

Neil Cuthbert

Senior Legal Advisor



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Overview

Neil is a Senior Legal Advisor specialising in project and infrastructure financings. He has been based in Dubai since 2001. He has extensive experience of advising banks, governments, borrowers, sponsors and others in project financing transactions covering a wide of range industries, including oil and gas, electricity, water, mining, leisure, transportation and telecommunications. He also has a general banking practice that includes advising banks, borrowers and others on a wide range of banking products, including, lending, structured finance, derivatives, trade finance, development finance and restructurings.

He has lectured extensively on a wide range of banking subjects including at the Euromoney Winter and Summer Schools of Project Finance. He is the author of the firm's Standard Introduction to Project Finance and is a past leader of its International Projects Group.

Neil was head of the Dubai office from 2001 to 2010. He was Managing Partner of the firm's Middle East offices from 2005 to 2011 and is currently Senior Partner of the firm's Middle East offices. He is also a member of the Policy and Planning Board of Dentons UKMEA LLP and sits on the General Advisory Committee of Dentons. He was a member of the Global Board of Dentons from 2011 to 2015.

Recognition

Since 1995 Neil has been named in various editions of the following:

- The International *Who's Who Legal* of Project Finance Lawyers 2019.
- The International *Who's Who Legal* of Project Finance Lawyers 2017.
- The International *Who's Who Legal* of Banking Lawyers 2017.
- Best Lawyers: UAE Finance Law and Project Finance and Development Practice 2016.
- The International *Who's Who Legal* of Banking Lawyers 2016.
- Banking, Finance and Transactional Guide 2016 – recognised as one of the leading practitioners in Banking.

- The International *Who's Who Legal* 2015.
- Banking, Finance and Transactional Law by Expert Guides, 2015.
- The International *Who's Who Legal* of Project Finance Lawyers 2010-2014.
- Legal Experts - Europe, Middle East and Africa 2012 (Corporate & Finance).
- Legal Experts - Middle East Finance & Corporate 2012.
- Best Lawyers UAE Project Finance and Development 2012 (second consecutive year).
- The International *Who's Who Legal* of Banking Lawyers 2011.
- *Chambers Global* 2011: Ranked in Band 1 for Projects and Energy (Middle East).
- Legal Experts 2010 - Bank Lending, Projects, energy and natural resources (incl. Project Finance).
- Legal Experts - Europe, Middle East and Africa 2010 (Corporate & Finance).
- *Chambers Global* 2009: Ranked in Band 1 for Project Finance (Middle East).
- Project Finance Expert Guide 2009.
- Euromoney's Guide to World's Leading Energy and Natural Resource Lawyers.
- Euromoney's Guides to World's Leading Project Finance Lawyers.
- Legal Business' Guides to Experts (Project Finance).
- *Chambers Global* Guide to the World's Leading Lawyers.
- *Chambers Global* Guide to the World's Leading Project Lawyers.
- Legal Experts (Bank lending, Project Finance (including PFI)).
- The Guide to the World's Leading Project Finance Lawyers.
- Legal Experts - Guide to the World's Leading Emerging Market Practitioners (Project Finance).

In the Media

- "China's One Belt, One Road Strategy", *Thomson Reuters MENA*, March 2017
- "Public Private Partnerships between China and the Middle East", *Thomson Reuters MENA*, February 2017

Insights

- "Public Private Partnerships – The new paradigm for Chinese Companies for funding African Infrastructure Projects?," July 25, 2018
- "Bankable Construction Contracts in PPP Projects," April 11, 2017
- "One Belt One Road: PPP Alchemy - is the Silk Road paved in Gold?," *Dentons client alert*, December 22, 2016
- "Middle East and Africa PPP Guide: The emergence of Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) in the Middle East and Africa," July 2016
- "Global Project Finance Risk Guide," November 2015
- "A Guide To Project Finance," August 2018

Activities and Affiliations

Presentations

- "Structuring a successful PPP project and identifications and allocation of Key Projects Risks," (January 2019)

Areas of focus

Practices

- Banking and Finance
- Project Development
- Project Finance
- Restructuring, Insolvency and Bankruptcy

Industry sectors

- Electricity
- Financial Institutions
- Government
- Hotels and Leisure
- Oil and Gas
- Transportation
- Wastewater Treatment, Water Management, Desalination

Education

- University of Exeter, 1975, LLB, (Hons)

Admissions and qualifications

- Solicitor, Senior Courts of England and Wales, 1979