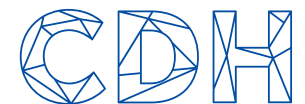




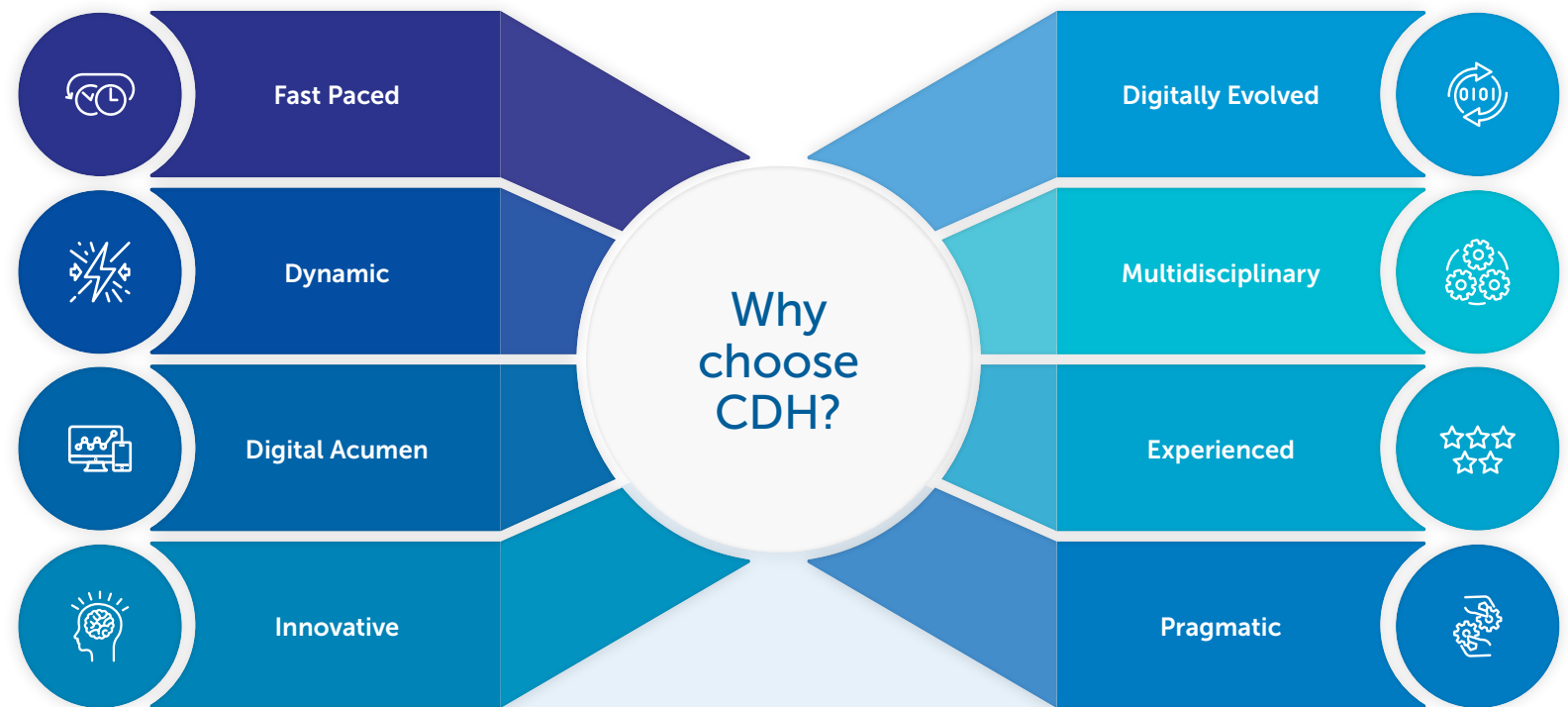
# TECHNOLOGY & COMMUNICATIONS

PARTNER | INNOVATE | EVOLVE



## Ambition

Accompany clients on a journey to innovate and evolve in everchanging digital landscape.

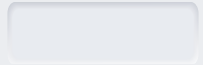


According to **Darwin's Origin of Species**, it is not the most intellectual of the species that survives; it is not the strongest that survives; but the species that survives is the one that is able best to adapt and adjust to the changing environment in which it finds itself.

