

A DECADE OF IMPACT



“Through the pages of this book, our pro bono clients and our community partners speak of the impact DLA Piper has achieved.

As a leading global business law firm, we work alongside governments, UN agencies, universities and civil society organisations to accelerate the pace of change, develop innovative solutions, solve complex challenges, nurture talent, reform legislation, build capacity and promote inclusivity.

What emerges from these pages is the clear sense that DLA Piper has truly extraordinary reach and depth of resource with which to create real and lasting impact in the world. This capability gives rise to an imperative to act, and our people have enthusiastically embraced every opportunity to make a positive impact in their communities.”

Jon Hayes

Senior Partner and Global Co-Chair DLA Piper



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“Our commitment to creating positive change in the world is linked to our values and our unique culture, but the most important ingredient for success is leadership.”

Nicolas Patrick

Pro-bono partner, DLA Piper

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“Our commitment to pro bono work reflects our broader dedication to social responsibility. We believe that as a global law firm, we have a duty to contribute positively to society.”

Simon Levine

Managing Partner and Global Co-CEO of DLA Piper
(2014–2024)



*“Simon Levine, global co-chief executive of DLA Piper, stands out for identifying and prioritising the prerequisites for innovation: **access to capital; human-centred design thinking; and space to experiment.**”*

| Financial Times

41%
reduction
in carbon
emissions
since our
2019 baseline

“We aspire to be at the forefront of multi-stakeholder engagement on climate change. Our commitment to achieving net zero by 2040 is a testament to our dedication to making a positive impact on the environment and society.”

Jon Hayes

Senior Partner and Global Co-Chair DLA Piper



Sixfold increase in revenue for early-stage startup

Hatch supports entrepreneurs from diverse, under-served communities to grow smart business ideas into successful, profitable and sustainable businesses.

In partnership with Hatch in the UK, and similar nonprofits in other countries, we support early-stage, minority-owned businesses to develop and implement ambitious growth plans.



“Working with DLA Piper, we outsourced our fulfilment operations, hired two more contractors, and increased our revenue six-fold, which I’m proud of.”

Support from DLA Piper has been invaluable to our business success.”

Tahlia Grey

Founder and CEO, Sheer Chemistry

Enhanced strategies to combat racism in sport

Following a spate of high-profile instances of racism in sports in 2020, we published a white paper identifying opportunities for reform.

Virtually all sports governing bodies have implemented enhanced strategies to combat racism, and they've acknowledged the need for continuous improvement.



Managing Partner and Global Co-CEO of DLA Piper (2014-2024) Simon Levine, speaking at the Conduit Club on the need for legal reform to address racism in sports.



“It is time to confront racism and inequality that exists across sport, from grassroots participation through to the boardroom.”

Statement published in 2020 by more than 80 Sports Governing Bodies.



“After years of despair, I can finally see a future...”

My life and my future in Mogadishu, Somalia, came to an end when I was targeted by militant terrorists who were part of Al-Shabaab. DLA Piper lawyers helped me compile evidence, appeal an earlier refusal, and secure visas so I could be reunited with my brothers in London.”

Nafisa
(pro bono client)

We've helped thousands of people with refugee claims, family reunions and resettlement.

Business leaders come together on climate and displacement

DLA Piper has used its convening power to bring the private sector together with UNHCR at major events such as the Climate Change negotiations (COP) and the World Economic Forum (WEF).



JP Douglas-Henry and Filippo Grandi, UN High Commissioner for Refugees.

“Business can make a contribution to both addressing the root causes and the impacts of climate change.”

JP Douglas-Henry

Managing Director Asia Pacific and Sustainability DLA Piper

“DLA Piper’s teams have taken the time to get to know us, what we do, and most importantly have got to know refugees and their hopes and dreams.”

Lance Bartholomeusz

General Counsel and Head, Legal Affairs Service, UNHCR

A global commitment to a global crisis

Since 2012 we've provided over 18,500 hours of pro bono legal support for UNHCR's work globally.

“DLA Piper has announced a new partnership with the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) to develop innovative responses to the global refugee crisis, enhance refugee integration and advocate for impactful, systemic change.”

| The Lawyer Magazine

“Legal protections are especially important when people's lives are uprooted and they face challenges such as lack of basic shelter, violence, exploitation and restrictions on freedom of movement. We will be working with UNHCR to support a fairer, more effective system, to develop new approaches and to help foster inclusion as people rebuild their lives.”

Simon Levine

Managing Partner and Global Co-CEO of DLA Piper (2014-2024)



DLA Piper supported 3,224 refugees in 17 countries

Know Your Rights is a ten-week legal empowerment program that helps newly arrived refugees better understand their legal rights.



"Reflecting on that time now, five years later, I'm struck by the impact it had on me. The program didn't just teach me about my rights, it gave me newfound confidence. I was no longer a stranger in a foreign land. I was empowered to speak up for myself and help others."

