



Infrastructure Finance

Our lawyers have more than three decades of experience in the infrastructure market and act for both sponsors and lenders in a wide range of limited recourse financing transactions. We have broad experience of PPP/PFI transactions and thorough knowledge of several market sectors, including power (thermal and renewable), transport (roads, airports and shipping), oil, gas, commodities and water.

We have experience in executing all types of infrastructure finance, including project finance and other secured, structured financings, bond financing and other financings solutions tailored for the current market.

We take a proactive role in understanding project economics and are skilled at crafting innovative solutions to mitigate credit risks.

EXPERIENCE

- Agility Trains, a joint venture between Hitachi and John Laing, in connection with the largest project financing in the UK in 2012, the financing (in excess of £2 billion) of the West Coast Main Line PPP project. This project involved the manufacture, delivery and maintenance of trains, financed from a combination of a direct term loan facility from JBIC, a term loan facility from commercial banks covered by NEXI credit insurance, an uncovered term loan facility from commercial banks and a term loan facility from EIB.
- The lenders, including SEK (guaranteed by EKN), PROPARCO and a number of local DFIs (including DBSA and EDC) in respect of the financing of Tigo, a mobile telecoms operator in Tanzania.
- The lenders in connection with the MIGA-backed project financing of a US\$ 120 million water desalination plant project in Ghana which was developed by Befesa Ghana (a joint venture between Abengoa Water and Sojitz).
- An international sponsor on its USD 800 million financing of a 300 MW coal-fired power project in Zambia, including the negotiation of all project and finance documents, with the project financing using DFI and Sinasure-covered tranches (which would be the first Sinasure covered project financing in Africa).
- The arranging banks to Hochtief Airport Consortium in relation to its acquisition of Budapest Airport.

KEY CONTACTS

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- Public Sector
- Social Infrastructure
- Transport

- Energy and Natural Resources
- Media, Sport and Entertainment

Publications

Driving change: The decarbonisation of European transport

1 April 2022

Our new study, in association with Acuris Studios, surveyed 100 senior executives of organisations based in Europe that have invested in European decarbonisation projects and/or technologies related to aviation, rail or shipping in the past 24 months.

Economic drivers in Latin America: Key industry sectors and the rise of ESG

1 April 2022

Overshadowed by the pandemic, Latin America's GDP growth results closed 2020 at nearly – 8%, while global GDP growth results closed at – 5%. The growth forecast for 2021 is at 4.1%, relying on the vaccination efforts across Latin America countries to combat COVID-19, as well as the many relief packages launched by the world's biggest economies to help emerging economies.

Green Hydrogen in Chile: A Contribution to the Global Energy Transition

1 April 2022

Nowadays we see governments around the world adopting decarbonization policies to transition their economies away from high-emission electricity generation and polluting manufacturing/production of goods and services.

Projects Global Insight Issue 5, 2022

1 April 2022

PROJECTS GLOBAL INSIGHT

Welcome to the new issue of the Project Global Insights 2022. In some areas of the globe we are now seeing a gradual loosening of restrictions triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic, and stakeholders and governments across the world continue to focus on transport, infrastructure and clean energy investments to boost economic activities.

The Biden Plan: The most awaited infrastructure plan for the US

1 April 2022

The need for an adequate infrastructure program for the US is well known. This program has taken several presidencies to see the light of day, but it finally took the form of a concrete and ambitious plan presented by the Biden Administration in March 2021 known as the American Jobs Plan.

'Boomerang' decommissioning liabilities for the oil & gas industry in Australia

1 April 2022

Since ExxonMobil drilled Australia's first offshore well in 1965, Australia's oil & gas industry has developed, grown and matured, supporting Australia's energy security and generating significant economic growth.

Episode 6: A case for a scheme

23 November 2021

THE DLA PIPER INFRASTRUCTURE PODCAST

In this episode, DLA Piper partners Howard Bassford and Robert Smith are joined by Jon Turton at Arup. The discussion looks at how COVID-19 has affected the information and cases required to justify new infrastructure projects and other investment in our transport systems; it also looks at the decarbonisation agenda and infrastructure investment.

