



IILA

INDEPENDENT INTERNATIONAL
LEGAL ADVOCATES

**TRANSFORM INTERNATIONAL LAW.
CHANGE THE WORLD.**



IILA was founded in order to radically transform **WHO** gets to make and use international law, **HOW** it gets made and used, and **WHAT** it can do for the planet.

In a world so interconnected that no problem can be solved without global solidarity, we are stuck with a historical relic for global law. A fundamentally broken and degrading system that maintains an unjust and unequal *status quo* rather than solving global issues must change.

Only by disrupting the ingrained ways of how global law functions today can international law become a tool of justice across the globe for all peoples. IILA works towards these goals by profoundly shaping the capabilities of small / developing States to have their voices heard in the creation and the practice of international law.



I have devoted my life to trying to bring justice through law the world over. After studying these ideas in theory at Harvard and Columbia, that is what led me to work for aboriginal rights in Australia, to demand fair accountability for mass killings in Sierra Leone and Cambodia, and to fight for economic and social justice in South Africa. And it is what led me to the United Nations for nearly a decade, where I listened to, worked with, and learned from the international law advisers from many small and developing States. I came to see that a vision of fully engaging all peoples in the making and using of a truly global law was clearly not possible with stand-alone, one-off, band-aid interventions – they have not and will not bring true change. This is what inspired me to create IILA. Bringing equal justice under international law will require sustained empowerment of the disenfranchised voices of small and developing States by providing them with the tools necessary to amplify their voices. Building on the skills, experience, knowledge and inspiration of the people of small and developing States is the only way to ensure global law can solve global problems – and this is what IILA can achieve with the right support!



Daniel Stewart, IILA Founder



IILA supporting 2019 G77 Chair State of Palestine Team



INEQUALITY IN INTERNATIONAL LAW IMPACTS EVERY GLOBAL CAUSE

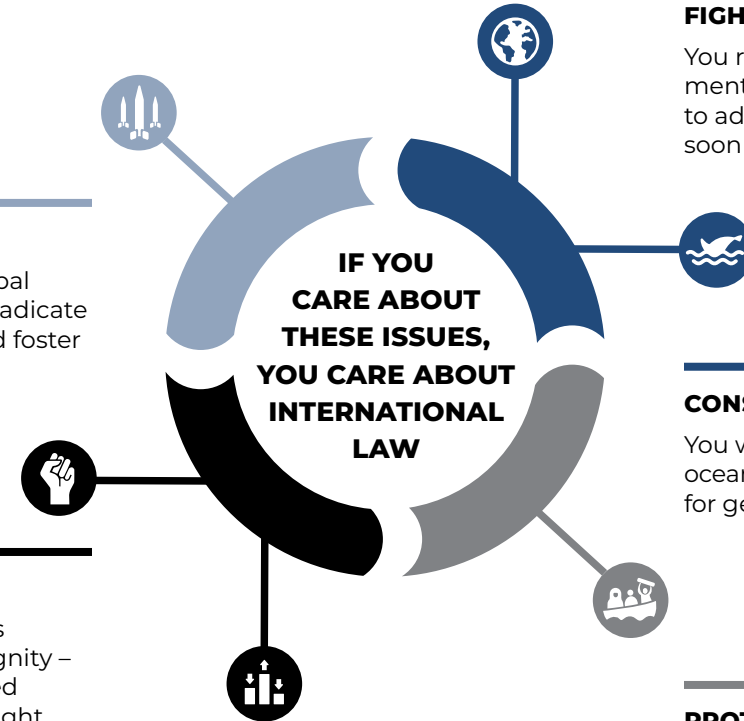
All around the world, people's daily lives are impacted by international law. Every major problem facing our planet can only be effectively solved using international law – one of the only tools to require States with different governments and priorities to act together. But fundamental inequalities in international law capabilities hinder progressive change for all global causes. Without the voice of small / developing States playing a central role in the life of global law, it can never act as a tool to seek fair and just solutions to these – and many more – issues.

REDUCING ARMED CONFLICT

You want to contribute to the global effort to reduce armed conflict, eradicate weapons of mass destruction, and foster peaceful relations.