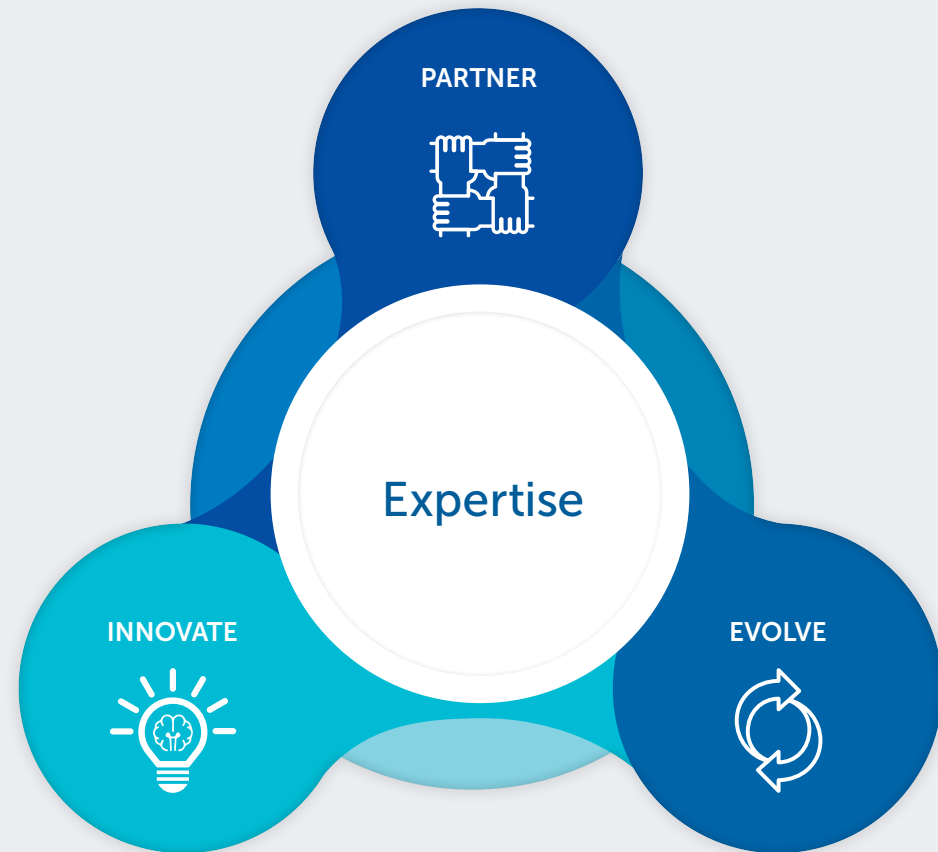


# Technology & Communications

PARTNER | INNOVATE | EVOLVE



Collaborating to understand and develop your technology strategy, complementing legal expertise with commercial and digital acumen

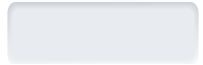


Multidisciplinary expertise, digital acumen, developing bespoke solutions, advising on legal technology

Continuous disruption of traditional legal methodologies, support implementation of Legal Technology and Regulatory Technology







### Transactional capability

We are a global powerhouse and pride ourselves in our expertise in managing legal, risk compliance and regulatory aspects in over 47 countries and specialize in IoT platforms, IP offshoring, infrastructure build and research and development. With regards to our financial services we have deployed mobile banking platforms across Africa (MPESA, Vodapay, E-vouchering). We support large and complex sourcing for major South African banks for both customer and supplier facing transactions.

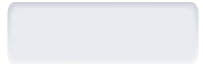
### Our people

Tayyibah Suliman commenced her articles at Hofmeyr Herbststein and Gihwala in 2008 and was appointed a Director in 2016 at Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr (CDH) in the Technology Media & Telecommunications (TMT) practice area.

In the course of 2017, she was offered an opportunity to join a project team within Vodacom Business Africa (VBA) for the regulatory engagement and technology implementation related the sale of multiple entities across Africa. During this time I also established a skill set on the use of various legal technology solutions and I relocated to the UK in 2019 to support a legal-tech insurance start up (Nuvalaw).

She was subsequently requested by VBA to return to head up its legal portfolio.

In 2022, she was seconded to Safaricom Ethiopia to support the establishment of a new legal portfolio in country, whilst deputising for the Chief of Legal. She maintained both the VBA portfolio and Safaricom Ethiopia portfolios in 2022. During his Vodacom tenure, she also supported Mezzanineware (a Vodacom Internet of Things subsidiary) and the implementation of various financial services solutions for Vodacom.



## Recent Highlights

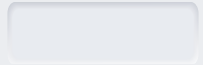
- Advising and supporting Vodacom Financial Services on the implementation of Vodapay.
- Advising Mezzanine on deploying an IoT platform for renewable energy consumption for Eskom Virtual Wheeling.
- Supporting Mezzanine on banking integration with Standard Bank for Virtual Wheeling.
- Oversight on Telecommunications Regulatory Strategy across 47 countries.
- Advising and negotiating MPESA Huawei financial services platform arrangements on behalf of Safaricom Ethiopia.
- Advising Mezzanine on collaboration with CSIR and municipalities on IoT platform rollout.

