a bilingual team of attorneys dually qualified in both Civil and Common Law, holding 6 bar admissions across Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Benin and beyond, Epena Law combines deep first-hand experience and a nuanced cultural affinity in helping conclude major transactions throughout Francophone and Anglophone Africa.

This unique expertise at the intersection of Africa's legal systems and business environments allows us to adeptly guide clients towards new frontiers of sustainable growth and seamlessly smooth complexity inherent to cross-border expansion.

Through representations and a presence embedded in key African markets like Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Benin and Nigeria plus affiliations with premier law firms across Senegal, DRC and more, we serve as the gateway connecting international investors to overlooked opportunities across the Francophone sphere.

OUR PRESENCE IN FRANCOPHONE AFRICA



39YRS

combined experience
in London, Paris, New York,
Luxembourg and Africa

\$1.5B

completed transactions
in Africa in 2023

4Representations

Around The World

3BAR

Qualifications In
Francophone African
Countries

Practice Areas



Banking & Finance

We are legal advisers to banks, financial institutions, lenders, credit enhancers, borrowers and other participants in the global banking and finance arena. Due to our presence in Africa and our relationships with firms across the globe, we are able to offer top-tier legal advice from simple domestic transactions to the most complex cross-border banking and financing transactions for our clients. Moreover, because we work in tandem with other firms, it enables us to provide both local and global perspectives to structure financing transactions across the full spectrum of the industry anywhere in the world.

Our expertise includes but is not limited to:

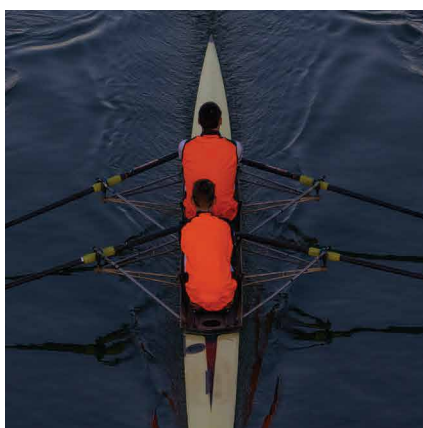
| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Asset finance | Fintech |
| Islamic finance | Capital markets |
| Structured finance | Funds and asset management, |
| Banking and financial markets | including collective investment |
| Hedge fund structuring | schemes and alternative |
| Property finance | |
| Public sector funding | |



Competition And Anti-Trust Law

Epena Law has handled precedent-setting, industry-transforming competition matters recently. We bring an innovative and unified solution to competition issues in African jurisdiction, focusing on merger clearance, foreign direct investment and compliance. We handle competition matters relating to :

- **Cross-border mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, licensing and distribution arrangements;**
- **Defending clients subject to cartel, abuse of dominance and other competition investigations.**
- **Advising and defending clients operating in regulated sectors in relation to competition matters.**
- **Advising clients on the application of competition law to commercial agreements, joint ventures, strategic alliances, business strategies and conduct.**



Corporate Governance

Epena Law supports its clients in complying with governmental rules and policies. We provide professional corporate management consultancy services to companies and ensure their compliance with the applicable rules in its day-to-day operations. We assist companies with:

Grievance Mechanisms: We prepare the company's policy documents and code of conduct. In this framework, the focus is on reducing the risks to managers. Necessary grievance and adjustment mechanisms are established to prevent the emergence of further liability and address any negative behavior in the company.

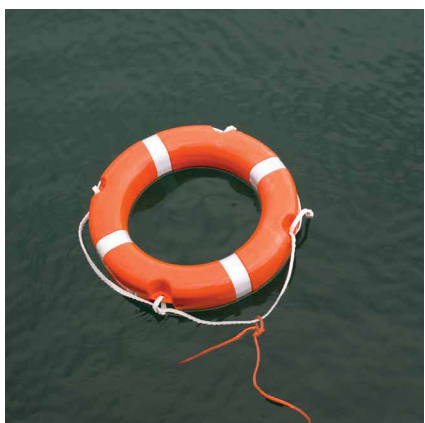
Practice Areas



Corporate Governance Continued...