"As I continue my journey in France, the lessons from Know Your Rights remain with me, helping me navigate the challenges of being a refugee, and providing an important reference for things like housing and health."

"I'm eternally grateful for the program and the support of DLA Piper."

Leen Youssef

A Know Your Rights participant who arrived in France from Syria in 2016



From L to R: Eloise Fosk, Corporate Counsel, Amazon Web Services; Rebecca Vieceli, Corporate Counsel, Amazon Web Services; Jordan Brewer, Solicitor, DLA Piper and Adam Melhem, Graduate, DLA Piper.

Restoring confidence, dignity and purpose

We involve people with lived experience of displacement in every aspect of designing, delivering and evaluating our refugee programs.



Over the past decade our pro bono team has employed refugees and displaced people from Afghanistan, Syria, Libya, Ukraine, Democratic Republic of Congo, Somalia, Sudan and Uganda.



“It restored my confidence after a string of rejections, restored my dignity after a long period of unemployment, and restored my sense of self-worth, through a job imbued with purpose.”

In my work supporting other refugees, I finally came to see that my own experience of displacement had value.”

Awmaima Amrayaf

Senior Impact Advisor, Responsible Business,
DLA Piper, London



Working on the front-line of the refugee crisis

“Conditions in the camp were squalid, but you’re constantly reminded that most of the people in the camp fled from something much worse.”

More than 30 DLA Piper lawyers have undertaken pro bono secondments to refugee camps on Samos, Greece to provide legal services to vulnerable asylum seekers.

“Helping vulnerable refugees in Samos to secure a future free from violence and despair was the most fulfilling experience of my career.”