## Objectives

The objective of the Technology Law subsidiary practice under the Corporate and Commercial practice is to provide a full range of advisory services to a diverse client base. The intention is to build a diverse and dynamic team with deep seated experience on meeting the needs of clients, and in particular in-house legal counsel, by tailoring our offering in an ever-changing technology ecosystem. This will also enrich collaboration across multiple practice areas within the firm to ensure that clients receive a holistic and broadened range of experience and support on more complex transactions and instructions.

## Expertise

The objective of the Technology Law subsidiary practice under the Corporate and Commercial practice is to provide a full range of advisory services to a diverse client base. The intention is to build a diverse and dynamic team with deep seated experience on meeting the needs of clients, and in particular in-house legal counsel, by tailoring our offering in an ever-changing technology ecosystem. This will also enrich collaboration across multiple practice areas within the firm to ensure that clients receive a holistic and broadened range of experience and support on more complex transactions and instructions.



## Practice focal areas



Artificial  
intelligence



Financial  
technology



Regulatory  
technology



Climate  
technology



Outsourcing



Tech M&A



Blockchain and  
digital currency



Cloud satellites



Digital health



Software licensing



Internet of Things



Data protection



Cybersecurity



Telecommunications  
regulatory



Content and  
media



General technology and  
telecommunications  
contracting



## Fintech

- Notably, we can provide a comprehensive legal offering to Fintech clients and other financial service providers across Africa, for mobile banking and other similar solutions
- Developing legal frameworks to support fintech innovation
- Advising on the establishment and operation of mobile banking and other similar financial service platforms, including platform services, switching and sponsorship arrangements



## Telecommunications

- Submarine cable construction, maintenance and lease arrangements
- National long distance fiber and IRUs
- General regulatory advice licensing, competition, voice, OTT, etc.)
- Mobile and fixed line service arrangements
- Advising on Unified Communications



## Data protection and privacy

- Advisory services on full scope of data protection legal requirements and industry standards
- Advising on impact of cross border transfers of personal data
- Advise on compliance with GDPR and other data protection regimes
- Cybersecurity policy and general advisory services



## Artificial intelligence

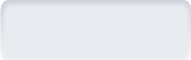
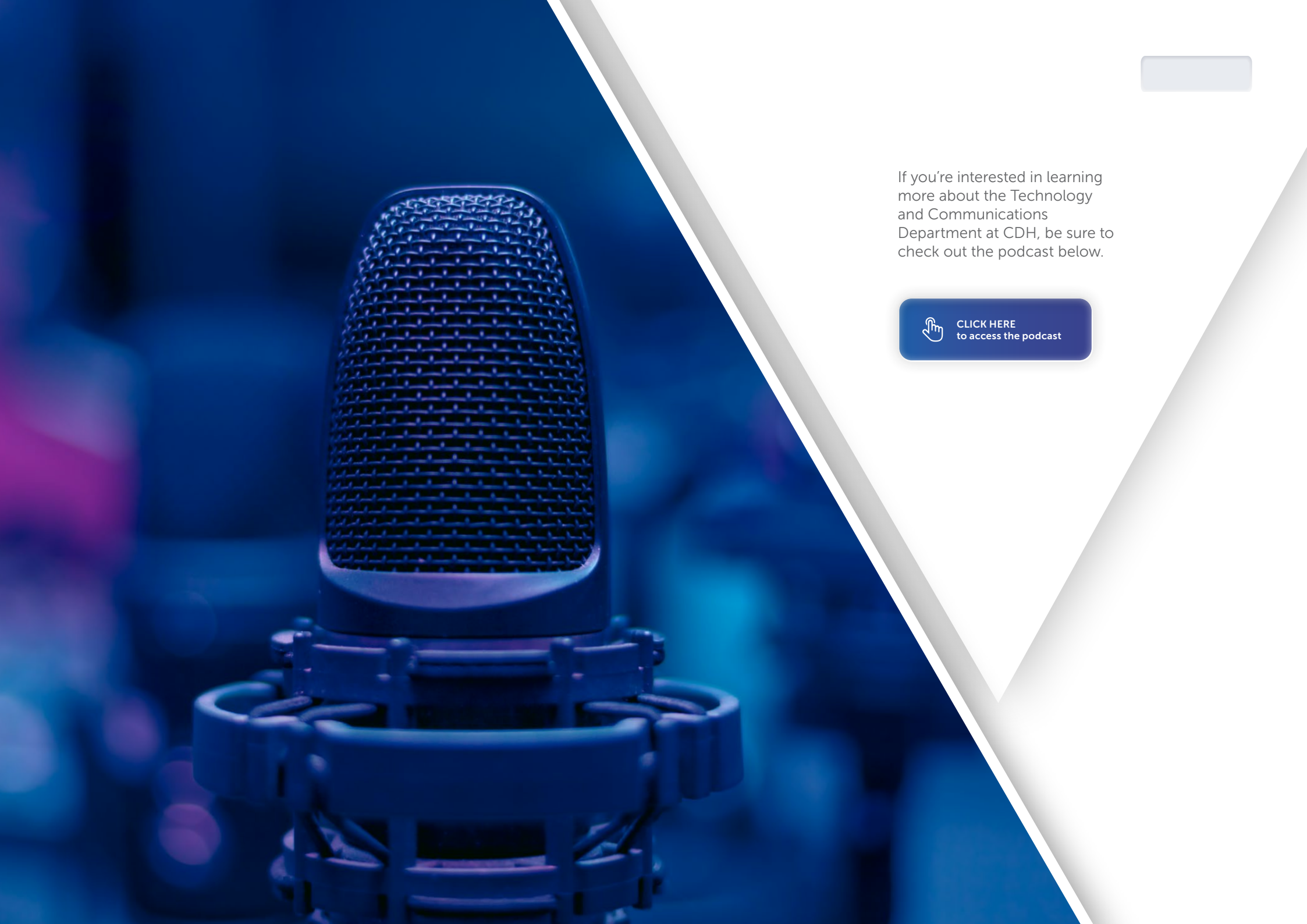
- Workplace AI training and related workshops
- Workplace AI policy drafting, assessing associated risks and developing guidelines to mitigate associated risks
- AI workplace integration strategy.
- Leveraged network of IT experts to facilitate high level integration and system building



