



ORIGO

ADVOCATES
[Formerly Kitaka & Associates Advocates]

FIRM PROFILE

**Corporate
Foreign Direct Investment
International Trade
Tax**



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Our journey

Origo is a Latin word meaning "origin". The adoption of the Origo Advocates brand was born out of the need to build a brand that reflects our **core working** principles namely: **originality** and **ingenuity** in the provision of bespoke solutions to our clients.



Who we are.

Origo Advocates is a regionally recognised brand operating primarily in Kampala as a premier full - service corporate law firm with local depth as well as global reach comprised of both Ugandan and foreign trained lawyers. Since its inception, the firm has been committed to providing clients with comprehensive legal services at a premium standard.

The firm has adopted a methodology of decentralizing the execution of client engagements and decision making which has been balanced by the centralization of legal risk management. This methodology enables the firm to exploit its multidisciplinary legal talent while guaranteeing that legal pitfalls are explored and overseen thoroughly and with clear transparency.



Our value proposition

Cost Certainty

We manage the costs associated with provision of legal services by performing cost vis a vis benefit evaluation of all available options before undertaking any instructions. We also offer our clients certainty and transparency by billing before undertaking any transaction and providing fixed fees.

Teamwork

We pride ourselves on the strength and unity of team work which allows us to prioritize the needs of our clients.

Responsive Timeframes

We maximise efficiency and minimise delays by communicating with our clients and constantly engaging them throughout the execution of any engagement.

Specialist Lawyers

Our lawyers have all undertaken specialised training in their area of expertise and have experience working with clients across a number of industries.

Diversity

Our well balanced workforce and leadership fosters and supports diversity.



MEET THE TEAM



Flavia Asiimwe Managing Partner

Tel No; +256 773360315
Email: fasiimwe@origolaw.ug

Flavia is the Managing Partner of the firm in charge of operations. Flavia is also a partner in our Corporate / Commercial department. She provides advice for a variety of private companies, with an emphasis on the hospitality, tourism, agribusiness, and technology sectors. She also has extensive experience with respect to Company Board governance and often serves as a Company Secretary for the firm's clients.

Education

- University of Kent, UK, LLB. (Hons).
- Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda- Pre-Bar Course- Lawyers with foreign qualifications compliance program- Makerere School of Law
- Law Development Centre, Diploma in Legal Practice (Bar qualification).
- Student, Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators, UK

Professional qualifications

- Admitted as an Advocate of the High Court of Uganda and all Courts subordinate.

Martin Kitaka Partner

Tel No: +256 705203180
Email: mkitaka@origolaw.ug



Martin is an experienced commercial litigation and insolvency practitioner. Martin practices commercial litigation with a significant focus on family law, financing, insolvency litigation, and commercial debt enforcement. He has appeared as an Insolvency Practitioner in numerous insolvency proceedings and has litigated a variety of financial services related issues. Martin represents our clients regularly in the Courts of Judicature in Uganda as a Trial Counsel.

Education

- Makerere University LLB. (Hons).
- Law Development Centre, Diploma in Legal Practice (Bar qualification)

Professional qualifications

- Admitted as an Advocate of the High Court of Uganda and all Courts subordinate.



Mark Kizza

Partner

Tel No: +256773091830
Email: mkizza@origolaw.ug

Mark is a Partner in our Tax practice and a Certified Tax Advisor-the highest-level tax professional certification in Uganda by the Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Uganda. He practices in all areas of domestic as well as international tax law, with a particular focus on corporate transactions and reorganizations, foreign direct investment, financing, private equity, and individual tax planning. Mark is also experienced in a variety of corporate and commercial transactions.

Education

- Makerere University LLB. (Hons).
- Law Development Centre, Diploma in Legal Practice (Bar qualification).
- Certified Tax Advisor, Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Uganda.