DEFENDING HUMAN RIGHTS

You believe that all human beings possess an equal and inherent dignity – and that this can only be protected and upheld through strong oversight at the international level.



ADDRESSING ECONOMIC EXPLOITATION

You want to end global poverty, economic exploitation and inequality.

FIGHTING CLIMATE CHANGE

You recognize that unless every government acts urgently and collaboratively to address global impacts, our planet will soon become uninhabitable for millions.

CONSERVING THE OCEANS

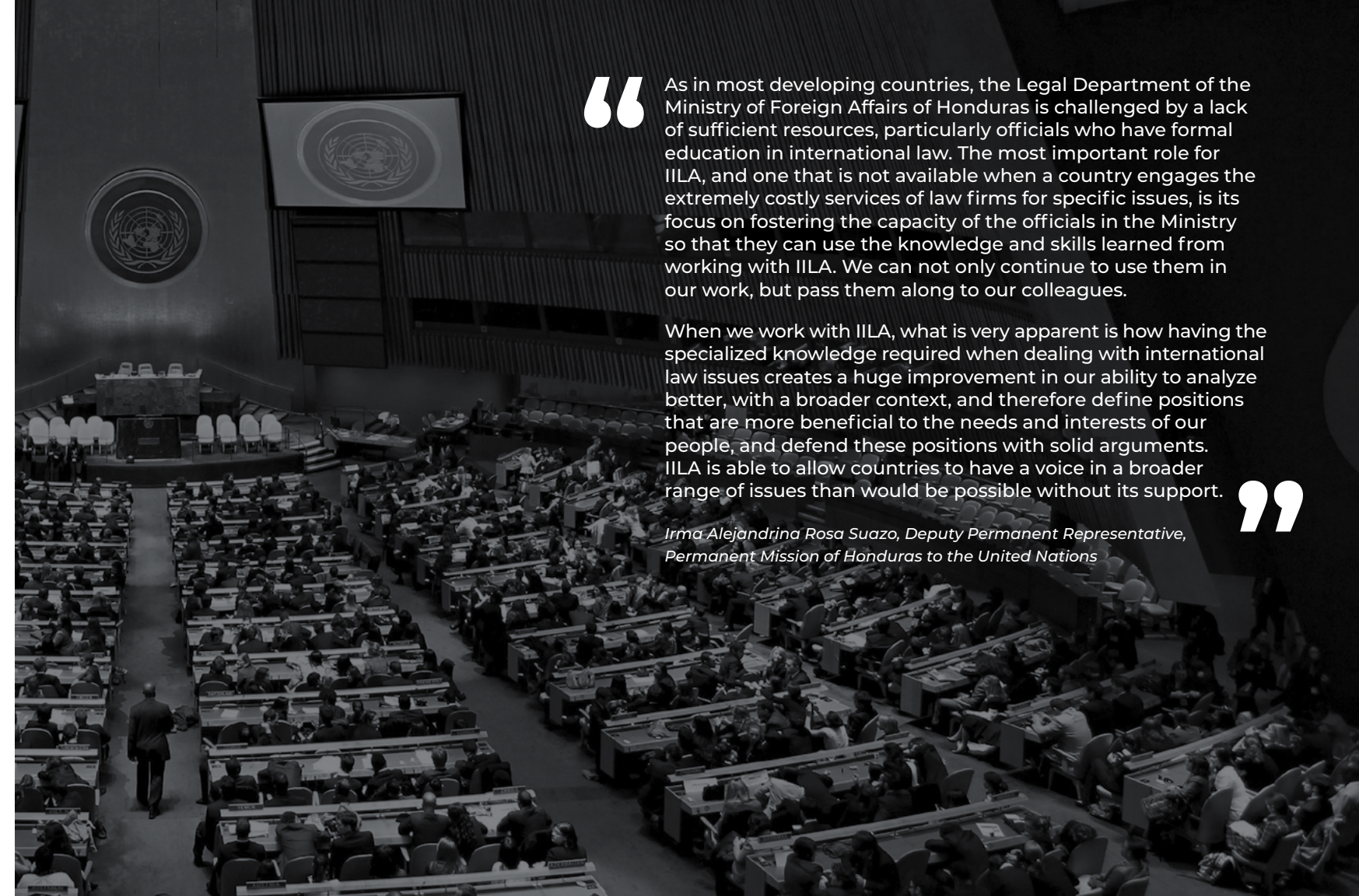
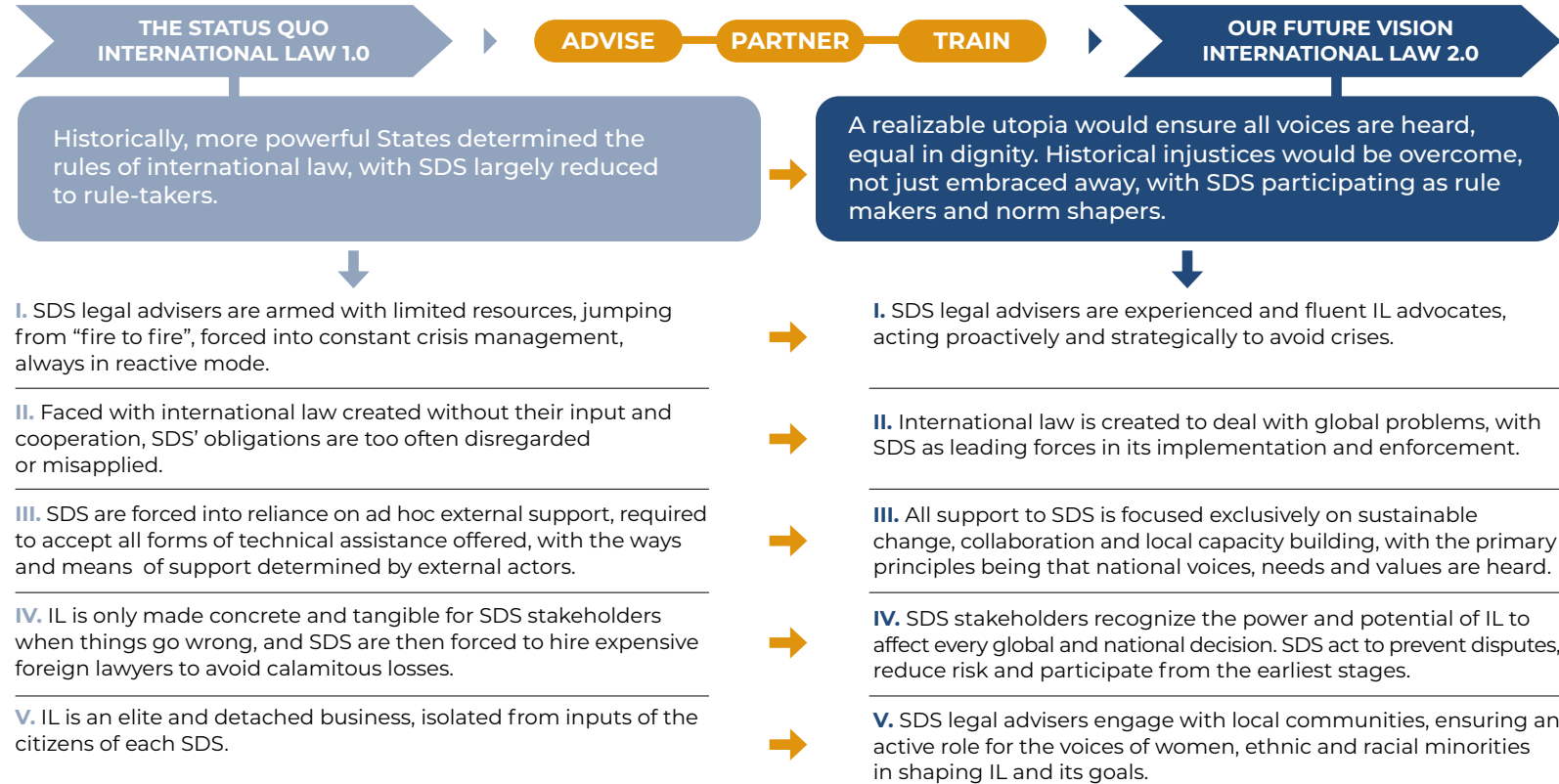
You want to preserve the health of our oceans and share their benefits equitably for generations to come.