DLA Piper lawyer
Working on secondment in Samos

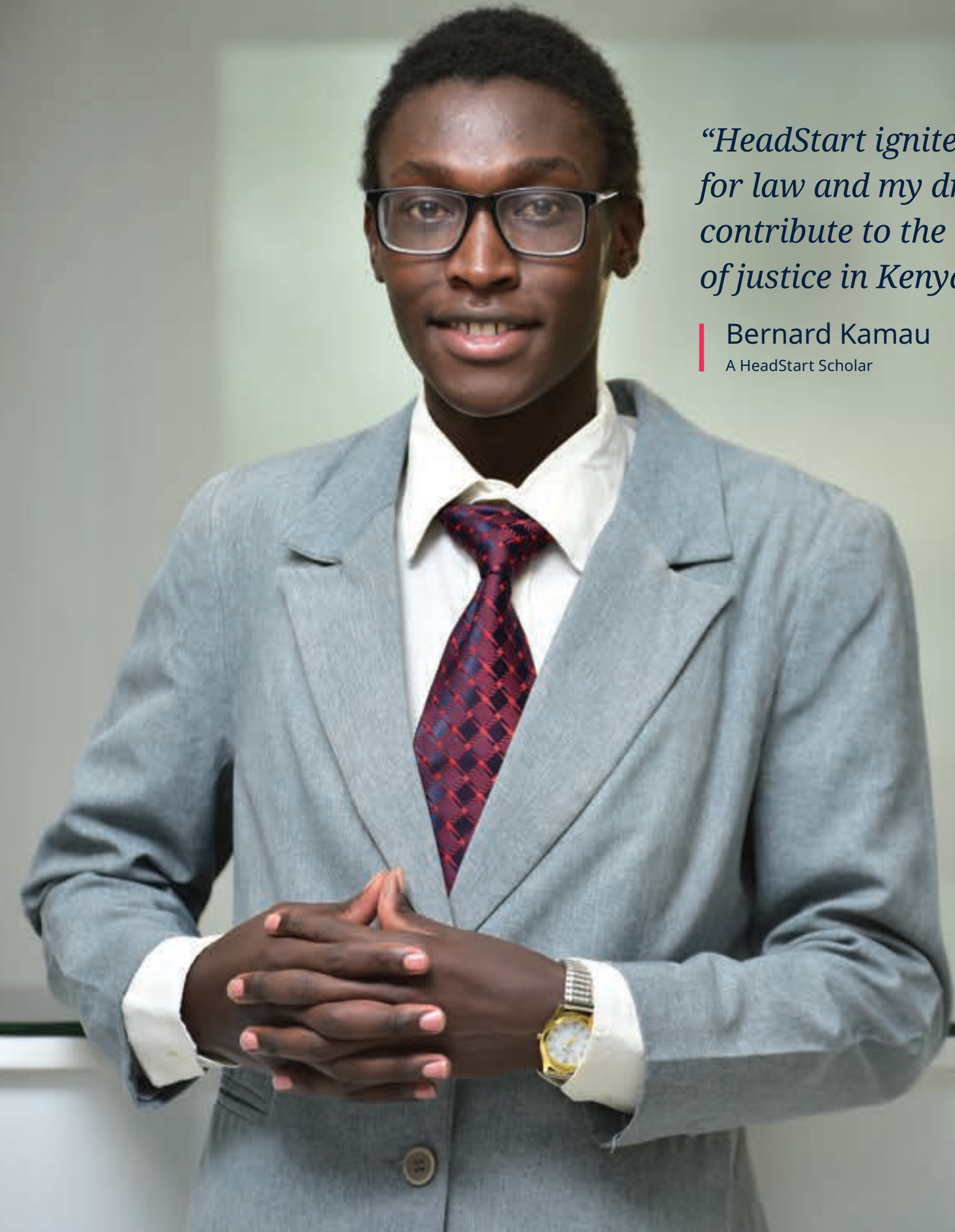
HeadStart links talent with opportunity

HeadStart is an intensive three-year programme supporting talented young people from communities that are under-represented in the legal profession.

More than 400 students have received support, mentoring, CV and interview skills training, work experience placements and coaching.

“HeadStart ignited my passion for law and my dream is to contribute to the administration of justice in Kenya.”

Bernard Kamau
A HeadStart Scholar



Child marriage banned in The Gambia

1 in 10 girls married before the age of 15.

We collaborated with UNICEF and the Ministry of Children's Affairs in drafting progressive and comprehensive legislation to ban child marriage and provide support for victims.

The legislation was passed in 2016 and had an immediate impact. In The Gambia, as many as 1 in 3 girls were estimated to be married before the age of 18, and 1 in 10 girls married before the age of 15.



Nicolas Patrick, pro bono partner, DLA Piper, with a group of school teachers during a visit to The Gambia.

“DLA Piper’s support enabled UNICEF to provide timely and critical services, drafting and redrafting key legislation [making child marriage illegal in The Gambia]. They supported the roll-out of legislation to the judiciary, and helped ensure children’s interests were at the forefront of reforms which have since changed the face of child rights in The Gambia.”

Rupert Leighton

Former Deputy Representative, UNICEF Gambia



Technology links asylum seekers to lawyers in Italy

U-Report is UNICEF's digital platform for young people. In Italy U-Report connects young asylum seekers with DLA Piper lawyers who respond to users' questions.

Over the past decade, we've supported UNICEF with more than USD6.5 million in pro bono work and more than USD2.5 million in donations.

We've worked with UNICEF to protect the rights of children who come into contact with the legal system in more than 50 countries around the world.

"I really want to say thank you to DLA Piper as words cannot really explain how many hearts you have touched."

U-Report client, age 17
who escaped violence in Guinea



"In the very first month of the collaboration, DLA Piper answered three times more cases than we'd answered in the past year."

Angelique Grondin
UNICEF U-Report, Digital Mobiliser



Keeping kids out of jail in Bangladesh

There are more than 60 million children in Bangladesh, and 30 million of them grow up in extreme poverty, increasing the chances of them coming into contact or conflict with the law for crimes such as begging.



"It was a great privilege to be able to travel to Bangladesh with UNICEF to draft and implement new legislation diverting children away from the criminal justice system. Our work has reduced the number of children held in adult prisons and improved the prevalence and effectiveness of social welfare responses."

Alison Elliott
former DLA Piper lawyer

Former DLA Piper Chairperson Tony Angel in Bangladesh with UNICEF

Talent is everywhere, opportunity is not.

“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.”

Guekleng Bo

Royal University of Law and Economics graduate and DLA Piper Fellow



“The Global Scholarship Programme 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 programme we’re uniquely positioned to deliver.”

Nicolas Patrick

Pro bono partner, DLA Piper

“The trips, training and alumni networks were crucial. I’ve made so many friends around the world, and they continue to help my personal and professional development. I am truly grateful.”

Idanês Eduarda Pessuro
University graduate and DLA Piper Fellow

Since starting the programme Idanês has noticed that she’s no longer limited by her dreams. She says, “My ambition is to become a good lawyer. The programme 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.



Presidential election up-held by Guatemala's electoral court

In 2023, DLA Piper Fellow Javier Urizar mounted a successful legal challenge against the corrupt attempts to overturn the results of the 2023 Presidential election.



DLA Piper Fellow Javier Urizar second from right

"We weren't prepared to sit and do nothing, while results of a democratic election process were swept aside by corruption."

"Watching the new, democratically elected President of Guatemala being sworn into office was one of my proudest days."

Javier Urizar
DLA Piper Fellow



Evacuated from Afghanistan, with DLA Piper's help

After the US withdrew from Afghanistan, the Taliban began targeting people who'd worked for the previous administration and those who were deemed to be "international collaborators."

Several DLA Piper Fellows, who'd received support through our Global Scholarship Programme, faced immediate risk.

We moved the Fellows to a safe house on the outskirts of Kabul until they could be safely evacuated across the border to Pakistan. They then travelled to the UK, where they secured employment in our Leeds office.