Professional qualifications

- Admitted as an Advocate of the High Court of Uganda and all Courts subordinate.
- Certified Tax Advisor

Lwanga Timothy

Partner

Tel No: +256 777461775
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Timothy is a Partner in our Land Transactions and Real Estate practice. Timothy acts for numerous property developers in all aspects of development projects including acquisitions, dispositions, conveyancing and sub-divisioning of land. Timothy advises foreign investors regularly on acquisitions and dispositions of real estate under all types of land tenure in Uganda. During his practice, Timothy has gained in - depth knowledge in handling transactions involving negotiating and successful closure of land acquisitions or dispositions involving statutory and local administration bodies.

Education

- Makerere University LLB. (Hons).
- Law Development Centre, Diploma in Legal Practice (Bar qualification)

Professional qualifications

- Admitted as an Advocate of the High Court of Uganda and all Courts subordinate.



Ivan Ojakol

Of Counsel

Tel No: +256 787261019
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Ivan helps our domestic and international clients navigate a broad range of international trade and regional investment law issues. He provides strategic advice related to free trade and investment protection agreements, customs law, export controls, economic sanctions, trade remedies and international dispute settlement.

He represents clients in a broad range of industries, including manufacturing, technology, oil and gas, and agriculture.

Education

- Ugandan Christian University, LLB. (Hons).
- Law Development Centre, Diploma in Legal Practice (Bar qualification)
- Post Graduate Diploma in Taxation, (East African School of Taxation)
- Post Graduate Diploma in Trade and Policy (Lund University) Professional qualifications

Professional qualifications

- Admitted as an Advocate of the High Court of Uganda and all Courts subordinate.

Ortega Daniel

Of Counsel

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Daniel's practice focuses on charitable and Non-governmental organisations ("NGOS"), including major foreign registered NGO'S organisations, private clubs and churches. As such, he has extensive experience in dealing with the unique legal issues faced by not-for-profit and charitable organizations. Much of his recent work has been to assist clients with the transition to compliance and governance under the Non-Governmental Organisations, Act 2016, which is the principal law regulating charities in Uganda.

Education

- Makerere University, LLB. (Hons).
- Law Development Centre, Diploma in Legal Practice (Bar qualification)



Geoffrey Mugema

Of Counsel

Email; gmugema@origolaw.ug

Geoffrey's practice focuses specifically on market entry and corporate financing. Geoffrey handles all legal aspects of financial or commercial transactions, such as reorganisations or acquisitions. He provides legal advice to lenders as well as borrowers. His involvement in transactional and financial matters includes due diligence, drafting and negotiation of loan or security agreements or other closing documents.

Education

- Makerere University LLB. (Hons).
- Law Development Centre, Diploma in Legal Practice (Bar qualification)

Nuru Nakalule

Associate



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Nuru is an Associate in the firm focused on private limited liability companies and taxation. She assists clients at all stages of operation of the business, from incorporation to complying with regular statutory filings, ensuring all transactions are undertaken in a tax-efficient manner. She also has experience dealing with the establishment and governance of charities and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs).

Education

- Makerere University LLB. (Hons).
- Law Development Centre, Diploma in Legal Practice (Bar qualification)



Sectors

a) Consumer goods & retail

The Consumer goods & retail practice group advises international, regional and domestic supermarket chains, fashion brands, manufacturers, and individuals on the dynamic, regulatory and business issues that face the retail and consumer products industries.

b) Energy and Natural resources

The firm regularly represents businesses, investors and promoters in energy and natural resources transactions, including joint venture agreements and purchases and sales of producing and undeveloped assets.

c) International Trade

Our firm's International Trade practitioners advise clients working in the area of International Trade on strategic planning, regulatory matters, and dispute resolution. The firm provides advice to clients on both foreign direct investment into Uganda and domestic investment in many of the African regional markets.

d) Financial Services

Our team's deep and multidisciplinary team of experts brings to the table an unparalleled mix of experience, ingenuity, practicality, and productivity on behalf of our financial sector and institutional investor clients, with increased oversight and regulation of companies in the financial services sector.

e) Real estate

Our team will help you successfully negotiate through real estate acquisitions and dispositions, better manage your long-term goals, and monitor all types of property purchases to help you keep the costs associated with your next property acquisition to an absolute minimum.