PROTECTING REFUGEES & MIGRANTS

You want all those moving across global borders to be treated with dignity and respect, and demand that all countries must play their role.

INTERNATIONAL LAW (IL): PAST PERILS, FUTURE PROMISE

IILA undertakes projects that transform the capacity of small / developing States (SDS) to manage, make and use international law. Yet our vision is much more ambitious – we want to CHANGE the system itself. IILA confronts the limitations of international law and focuses on creating a more just, fair, and effective future for all.



“ As in most developing countries, the Legal Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Honduras is challenged by a lack of sufficient resources, particularly officials who have formal education in international law. The most important role for IILA, and one that is not available when a country engages the extremely costly services of law firms for specific issues, is its focus on fostering the capacity of the officials in the Ministry so that they can use the knowledge and skills learned from working with IILA. We can not only continue to use them in our work, but pass them along to our colleagues.

When we work with IILA, what is very apparent is how having the specialized knowledge required when dealing with international law issues creates a huge improvement in our ability to analyze better, with a broader context, and therefore define positions that are more beneficial to the needs and interests of our people, and defend these positions with solid arguments. IILA is able to allow countries to have a voice in a broader range of issues than would be possible without its support.

Irma Alejandrina Rosa Suazo, Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Honduras to the United Nations



IILA'S TEAM, IILA'S VALUES

IILA is a team of dedicated international lawyers, passionate about fighting for equity in international law. Our legal advisers have experience working in international organizations, providing legal advice for States, and giving training to international lawyers from small and developing countries.

IILA's lawyers are not alone: IILA also works with the leading international law firms and universities who help on a *pro bono* basis to support our State Clients. IILA's Advisory Council is comprised of a globally diverse group of 30 of the world's leading international law experts who provide substantive guidance on the topics and issues that make up our work.

Support States to Support Their People

With a commitment to equal justice under international law for each and every person across the globe, IILA works with those States where collaboration can lead to advancing this goal:

- I IILA works to support small / developing States that lack the financial and human resources to increase their understanding of and capacity for international law;
- II IILA only works with those States committed to democratic principles, the rule of law and to the human dignity of all their peoples. IILA conducts due diligence to ensure that all potential Clients comply with IILA's philosophy of building the capacity of small / developing States for the future of their people;
- III Finally, IILA focuses on strategically supporting those States with the highest potential for making significant change in international law. Ensuring the right conditions are in place to effectuate change is central to IILA's due diligence.

OUR ADVISORY COUNCIL

- Professor E. Tendayi Achiume (Zambia, United States of America)
- Professor Emeritus Philipp Allott (United Kingdom of Great Britain, Northern Ireland)
- Professor Jose Alvarez (United States of America)
- Professor Dan Bodansky (United States of America)
- Professor Laurence Boisson de Chazournes (France)
- Professor Emeritus Lucius Cafilisch (Switzerland)
- Professor Yacouba Cisse (Cote d'Ivoire, Canada)
- Professor Sarah Cleveland (United States of America)
- Professor Lori Damrosch (United States of America)
- Professor Chiara Giorgetti (Italy)
- Judge Abdul Koroma (Sierra Leone)
- Professor Makane Mbengue (Senegal, France)
- Mr. Vaclav Mikulka (Czech Republic)
- Ms. Kate MacKintosh (United Kingdom of Great Britain, Northern Ireland)
- Professor Fabio Morosini (Brazil)
- Justice Sandile Ngcobo (South Africa)
- Professor Andre Nolkaemper (Netherlands)
- Professor Georg Nolte (Germany)
- Professor Obiora Okafor (Nigeria)
- Professor Nilufer Oral (Turkey)
- Professor Monica Pinto (Argentina)
- Mr. Richard Rogers (United Kingdom of Great Britain, Northern Ireland)
- Professor Olivier de Schutter (Belgium)
- Professor Yuval Shany (Israel)
- Professor Dire Tladi (South Africa)
- Professor Tullio Treves (Italy)
- Professor Frans Viljoen (South Africa)
- Professor Jennifer Welsh (Canada)
- Professor Andreas Zimmermann (Germany)