"Scenes of pandemonium at Kabul Airport on the final days leading up to the US withdrawing were seen around the world as crowds of people surrounded the airport trying desperately to escape."

"Reaching the airport gate was impossible. Shots were being fired into the crowd to deter those attempting to flee."

"With help from DLA Piper, my family went into hiding and later fled across the border into Pakistan, and finally to the UK."

| DLA Piper Fellow

"I still remember how weak, vulnerable, and shy I was when I first arrived. But today I eat fish and chips, stand in queues, talk about food and the weather, and I'm so happy."

Sadaf

Paralegal, DLA Piper

Rebuilding Vanuatu after Cyclone Pam

Since 2016, we've supported the Blue Pacific Continent – a group of 15 Pacific Island nations – with their economic, social and environmental development.



DLA Piper lawyers and law students from the University of the South Pacific

More than 200 DLA Piper lawyers have contributed more than USD10 million in pro bono legal support in the Pacific Islands over the past decade.

“Following Cyclone Pam, which ravaged the Pacific islands in 2015, I was one of eight DLA Piper lawyers sent to Vanuatu to help the government rebuild the country. We supported critical and priority areas including business recovery, infrastructure remediation, foreign affairs, risk management and access to emergency funds.”

DLA Piper lawyer



“DLA Piper challenged us to actively engage in improving the Fijian legal system.”

Milani Tudravu

Vanua Levu, Fiji

Michael Gill at a practical legal skills workshop.

Addressing critical gaps in legal education

Since 2017, 29 DLA Piper lawyers have taught a practical legal skills workshop to more than 500 law students at the University of South Pacific in Vanuatu and Fiji, filling a critical gap in the law school curriculum.



“My wish for the future is that there are more avenues for members of the Fijian community to learn about their rights and uphold those rights through the legal system.”

Milani Tudravu

Vanua Levu, Fiji

Historic international agreements on climate



COP28 UAE

“This collaboration has been a great experience. DLA Piper has been a great asset through the negotiation process.”

Teimuraz Murgulia

First Deputy Minister, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection of Georgia



With DLA Piper’s help, Georgia’s delegation has doubled in size and has addressed structural impediments to full participation.

DLA Piper supports small and less-developed nations to effectively participate at the UN climate conference.

These processes have produced historic international consensus and commitments, including The Kyoto Protocol and The Paris Agreement.

Since 2012 we’ve represented several developing countries at UNFCCC conferences and represented one of the world’s mega-biodiverse states at the Bio-Diversity Conference.

“From zero to ten is how Georgia’s position changed because of DLA Piper’s support.”

Kakha Mdivani

Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia



Historic climate litigation comes to the ICJ and ITLOSS

DLA Piper represented Timor-Leste at the International Tribunal on the Law of the Sea in Hamburg in September 2023 in what was the most influential and historic legal matter on climate change to date. We're also representing Timor-Leste, the Solomon Islands and Tonga in climate proceedings before the International Court of Justice, taking place in 2024/25.

“DLA Piper has exceptional understanding of the legal, political and economic issues, and helped us express our voice in a way that we would have been unable to do alone. Climate is such a critical issue, and all of our country appreciated the assistance at this critical time.”

Rose Kautoke

Head of the Legal Advice and International Law Division, Attorney General's Office, Kingdom of Tonga

180,000 vulnerable people saved from mass displacement

In 2021, the South African government announced the removal or deportation of more than 180,000 refugees who fled Zimbabwe during the Mugabe era and had lived in South Africa for more than a decade, having established homes, businesses, careers and families.

We acted for the Helen Suzman Foundation to successfully challenge the government's decision in the High Court, preventing the mass displacement of 180,000 vulnerable people.

“After 14 years [living in South Africa], the Zimbabwe Permit holders can no longer be classified as outsiders – they’re dynamic, hardworking and assimilated tax-paying residents who deserve to stay.”