f) Agribusiness

We are well acquainted with agriculture and all of the complexities that come with it. Our team is committed to assisting clients of all sizes with land, health and safety, dispute resolution, environmental compliance, agricultural insurance claims, regulatory compliance, and other legal issues.

g) Hospitality and Tourism

In the context of operating, buying, selling, financing, and restructuring hospitality and tourism portfolios, our team of lawyers understands the unique corporate/commercial, real estate, labour and jobs, pension, and tax problems that occur in the hospitality field.

h) Diaspora

Starting out originally as a sub sect of the Foreign Direct Investment department, the firm came to realize that it needed to have a specialised unit handling the unique issues that East Africans encounter when investing their hard earned money back home. We are alive to the unique risks of having to invest your money back home without maintaining a physical presence.

i) Infrastructure, construction and transport

The Ugandan building and construction industry is a complex and constantly changing area associated with high levels of risk. At the firm, our team of building and construction lawyers provide a unique and rare offering to our clients designed to simplify and reduce those complexities and risks. We have in-depth knowledge in how projects are planned, budgeted and constructed.







Services

1) Corporate

Our corporate advisory team is comprised of a robust group of lawyers who advise a broad spectrum of clients in entity formation, compliance with continuing legal obligations under specific laws governing an industry. Our diverse client base ranges from start-up companies to family-owned and other privately-held companies.

2) Employment

Our dedicated team of lawyers is well conversant with the intricacies of managing people in a Company while ensuring maximum productivity of the Company. Our team advises Clients across a wide range of industries on matters dealing with employee welfare, settlement of grievances within employment, sexual harassment, labour export, employee relocation, filing obligations, wrongful dismissal, discrimination, occupational safety, health and redundancies.

3) Foreign Direct Investment

Our dedicated team of lawyers is well conversant with the intricacies of managing people in a Company while ensuring maximum productivity of the Company. Our team advises Clients across a wide range of industries on matters dealing with employee welfare, settlement of grievances within employment, sexual harassment, labour export, employee relocation, filing obligations, wrongful dismissal, discrimination, occupational safety, health and redundancies.

4) Global mobility and Immigration

With a long and muddled interaction, Immigration can frequently be the greatest worry for our clients. Our team manages the process seamlessly and eliminates the obstacles thanks to their deep experience and good local ties. Our assistance covers all visa, immigration paperwork, preparation, travel, logistics, home search, lease management, temporary housing, HR support, recruiting, and tax services.

5) Project Finance

The strength of our Project Finance team is based on combining our multidisciplinary talent with other professional services players in the market with our deep experience in understanding of Project Finance. We work with our clients throughout the conception and implementation stages of the project in order to meet the project goals.

6) Intellectual Property and Technology

In Uganda, our Intellectual Property (IP) practice is a market leader in the region for being comprised of individuals at the forefront of offering cutting edge solutions and approaches to a variety of IP issues. Our team offers support in copyright, patents, brand rights and trademarks, false advertising, breach of trust, database protection, commercial IP licensing, product liability, cyber security, and anti-counterfeiting. Our expertise is in the protection of intellectual property rights.

7) Litigation, Arbitration and Regulatory

Our team offers the expertise, experience and knowledge that clients depend upon to arrive at satisfying resolutions in this highly charged area, while being mindful of the financial and reputation cost to the client. The team has adopted international best practices in resolving disputes by encouraging alternate dispute resolution mechanisms as a way of resolving a matter at first instance.

