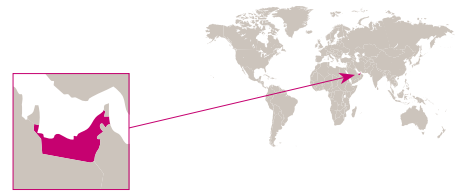


United Arab Emirates

This year, our office in the UAE formally established a corporate responsibility team to ensure we listen to, understand and respond to the needs of our clients, our people, our community and the environment.



Clients and markets

Sharing our expertise

Understanding our clients is not only about understanding the legal challenges they face, it is also about having a deep knowledge of the business and commercial context in which they operate. We recently launched and distributed the new Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) update. The new newsletter will be produced quarterly by Dubai office lawyers and is intended to keep our clients, prospective clients, stakeholders and alumni up to date on a selection of legal hot topics in the region.

In addition, the office looks to support busy general counsel and in-house legal teams with know-how and legal hot topics through Global Counsel and the tailoring of our services to their needs through customer relationship management programmes. Over the last year we have been developing individual know-how plans for local priority clients, giving them access to the wider range of know-how tools in the Linklaters network.

Complexity and innovation

Linklaters was involved in the Jubail deal: the financing of a key economic project for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, a greenfield refining and petrochemical project with a total deal value of US\$14bn. The deal was the most complex and innovative of its kind in the Middle East region, involving many internal projects teams and over 40 external stakeholder institutions.

People

Our commitment to the development of our people is evident from the extensive global learning curriculum which the Dubai office adheres to through the Linklaters Law and Business School. A global online tool has been rolled out this year to enable everyone to manage their training and personal development. The Dubai office also continues to invest in local talent and has implemented an Emiritisation programme, which aims to train and develop aspiring Emirati lawyers.

Community investment

Volunteering

We invest our time in the local community, with all staff encouraged to use at least one day a year to work on a charitable project. Our Dubai employees volunteer their time to “Start” – a programme in partnership with Art Dubai which is designed to deliver art workshops to disadvantaged children in Dubai.

Supporting local culture

The Dubai office is a gold sponsor of the Dubai Concert Committee and attends and promotes to clients concerts put on by the group.

Facts

47

people

Contacts



Richard O'Callaghan
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COO
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Local highlights

3,695

hours of training, know-how and learning

41%

female lawyers

13

seconddees hosted by the Dubai office

Environment

Managing our impact

With the United Arab Emirates having one of the highest carbon and ecological footprints per capita in the world, the Dubai office has chosen to support Emirates Wildlife Society, which acts in association with the World Wildlife Fund (EWS-WWF). The office has become a platinum sponsor, and is currently providing legal pro bono to EWS-WWF in relation to general commercial matters. We expect this role to develop to include providing assistance in relation to the review of environmental memoranda of understanding with local agencies and governments and otherwise participating in the drafting of environmental laws.

Heroes of the UAE

The office is playing an active role in the Emirates-wide “Heroes of the UAE” campaign. The aim is to encourage all UAE residents to reduce their energy and water consumption and help reduce the country’s ecological footprint. The programme is largely education based and also involves the completion of environmental audits and green makeovers of corporates and social enterprises.

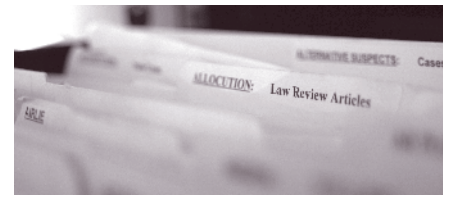
Sustainability

The relocation to new premises gave the office the opportunity to fit out a greener working environment in conjunction with encouraging employees to be environmentally conscious and to recycle.

The Office has a “Green List” in place incorporating, amongst other things, the following: paper recycling bins in every office, plastic recycling bins in every kitchen, heat reducing blinds in all offices and automatic light sensors throughout the building.

Employees are encouraged to bring goods which can be recycled in from home, including all old hardware, which is then recycled by The Green Foundation, with the proceeds going to charity.

Case studies



Producing the first digest of Liberian case law
The Dubai office, together with many other Linklaters offices across the globe, assisted in a project run with Lawyers Without Borders to produce a hard copy digest of the entire jurisprudence of Liberia (approximately 2,000 – 3,000 cases).

Our volunteers reviewed criminal and civil cases and created a “brief” – a short description of the relevant fact patterns of the case and the key rulings of the courts. “West Topic” tag numbers (based on *West’s Analysis of American Law*) were also assigned to each case, essentially creating a form of index which can be used by lawyers and judges in Liberia for ease of research.

Hard copies of the final digest were distributed throughout the cities and rural areas of Liberia, providing access to legal jurisprudence previously absent in the country.

Further information

Find out more about Linklaters’ global approach to CR: www.linklaters.com/responsibility