



MDR ADVOGADOS

CLAUDIA SANTOS CRUZ
Consultant

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Professional Experience

Claudia Santos Cruz joined the firm in 2015, assisting clients on the international and cross border aspects of their investments in Mozambique.

Claudia coordinates the international Oil & Gas (including mining) and Shipping teams and was also a member of the Banking & Finance department.

She has close ties to both Africa and England. She was born in Mozambique; grew up in South Africa and holds dual Portuguese and Mozambican nationality.

She trained and practiced as an English solicitor from 1994 to 2005 at DLA Piper and Watson Farley & Williams in the City of London. In 2005 Claudia registered with the Portuguese Bar Association. In 2018 Claudia registered with the Mozambique Bar Association.

She has written articles for international publications as well as participating as a speaker at international conferences in the areas of investment in emerging markets; oil & gas, corporate, banking & finance and shipping related matters.

She was also nominated a Maritime Arbitrator / Expert by the CONCÒRDIA Maritime Arbitration, Conciliation and Conflict Mediation Centre.

Winner of the first edition of "40 under Forty Award" organised by Iberian Lawyer which distinguished the best 40 lawyers under the age of 40 in Iberia. Ranked as a leading lawyer by the most prestigious international legal Directories such as Chambers & Partners and IFLR.

Education

Law Degree (University of Southampton, England, 1993). Legal Practice Course - LPC (College of Law Guildford, England, 1994). Post graduate training courses in Banking & Finance; Corporate / Commercial law, Restructuring & Insolvency (Central Law Training, London, England). Oil & Gas Specialisation (Central Law Training, London, England, 2013 & 2014). International Petroleum Transactions module of the LLM (Católica Lisbon School of Law, 2017).

Memberships

Solicitor of the Supreme Court of England & Wales (since 1996) (non-practicing). Portuguese Bar Association (2005). Mozambique Bar Association (2018). IBA African Regional Forum. International Bar Association positions held: Officer European Regional Forum 2009; Vice Chair European Regional Forum; 2010 and 2011; Senior Vice Chair European Regional Forum 2012 and 2013; IBA Oil & Gas Committee Officer, 2021; African Regional Forum Vice-Chair, 2024. Women's International Shipping & Trading Association (WISTA), 2023.

Languages

MOZAMBIQUE

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Specialist in areas such as Energy and Mineral Resources (Oil & Gas / Mining), international aspects of foreign investment into Mozambique, Corporate and Shipping. Portuguese and English.
Regular speaker at IBA Africa Regional Forum conferences.

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