



Energy &
Infrastructure
in Africa

African Wind Deal
of the Year for
our involvement
in Mainstream
Northern Cape
PFI Awards 2015

Core strengths

Simmons & Simmons has extensive experience throughout Africa, having advised on numerous domestic and cross-border projects and transactions in the energy / natural resources and infrastructure sectors. Our Africa focused team are qualified and experienced to cover the Anglophone, Francophone and Lusophone countries across the continent. We work in both North and Sub-Saharan Africa and provide legal advice on OHADA.

“It is a very fine team - they have a good business approach, they don't get bogged down and they manage the details and help guide us through problems that we really need to solve.”

Projects & Energy, Africa-wide,
Chambers Global 2016

We bring insight, innovation and legal excellence to the work that we undertake. We have the experience, skills and commitment to advise on any transaction, no matter how challenging or unusual. The quality and strength of our African practice and experience is highlighted by the fact that we are regularly instructed by some of Africa's largest privately and state owned companies to advise them on their strategic African matters.

Our services

Our international energy and infrastructure practice focuses on the following core areas in Africa:

Power

- we have a vast amount of experience of working on major power projects throughout Africa including on project development/construction, project financings and acquisitions and disposals.

Mining and metals

- we have a great deal of mining and metals related experience in over 20 countries in Africa where we advise on all aspects of the mining and metals industries from initial project development and financing through to decommissioning, as well as advising on mergers and acquisitions and joint ventures.

Oil and gas

- we have advised on some of Africa's largest and most complex upstream oil and gas projects, refineries, LNG projects, gas pipelines and on multi-million pound downstream transactions.

Infrastructure

- we have advised on numerous ports, rail and roads projects.

“Vast on-the-ground experience – very much appreciated when dealing with African countries.”

Chambers Global 2014

“A group that really knows Africa and the practical aspects of working in these countries.”

Chambers Global 2014

Recognised for our work on the “Global M&A Deal of the Year: Africa” in The American Lawyer’s Global Legal Awards 2014 for OVL in Mozambique

Expertise in practice

Examples of our recent experience include advising:

Power

- the project sponsor on the power and mining aspects of the US\$5.2bn Mmamabula coal to power project in Botswana
- an international developer on the Dibamba and Kribi greenfield IPPs in Cameroon
- the South African Government on two oil-fired OCGT peaking power plants
- the developer on a greenfield power project in the Ivory Coast
- on the Tangier and Tarfaya wind farms in Morocco as well as on the Tahaddart and Jorf-Lassfar power projects
- the sponsors on the first IWPP in Algeria and subsequently on six other Algerian power projects
- the National Energy Directorate in Mozambique on the new Electricity Law and on model concession contracts for private sector projects
- the Moroccan national power utility on a number of power plants including its first nuclear plant
- a major energy company on the development of a new 650MW CCGT Greenfield IPP project in Nigeria Masen in the context of the creation together with the Commissariat à l’Energie Atomique (CEA) of a joint research laboratory on solar energy in Morocco and France

Mining and natural resources

- a sponsor on the US\$4bn Ambatovy Nickel and Cobalt mining project in Madagascar
- on the development of and participation in the Imouraren uranium mine (the largest such mine in Africa and the second largest in the world)
- on the development of the leading copper-cobalt Kolwezi tailings project in the DRC
- on the development of the major Mbalam iron ore project in the Republic of Cameroon
- on the £8bn acquisition of a major gold mining company with projects throughout the Ivory Coast
- a major international diamond mining company on one of the largest exploration programmes in the Democratic Republic of Congo
- an international gold mining company on mining projects in the Ivory Coast and the Democratic Republic of Congo
- on the development of the English version of Algeria’s new mining code
- on the acquisition of mining projects in Zimbabwe

Oil and Gas

- as project counsel to Egyptian LNG on all aspects of the project’s development and financing
- Pico International Petroleum on the US\$350m Geisum project – Egypt’s first oil and gas privatisation
- a potential purchaser on its bid to purchase equity volumes from the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation from the proposed Olokola LNG project

- various market participants on oil and gas field borrowing-based financings in Egypt and Nigeria
- the World Bank on an oil & gas project in Angola
- the operator of the Ceiba Field on a deep water oil discovery in Equatorial Guinea

Infrastructure

- investors on the extension, rehabilitation and shared use of railway and port infrastructure in Guinea
- on the development, financing and modernisation of airports in the Democratic Republic of Congo
- on the development and operation of rail infrastructure in the Republic of Cameroon and on the construction and operation of a new port
- on the financing of hospital projects in Nigeria
- a concessionaire on the N3 toll road project in South Africa comprising an upgrade of more than 420km of the route between Durban and Johannesburg
- international banks on the N4 Platinum toll highway in South Africa (Pretoria to the Botswana border)
- South Africa Railways on the proposals of the South African Government and Transnet for the incorporation and restructuring of the various business divisions of Spoornet
- on a dispute with the Beira Port Authority, Mozambique

Key international contacts

Key contact biographies can be viewed at simmons-simmons.com

Luc Cohen

Amsterdam

T +31 20 722 2313

E luc.cohen@simmons-simmons.com

Eric Lin

Beijing

T +86 10 8588 4518

E eric.lin@simmons-simmons.com

Davis Wang

Beijing

T +86 10 8588 4501

E davis.wang@simmons-simmons.com

Vivien Yang

Hong Kong

T +852 2583 8272

E vivien.yang@simmons-simmons.com

Adam Cooper

London

T +44 20 7825 3431

E adam.cooper@simmons-simmons.com

Iain Duncan

London

T +44 20 7825 3137

E iain.duncan@simmons-simmons.com

Steven McNab

London

T +44 20 7825 3171

E steven.mcnab@simmons-simmons.com

Juliet Reingold

London

T +44 20 7825 4397

E juliet.reingold@simmons-simmons.com

Patrick Wallace

London

T +44 20 7825 3082

E patrick.wallace@simmons-simmons.com

Peter Wright

London

T +44 20 7825 4628

E peter.wright@simmons-simmons.com

Yves Baratte

Paris

T +33 1 53 29 16 14

E yves.baratte@simmons-simmons.com

Simonetta Giordano

Paris

T +33 1 53 29 16 74

E simonetta.giordano@simmons-simmons.com

Dan Marjanovic

Singapore

T +656 831 5686

E dan.marjanovic@simmons-simmons.com

Richard Kramer

Tokyo

T +81 3 6438 5259

E richard.kramer@simmons-simmons.com

simmons-simmons.com

elexica.com

[@SimmonsLLP](https://twitter.com/SimmonsLLP)

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