

Elizabeth Kageni
Associate

Ground Floor, Cassia House, Westlands Office Park,
(Right next to ABSA HQ), Waiyaki Way, Nairobi.

P.O. Box 1612-00606, Sarit Centre, Nairobi, Kenya

T: +254 (0) 700 000 106, +254 (0) 20 434 3159

M: +254 (0) 798 484 801

E: ek@desaiadvocates.com



Personal Summary

Elizabeth is an Advocate of the High Court of Kenya with nine years of post-admission experience, a Commissioner for Oaths and a Notary Public. She specialises primarily in real estate and property law, with additional expertise in corporate and commercial matters and international arbitration.

She has acted in a wide range of real estate transactions, including property dispositions and acquisitions, conveyancing, banking and finance matters, joint ventures, construction projects and large-scale developments. Elizabeth has supported numerous developers in restructuring complex real estate portfolios, managing the registration and transfer of sectional units, perfecting securities and overseeing end-to-end sale and purchase processes. Her work also includes conducting comprehensive due diligence on property acquisitions and advising on regulatory compliance at every stage.

Alongside her property practice, Elizabeth has advised both local and international clients on sophisticated corporate and commercial transactions. Her involvement in international arbitration matters has further strengthened her experience in cross-border disputes and alternative dispute resolution.

Elizabeth is known for her practical, solutions-focused approach, her clear and precise communication and her ability to manage high-value transactions with professionalism and strategic insight.

Qualifications

Certified Fraud Examiner	2022
Admission as an Advocate of the High Court of Kenya	2017
Postgraduate Diploma in Law, Kenya School of Law	2015

Experience

- Structuring and negotiating real estate joint ventures, mixed-use developments, and large-scale property projects.
- Assisting developers process sectional titles and ensure compliance with the regulations governing development of property.
- Advising on setting up of businesses in Kenya and preparing setting up documents relating to companies and partnerships
- Preparing various transaction documents such as Shareholders Agreements, Share Purchase Agreements, Asset Purchase Agreements, Tripartite Employment Agreements in a number of transactions involving the purchase of shares or assets in Mergers and Acquisitions transactions.
- Acting as Tribunal Secretary in an LCIA Arbitration between a company registered in South Africa and a company registered in Ras Al Khaimah, UAE. The dispute relates to the validity of a Share Subscription Agreement.
- Representing a Tanzanian company in a dispute under ICC arbitration against a Tanzanian State Corporation. The claim relates to interests in a thermal power plant and is valued at approximately USD 500,000,000.
- Representing a multi-national security company based in Kenya in an LCIA arbitration concerning the acquisition of an East African security company.
- Representing a London based company which specializes in international tendering and the completion of supply contracts across the globe against a Kenyan Government Ministry in a breach of contract dispute.
- Advising private interests in relation to a family dispute concerning offshore trust worth in excess of USD 100 million and managing litigations in Guernsey and Gibraltar.
- Representing a Tanzanian independent power producer against a Dubai based company for the recovery of monies due in a supply contract under the English Arbitration Act.
- Advising a Rwandan based Independent Power Producer and its London based lenders in enforcement proceedings of an ICC arbitration award against an engineering and construction company based in Kenya.
- Assisting an international power producer in ongoing enforcement of an ICC Arbitration Award in the excess of USD 60,000,000 against an East African government power off taker.

- Co-author of the Environment section of an Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) report prepared for the London Stock Exchange (LSE) and the Kenyan Ministry of Petroleum and Mining. The preparation of the report entailed a detailed review on all Kenyan legislation touching on ESG issues and identifying the gaps in the Kenyan legal framework using international standards as a bench mark. The report is aimed at assisting Kenyan companies in obtaining financing through GreenBonds.
- Assisting in the recovery of USD 600,000 for a Kenyan based property developer against a bank based in China under a performance guarantee.

Publications

- Contributor, Kenya Chapter Guide on Energy for 6th Edition of Global Legal Insights (<https://www.globallegalinsights.com/practice-areas/energy-laws-and-regulations/kenya>)
- Contributor, Kenya Chapter Guide on Anti-Money Laundering for Africa Law and Business (<https://iclg.com/practice-areas/anti-money-laundering-laws-and-regulations/kenya>)
- Contributor, Practical Law Q&A guide on Litigation and Enforcement in Kenya (<https://a.uk.practicallaw.thomsonreuters.com/w-0172955?transitionType=Default&contextData=%28sc.Default%29>)
- Co-Author: A Gap analysis on standards for Environment, Social and Governance: A Guide for Kenya (FSD Africa; UK Aid, 2019) (<https://www.fsdafrica.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/ESG-Final-Report-29.05.2019.pdf>)

Positions held

Associate, Desai & Co.	February 2021- Present
Senior Associate, JMiles & Co.	July 2023 – Present
Associate, JMiles & Co.	February 2017 – July 2023
Trainee Lawyer, Anjarwalla & Khanna Advocates	January 2015 – January 2017
Intern, JMiles & Co, Nairobi	May 2014- December 2014