TURNING A GLOBAL VISION INTO

CONCRETE ACTIONS: THE IILA METHOD

MISSION: Transform international law into a tool for global justice by fighting the inequality at its heart. IILA's ambitious mission for Capacity Building and Field Building covers the range of core international law topics. This speaks to the reality of life for an international law adviser of a small / developing State (SDS). Think of international law advisers as the "primary care physicians" of a country's relationship with the global legal system. They help prevent long-term damage and focus on your well-being across all issues. They help to identify concerns and problems *before* they get much worse. The true disruption that IILA brings is in providing SDS' Legal Advisers with the universal tools they need to address any systemic or burgeoning problem so they are empowered to address any issue they face.

VISION: IILA's work will be done when people's everyday lives are made better by the power of international law. Empowering the voices of our SDS Clients to shape international law is our aim. Transforming their internal capacities to manage, make and use international law in sustainable ways is fundamental. But success is measured just as much by the impact IILA has in shaping topics of international law to better sustain a just and fair world – from climate change to human rights to ending poverty.

APPROACH: With IILA's Team and partnerships in place, we engage with SDS the world over. IILA works in partnership with the International Law teams of SDS. IILA's services are unique because we work with our State Clients in the mode of "in-house counsel". We do not replace local law advisors,

but instead focus on long-term collaboration and providing our Clients with the resources to do their job without us. We undertake a comprehensive assessment to tailor our work to meet needs directly and make change concretely.

SERVICES: IILA's services fall into three pillars, all focusing on building capacity and learning-while-doing:

- **Engagement/Education/Support:** Conduct training sessions, support on local management of international law, and act as a bridge/hub to the full range of international law resources;
- **Negotiation Support:** Support at all stages of the creation of new international laws;
- **Advisory Services:** Support an enhanced use of international law on a day-to-day basis.



IILA'S SUCCESSES SO FAR



Ghana: IILA supported Ghana during the Preparatory Committee negotiations at the United Nations, that led to the establishment of the Inter-Governmental Conference to negotiate a new legally binding instrument on biodiversity beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ). Given the vital importance of safeguarding the biodiversity of the oceans, and the breadth and depth of legal and technical issues involved, IILA's support enabled Ghana to build its capacity to engage with these issues, and to present its own values and needs as part of the Preparatory Committee process.

Honduras: Over the past years, IILA helped the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Honduras: to prepare and execute a negotiation strategy for the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration to protect the human rights of migrants; supported its preparation for discussions on a Global Pact for the Environment to grapple with the challenges faced by developing States when working to simultaneously protect the environment and fight poverty; and helped them navigate the technical maze of legal issues that surrounded giving the International Criminal Court the right to prosecute leaders for waging aggressive and illegal war.

State of Palestine – Chair of the G77: In 2019, IILA supported the Palestinian delegation in its role as Chair of the Group of 77, coordinating 134 small and developing States in the pursuit of a global treaty to ensure the conservation and sustainable use of marine life in the open oceans. IILA supported the G77 in fighting for protecting the oceans while ensuring the equitable distribution of their resources. This potentially monumental treaty would determine whether peoples across the world can safely and cleanly use the oceans for generations to come and whether their riches will be shared equitably amongst all peoples.

Federated States of Micronesia: Despite a strong commitment to human rights, a number of potential concerns have led to limited involvement of Pacific Island States with the global human rights treaty machinery. This project commenced an examination of the potential ways and means to advance a regional human rights treaty that would respect human dignity within the rich cultural setting of the Pacific Islands.