Zimbabwe Permit Holder

Faced with deportation,
Interviewed on Aljazeera, 14 April 2023



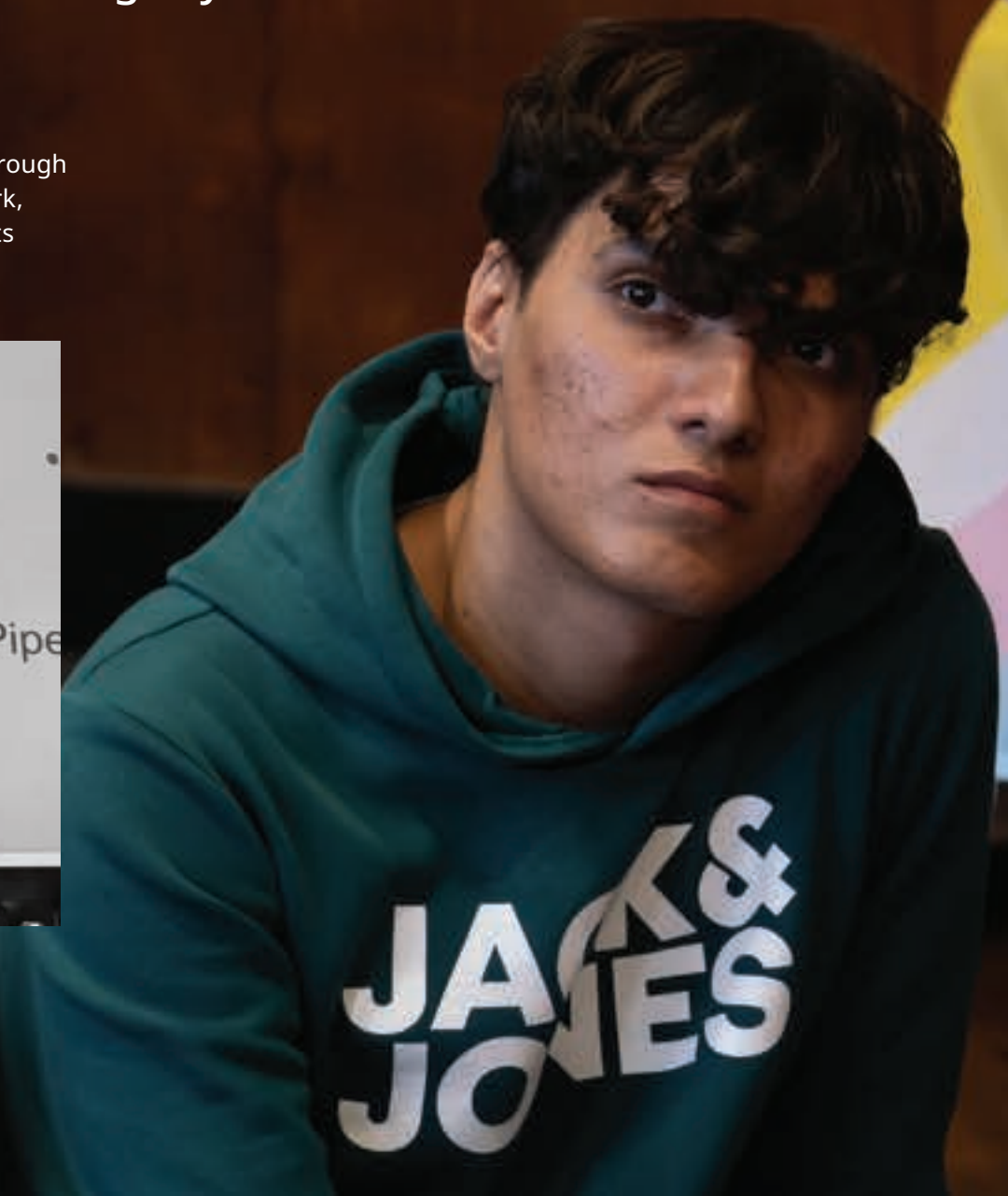
Addressing systemic discrimination in the asylum system

LGBTQ+ people often experience discrimination in destination countries throughout the asylum process. Research has shown that LGBTQ+ people seeking asylum are routinely disbelieved.

We support LGBTQ+ asylum seekers in several countries around the world through our partnerships with Rainbow Migration, Forcibly Displaced People's Network, Kaleidoscope Human Rights Foundation Australia, ILGA Europe, Human Rights Watch, Lawyers for LGBT and Allies Network Japan, and many others.



Mick Lawlor, DLA Piper Partner, speaking at a Micro Rainbow event.



King Charles III awards Terra Carta Seal to DLA Piper

The Terra Carta Seal, which has been bestowed on just 83 companies globally, recognises global businesses that are actively leading the charge to create a climate and nature-positive future, demonstrated through the success of high-impact, large-scale, company-wide projects.



Simon Levine, Managing Partner and Global Co-CEO of DLA Piper (2014-2024), meeting King Charles III

“As we strive to imagine the next 800 years of human progress, the fundamental rights and value of nature must represent a step-change in our approach.”

| King Charles III



USD10 million donated

to local and international charities, nonprofits, scholarship programs and legal service providers.



Over the past decade we've donated more than \$10 million to charities, non-profits, legal services providers, educational institutions and scholarship programs.

Recipients include: UNICEF, UNHCR, Wallumatta Legal, PILnet, Open for Business, International Service for Human Rights, Balia.

"Child protection is a vital, yet underfunded, area of UNICEF's work; it is complex and requires long-term support to create systemic change. Thanks to continuing financial support from DLA Piper, UNICEF is able to keep working towards ensuring that every child's rights are protected."

