

Global Scholarships Program

Future Leaders



Introduction

Meet our Fellows

Global Scholarships Program

Further information

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For further information on our Global Scholarships Program and how to apply visit: [www.dlapiper.com/Global Scholarships Program](http://www.dlapiper.com/Global_Scholarships_Program)



Cohort 1 and DLA Piper staff at the firm's London office during the June 2019 leadership course

DLA Piper Fellows

Home-grown future lawyers and leaders

Talent is everywhere; opportunity is not. Let that sink in before you read on.

To help address this imbalance, DLA Piper developed its Global Scholarships Program, launched in 2017. It's an ambitious effort to bridge the opportunity gap in Africa, South and West Asia, the South Pacific and Latin America, with input from clients, governments, NGO partners and universities.

The firm awards two-year scholarships to talented law students from underrepresented groups. These groups include young people from low socioeconomic backgrounds and those living with a disability and/or from ethnic minority groups. The focus is identifying potential in young people for whom a scholarship will be life changing.

Before applying to the program, the students have proved their worth and tenacity through studies. Each is in the top 10% of their class or on target to achieve a first-class degree. The firm identifies people who have an innate desire to make an impact in their home countries, among other criteria.

Once on the program, these students are known as DLA Piper Fellows.

The scholarships empower Fellows to become the best lawyers and leaders they can be. The program provides learning and leadership opportunities to support their aspirations and develop their confidence. Through access to role models, tuition, local and international mentoring, and other activities, Fellows develop their skills and build networks to support their futures.

There are paid internships at the firm and with clients, as well as paid (by the firm) pro bono work opportunities. Additionally, the induction week in Africa and the leadership course with Saïd Business School at the University of Oxford allow Fellows to meet in person and benefit from the relationships they form with each other.

On completing the program, they join the scholarship's alumni networks, widening their connections with peers and professionals.

The long-term goal is to give Fellows the skills to pursue successful careers in commercial, community or public service settings, where they can develop the rule of law and increase access to justice in their home countries and beyond.

Whichever setting they choose, Fellows leave the program equipped with the tools and contacts they need.

The program is a business priority. So the firm's global co-chairs, Jon Hayes and Frank Ryan, co-chair the Global Scholarships Program board. Former global co-chairs Andrew Darwin and Roger Meltzer led the board at the start. Roger handed over to Frank in 2021, and Andrew to Jon in 2022.

Leadership from the top has been vital to success. "To achieve sustainable development in emerging markets, you need successful and stable commerce," Andrew Darwin says. "You also need a strong focus on the rule of law. This comes from having an effective and influential legal profession. The foundation of that is good legal education. As a global law firm, we have seen the challenges of access to education, and the Global Scholarships Program is our response to that."

To honor Andrew Darwin's contribution, the firm has set up a special fund to enrich the scholarship and provide more opportunities for young people.

The Global Scholarships Program also involves partners from across the world, including three trustees from Mozambique, South Africa and Morocco. Contributions from these board members enhance the program and support the firm's objective to genuinely respond to the needs of the communities we work in.

The Fellows will tell you more.



Global Co-Chair, Andrew Darwin (right), catches up with Fellows after a client panel discussion



“The Global Scholarships Program brings to bear all of the resources from our global firm to support and propel the next generation of gifted leaders into successful careers, in both the legal sector and beyond.

It is unparalleled in terms of investment, ambition and impact. It’s a program DLA Piper is uniquely positioned to deliver.”

— Nicolas Patrick,
Head of Responsible Business, International



Fellows, DLA Piper staff and course facilitators from Said Business School during the 2022 leadership course in London