Services for Foreigners: We provide services such as establishing companies in African jurisdictions, company secretarial services, keeping corporate books in accordance with the law to foreign clients. Further, we provide support in matters such as convening the ordinary general assembly once every financial year, notifications to the relevant authorities, and making proper and regular statements.

Notifications: We make notifications to the relevant authorities about corporates changes such as the appointment of the board of directors, capital increase, or change in the company structure. We equally provide support in transactions such as the registration of the minutes and resolutions prepared by the company bodies with the relevant trade registry, obtaining the necessary permits, and making the necessary notifications to the public authorities.



Dispute Resolution

Our dispute resolution approach is client facing, we accompany you, study your claim and help you choose the best path to pursue or resolve your dispute. We have the experience to escalate your claim and take or defend proceedings if required to protect your interests. Our team members and local law firm partners would act in courts and tribunals and guide you through the process.



Energy Law

Energy, whether derived from fossil fuels or renewable sources, plays a crucial role in shaping life around the world, and it holds particular significance for Africa. Over the past decade, Africa has made impressive strides in transitioning to renewable energies. As countries in the region actively seek to enhance their energy capacity, they are creating promising opportunities for interested investors. At Epena Law, we specialize in providing advisory and legal services to international clients who wish to explore the African energy market.

With our comprehensive understanding of the energy sector across Africa and the inherent challenges it poses, we assist our clients in various ways. Not only do we help them identify viable projects and stay abreast of market trends, but we also guide them through the often complex regulatory landscape. Furthermore, we facilitate the establishment of valuable partnerships between our clients and governments, local companies, and other stakeholders within the sector.

Additionally, we offer support throughout the entire life cycle of energy projects. Whether our clients require assistance with financing, obtaining approvals from relevant authorities, or restructuring projects,

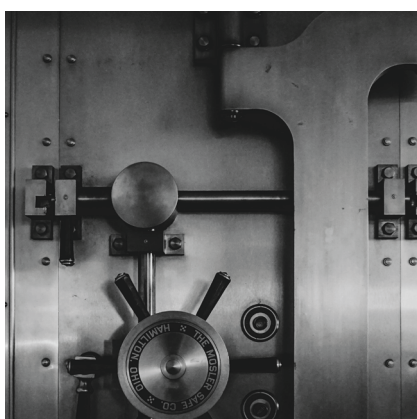
Practice Areas



Fund Structuring

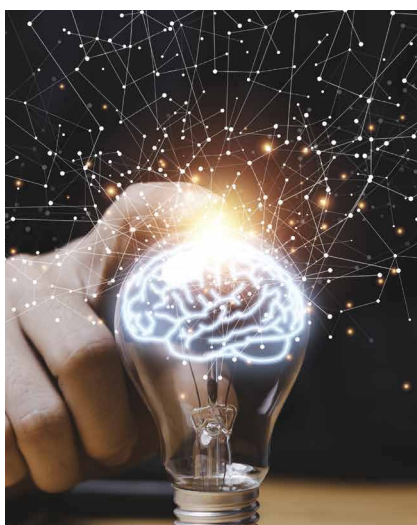
Our team comprises seasoned legal advisors specializing in bespoke investment fund structures worldwide. Leveraging factors like tax incentives, investment location, and team dynamics, we tailor fund structures across jurisdictions to align with investor needs and target industries. We aid in appointing fund managers, drafting agreements, and structuring carried interest schemes in diverse regions including Delaware, UK, France, Luxembourg, Ireland, and Mauritius, covering asset classes such as real estate, infrastructure, private equity, and VC funds.

Furthermore, we possess in-depth knowledge of fund regulations across various jurisdictions. Our expertise extends to assisting regulators in shaping fund regulations, particularly in African regions like West Africa. This unique vantage point positions us to guide and support fund managers in establishing their investment vehicles. Additionally, we facilitate the implementation process by assisting funds and fund managers in obtaining necessary regulatory licenses and approvals, ensuring comprehensive coverage across the entire investment fund sector.