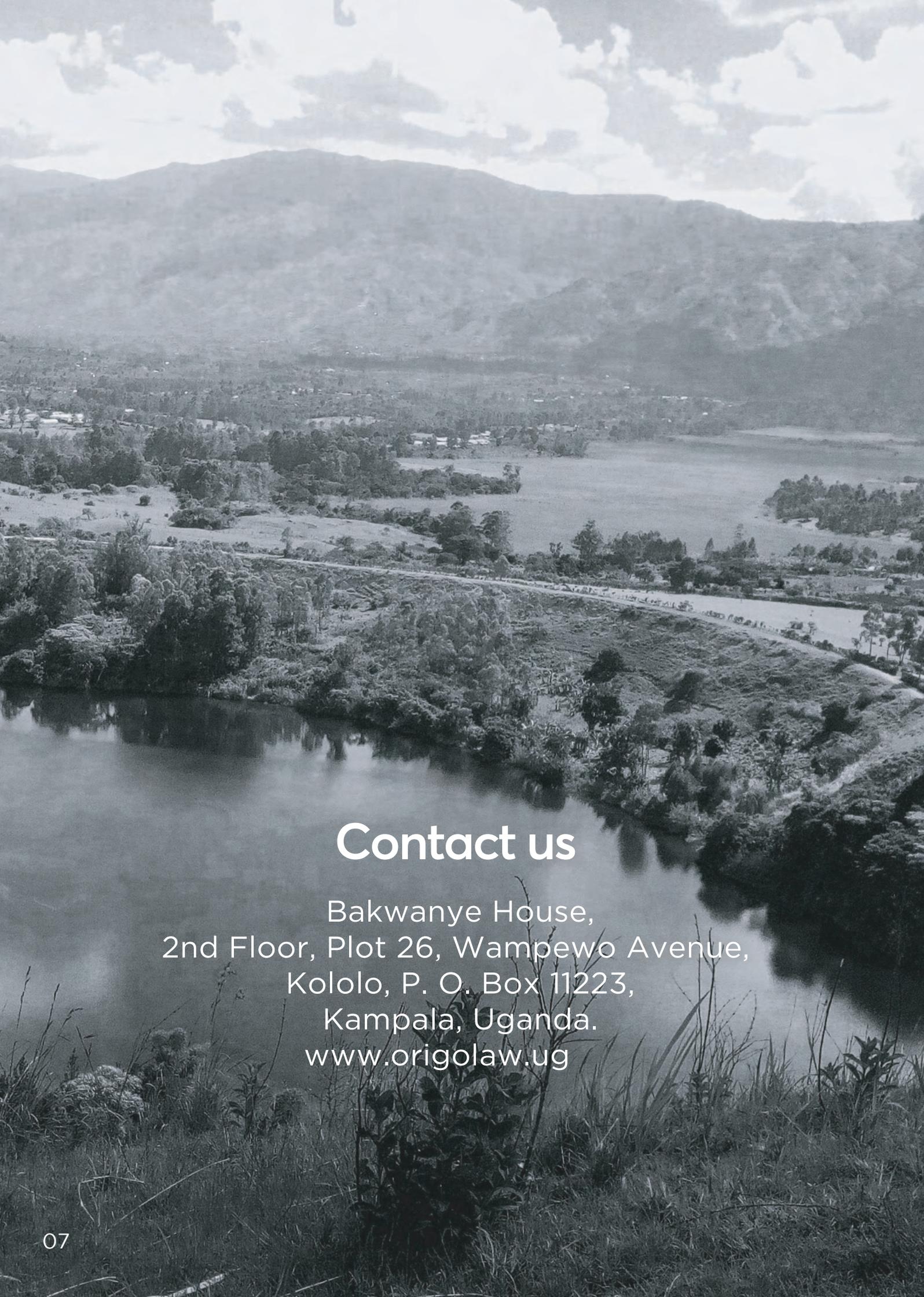
8) Restructuring

Our team of lawyers has relevant experience in handling insolvency matters both from a litigation point of view and also from an advisory point of view. The team is regularly engaged by both creditors and debtors to put in place strategies that ensure a satisfying result for all parties involved.

9) Tax

We deal with all aspects of Ugandan and International tax matters, as well as ensuring that Uganda Revenue Authority (“URA”) remains accountable for its administration of our Client’s tax matters. We are regularly called upon by our clients to handle legal issues in the areas of Corporate Tax, Individual Tax, Value Added Tax, Excise duty, and customs. Our corporate tax work includes proactive planning on technically complex matters and advising on how to effectively manage any future tax pitfalls.



A black and white landscape photograph showing a wide river valley. In the foreground, there is a river with some vegetation on its banks. The middle ground shows a valley with scattered trees and a dirt road. In the background, there are large, hazy mountains under a cloudy sky.

Contact us

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