



PROFILE



Deal**Makers**  ANNUAL AWARDS
WEST**AFRICA**

Seyi Bella

Banwo & Ighodalo

JOINT INDIVIDUAL DEALMAKER OF THE YEAR - WEST AFRICA 2025

A Partner with over 20 years of experience, Seyi Bella is a member of the firm's Corporate, Securities and Finance teams. She is the lead partner in various practice areas, including Banking and Finance, Project Finance, Project Development and Infrastructure Financing, Private Equity, M&A and Fintech.

Seyi is known for her ability to take the most commercially driven approach in structuring and negotiating deals for setting innovative market precedents. She recently co- led the team that advised African Export-Import Bank in connection with an up to US\$750 million facility advanced to Heirs Energies. She also co-led the team that advised Africa Finance Corporation in connection with the secured financing of up to \$496,4 million for the purposes of financing Heirs' acquisition of a 50.07% equity stake in Maurel & Prom in Seplat Energy. Notably, Seyi led the team as Nigerian counsel to the IFC and Stanbic IBTC Bank in connection with the c.\$80 million advanced to Greenlight Planet Sun King Nigeria. She also led the team that advised the Standard Bank of South Africa and Stanbic IBTC Bank in connection with an up to €70 million facility granted to Supertech Chemical Industry for the construction of a 100,000-ton methanol and 160,000-ton ammonium bicarbonate chemical processing plant.

Seyi led the team that advised on the DealMakers Deal of the Year 2024, advising Renaissance Africa on its acquisition of the Shell Petroleum Development Company of Nigeria. During that year, she advised a syndicate of lenders with a €2 billion syndicated loan facility advanced

to the Bank of Industry – a 'first of its kind' transaction (in terms of size and structure) by any financial institution in Nigeria. Seyi also led the team that advised a syndicate of banks in connection with bridge facilities (\$450 million) to Chappal Investments, in relation to the acquisition of Equinor Nigeria Energy Company.

Beyond her transactional work, Seyi plays a pivotal role in the development and standardisation of the global financing market, with a reputation for capacity development of lawyers with interest, or in active practice across her core practice areas. She is currently the firm's designated representative and contact person in connection with its membership in the Loan Market Association (LMA). She has served as a repeat facilitator and speaker at the annual LMA Documentation Training Series in Nigeria. Seyi sits as a director on the boards of NOLT Finance, Ocean Hospitality, Fate Foundation (an NGO committed to the development of training entrepreneurs in Nigeria), and Grayson's Trust Management Services.

Her legal expertise and leadership qualities have been widely recognised by numerous legal directories, such as IFLR 1000, Legal 500 and Lexology Index.

Seyi holds an LL.B from the University of Lagos, a B.L from the Nigerian Law School, and an LL.M from Harvard Law School. She is a member of the Nigerian and New York Bar Associations. 


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