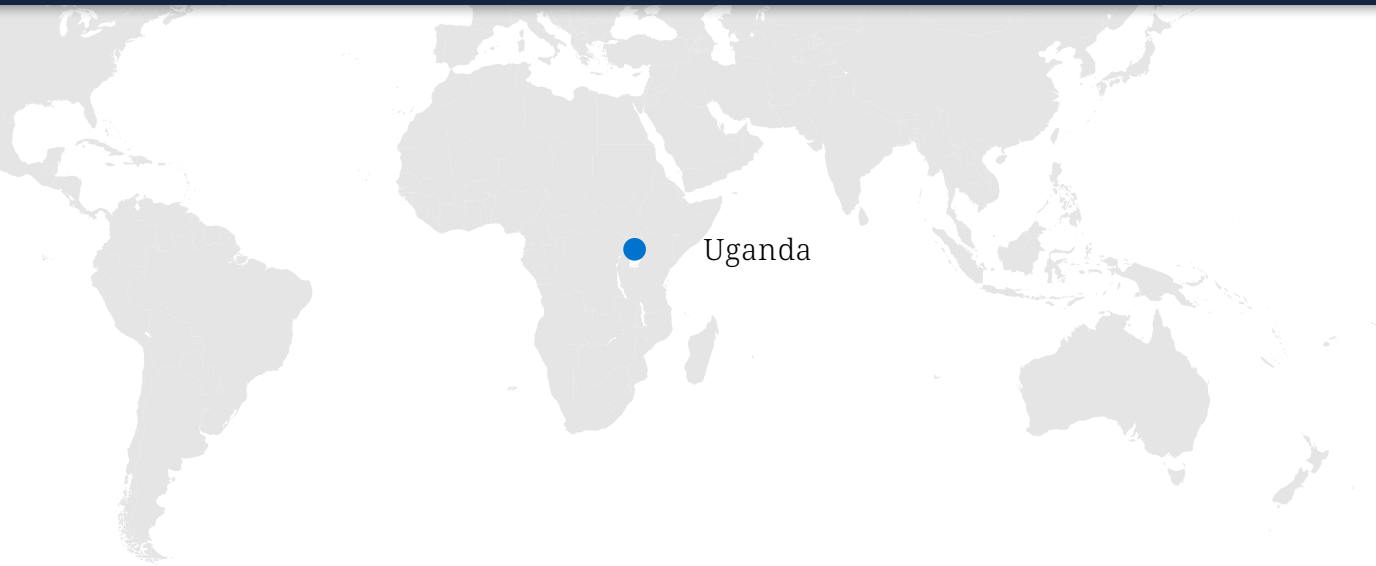
Papua New Guinea ●

Talitha Kumi Geparo

The University of the South Pacific graduate
and DLA Piper Fellow

The scholarship's financial support gave Talitha the chance to gain both her LLB and her Diploma in Professional Legal Practice. She says, "The program increased my self-belief. Finding out firsthand that the firm is genuinely interested in helping underprivileged, talented young people into the legal profession has been uplifting."

Talitha Kumi Geparo pictured at the Malvatumauri Council of Chiefs' building, Vanuatu, which signifies the unity of formal and customary decision-making



Daniel Nasasira

Makerere University graduate
and DLA Piper Fellow

Daniel's favorite parts of the program were the leadership course, mentorship program and work placements – both in the UK and in the Middle East. He says, “The placements in particular exposed me to real-life work experiences. They’ve strengthened my CV and given me an edge.” Daniel is studying to become a chartered governance professional – on the way to boardroom responsibility.

Daniel Nasasira taking a break at London Square
during his internship placement in London



“The placements in particular exposed me to real-life work experiences.”



Guekleng Bo pictured at Ta Prohm Temple, Cambodia



Cambodia

Guekleng Bo

Royal University of Law and Economics graduate
and DLA Piper Fellow

The program is designed to meet the needs of each student. One big difference Guekleng's noticed in herself since starting the program is her improved ability to face and overcome challenges. Besides, Guekleng says, "My long-term ambition is to become a lawyer. And the financial support for my master's degree in particular has meant I've sharpened my skills and knowledge in many areas."



Mozambique

Idanês Eduarda Pessuro

Eduardo Mondlane University graduate and
DLA Piper Fellow

Since starting the program, Idanês has noticed that she's no longer limited by her dreams. She says, "My ambition is to become a good lawyer. The program has helped a lot by opening countless doors and surrounding me with inspirational people." For Idanês, with the help of the courses, support and mentoring, there are no more barriers.



Idanês Eduarda Pessuro pictured in Bairro Chamanculo, Maputo City, Mozambique – a reminder, Idanês says, that where she's from doesn't define her future



“I’ve made so many friends around the world, and they continue to help my personal and professional development.”



Celvicita De Paula Victor Munguambe

Eduardo Mondlane University graduate
and DLA Piper Fellow

Contacts made on the program broaden the Fellows’ views. Celvicita says, “The trips, training and alumni networks were crucial to me. I’ve made so many friends around the world, and they continue to help my personal and professional development. I am truly grateful.”

Celvicita hopes to become an international arbitration lawyer, then undertake a master’s in international dispute resolution.

Celvicita De Paula Victor Munguambe walking along Little Britain, London, UK. To Celvicita, it means the alpha and omega – where nothing is impossible, and everything is possible



María José Barrientos

Universidad Rafael Landívar graduate
and DLA Piper Fellow

The program helped María understand the importance of the rule of law and human rights. She says, "It allowed me to study courses that I otherwise wouldn't have been able to. I'm certain it will broaden my opportunities."

María José Barrientos at the Quetzaltenango Municipal Theatre, Guatemala, which, to María, represents the importance of culture and knowledge





Semhal Geberkirstos

Georgetown University graduate and
DLA Piper Fellow

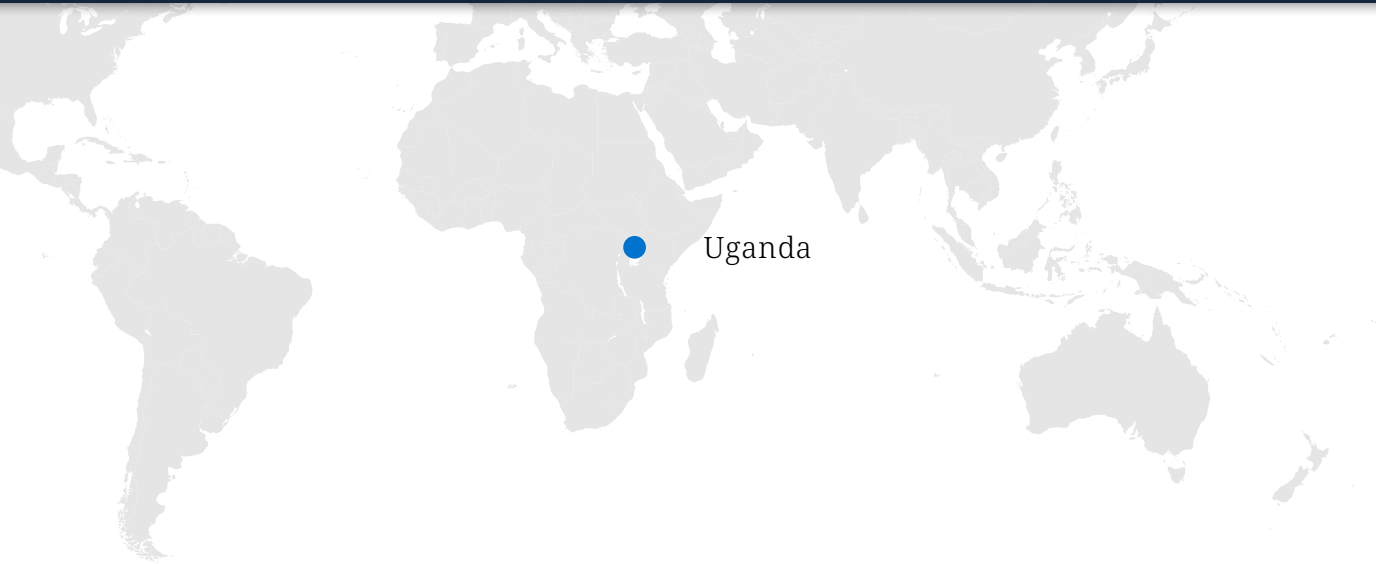
The Fellows' journeys with the firm don't stop when the program ends. Support continues with the two alumni networks, which Semhal says "integrated me into a global network of lawyers."

