# JEAN-VINCENT DACRUZ

PROFILE



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JEAN-VINCENT DACRUZ

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BACKGROUND

Jean-Vincent Dacruz is an Associate in the Banking and Finance practice area, specializing in advising on complex and high-value financial transactions. His expertise spans across project finance, banking regulatory matters, fund financing, security structuring, and cross-border and domestic deals. Jean-Vincent also has extensive experience advising clients on the enforcement of Mauritian law-governed security interests.

He has played a key role in major transactions, including advising top-tier direct lenders and international banks on the financing of the acquisition of a French-owned group of companies, notably JA Delmas, a leading distributor of Caterpillar equipment operating across 11 West African countries. Additionally, Jean-Vincent has contributed to landmark financings in Africa, including the largest financing secured by a corporate borrower on the continent to date.

Recognised for his expertise in banking regulatory matters, Jean-Vincent is a published author in the field and has been acknowledged by Chambers & Partners for his contributions in 2023 and 2024.

Jean-Vincent is passionate about advancing sustainability in Africa. He has worked on transformative deals and projects shaping the continent's future, including sustainability-linked loans aimed at fostering impactful investments in Africa. His involvement extends to advising on major renewable energy projects, such as large-scale power plants that are helping to drive the region's transition to clean energy.

### **CLIENT'S FEEDBACK**

"Provided full support to us and the bank involved in the financing transaction. He was very responsive, committed, prompt in revising documents and responding to various queries. He provided practical and clear advice to the bank." – IFLR1000

"Jean-Vincent Dacruz is just very responsive. He understands what we're trying to do. He is willing to provide comments and views on things. He is professional. I know I can rely on him." – THIRD PARTY | CHAMBERS GLOBAL GUIDE, 2024

"Valerie Bisasur and her team, particularly Jean-Vincent Dacruz, are very committed and dependable.

*They provided full support to us and parties involved in bringing the transaction to a close in time."* – THIRD PARTY | CHAMBERS GLOBAL GUIDE, 2024.

# **MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES**

- Mauritius Bar Association
- Honourable Society of the Middle Temple
- Loan Market Association

### **PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS**

2023	Attended Diplôme Universitaire de "Civil Law Mauricien", Université de la Réunion
2021	Sworn in as Barrister at Law at the Supreme Court of Mauritius
2020	Institute of Judicial and Legal Services Certificate, Mauritius
2019	Called to the Degree of the Utter Bar, England and Wales
2019	Bar Professional Training Course, BPP University, London with mention: Very
	Competent
2019	International Civil-Commercial Mediator, ADR ODR International, London
2015 - 2018	LL.B (Hons.) Law, The University of Kent

# CAREER SUMMARY

Jan 2022 - Present	Associate, BLC Robert & Associates
Jan 2021 - Dec 2021	Junior Legal Executive, BLC Robert & Associates
Oct 2020 - Dec 2020	Pupil Barrister, Chambers of Desire Basset, SC, GOSK
Jun 2020 - Sep 2020	Pupil Barrister, Gujadhur Solicitors
Sep 2019 - Mar 2020	Pupil Barrister, Benoit Chambers

### **AREAS OF EXPERTISE**

- Banking and Finance
- Corporate and Commercial
- Banking regulatory and compliance
- Project Finance
- Energy & Power

### **TOP MATTERS**

- Assisted top-tier direct lenders and banks on the financing for the acquisition of a French owned group of companies, including JA Delmas, the current distributor of Caterpillar equipment, operating in 11 West African countries.
- Acted for Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Citibank, and SMBC Group (SMBC) in connection with a EUR 240,000,000 facility to the Eastern and Southern African Trade and Development Bank Group. The line of credit is composed of a long-term project finance tranche

from JICA, and a short-term trade finance tranche from SMBC and Citibank, both mandated lead arrangers (MLA) in the transaction. Among anticipated impacts, the facility is expected to increase access to finance for MSMEs, enabling them to invest in growth, innovation, and job creation. Likewise, it will look to support investments in agribusiness expansion and agricultural innovation through innovative practices and technologies and supply chain improvements. Furthermore, the facility will focus on supporting investments in industrial development including in manufacturing, as well as in infrastructure development to catalyse an enabling business environment.

- Assisted in the "Axian Telecom bonds" offering of USD 420,000,000.
- Acted for FirstRand Bank Limited (acting through its Rand Merchant Bank division) in connection with a USD 30,000,000 carbon financing to Koko Networks Carbon Receivables Limited. The financing is intended to allow the borrower to expand its clear energy and forest protection programme across Africa and reduce the health effects of cooking with polluting fuels.
- Assisted in the Mauritius Commercial Bank Ltd's USD 1,000,000,000 (One Billion) dual tranche syndicated term loan facility. The facility is the largest financing to a corporate borrower in Africa year to date.
- Assisted on the largest debt raise in Africa's commercial & industrial energy services space. The developer had sites in Kenya, Rwanda, South Africa and Uganda and planned to expand to other Sub-Saharan African countries, such as Ghana.
- Assisted a South African bank in relation to the financing of "The Precinct" real estate project in Grand Baie, Mauritius for a value of USD 18,000,000. This premium grade landmark development offers a variety of sustainability initiatives in line with best green design parameters.
- Assisted a global leader in financial services on the enforceability of specific clauses under notional cash pooling agreements for six jurisdictions (England, Hong Kong, Singapore, Australia, Luxembourg and Japan) both before and after the insolvency of a corporate customer incorporated in Mauritius.
- Assisted in the financing of a waste to value management plant in Mauritius.
- Assisted and provided advice to GAVI, the Vaccine Alliance on the applicability of sovereign immunity against the enforcement of an arbitral award resulting from their Covid-19 Vaccines Global Access facility agreement.