Head of Child Protection
UNICEF



In October 2018, around 80 partners and staff from 30 DLA Piper offices trekked to Machu Picchu to raise USD500,000 for UNICEF's child protection work.



In October 2015, 50 DLA Piper employees trekked through the Simien mountains in Ethiopia, raising GBP140,000 for UNICEF.



In 2024, DLA Piper employees from Australia and New Zealand trekked through Tasmanian forests to raise AUD200,000 for UNHCR.

18,000 lawyers and law students trained by New Perimeter and DLA Piper

New Perimeter is a nonprofit affiliate of DLA Piper. Created in 2005, New Perimeter harnesses the skills and talents of DLA Piper lawyers to promote a more just world for all.



New Perimeter collaborates with the University of Pretoria and the University of Western Cape to teach law students about mechanisms available to policy-makers to attract foreign direct investment and promote human and economic development.

“Capacity-building has become a significant focus for New Perimeter. More than 18,000 lawyers, law students and public servants in developing countries have participated in programmes delivered by New Perimeter and DLA Piper.”

Claire Donse

Partner DLA Piper, and Co-Director, New Perimeter



New Perimeter and DLA Piper collaborate with Akilah Institute, Davis College, the first women only, nonprofit post-secondary educational institute in Rwanda, to provide training to Rwandan women, including Akilah faculty, students and staff, on identifying, responding to, and combating sexual harassment in society and the workplace.



New Perimeter hosts negotiation training for government lawyers from 23 African countries.





“Zambian law provides protections for children in conflict with the law, but there is a shortage of legal services, and many children go unrepresented. UP Zambia has been working valiantly to fill the gap, with very limited resources. We were honoured to assist UP Zambia expand access to justice for children.”

Chiko Chuula

Senior partner at DLA Piper Africa firm CCO, as published in The Lusaka Voice

Vulnerable children transferred out of adult prisons

We collaborated with the Zambia Judiciary, Corrections Department and Undikumbukire Project (UP Zambia) to help vulnerable children being detained in adult prisons in the Copperbelt Province, Zambia.

A team of 17 lawyers from Burundi, Ghana, Kenya, Mozambique, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Australia, France, Hungary and the US investigated 115 cases, prepared case plans, searched neighbourhoods for parents, located missing files, and represented children in court hearings.

As a result, 34 children were transported to child-specific facilities, 17 were released, one was acquitted, and one 14-year-old boy previously sentenced to hard labour was granted bail. In the weeks that followed, the remaining children were also successfully removed.

“The support of the Zambian judiciary and the Ministry of Home Affairs has also been critical to the success of the project.”

Chiko Chuula

Senior partner at DLA Piper Africa firm CCO, as published in The Lusaka Voice

Stronger protection for victims of domestic violence

DLA Piper supported *la Fondation des Femmes* to reform the law for domestic violence victims in France. The amended legislation integrated several of our proposed reforms, including enhanced protective measures for victims and their families.



DLA Piper leads on ESG



“DLA Piper has topped the Impactvise inaugural environmental, social and governance (ESG) law firm rankings, which measures the ESG performance of more than 1,000 firms globally. The ranking is based on the World Economic Forum’s Stakeholder Capitalism Metrics, which measures ESG efforts in terms of governance, people, planet and prosperity.

DLA Piper scored 91 out of 100 for its ESG performance. The average overall ESG score for the top 25 law firms was 54.”

| Global Legal Post

Sandra Wallace CBE, Deputy Managing Partner
and Managing Director of Groups, DLA Piper
- a leading advocate for Social Mobility in the UK.

Collaborative action to tackle illegal wildlife trafficking

With the Royal Foundation of the Prince and Princess of Wales on behalf of United for Wildlife, we helped to reduce illegal money flows associated with illegal wildlife trade by strengthening legislation and enforcing it in countries including Vietnam, Thailand, Myanmar and Namibia.



We also supported the taskforce on transport to introduce the Buckingham Palace Declaration, which created several measures to prevent the illegal transportation of wildlife, disrupting transnational trade in wildlife.

"Many people might wonder why conserving wildlife should be considered so important when there are wider issues of global and national interest, such as conflict and poverty to worry about. The answer is because these issues are interlinked."

HRH The Prince of Wales



DLA Piper lawyers Shirley Pouget and Chrisostome Nsabimana in Democratic Republic of Congo (with their security detail provided by our client) convening a community consultation.

Affordable law firm launched in Australia for low-income earners

Wallumatta was launched with just one lawyer. Within two years, it had grown to nine lawyers, opened in a second location at Melbourne University and advised over 500 clients.



Gerry Bean, DLA Piper Partner and Chairman of Wallumatta Legal with Wallumatta staff.

"Australia's first 'low-bono' law firm established on Macquarie University's campus is offering legal services in family law cases to the 'missing middle' – low-income people who don't qualify for legal aid but can't afford commercial law firm rates."

