

Overview

The complexity of operating in Papua New Guinea (PNG) is often under-estimated by overseas businesses. Strong economic growth has brought ongoing review and reform of regulations and, where land is involved, community consultation is required to obtain a “social license” to operate.

Rely on a team that is familiar with the government's agenda, the decision-makers, the legal framework, and local community leadership.

Members of our team have worked in the public sector, advised on major legislative reform, and assisted with establishing key regulatory bodies.

Partner with a team that regularly deals with statutory authorities and understands how to negotiate the terms of commercial agreements in PNG.

To avoid delays, it is important to have ongoing working relationships with the authorities and know how to communicate with the diverse cultures of the traditional landowners. Having worked on the ground in PNG since the late 1960s, we have built the right relationships to get business done.

We are also policy influencers through our current and past leadership roles at the Institute of National Affairs (PNG), Papua New Guinea Institute of Directors, Australia PNG Business Council, Australia Pacific Islands Business Council, and Foundation for Development Co-operation.

Call on a team recognized by clients for being “knowledgeable, proficient with local practice and procedures and able to get things done quickly.”

Representative Experience

Central Bank of PNG:

- Reviewing and assisting and advising on the drafting of the National Payment System Act and Kina Automated System Rules
- Advising on new Organic Law on the Sovereign Wealth Fund, including the constitutional framework for Kumul Consolidation Agenda
- Acting with respect to its oversight of the Banking Corporation (Corporatisation) Act and regulations and appointment of an administrator over PNGBC, then subsequently acting for BSP in its acquisition of PNGBC and amalgamation of the two companies
- Preliminary advice on propose reform of the regulation of Savings and Loan Societies and advising on proposed legislation
- Advising on liberalization of Exchange Control Regulations and drafting the statutory instrument to give effect to wide exemptions
- In 2000, in conjunction with the Bank of PNG, PNG Government, Reserve Bank of Australia, PARA, World Bank

and IMF, we completed the re-write of bank banking, superannuation and life sector legislation in PNG, including the Central Banking Act.

Independent State of Papua New Guinea and Asia Development Bank:

- Advising on the design, drafting and implementation of a public-private partnership policy for PNG, including drafting laws and regulation to implement the PPP policy.

Your Key Contacts

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