"I will forever treasure the hugely positive impact the program has had on my life," she says. "It always makes me think about how I can pay it forward."

Semhal Geberkirstos outside Georgetown University in the US, where she's studying for her LLM



Semhal Geberkirstos (center) with Robera Haile Hamda (left) and Daniel Nasasira (right). The photo was taken in London during the leadership development training



Uganda

Abbas Luyombo

Makerere University graduate
and DLA Piper Fellow

Abbas has an internship lined up at Unilever. Then, he intends to complete his bar course at the Law Development Centre, Uganda, and has plans to do a master's. Abbas says, "I've enjoyed a great mentorship program with Jon Hayes, Tom Heylen and Andrew Darwin, which has proved to be a compass in my personal and professional growth. I hold them all dearly."

Abbas Luyombo at the Makerere University
Freedom Square, Uganda, a symbol of
freedom and the rule of law





“My wish is to make a real difference in the areas I practice.”



Mozambique ●

Ester Da Conceição Baptista Arouca Antonio

Eduardo Mondlane University graduate and
DLA Piper Fellow

For Ester, the mentoring program and internship training at SAL & Caldeira Advogados in Maputo and the virtual academic and professional development training were the best parts of the program. She says, “They changed the way I think and the way I plan my career for the future. My wish is to acquire a law license, study for a master’s in finance law and business, and make a real difference in the areas I practice.”

Ester Da Conceição Baptista Arouca Antonio pictured in Mafalala, a peri-urban suburb of Maputo, Mozambique, which Ester no longer feels limits her ambitions




Sera Grace Katrina Mwale

The University of Zambia graduate and
DLA Piper Fellow


An internship in Dubai exposed Sera to the workings of an international law firm. How practice groups collaborate toward a common goal, for example. And how the legal system operates in the UAE. Sera says, "I've had opportunities that I could never even have dreamed of before. Along the way, I've built a lifelong professional network."

Sera Grace Katrina Mwale pictured at Zambia National Museum – significant to Sera because it denotes the history of her country





*“There are no limits
to what’s possible
through hard work
and perseverance.”*



Kawbe Nkunta

The University of Zambia graduate and
DLA Piper Fellow

Changing lives and opening doors is a common outcome of the program. Kawbe says, “I’m convinced the training has given me knowledge that will shape not only my legal career but also my entire being going forward.”

Taking part in the Program increases self-confidence and the ability to achieve. Kawbe says, “It’s proof there are no limits to what’s possible through hard work and perseverance.”



Ida Jetta

University of The Gambia graduate
and DLA Piper Fellow

Before the program, Ida often shied away from opportunities because she doubted her abilities. Now, she pushes herself outside her comfort zone. She says, "I want to become attorney general of The Gambia. I want to influence policy, propose legislation and ensure the rule of law, democracy and good governance." The program laid the foundation for those ambitions.

Ida Jetta pictured at her graduation.
For Ida, red symbolizes action, courage,
confidence and determination – qualities
that led to her LLB cum laude





“I hope to continue working wherever I can make the biggest improvement to the lives of the most people.”



Javier Urizar Montes De Oca

Universidad Rafael Landívar graduate and DLA Piper Fellow

Until the program, Javier never knew how to turn his lifelong dream of working at an international human rights NGO into reality. He says, “I became more knowledgeable during the program and more aware of my privilege and my duty to use it for the benefit of others.”

“I hope to continue working wherever I can make the biggest improvement to the lives of the most people.”

Javier Urizar Montes De Oca at home in Guatemala with his two best friends



Javier Urizar Montes De Oca at Smithfield Market, London, UK, which captures the fun side of the program



Gratien Ngarukiye

National University of Rwanda graduate and
DLA Piper Fellow

The program has turned Gratien into a better version of himself both personally and professionally. "Throughout the program, I was inspired to defy any odds and attain greater heights," he says. Top of Gratien's wish list is to become a prominent, well-established lawyer. And he's confident the program has equipped him with the necessary skills to continue his self-development.



Gratien Ngarukiye in
downtown Kigali City,
Rwanda – a cue, he says,
to keep thinking big



Monykeo Sim

Panhasastra University of Cambodia
graduate and DLA Piper Fellow

The program offers opportunities for growth and development. Monykeo says, "Getting one-on-one mentoring from practicing lawyers and the support from the Global Scholarships Program team was invaluable. I'm certain I can achieve my goal of becoming an associate within two years."



