



Recovery & Resilience; Pro Bono Legal Support Program to Enterprises During COVID-19

About TASLAF Advocates

TASLAF Advocates is a leading law firm in Uganda that provides blended legal and tax services to enterprises in Uganda. Our clients include the leading Impact Finance and Private Equity Funds, social enterprises, construction & manufacturing firms, Agricultural enterprises and the leading non profit/NGO's operating or looking to expand in East Africa. We are driven by a desire to create social impact and influence Africa's entrepreneurial ecosystem through legal support.

With a long tradition of pro-bono support, TASLAF has over the years partnered with Trust Law at Thomson Reuters and with the Emerging Enterprises Program at Sidley Austin to support over 500 social

enterprises with pro-bono legal services in the past five years.

The Program

This program seeks to assist and support SMEs through the effects of COVID-19 and enable business recovery. This program entails providing Pro Bono close and consistent legal support to enable business continuity through building business resilience.

The overarching objective of the legal support is to raise the management standards and practices of MSMEs. For MSMEs to survive, they must be able to adapt their operations to the new environment.

Pro Bono Legal Services for SMEs



A. Business Restructuring - Improvement of SME business management and compliance

- Carry out Internal audits (Both legal and tax)
- Monitor Compliance rates
- Adoption and development of good corporate governance
- Impact on SME turnover and profits
- Contract negotiation with buyers and sellers

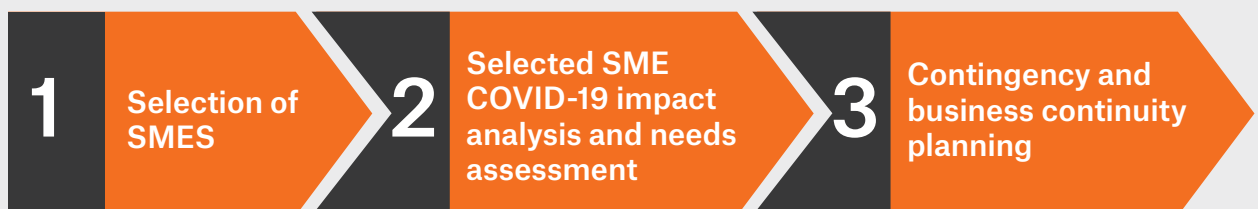
B. One-on-one Legal Advisory - Inform, educate and engage SMEs on existing legal and regulatory requirements to anticipate and mitigate legal and regulatory risks

C. Support Access to Finance

- Structure and negotiate debt or equity agreements with investors;
- Assist SMEs negotiate term sheets with investors;
- Guide SMEs on raising growth capital;
- Assist SMEs gaining finance to formalise their governance structures and raise their compliance

Our Approach

The goal of this program is to support SMEs ensure Economic COVID-19 recovery. Accordingly, the project will entail a preparatory phase consisting of three actions.



We will select a number of SMEs basing on defined criteria to ensure that our services are properly targeted and achieve impact.

Once selected, we'll conduct an impact assessment and a high-level diagnostic of SME COVID-19 legal challenges to determine the priority areas for training and advisory. This will permit us to design and implement an appropriate programme.

Qualifying Entities

Whereas this service is needed by all entities as the world responds to COVID-19, we will focus our attention to the leading MSME's in Uganda in the following categories;

- **Agricultural Enterprises**
- **Renewable & Clean Energy Entities**
- **Tech Companies**
- **Construction &**
- **Non Profits/NGO's and Impact Funds supporting the entities above.**

Program Sustainability

Sustainability is a critical to SME support mechanisms. Our services will leverage robust and longer-term methods and approaches to ensure our support sticks post COVID-19 and to guarantee the

mainstreaming of legal component in SME business administration.

In addition to the legal support, our programme guarantees SMEs one-on-one advisory during COVID-19 and continued support subsequently.



Training Content and Methods

Whilst our definitive content will be informed by the needs assessment, our broad programme will hinge on remedying the standard legal challenges faced by SMEs.

Support Areas

Implementing Agency

TASLAF Advocates and Consultants will be responsible for the management and Coordination of the program. TASLAF has over the years driven Uganda's Entrepreneur ecosystem through Pro Bono legal support focused on small businesses and start-ups, particularly those seeking social impact.

CORPORATE MANAGEMENT	CONTRACTS	TAXATION	INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY	INVESTMENT NEGOTIATION
<p><u>Incorporation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legal structures • Business registration, licensing & certification <p><u>Corporate Management</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legal, regulatory and institutional framework • Legal requirements for Board, Management & Shareholders 	<p><u>Commercial Contracts</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lease, tenancy, suppliers, creditors, off-takers, agent contracts • Hire and purchase agreements • Equipment leasing agreement <p><u>Employment Contracts</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employee vs Independent Contractors • Legal obligations under the new Employment Act 	<p><u>Tax Advisory</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tax Assessments & Audits • Transfer Pricing • Double Tax Agreements <p><u>Tax Compliance</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sector Specific tax regulations • Filings • Tax Health Checks <p><u>Tax Planning</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tax Exemptions • Tax on dividends & CGT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trade marks, copy rights, patents, utility models & trade secrets • Registration • Infringement 	<p><u>Agreements</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confidentiality agreement • Negotiating term sheets • Negotiating and understanding the investment agreement • Loan and debenture agreements <p><u>Understanding Valuation Investment Capital Structures</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing & alternative capital structure

How to sign up;

To sign up please follow the link below;

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