



Maona Matanda

Special Counsel

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OVERVIEW

Maona Matanda is a special counsel in the firm's Real Estate practice. She focuses on infrastructure and construction. Maona has over 15 years of experience advising on major infrastructure, construction, and energy transactions using a variety of delivery methods, including PPPs.

Maona has advised public and private sector clients on numerous major infrastructure projects, including NSW Central-West Orana Renewable Energy Zone Transmission PPP, Sydney Metro Western Sydney Airport PPP, Suburban Rail Loop East, Inland Rail PPP, Central Precinct Renewal, Circular Quay Redevelopment, M7-M12 Interchange and M7 Widening, Gold Coast Light Rail PPP, Cross River Rail and Frankston Hospital Redevelopment PPP.

She has considerable knowledge and experience spanning the full project lifecycle and a reputation for navigating the key risks in the various stages of major infrastructure projects. Clients have noted that Maona is strategic, commercial and solution-focused.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Prior to joining K&L Gates, Maona was a senior associate in the infrastructure and energy a group at an international law firm based in Sydney. She also spent eight years working at two top tier law firms.

Maona has also worked in-house on five client secondments, which helps her understand commercial drivers and legal issues from multiple perspectives.

PROFESSIONAL / CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- Women on Boards, member, 2023
- National Association of Women in Construction (NAWIC), member, 2015 - present
- Society of Construction Law Australia, 2018 - present
- Women in Banking and Finance, member, 2019 - 2023

- Law Society of New South Wales, member, 2019 – 2023
- Infrastructure Association of Queensland, Infrastructure Funders Taskforce, 2017 - 2019

OTHER INFORMATION

According to clients,

"Maona is a knowledgeable, hardworking professional, who is passionate about her contract law and delivers high quality responses. I have received outstanding support from Maona in delivering the contractual aspects of a wide range of Sourcing projects. Maona interprets the legal issues and is able to clearly explain to her stakeholders the business issues. She has strong commercial and legal skills and not only delivers to the deadlines, but adds true quality in her responses." - Electricity distribution client

"Maona was instrumental to [our] success in navigating a complex legal framework and eventually be appointed to develop, lease and operate the Webb Dock West RoRo and Auto terminal in Melbourne, Australia. Maona was working closely with me and my team going through all the various documents and contracts to ensure each risk was assessed and eliminated. I can only speak highly of Maona's work ethics, knowledge and spirit during four long and extensive weeks. Without you on our team we would have struggled and I'm only happy to recommend you to other similar projects." - Senior Vice President, an international logistics company

EDUCATION

- LL.B., University of Adelaide, *Honours*
- B.A., Monash University, (*First Class Honours*)

ADMISSIONS

- High Court of Australia
- Supreme Court of Victoria

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Energy Assets and Transactions
- Real Estate Development and Construction

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Advising Australia's largest provider of multimodal public transport on Suburban Rail Loop East alliancing package.
- Advising international facility management services company on New Melton Hospital PPP project (AU\$1.0 billion).

- Advising Oman government department on development of PPP.
- Advising an Australian government-owned statutory corporation on the Inland Rail PPP, a high-capacity freight link, including leading legal bench marking and evaluating bids.
- Advising a civil engineering company and a global transportation company in JV, as part of a consortium, on bid for Sydney Metro Western Sydney Airport PPP.
- Advising on three stages of the Gold Coast Light Rail PPP project.
- Advising a Canadian train producer on heavy rail New Generation Rolling Stock PPP project, including negotiating and drafting bespoke contracts for modification works.
- Acting for a multinational construction company in bid for design, supply, and installation of the supporting rail systems and brownfield works for Cross River Rail project.
- Advising lenders to an Australian infrastructure investment business-led consortium on bid for Central-West Orana Renewable Energy Zone, to facilitate the construction of new renewable energy capacity.
- Advising a Government-owned statutory corporation that provides potable drinking water, on an expansion plan and procurement methodology for Sydney Desalination Plant.
- Advising a Singapore-based company that owns and operates wind farms and other renewable energy on leasing, relocating, and operating generators gas-fired peaking at Snapper Point Power Plant.
- Advising one of the world's largest toll-road operators on the M7 Widening and M7-M12 Interchange PPP project, including supervising due diligence work stream.
- Advising one of the world's largest toll-road operators on the Westconnex PPP project, including M4, M5, and M4-M5 Link.
- Advising an Australasian construction company on Transmission Gully PPP project regarding drafting subcontract suite.
- Advising an Australasian construction company on negotiating and drafting subcontracts and tender documents for the Mackay Ring Road.
- Advising an Australian construction and civil engineering company, as part of a British investor-led consortium, on the Frankston Hospital Redevelopment PPP project.
- Advising lenders to consortium led by a global developer and investor on bids for Victorian Public Housing Renewal Program PPP project.
- Advising on the Sunshine Coast University Hospital PPP project during the administration phase, including drafting advices and preparing amending deeds.
- Drafting and negotiating key project documents, evaluating bids, and advising on risk allocation on Single LEAP Phase 2 PPP project on 14 bases.

- Advising a state government on various operational phase issues for the Darwin Correctional Centre PPP project.
- Evaluating RFPs to design, construct, and operate eight schools re the WA Schools PPP project.
- Advising one of the world's leading investors, developers, and asset managers on bid for Circular Quay Renewal PPP project.
- Advising a government transport and road agency on Central Precinct Renewal PPP project.
- Advising territory government on development, ownership, and operation of new Darwin Convention Centre Hotel.