Monykeo Sim pictured near Angkor Wat,
a temple complex in Cambodia



Eduardo Josue Rodas

Escuela Superior de Economía y Negocios graduate
and DLA Piper Fellow

The program has helped Eduardo grow personally and professionally in many ways. He says, "I've been inspired by the people I connected with during the program, especially my mentors and the other Fellows. The experience has equipped me with leadership skills that will help me contribute to the rule of law in my country."

Eduardo Josue Rodas outside Guildhall,
City of London Corporation, UK – an
inspiring experience that helped him grow
personally and professionally



“The leadership course with Saïd Business School was transformative.”



Gervis Tumusifu Nizeyimana

National University of Rwanda graduate and DLA Piper Fellow

“The leadership course with Saïd Business School was transformative,” Gervis says. “It allowed me to reflect on myself, my journey and my commitments in the future as a lawyer.”

In the long term, Gervis plans to contribute to the rule of law in Rwanda both as a practicing lawyer and as a university lecturer.

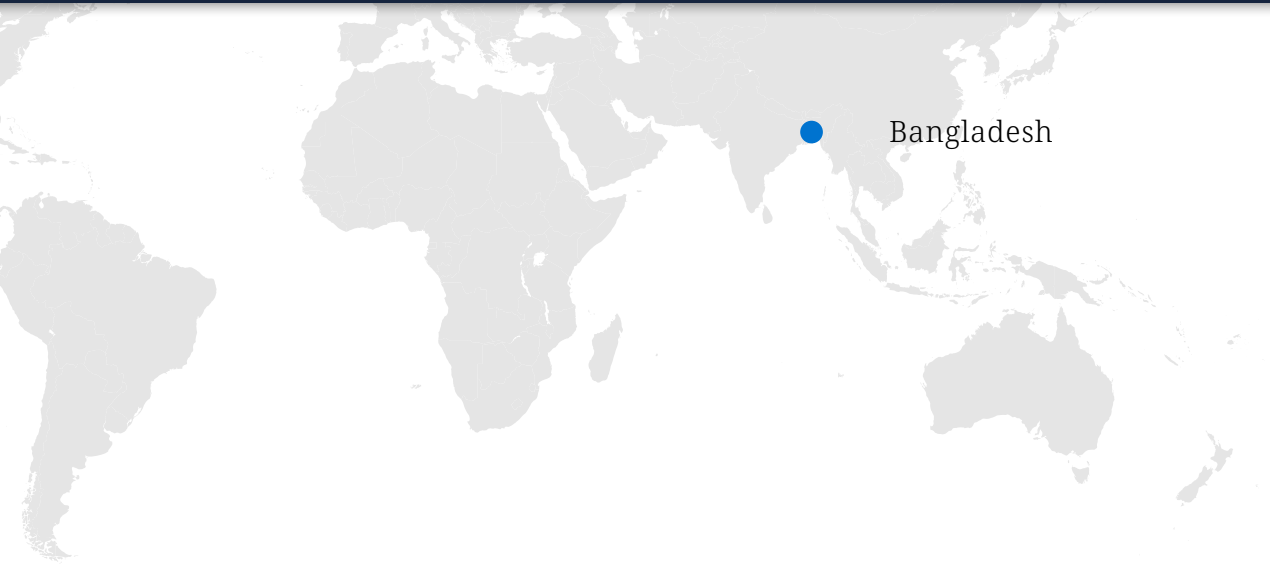
Gervis Tumusifu Nizeyimana taking a well-earned break in Smithfield, London, UK



Rwanda

Gervis Tumusifu Nizeyimana in Kigali's car-free zone, Rwanda. The program has broadened his views about the law





Bangladesh

Kalyan Chakroborty

North South University graduate
and DLA Piper Fellow

Kalyan says, "I have always wanted to do something for the betterment of humankind. Through mentoring, leadership training and much more, the program has supported me to run after my dreams." Kalyan has become more confident in every aspect of his work and life. The program has, he says, enriched his leadership and business communication skills.



Kalyan Chakroborty outside Guildhall, home to the City of London Corporation, UK



Afghanistan ●

Basia Ahmadi

Khatam Al-Nabieen University graduate
and DLA Piper Fellow

Basia had planned to become a lawyer in Afghanistan, but the collapse of the government made this impossible. Undeterred, she wants to qualify in the UK and help people in both the UK and Afghanistan. Basia says, "Collaborating with Fellows from various countries, I learned that we all have similar hopes and dreams – to help and support people whenever possible."

Basia Ahmadi pictured outside Princes Exchange, the firm's Leeds office, in the UK. Her goals remain intact despite having to flee Afghanistan at short notice



Rwanda

Deogratias Nteziryayo

University of Rwanda graduate and
DLA Piper Fellow

Without doubt, the program has had a profound effect on Deogratias's professional life. It's fueled his ambition to contribute toward a just society.

Deogratias says, "I like to look for challenges outside my comfort zone, where I can learn more while putting my talents to good use. Always at the top of my mind is working to the highest ethical standard."

Deogratias Nteziryayo in Salters' Garden,
London, UK, part of The Salters' Company,
one of the Great 12 Livery Companies



*“Always at the
top of my mind is
working to the highest
ethical standard.”*



Afghanistan ●

Fahim Ibrahimi

Kardan University graduate and DLA Piper Fellow

Fahim notes the program reshaped his life. He says, "The training and mentoring helped me overcome challenges in my personal life. And professionally, they've helped me develop my leadership style." Equally valuable, Fahim feels, was sharing stories with other Fellows about their cultures and communities.

After the program, Fahim relocated from Afghanistan to the UK and joined the firm as a paralegal.

Fahim Ibrahimi pictured in Leeds, UK, near our Princes Exchange office. He'd dreamed about working at the firm, and it became a reality.