Insurance

Immersed in insurance and reinsurance, Epena frequently advises all operators in this sector on a vast range of issues including but not limited to M&A's, restructuring, financings, new product development, regulatory and compliance investigations or even sanction advice. Our team assists clients in all their transactional issues but also with their litigation issues in front of civil, criminal, arbitration courts or in administrative proceedings. Because we understand the regulatory pressure on our clients as well as the challenges they face with the ever-changing regulatory environment in this sector, we strive to provide our clients with strategic regulatory insight and leverage our relationships with relevant government bodies across Africa.



Intellectual Property (IP)

Intellectual property is the most valuable asset of a wide range of businesses having a technology component, and for other businesses it is used to protect the company, commercialize its invention and attract funding and partnerships. Our team understands how essential it is for every business to act decisively to safeguard this valuable, albeit intangible, corporate asset.

We apply best practice thinking to a wide range of IP and related issues, generating distinctive and commercially minded solutions. Acting for multinationals, large local companies, and individuals, we cross borders in Africa to register and protect clients' trademarks, patents, designs, copyright, and domain names.

We negotiate and prepare agreements on the IP aspects of commercial transactions, such as those involving licensees and franchisees.

Practice Areas



Public Law / Advising Institutions

We advise African institutions on updating their regulatory arsenal and negotiating with their foreign partners.

Drawing on our many years of experience gained in the most prestigious institutions in London, Paris and New York, we are a logical extension of the institutions we advise so that they can benefit from the most expert advice, enabling them to reach balanced contracts with their international partners and protect national and regional interests. We also play an active role in updating local and international regulations to bring them into line with international standards.



Merger & Acquisition

We have deep experience in M&A across West and Central Africa, and we regularly work with local partners having industry and regulatory experience that assist us in evaluating structures, provide practical insights and guidance. Our team has in-depth experience on deals relating to regulated sectors and involving complex company structures. This knowledge is the outcome of years of practice in Europe and Africa. Our experience in the arena is unique.



Private Equity & Venture Capital

We understand each fund is unique, each private equity client of ours receives a bespoke solution to their unique goals and portfolio. We know our private equity clients are likely to have a diverse spectrum of transactions and are immersed in deals which tend to be very financially sophisticated. As such, we provide a suite of services and a range of expertise that speaks not just to private equity but also to the complementary disciplines that feed into it and are adapted to the African context. We act as sounding boards in times of uncertainty and can be relied upon to provide ahead-of-the-curve advice, positioning the fund for the greatest possible success in its dealings.

Practice Areas



Project Finance

Infrastructure development is a key driver for productivity and sustainable economic growth in Africa. Our firm understands the nuances of the African environment and takes an innovative approach to projects financing to find commercial and cost-effective solutions to manage risk and ensure the effective closing of the most complex project finance and related transactions in the continent. Epena team assists lenders, contractors, developers, and government entities in both domestic and cross-border infrastructure projects in areas such as energy, oil and gas, transport and public private partnerships. More than just legal experts, we understand the project development industry and have the technical expertise to navigate the underlying issues impacting the sector as well as its complex regulatory regimes.



Regulatory/Compliance

Members of our team have hands-on experience of implementing complex regulatory frameworks into business processes and frequently interact with regulators. We can provide you with the support you need as well as the flexibility and resources to support projects of all sizes

Dealing with the increasing complexity and volume of regulation remains a significant challenge for companies within the financial services sector. The regulator expects organizations to understand their approach and agenda and conduct their business accordingly.

We are aware of this and offer a wide range of services, whether for larger scale change programme or for more focused advice.

Innovation Characterizes our practice, we aim at helping clients realize their business goals through :

01

Counseling on delicate and strategic questions

02

Removing deal uncertainty

03

Informing on legal trends in Africa and beyond

Meet Our Team



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Some Of Our Clients



Recognition & Awards



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