

In Focus - Implementing Transparency In Public-Private Partnerships In Africa

Hélène NSE EYENE

Why has transparency become such an important issue today? What is it that leads international organisations to make transparency a fundamental principle in the implementation of projects? And how has transparency developed in Africa in the PPP sector? To answer these questions, it is necessary to go back a few years, if not a few decades in order to understand the reasons for this strong drive towards transparency in Africa and elsewhere.

It is difficult to envisage infrastructure development and the exploitation of natural resources on the continent by solely making use of public funding. Irrespective of whether it is in the energy, water and sewage, telecommunications, transport or the extractive industries sector, it is often in a country's interest to partner with private companies. However, the proximity and influence of large enterprises in some African States have sometimes led those States to take decisions against their own interest, notably by allowing investors to enjoy further financial benefits to the detriment of their citizens, consequently leading to improper management of public funds. In the mining sector in particular, the non-transparent management of funds derived from extractive industries and the privileges granted to investors in terms of mining taxes led the extractive industries sector to reveal the necessity to consider this issue.

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ALSF hosts training on Production Sharing Agreements for Somalia government officials

Somalia's offshore potential oil and gas reserves has garnered the attention of many international oil companies. The potential of these reserves, if managed well, will provide consistent revenue streams that could catalyse the economic development of Somalia.

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Guinea becomes first African nation to contribute to the ALSF

The Republic of Guinea has become the first African nation to make a voluntary financial contribution to the African Legal Support Facility (ALSF).

Commenting on the contribution, the ALSF Director, Stephen Karangizi, thanked the Government of Guinea for its support. "This contribution is timely and will go towards our efforts to assist African countries to negotiate complex commercial transactions, creditor litigation and other related sovereign transactions", he said.

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The African Legal Support Facility signs MoU with IP3

The African Legal Support Facility (ALSF) and the Institute for Public Private Partnership (IP3) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to enhance cooperation related to capacity building services offered in African countries.

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We're Hiring!

We require the services of a **Junior Legal Consultant** to assist in the operations of the Facility. Deadline for applications: 30 September 2016. [Read more:](#)

Call for Expression of Interest for Serving the Project Implementing Consortium (PIC) of the African Mining Legislation Atlas (AMLA) Project This second round will focus on African institutions, with experience that includes acting as a regional hub for academics, students, practitioners and/or other relevant stakeholders. **Please submit your expression of interest to alsf@afdb.org and cc feedback@a-mla.org. The deadline for submissions is September 30, 2016.** Candidates applying after the deadline may be considered on a rolling basis.

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Forthcoming Events

ALSF Management Board Meeting, 23 - 24 November, 2016, Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire.

ALSF Roundtable on Enhancing Commercial Legal Practice in Africa, 21 - 22 November, 2016, Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire.

African Legal Support Facility (ALSF)/African Institute for International Law (AILL) Capacity Building Workshop - Bilateral Investment Treaties (BITs), 26 - 30 September, 2016, Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire.

Other News and Events

Law, Justice and Development Week 2016: Law, Climate Change and Development December 5-8, 2016 World Bank Headquarters, Washington DC, U.S.A.,

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Advocates for International Development is conducting a training targeting practising lawyers and those with a strong interest in the role the law plays in the development agenda.

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