Myanmar

Nwe Mon Mon Oo (front right), a vice-president of academic activities at the Asian Law Students' Association Myanmar, pictured visiting Monywa in Sagaing Region, Myanmar

Nwe Mon Mon Oo

University of Yangon graduate and DLA Piper Fellow

Fellows have access to much more than the core program. Nwe took up the wellbeing support, English language courses and Advocates for International Development law and development programs. Nwe says, "Throughout the program, from the leadership course to the many other training sessions, I met and worked with some amazing people. All in all, this helped me see different perspectives."



Nwe Mon Mon Oo during a visit to Twantay, Myanmar



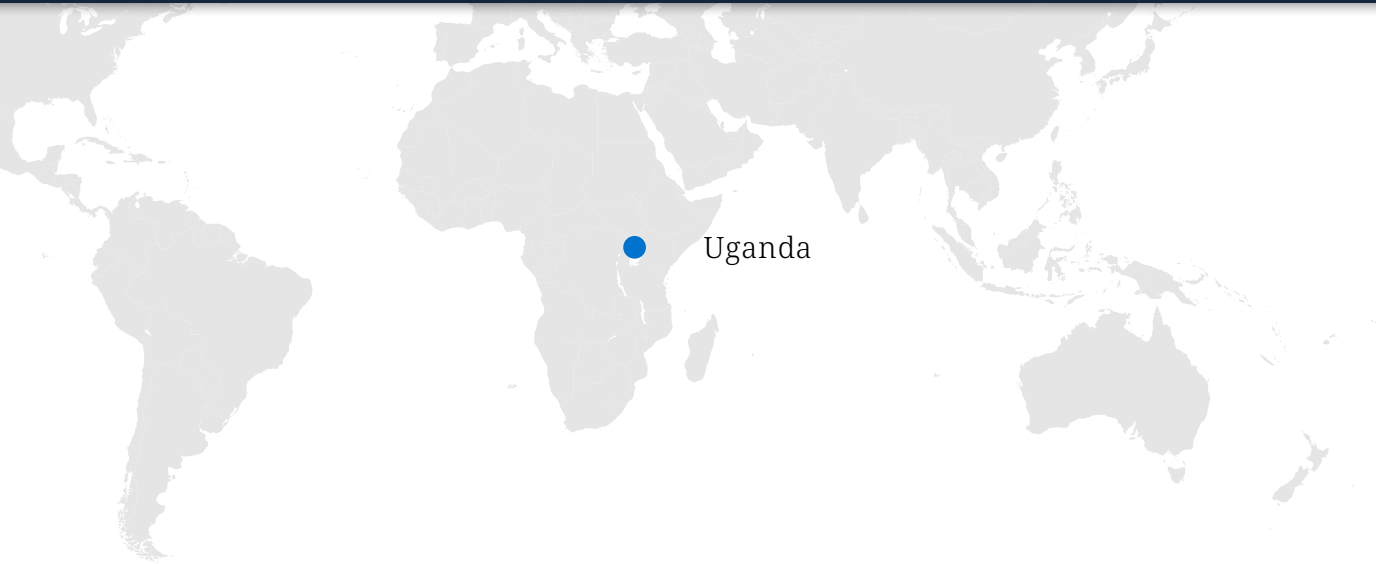
Bangladesh ●

Sabiha Mehzabin Oishee

North South University graduate and
DLA Piper Fellow

Sabiha says, "I met some extremely inspiring people – talented, passionate lawyers – while on the program, and the two alumni networks help us keep in touch." Sabiha also took part in seminars and discussions, which helped change her perspectives for the better.

Sabiha Mehzabin Oishee with her parents at the National Parliament of Bangladesh, which symbolizes her love and respect for the country



Uganda

Winston Churchill Ruhayana

Makerere University graduate and
DLA Piper Fellow

“The program has turned my life around,” Winston says. Work experience at the firm’s Dubai office has boosted his confidence. He feels reassured that anything’s possible regardless of where you start off. And a pro bono work placement with the International Service for Human Rights has proved to him how vital lawyers are to good governance and the rule of law.

Winston Churchill Ruhayana pictured in the City of London, UK, reflecting on an exciting future as a lawyer





“The course at Saïd Business School taught me to be a leader at home, in the workplace and in the community.”



Rwanda ●

Bosco Iyakaremye

National University of Rwanda graduate
and DLA Piper Fellow

The program played a large part in Bosco setting a direction for himself. He credits the mentoring with helping establish a self-development plan and the leadership course with a renewed mindset. Bosco says, “The course at Saïd Business School taught me to be a leader at home, in the workplace and in the community.”

Bosco Iyakaremye pictured outside Old Billingsgate Market, London, UK



Fatoumatta A Camara

University of The Gambia graduate and
DLA Piper Fellow

Fatoumatta describes the program as “the most incredible opportunity” in her academic journey. She says, “The one-on-one mentoring helped me figure out a clear career path. In fact, so much so that in the long run, I want to become the Speaker of the National Assembly to influence laws and policies on consumer protection in my country.”



