

A close-up photograph of a hand holding a bundle of green grass. The hand is positioned in the center-right of the frame, with fingers wrapped around the stems. The background is a soft-focus field of tall grasses, creating a sense of depth and connection to nature. The lighting is natural, suggesting an outdoor setting.

Global Guiding Principles for CSR and Pro Bono Activity

May 2006



“We believe in active participation in the wider community as people and professionals.”

DLA Piper Core Values

“We believe in active participation in the wider community as people and professionals.”

This means:

- All pro bono clients, CSR voluntary sector partners, not for profit groups and CSR contacts should be treated for all purposes as any other fee paying client – with professionalism and diligence;
- All employees are encouraged to pursue civic/charitable work that makes them feel passionate about life;
- The Firm supports and encourages its fee earners' pro bono efforts by matching individuals with pro bono opportunities that
 - interest them,
 - support the Firm's goals and strategy, and
 - are approved after being submitted to the Firm's approval process.

We broaden our perspectives and strengthen our knowledge and experience through our work in the community.

This means:

- Acquiring and applying a range of personal and business skills through working on specific community projects. The skills acquired can range from litigation to transactional to project management, and enhanced presentation skills to listening and problem solving and finding solutions.
- Identifying the resources (people, systems, cross border/global terms) available to us and applying them in a way which best supports the community we are working in.
- Adapting our working styles to suit different situations and learning from our experiences.
- Interacting with a diverse range of people and finding a way to support them in the achievement of their aims.

We focus on corporate social investment and pro bono projects where our people can get actively involved in achieving extraordinary results from ordinary circumstances.

This means:

- Spreading our community investment across a variety of areas locally where we feel we can make the greatest positive impact.
- Developing signature projects in cities where we have an office and are able to partner with nonprofits and legal service providers to make a greater impact on issues of keen concern to our communities. These projects deliver direct help to those in need while working toward long-term changes in public policy.
- Devoting significant resources to global pro bono projects through New Perimeter.
- As individuals and teams we use our talents to share our knowledge, experience and insights in fundamental areas where we can make a difference.
- Our people are encouraged to get involved in community projects, while recognizing our need to balance personal and professional aspirations.

We believe in the power of partnerships.

This means:

- We will adopt a collaborative approach in responding to community needs globally and locally.
- We will seek to work with clients and the wider business community in order to share skills and deliver the best standard of excellence together on community and pro bono projects.

We will enhance our reputation and brand by taking actions that bring credit to DLA Piper.

This means:

- Always acting in a way which creates trust and respect between DLA Piper and our communities.
- Identifying and acting on opportunities which support sustainable development within our communities within our defined areas of CSR activity in Europe and Asia (Education, Health and Wellbeing, Environment and Regeneration and Pro Bono advice), as well as developing a robust and healthy pro bono culture across the US.

We will proactively share knowledge and good practice about CSR and pro bono programmes and development amongst all our stakeholders.

This means:

- We place emphasis on knowledge sharing, communication, management and evaluation of our impact on society.
- We will develop a range of communications (such as Intranet site, Pro Bono Bulletin, brochures, DVD, CSR Matters) whose purpose is to encourage the free exchange and sharing of information within and outside the organisation.



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DLA Piper is a global legal services organisation, the members of which are separate and distinct legal entities. For further information please refer to www.dlapiper.com/structure

A list of offices can be found at www.dlapiper.com