New developments in the Mexican energy sector generate uncertainty

17 November 2021

A discussion of relevant measures, criticisms and comments.

The Future of UK Infrastructure - Summary of the Panel Discussion

15 November 2021

Summary of a panel discussion looking at the future of UK infrastructure, post-COVID and post-Brexit. Panellists were Rt Hon Jesse Norman MP (former Financial Secretary to the Treasury), Sir John Armit CBE (Chair of the National Infrastructure Commission) and Dr Gemma Tetlow (Chief Economist at the Institute for Government).

President of Mexico files constitutional reform bill on electricity

7 October 2021

The result may include serious consequences for private investors in the energy sector in Mexico.

Reforms in the energy legal framework in Mexico and challenge mechanisms

4 June 2021

The Energy Counter-Reform includes variations which aim to restore the monopoly power of CFE and Pemex.

Mexico's Hydrocarbons Law Reform Bill: A controversial new measure in the Mexican energy sector

8 April 2021

The reform seeks to give Pemex the same monopoly control it had over the national market before the 2013 energy reform.

Public-private partnerships for infrastructure investment: a global perspective

18 March 2021

In a new global report, produced in partnership with Global Infrastructure Investor Association (GIIA), DLA Piper assesses the case for PPPs, backed by multijurisdictional analysis from our projects and infrastructure lawyers around the world as well as insight from leading infrastructure investors who are fellow members of the GIIA.

Reform to the Electric Industry Law: a new risk for energy projects in Mexico

10 March 2021

Foreign investors involved in energy projects in Mexico may wish to consider their rights and potential remedies under applicable investment treaties.

Building faster, better and greener - accelerating and improving delivery

5 January 2021

The latest part in this series of publications on the government's long awaited National Infrastructure Strategy 2020 will consider "Chapter 5 – building faster, better and greener", which builds on the government's infrastructure reform programme, Project Speed.

Supporting private investment

21 December 2020

The UK is an attractive destination for private investment in infrastructure, with the Government estimating that over GBP200 billion has been invested in the last decade in the water and energy sectors alone. Chapter 4 of the National Infrastructure Strategy looks at the importance of private investment to funding new infrastructure.

Decarbonising the economy and adapting to climate change

9 December 2020

Chapter three of the NIS stems from the central objective of meeting the UK's net zero emissions target by 2050. The proposed measures include both the deployment of existing technology and the development of newer technologies, and are closely related to the Prime Minister's Ten Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution.

Levelling up the whole of the UK

7 December 2020

In the foreword to the NIS, the Prime Minister states that "*levelling up is my government's core purpose*". The intention is to level up communities and nations across the UK through investment in rural areas, towns and cities on a range of projects covering those of major national importance and those which address local priorities.

Oil and gas operations in Latin America

3 December 2020

Addressing key operational and commercial challenges that are unique to Latin America.

An introduction and summary of the key points

2 December 2020

An introduction and summary of the key points in the National Infrastructure Strategy, the UK government's recently published plan to "build back better, to create world-class infrastructure across the whole UK, and to transform people's lives for decades to come."

Three ESG steps to keep your project bankable in 2021

17 September 2020

Version four of the Equator principles will take effect on 1 October 2020, and it introduces three new requirements to the international environmental and social baseline for project finance.

Mexico announces new transportation and telecommunications investment program

17 JUL 2013

The program will include highways, bridges, train systems, urban BRT systems, seaports and airports, as well as better telecom services

US commits \$7B to ambitious Power Africa initiative

2 JUL 2013

A new initiative aiming to double access to power in sub-Saharan Africa

EPA reduces natural gas GHG emission estimates; Pennsylvania reaffirms property law on "minerals"

16 MAY 2013

Law à la Mode

26 AUG 2011

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10 MAY 2011

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