

Iran

Financial and corporate

Tier 1
Atieh Associates
T&S Associates
Tarossian Avanesian & Associates
Tier 2
Bartar Associates
Hatami and Associates
CMS
Other notable
Adib Law Firm
Atai & Associates
Dr Laya Joneydi & Associates Law Office
H Lotfi & Associates
International Law Office Dr Behrooz Akhlaghi
IRCLS (Hendizadeh & Associates)
Jamal Seifi & Associates
Shayan Law Firm

Atieh Associates

One Iran's strongest transactional advisers, Atieh Associates is praised for its high level of services and technical expertise by clients. The firm focusses on representing international clients and advises multinationals on commercial activities in Iran. It is also the preferred local counsel of many of the world's leading international law firms.

The firm's recent work highlights were a mix of financial and corporate work. The roles included advising an international lender in negotiations to provide finance to an Iranian client, and acting for clients considering joint-ventures with local businesses.

Automotive, energy, food and beverage, oil and gas, and pharmaceutical are sectors where the firm has expertise.

Client feedback

"Atieh maintains a high level of professionalism when conducting their practices. They are always very responsive and illuminating for queries on local laws of Iran." – M&A

"The firm's strengths are responsiveness, clear communication style, and commercial advice." – M&A

"Very business orientated, practical advice, thus always useful." – M&A

Farid Kani

"Farid has great knowledge of Iranian law and our industry, pharmaceutical. He is very professional and always respond very promptly to our queries."

"Very responsive and accessible. Has great deal of knowledge regarding local laws and foreign investors' needs vis-a-vis such local laws."

"Responsive, commercial and a pleasure to work with. Solution oriented with an acute understanding of the challenges faced by multinationals working in Iran."

Cyrus Shafizadeh

"Excellent attorney, technically strong and commercial, responsive and approachable. A pleasure to work with."

Bartar Associates

Bartar Associates is a recently launched firm, opened by a lawyer experienced in transactional work from his previous position at one of Iran's established firms.

The firm is recognised for corporate transactions, and most of its recent work highlights were joint-ventures or equity capital market deals.

The firm has recently worked on deals in the automotive, energy and pharmaceutical sectors.

Korea Electric Power Corporation and Saba Engineering Co are among the firm's notable clients.

Client feedback

"I have previously worked with the managing partner of this firm in another firm. Ebrahim Tavakoli is a very strong technical lawyer with a deep understanding of Iranian law issues." – M&A

Hatami & Associates

Hatami & Associates is recognised for corporate transactional work.

The firm's recent transactional work highlights have predominantly concerned advice relating to joint-ventures, with work in the industrials and manufacturing and food and beverages areas, and advice in relation to energy and commercial real estate projects. The firm's roles on projects has included joint-venture and finance agreement advice.

Construction, energy, oil and gas, real estate and retail are sectors where the firm has experience.

Iran Mall Commercial Company, Petronas and Rosneft are among the firm's significant clients.

Client feedback

"Hatami was friendly in most communication, with quick responses. The quality of work was also satisfactory if not particularly fluent in English. I cannot say what the depth of its resources are because I asked only for general information introducing the market and the foreign investment process in Iran. I was actually impressed by the firm's flexibility in fee payment date. Hatami basically tried to cope with all of my payment schedule.

However, I faced some troubles in wiring the payment to the Turkish bank account of the firm (many banks were pretty strict on the issue that the nationality of the firm and the location of its bank account did not match with each other). The bottom line is Hatami seems to have enough capabilities to serve legal needs of foreign clients regarding general issues around Iran." – M&A

"Strengths: firm could advise us in wide range of areas from tax to SSO, petroleum laws, HR, etc.; the advice rendered is very credible; the firm is proactive and updates clients on a regular basis. Weakness: younger lawyers in the firm need further knowledge in specific areas." – M&A

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Number of lawyers: 10 **Languages:** Farsi, English

Firm overview

Atai & Associates Law Firm was established in 1975. The Firm's client includes international banks and financial institutions and multinational companies.

The Firm advises European banks in regards to financing of investment projects in Iran.

The Firm has acted for European and Asian banks regarding the financing of sale and export of commodities to Iran under the insurance coverage and finance of a bank.

The Firm has acted for Chinese banks by providing legal opinion in relation to validity and enforceability of the financing documents relating to transaction with the Iranian Companies.

T&S ASSOCIATES

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Since its establishment in the 1960s, T&S Associates' clientele portfolio has included the most prominent international and multinational banking and corporate entities. T&S provides superior legal services ranging from corporate establishment and governance to M&A, foreign investment and banking/project finance in fields as diverse as energy, EPCs, heavy and light industries, transportation, pharmaceutical, FMCG, electronic commerce, etc. Commitment, competence, superior quality and promptness remain the hallmarks of our performance.

Key transactional practices

Banking + Financial facilities, Corporate + M&A, Financial services regulatory, Islamic finance, Project development, Project finance