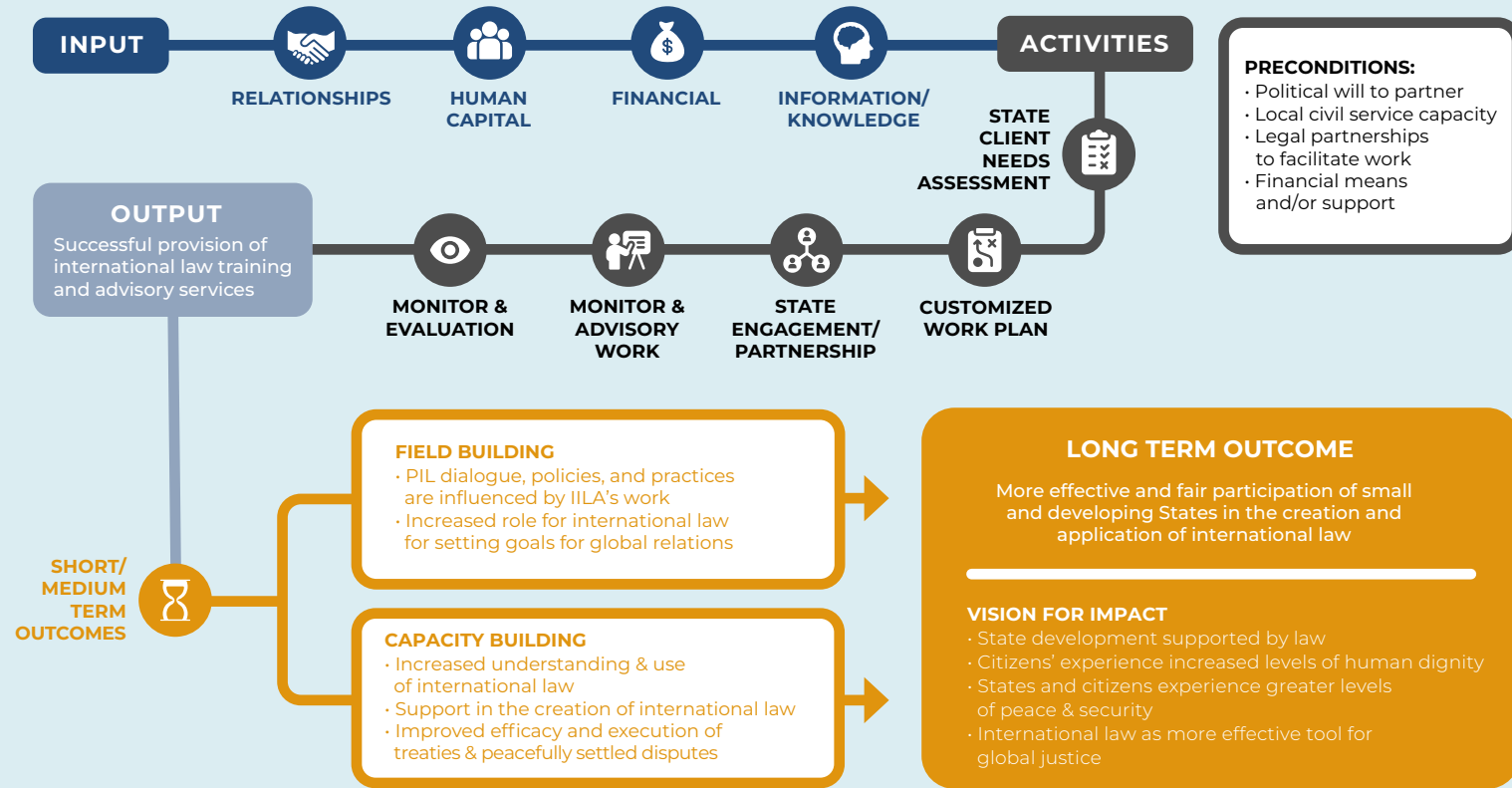
Botswana: In 2018, IILA supported the Attorney-General's Chambers of Botswana before the International Court of Justice as they argued for the right of self-determination for the Chagossian people, who were expelled from their homes by the British colonial authorities in the 1960s. For decades, the inhabitants of the Chagos Islands in the Indian Ocean have sought justice and fought for the decolonization of these islands so they could return. The Court delivered an advisory opinion calling for the end of colonization by the UK government, representing a massive victory for the Chagossian people in their quest for justice.



IILA has worked with a number of State Clients in its short life. This is a snapshot of projects undertaken.

FROM INPUTS TO OUTCOMES

IILA's Theory of Change converts grand ambitions into step-by-step transformations.