Fatoumatta A Camara wearing an African print outfit, which is customary on Fridays in The Gambia



Malisone Noymany

National University of Laos graduate and
DLA Piper Fellow

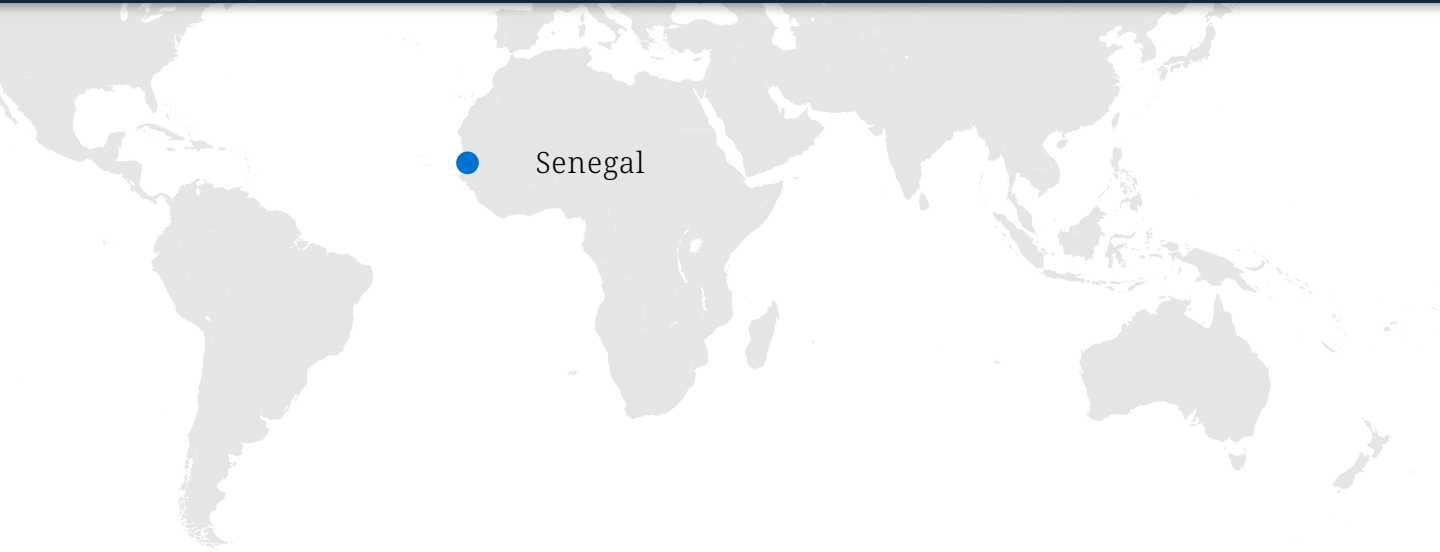
Throughout the program, Fellows rely on the alumni networks. They catch up with each other, discuss their current roles and share their experiences. Malisone says, "The alumni networks – meeting lots of people from diverse backgrounds – are just fantastic. I also found the leadership training eye opening, especially the soft skills."

Malisone Noymany pictured in
Luang Prabang, Northern Laos



Malisone Noymany pictured in Kenya, where she
first met the other Fellows in her cohort





Laetitia C Da Costa

Toulouse 1 University Capitole graduate and
DLA Piper Fellow

Laetitia found the program hard, yet she kept going. "I'm much more confident today than when I started the program," she says. "After my internships in Dubai, Paris and Morocco, I realized my strengths and weaknesses, and the direction I want to go in."

Long term, Laetitia wants to combine law and psychology to create a real social impact.

Laetitia C Da Costa pictured in London, UK, while on the program – an adventure she describes as originally unplanned, but incredibly revealing



"I'm much more confident today than when I started the program."



Grace Waiswa Nsaana

Makerere University graduate and
DLA Piper Fellow

Under the mentorship of Drew Moss and Tom Heylen, Grace has become a better problem-solver and decision-maker. And he's much more interested in serving others for the greater good.

Grace says, "I want to become a corporate lawyer, a global leader in a multinational law firm or NGO, or a government diplomat. I am hopeful the skills I've learned can propel me to my dream."

Grace Waiswa Nsaana pictured at Makerere University, Uganda, where his journey with the program began



Uganda ●





Oscar Alfredo Fernandez

Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Honduras
graduate and DLA Piper Fellow

The program helped Oscar fulfill his dreams. He says, “I’ve had fantastic opportunities – traveled, learned both from and about different cultures, and taken part in investigations. And now I’m a lawyer in Honduras.”

Oscar puts this down to the program, which gave him confidence and self-belief. Having an international network has been an asset as well.



“I’ve had fantastic opportunities.”