## Technology

- General technology contracting arrangements for software, hardware, development and hosting arrangements
- Advisory services on the full life-cycle of any M&A transaction to address intellectual property, technology infrastructure, telecommunications, media, etc
- Advising on a vast array of technology and other sourcing arrangements across financial services, telecommunications, FMCG and other industries
- Formulation on new contract structures innovations
- Subscription and other agreement arrangements for new technology products based on any level of complexity
- Policy development on AI and other technology innovations that impact on proprietary and ethical interests of any business
- Formulating technology processes to address innovation in regtech and legal tech





If you're interested in learning more about the Technology and Communications Department at CDH, be sure to check out the podcast below.

 [CLICK HERE  
to access the podcast](#)



## MARKET RECOGNITION

**Our Technology & Communications team is externally praised for its depth of resources, capabilities and experience.**

*Chambers Global 2024–2025* ranked our practice in Band 2 for IT & telecoms.

*Chambers Global 2011–2023* ranked our practice in Band 1 for IT & telecommunications.

*Chambers FinTech 2019–2022* ranked our FinTech sector in Band 1.

**The way we support and interact with our clients attracts significant external recognition.**

*Chambers Global 2024–2025* ranked [Shem Otanga](#) in Band 2 for intellectual property. *Chambers Global 2021–2023* ranked Shem as 'Up & Coming' intellectual property lawyer. From **2019–2021** he was ranked as 'Lawyer to watch' for intellectual property. *World Trademark Review 1000 2025* (Kenya) ranked Shem in the silver category and in 2024 in the bronze category. *World Trademark Review 1000 2025* (Kenya) ranked Shem in the silver category and in 2024 in the bronze category.

*Chambers Global 2025* ranked [Ngeri Wagacha](#) in Band 2 for Fintech, and in Band 3 in 2024. *Chambers 2025* ranked her in Band 4 for corporate/M&A. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2022–2025* recommended Njeri for employment. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2023–2025* recommends her for corporate, commercial/M&A. *IFLR1000 2024* ranked Njeri as a highly regarded lawyer in Private equity, and M&A. Njeri was shortlisted for the *PSG Capital Individual DealMaker of the Year 2024 (East Africa)*.

*Chambers Global 2024–2025* ranked [Jerome Brink](#) as and 'Up & Coming' tax lawyer. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2023–2025* recommended Jerome as a 'Next Generation' lawyer for tax. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2022* recommended him for tax.

*Chambers Global 2025* ranked [Simone Dickson](#) in Band 3 for IT & Telecoms and in 2024 ranked her in Band 4.



## OUR TEAM

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**BBBEE STATUS: LEVEL ONE CONTRIBUTOR**

Our BBBEE verification is one of several components of our transformation strategy and we continue to seek ways of improving it in a meaningful manner.

**PLEASE NOTE**

This information is published for general information purposes and is not intended to constitute legal advice. Specialist legal advice should always be sought in relation to any particular situation. Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr will accept no responsibility for any actions taken or not taken on the basis of this publication.

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