In IILA's pilot phase, we have managed to raise support from a number of channels, including invaluable pro bono support from the following partners:

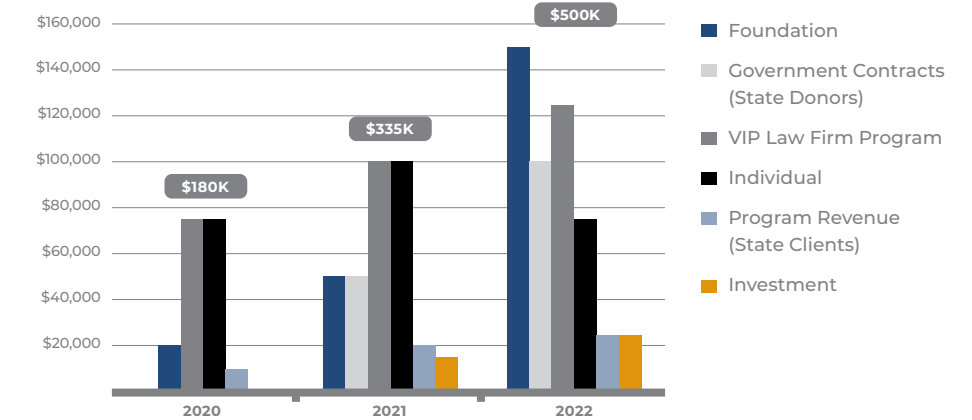
- **FOUNDATIONS:** Virginia Wellington Cabot Foundation; Conrad N. Hilton Foundation
- **LAW FIRMS:** Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP; Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP; Milbank; Tweed; Hadley & McCloy LLP; Paul Hastings LLP
- **LAW SCHOOLS:** Columbia Law School; Cornell Law School; University of California Los Angeles School of Law; NYU Law School; University of Richmond School of Law

- **OTHER:** William S. Hein & Co.

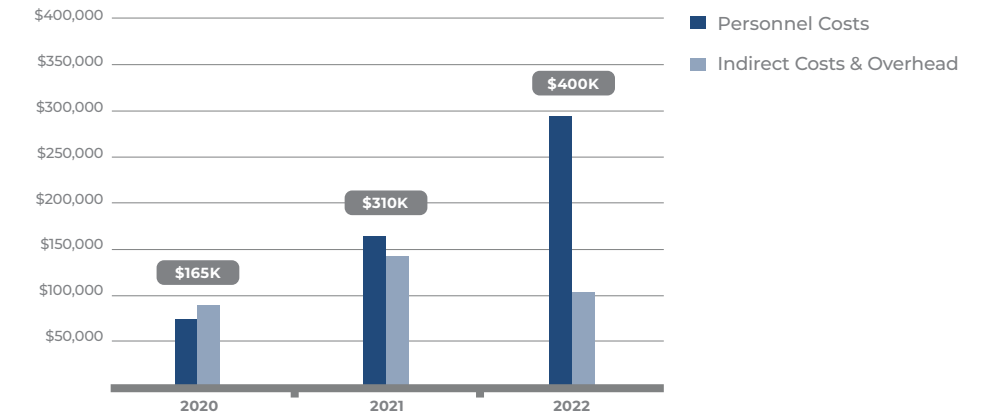
In just over two years, IILA has achieved great strides in proving the potential of its mission – and how its transformative work can move the world closer to equal justice under international law.

IILA is incredibly thankful to all our donors and supporters so far. To reach its full potential, IILA is seeking financial support for a lean budget from a range of foundations, governments, State clients and individuals.

PROJECTED REVENUE 2020-2022



PROJECTED EXPENSES 2020-2022



HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT IILA

LEGAL SUPPORT SERVICES

We can provide more legal support services to build the long-term capacity of more nations, across our core service offerings:



Supports a two-week online training course on transforming the management and strategy of a PIL Legal Advisers Office in a SDS



Supports our work with a SDS in preparation for and support during a major multilateral treaty negotiation over a three-month period



Allows us to collaborate with the legal advisers of a SDS for six months on the day-to-day implementation and use of PIL across a range of core PIL topics

[CLICK TO DONATE](#)

Want to learn more about our work or other ways to support IILA? Follow us on social media or visit us online and sign up for our mailing list.