Wallumatta Legal is an innovative nonprofit practice based on a partnership between global law firm DLA Piper and Macquarie University."

■ The Australian Financial Review

"Your amazing team helped our family achieve what had felt like a dream for so long. We are living our dream everyday thanks to you, and we'll never forget how hard you worked to achieve this for us."

■ Wallumatta Legal Client



“This highly impactful legal project established the Atlantic’s largest marine reserve and an innovative model for empowering indigenous communities in the conservation of their natural resources.”

Jonathan Hall

Head of UK Overseas Territories,
Royal Society for the Protection of Birds

Marine conservation zone established in the Atlantic Ocean

A global team of DLA Piper lawyers worked to create the Tristan da Cunha Marine Protection Zone, the largest marine park in the Atlantic Ocean.

The protected zone secures the future of the world’s most pristine temperate marine ecosystem, home to 80% of subantarctic fur seals, a blue shark nursery and tens of millions of seabirds, including 85% of the world’s northern rockhopper penguins and two unique albatross species.





Law reform strengthens conservation in Madagascar

DLA Piper has supported Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust to protect Madagascar's most endangered wildlife, including the ploughshare tortoise.

Madagascar is home to more than 200,000 species, and it's estimated that 90% are found nowhere else on Earth.

DLA Piper supports more than a dozen leading conservation organisations around the world.

Creating a level playing field

“The legal industry has long grappled with diversity and inclusion and good intentions alone will not get us to where we need to be.

As well as simply being the right thing to do, ensuring a level playing field for everyone in our business and being representative of the communities we serve is critical in enabling the diversity of thought needed to help our clients solve complex problems and seize opportunities.”

Simon Levine

Managing Partner and Global Co-CEO of DLA Piper (2014-2024)

“Our approach to diversity has evolved significantly over the past ten years and our leadership has embraced the challenge of building a diverse and inclusive firm and positioned this challenge as a real opportunity for DLA Piper.”

| DLA Piper employee





“This is an historic agreement. The treaty helps achieve our dream of full sovereignty and to finally settle our maritime boundaries with Australia.”

Xanana Gusmao

Former Timor-Leste president, and head of its delegation

DLA Piper guides Timor-Leste to historic treaty with Australia

The 45-year impasse between Australia and Timor-Leste around a permanent maritime boundary came to a close in 2018 following a historic treaty negotiation in which we played a lead strategic and legal role.



“At its heart, the process allowed the smaller, younger nation to stand on a level playing field and realise its sovereignty with a larger neighbour.”

Stephen Webb

Lead partner representing Timor-Leste

The treaty was signed at the UN headquarters in New York by H.E. Agio Pereira, Timor-Leste’s agent and President of The Council of Ministers, and Julie Bishop, Australia’s foreign minister. The signing was overseen by United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres and Commission Chair Ambassador Peter Taksøe-Jensen.

Test case establishes recognition of non-binary genders

The decision created an important precedent in law in Australia and the case is now cited in courts around the world.



Norrie with DLA Piper legal team

“The Australian high court, when asked whether ‘sex’ could encompass a third, non-specific category beyond ‘male’ and ‘female’, gave an emphatic yes.”

| The Guardian



“Having pro bono support made me feel that I wasn’t an outsider – the establishment was standing up for me!”

| Norrie

200 children receive citizenship in the UK

There are 215,000 undocumented children living in the UK. Around half of those children were born in UK, while others have been trafficked, or have fled from war.

Undocumented children are vulnerable to poverty, social exclusion and exploitation. They face problems accessing higher education and healthcare, opening bank accounts, applying for driving licences, and getting housing and work.

Since 2015, with our NGO partner Kids in Need of Defence, we've helped more than 200 children get British citizenship.



“Gaining legal status meant I was able to work. I was able to apply to college. I was able to get a bank card. All this opened up for me because of that one thing.”

■ KIND UK client, aged 18



About the artist

Dylan Mooney is a Yuwi, Torres Strait and South Sea Islander who grew up in Mackay in North Queensland. Through his art, Dylan reveals himself as an activist and agent of change. He uses his platform and his profile to advocate for environmental conservation, action on climate change, LGBT inclusion, and equality for First Nations people.

Dylan enjoys an obvious affinity with nature, and Australian flora and fauna are a common thread running through his various collections, highlighting the ongoing role of Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land and sea.

Promoting the rights of First Nations people

We advocate to create systemic change on behalf of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians.

Over the past decade this has included access to birth registration and birth certificates; access to the age pension on an equal basis with others, and handling complaints in relation to police misconduct.

In the Full Federal Court, Uncle Dennis argued the requirement to reach age 65 to qualify for the age pension in retirement was discriminatory on the basis that Indigenous men in Australia have a life expectancy of just 58.