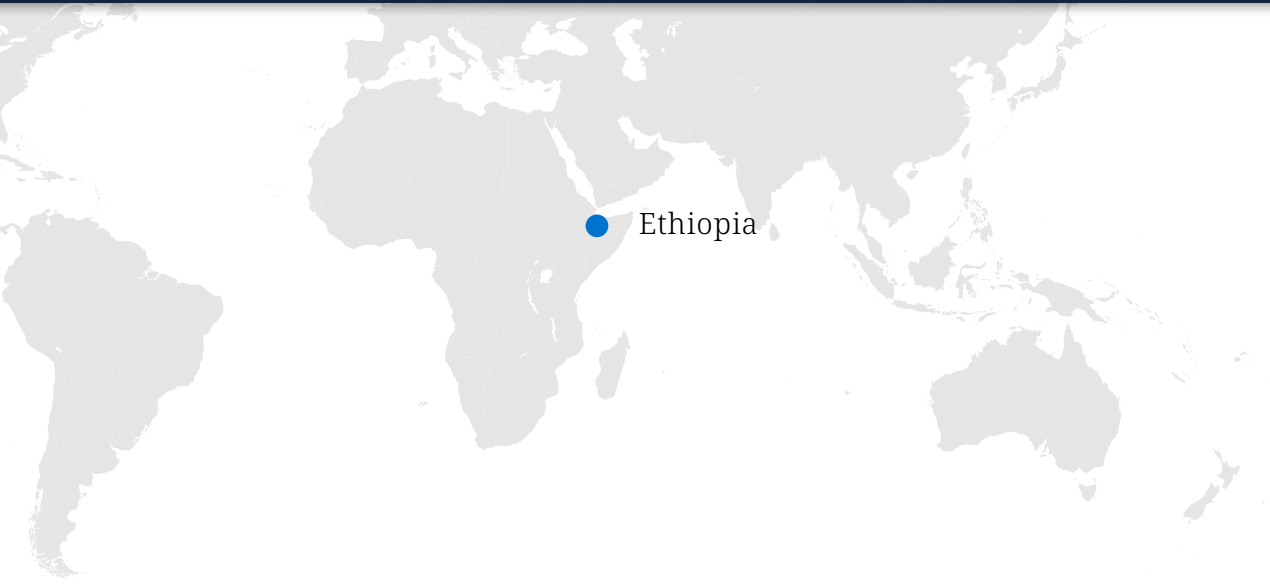
Mercy Awino

Makerere University graduate and
DLA Piper Fellow

The program marked the first time Mercy had traveled outside Africa, which she likens to “a baptism” into her calling. She says, “Having spoken to people who have trodden the path I want to follow, I’ve made better choices. And it’s helped me focus on the career I want for myself.”

Most of all, Mercy says, the mentorship is incredible.

Mercy Awino outside Guildhall, home to the City of London Corporation, UK, during a visit that strengthened her resolve on the program



● Ethiopia

Robera Haile Hamda

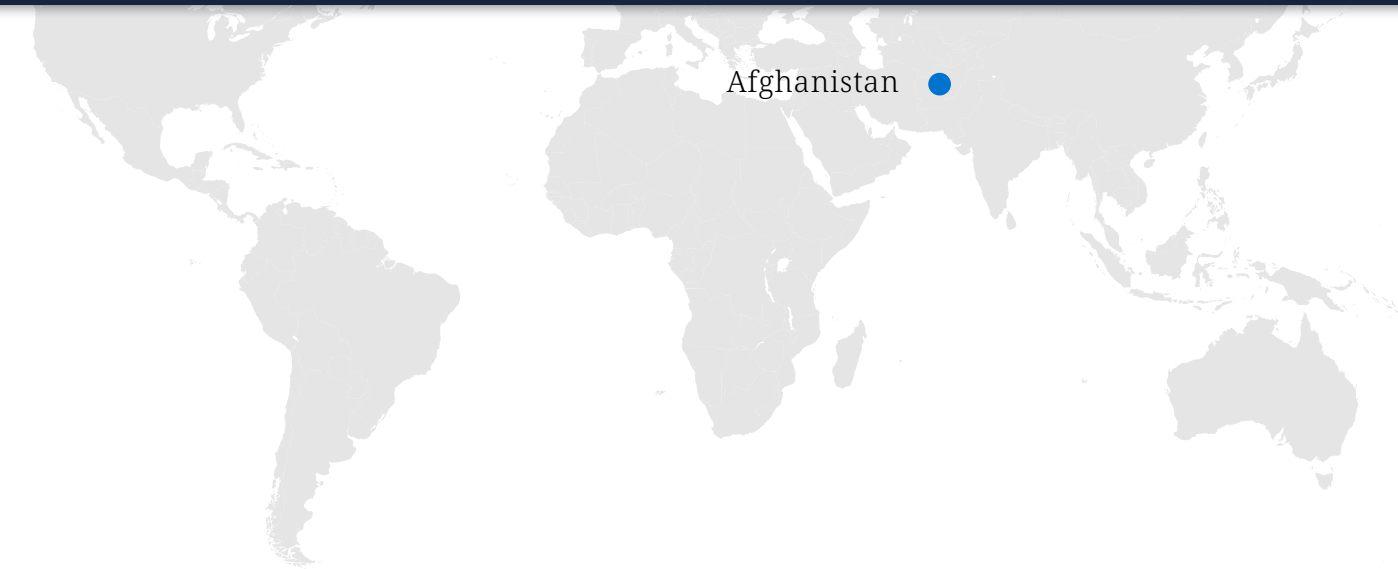
Addis Ababa University graduate
and DLA Piper Fellow

The program helped Robera visualize opportunities he couldn't imagine before. He says, "Had it not been for the training, mentoring and financial support, I wouldn't be able to achieve my goals." Robera continues to use the alumni networks to stay in touch and to build professional relationships worldwide.



Robera Haile Hamda pictured at The Royal Courts of Justice, UK, during an internship at the firm's London office

*“It has encouraged
my search for the
leader within me.”*



Sadaf Framarz

Kabul University graduate and DLA Piper Fellow

Sadaf has found the program inspiring. She says, “It has encouraged my search for the leader within me, and it’s helped me develop the traits to lead.” Sadaf has also used her new-found skills to support community members, either through education or general life skills.

Sadaf Framarz pictured near Princes Exchange, the firm’s Leeds office, in the UK. The program led to Sadaf working at the firm after she was forced to flee Afghanistan



Mozambique

Sebastião Pangaya

Eduardo Mondlane University graduate and
DLA Piper Fellow

The opportunity to meet and work with people from different countries exposes Fellows to the wider world. It changes lives. Sebastião says, "When I applied, I was a student trying to achieve my dreams. Nowadays, I know I'm on track to achieve them." He says the tools, support and inspiration on the program have played a big part.