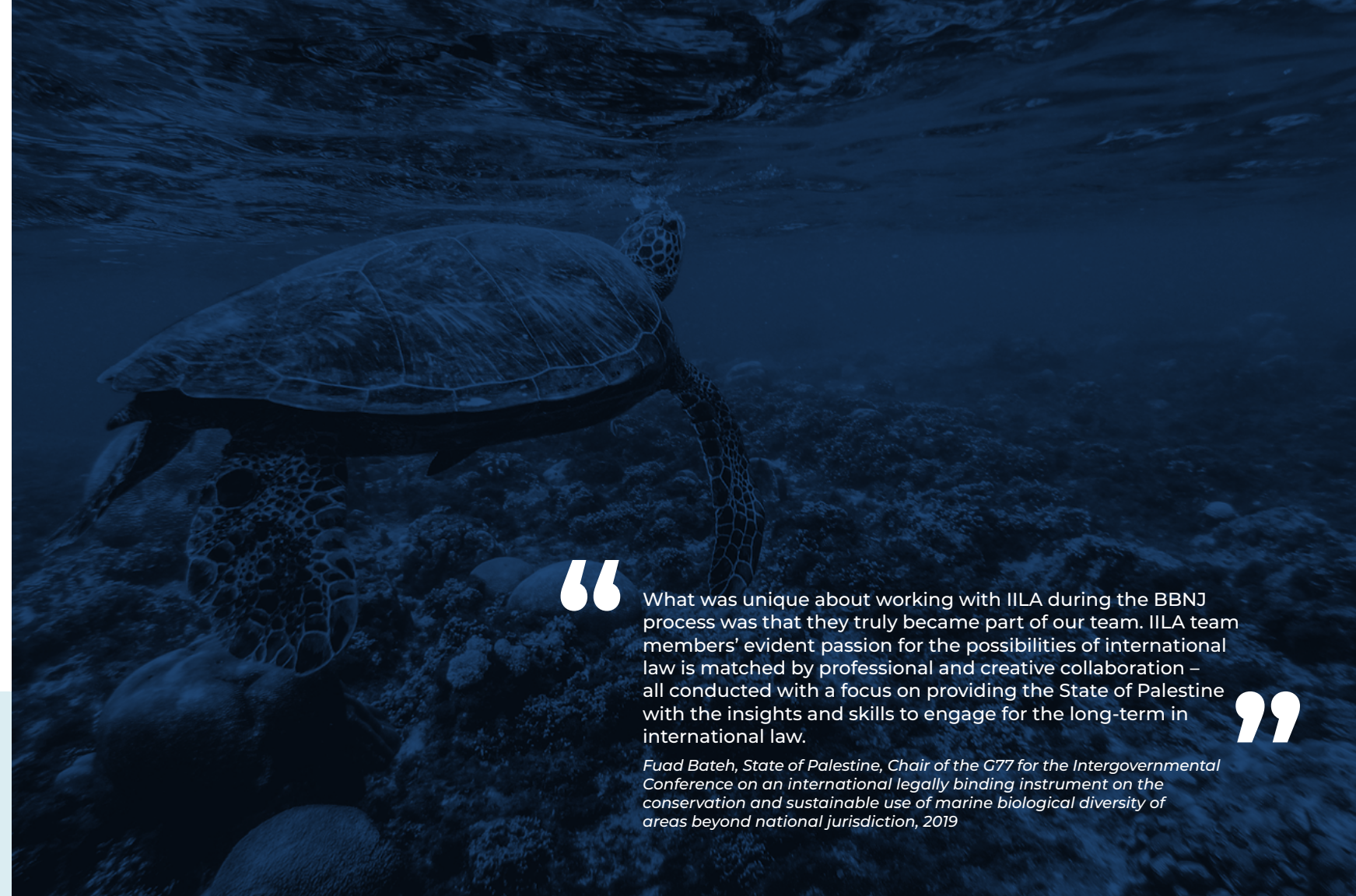
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What was unique about working with IILA during the BBNJ process was that they truly became part of our team. IILA team members' evident passion for the possibilities of international law is matched by professional and creative collaboration – all conducted with a focus on providing the State of Palestine with the insights and skills to engage for the long-term in international law.”

Fuad Bateh, State of Palestine, Chair of the G77 for the Intergovernmental Conference on an international legally binding instrument on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction, 2019