Uncle Dennis with his legal team from DLA Piper

“Without your help, my son would not have found his identity. He can now say who he is, and he won’t go through life without a piece of paper saying who he is.”

Adoptive mother

of boy, age 16, who couldn’t get a birth certificate because his father was known only by a number in the care system in regional Australia



Survivors of torture and trafficking moved from substandard accommodation

We helped vulnerable refugees challenge the use of military barracks to house children and victims of torture and trafficking.

More than 54 of our clients were reassigned to decent housing. Ultimately the barracks closed after the High Court found the accommodation was squalid, unsafe, detention-like, noisy, over-crowded, and posed a real and immediate risk to life.

“Our clients described the accommodation as filthy, with no heating or hot water. They were only permitted to leave for short periods of time, comparing the accommodation to a prison.”

All asylum seekers deserve kindness, safety and protection, and nobody should have to endure the horrors of Napier Barracks.”

Sacha Levine
Paralegal, DLA Piper

Landmark human rights decision

DLA Piper successfully represented Rosanna Flamer-Caldera before the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women.

Shortly after the CEDAW decision was announced, the Sri Lankan Supreme Court cleared the constitutional path for decriminalisation of homosexuality, declaring that “all persons shall be equal before the law and be entitled to equal protection of the law, irrespective of their sexual orientation.”

“The UN decision moves us another step closer to equality for LGBT people in Sri Lanka.”

Rosanna Flamer-Caldera
Executive Director, Equal Ground

Female migrant workers protected from abuse in Hong Kong

In Hong Kong, our lawyers provide legal advice and representation to migrant workers who have experienced sexual harassment and violence. Since forming a partnership with RainLily in 2017, we've helped 52 women to access legal remedies.

"With the help of pro bono lawyers, my sexual harassment complaint was successfully resolved, allowing me to turn the page to a fresh chapter of my life."

Having legal advice gave me more confidence about my case. I became much calmer and more mentally stable because I always understood what the next steps should be."

■ RainLily / DLA Piper pro bono client



DLA Piper research highlights deficiencies in legal aid

“A lack of free early assistance is denying justice to the most vulnerable among Hong Kong’s population, according to a new report on legal aid services.”

The report, compiled by advocacy group PILnet and law firm DLA Piper, said underprivileged groups such as the homeless and ethnic minorities were struggling for help with legal issues that did not necessarily make it to court.”

| South China Morning Post



Annette Bain (Left), Pro Bono Counsel Emerita, DLA Piper, and Ng Tze-wei, Deputy Director of PILnet Hong Kong, speaking at the launch of a report into Community Legal Assistance in Hong Kong.

“As bombs destroyed our home, we found the support we needed to get to safety.”

More than 4,200 people received legal support through the platform.

“DLA Piper recruited 100 lawyers from across its seven UK offices and a further 300 volunteers from other law firms to support Ukrainians seeking legal advice. The firm uses an online portal to connect lawyers and Ukrainians in an instant message-style chat, in a bid to make legal information accessible.”

■ The Global Legal Post

“I started working with Project Ukraine at the start of March and in the course of five months I have done over 200 cases.”

■ Harry Penfold

Pro bono volunteer lawyer, DLA Piper

“I was faced with a lot of false and contradictory information online. Thanks to DLA Piper and the Ukrainian Advice Project, I received detailed answers to all my questions, and I understood where the law can be on my side.”

■ Ukrainian asylum seeker



Driving social and economic progress in Africa

In 2023, research by Oxford Economics found that DLA Piper's presence in Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa and Zambia had a positive impact on a range of social and economic indicators.

For example, our teams in each country consist of a higher percentage of women than the national average, contributing to gender equality. And our procurement was predominantly domestic, helping to stimulate the local economy.

“Through its unique operating model and local presence, DLA Piper Africa has made a positive contribution to economic and human development, through a productive workforce of highly skilled talent, which also demonstrates diversity of gender and youth.”

Cobus De Hart

Director of Africa Consulting, Oxford Economics Africa



“This is a book of stories. Stories that show how we’re led by our values and driven by our purpose.

Stories that show how we support each other and our communities. How we work across borders, and with partners in society. How we think and act boldly.

And how we deliver exceptional impact.”

JP Douglas-Henry

Managing Director Asia Pacific and Sustainability DLA Piper

Our values

DLA Piper was created to **ensure global companies could access high-quality advice on a consistent basis** internationally.

The value proposition for DLA Piper was clear, and many firms have since emulated our approach.

What makes us unique is not our value proposition but our **values proposition** – it's been core to our business from the very start.

Making business better.

Making communities better.



“Businesses aren’t separate from society. They’re part of it. Everything they do has an impact on people and communities, and we’re no exception.”

DLA Piper’s future will be defined by helping our clients find sustainable solutions for the many economic and social challenges we face now – and those that lie ahead.”

Charles Severs

Managing Partner and Global Co-CEO, DLA Piper

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