Sebastião Pangaya pictured at Independence Square in Maputo, Mozambique. The program has honed Sebastião's skills, making him more independent



Sohy Veth

Royal University of Law and Economics graduate and DLA Piper Fellow

Sohy calls the program “one of the greatest gifts that ever happened to me.” He says, “It’s a great opportunity to develop both my personal and my professional skills. It’s like a dream come true.”

The biggest takeaway from Sohy’s internship at Japan Tobacco International was to be ready to learn and to always say “yes”. The Global Scholarships Program’s core modules also played a critical role in enabling Sohy to perform his duties in this placement.

Sohy Veth pictured in his home country, Cambodia



Sohy Veth at a leadership development course at the firm’s office in London, UK

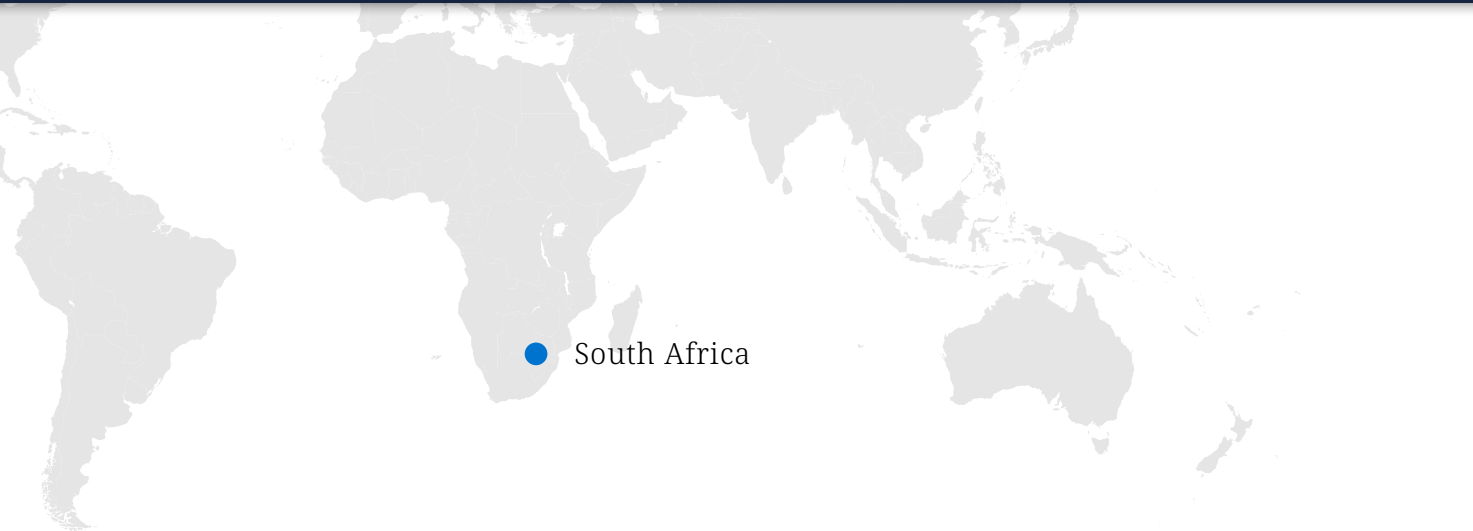


Fatoumatta A Camara (center), a cohort 3 Fellow, at a client panel discussion during the leadership course in London



Deogratias Nteziryayo (center), a cohort 3 Fellow from Rwanda, talks with his DLA Piper Senior Sponsor, Howard Bassford, at a Goodenough College event in London





● South Africa

Mthusi Morebodi

Global Scholarships Program Manager

"I am grateful to DLA Piper's Global Scholarships Program for giving me the opportunity to connect talent to opportunities. This has been a perfect platform to fulfill my passion and strong desire to see meaningful change in young people's lives. The exciting aspect of my role is that no day is ever the same for me. Over the last year and a half, I have been challenged differently every day. I have a passion for people development and social upliftment, and my role as the Global Scholarships Program Manager plays to this passion and strength."

Global Scholarships Program Manager
Mthusi Morebodi at DLA Piper's London office



“It has been a privilege and pleasure to work with the Global Scholarships Program team at DLA Piper. The opportunity to spend time with the talented law students and lawyers who have been a part of the program has been a real gift. We have been fortunate to host Fellows in our Washington, DC office for visits. The Fellows’ accomplishments and determination to promote the rule of law and access to justice around the world are an inspiration. We are grateful for the firm’s leadership and vision for this ambitious program.”

— Lisa Dewey, Pro Bono Partner

“Access to an effective legal system is key both for economic growth and for lifting people and countries out of poverty. By supporting the next generation of lawyers in these countries, we are investing in the rule of law and promoting access to justice around the world.”

— Claire Donse, Pro Bono Partner



Lisa Dewey (left), Pro Bono Partner;
Nicolas Patrick (center), Head of Responsible Business, International;
Claire Donse (right), Pro Bono Partner



Cohorts 2, 3 and DLA Piper staff at the firm's London office during the June 2022 leadership course

Applying to the Global Scholarships Program

The Global Scholarships Program was designed to empower and practically support talented law students who are facing economic, cultural and/or physical challenges to completing their law degrees and pursuing their professional goals. We recognize that in many of the countries in which we work there are multiple barriers to young people studying law. This program endeavors to alleviate these barriers and recognizes talent and potential above all else. The goal of the program is to enrich the legal profession in less developed countries and to ensure it reflects these communities.

To be eligible for the program, students must be high performing, have been identified as having leadership potential by their universities and must articulate how the scholarship will transform their education journey.

For more information on the program and details on how to apply, please visit:

www.dlapiper.com/gsp.