

Legal Counsel

September 2022

Job Title:	Legal Counsel
Location:	Cape Town, South Africa
Term of Contract:	Full time, Permanent
Salary:	Commensurate to Experience

Introduction

An exciting opportunity has come up for an experienced lawyer to join AgDevCo's legal team.

Established in 2009, AgDevCo is a social impact investor that invests in agribusinesses in Sub-Saharan Africa. It is a permanent capital vehicle with assets under management of USD250 million and growing. AgDevCo's aim is to promote sustainable and commercially viable agribusinesses and to achieve high development impact by reducing poverty, contributing to wider economic growth and development. AgDevCo provides patient capital, in the form of debt and/or equity, and specialist advice to support a portfolio of high-potential investees. The company works closely with its investees as collaborative, yet challenging, partners. AgDevCo's approach allows for a better mutual understanding of each investment's opportunities and risks, which facilitates and accelerates business improvements.

AgDevCo has regional offices and country presence in West, East and Southern Africa (with its South African base in Cape Town) – and investments in 10 countries in sub-Saharan Africa.

More details can be found here: www.agdevco.com

Role

Reporting to the General Counsel, the Legal Counsel will work within a small legal team, supporting and collaborating with investment and operations teams in London and across AgDevCo's offices in sub-Saharan Africa.

Key responsibilities

- ▶ Providing support and advice on AgDevCo's debt, mezzanine and equity investments including drafting and reviewing investment documentation, managing legal due diligence processes, and managing and coordinating advice from external counsel
- ▶ Working with investment teams to ensure that transactions are pursued in a timely manner and legal risks are identified and managed
- ▶ Supporting the legal team and the AgDevCo group in relation to a variety of legal, regulatory and compliance risks, keeping abreast of legal updates in AgDevCo's jurisdictions of operation, and providing training to staff on these matters
- ▶ Assisting with the legal aspects of stakeholder management
- ▶ Advising on governance and policy matters
- ▶ Advising on a wide range of commercial issues
- ▶ Contributing to papers for executive/investment committees on the legal aspects of transactions

- ▶ Assisting UK and country offices with statutory filing requirements

Although the role is based in Cape Town, there may be occasional travel required to AgDevCo's offices in London, Nairobi, Lusaka, Kampala and Accra.

Person specification

Essential

- ▶ Passion for international development with demonstrable alignment to AgDevCo's mission
- ▶ Qualified as a lawyer in South Africa or a common law jurisdiction, with at least five years post-qualification experience (ideally at a major law firm)
- ▶ Experience advising on corporate M&A/private equity transactions
- ▶ Commercial and corporate law knowledge with proven reviewing, negotiating and drafting skills and attention to detail
- ▶ Strong team player with excellent written and verbal communication skills and an ability to explain legal issues and risks to investment teams, and recommend appropriate courses of action
- ▶ Willingness to collaborate and support on a variety of different initiatives and tasks
- ▶ Ability to work independently and pragmatically and to manage priorities and work to challenging deadlines
- ▶ Flexible and eager to work in a dynamic and fast-paced environment
- ▶ Working understanding of business integrity legislation (AML, anti-corruption, etc) applicable to international investors such as AgDevCo

Desirable

- ▶ Qualified as a solicitor in the UK
- ▶ In-house experience
- ▶ Familiarity with DFI ESG standards and requirements
- ▶ Experience within an international organisation
- ▶ Experience working on transactions across Sub-Saharan Africa
- ▶ Experience with debt investments

How to apply

Interested candidates should submit their applications by email to careers@agdevco.com and with "Legal Counsel - Cape Town 2022" in the subject line.

All applicants should be eligible to live and work in South Africa.

To be considered, email applications must include all of the following:

- ▶ Confirmation of the right to work in South Africa without the need for sponsorship;
- ▶ a CV that details all qualifications and relevant experience; and
- ▶ a cover letter that describes the motivation for applying to the role.

There will be two interview stages, with shortlisted candidates invited to complete a written assessment prior to the second round interview.

Diversity

AgDevCo is committed to creating a diverse environment and is proud to be an equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, colour, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or age.

Personal data

Please note that by submitting an application to AgDevCo, it is understood that candidates acknowledge and accept the following statement:

“In submitting this application, I agree that AgDevCo may collect the personal data it contains and use that data for current and future recruitment. In the event that my application is unsuccessful, I understand that my details will be securely destroyed after six months.”