

CONNECT TO SUCCESS

Connect to Success Corporate Profile

Logo



Name of Company

Abreu Advogados

Short summary of its operations and how long they have been operating in Portugal, including number of local employees:

Abreu Advogados is a law firm whose quality management system is certified by ISO 9001. Incorporated in 1993, Abreu Advogados is currently one of the three largest law firms working in Portugal, which grew from six to 190 lawyers, out of 280 professionals in total, with offices in Lisbon, Porto and Madeira and presence in the four continents, through seven international desks - *Angola, Asia, Brazil, Cape Verde, France, Mozambique and Timor Leste.*

Q: Tell us about your company's involvement in social responsibility and how your company and/or the community has benefited.

Our contribution to the community, which began long ago, is centered on two main objectives:

- creating a structured policy of pro bono legal services and of the global community service;
- raising awareness among youth on Justice and Citizenship.

Abreu Advogados lawyers have been assisting several social solidarity institutions providing pro bono work, such as:

- *CAIS* (a homeless social solidarity institution) by setting up periodic free lawyer consultation service to its members, as a result of the success and the needs which emerged from the "Free Legal Advice Day", held annually on the initiative of the Portuguese Bar Association to which Abreu Advogados also adhered.
- *IES - Social Business School* - Abreu Advogados provides legal training to their employees and supports several of its entrepreneurship projects and, in return, IES offers training sessions on sustainability to our team members. Abreu Advogados provided legal assistance in drawing up Protocols that govern IES relationships, and helped manage their human resources matters as well as to adjust IES legal structure to meet their growth challenges.

In some specific cases, Abreu Advogados have also assisted throughout the implementation of good practices which IES support on the ground. This assistance was integrated in IES "Expert Consultations" program on clarification of specific

legal and tax queries, arising from the initiatives with a strong social impact which IES support and which Abreu Advogados was available to clarify.

- *Forum Estudante* Program on Raising Awareness among Youth on Justice and Citizenship - Abreu Advogados joined the Forum Estudante project “Let Justice be Done”, undertaking to bring awareness to students of Portuguese Secondary Schools on the fundamentals principles of Law and Justice. The project consisted in the preparation and simulation of a court trial, in which students analyzed a specific case which dealt with youth related themes, such as bullying, car accidents, social networks, violence in a relationship.

Each case was assisted by a tutor-lawyer from Abreu Advogados, responsible for helping the teacher and the students during the preparation stage, from the beginning of the school year until the simulation day with particular emphasis on the defense’s and prosecutor’s arguments. The cases of role play game reached their “final stages” and were tried in the local Court House.

Abreu Advogados has prepared its Sustainability Report in accordance with the G4 Guidelines of the GRI (*Global Reporting Initiative*), which focuses on the following:

- Governance, Ethics and Integrity
- Stakeholders
- GHG emissions

This is the Firm’s voluntary commitment to its stakeholders - clients, staff and community - to promote:

- sustainable development
- corporate citizenship
- a motivating, productive and participative work environment

Besides this report, which is published every two years, Abreu Advogados has undertaken further steps:

- Signing the *Global Compact - the UN Development Programme* - to comply with and foster the 10 Human Rights, Labour Rights, Environmental Protection and Anti-corruption Principles.
- Joining the *BCSD Portugal-Business Council for Sustainable Development*, a not-for-profit entity, which was established in October 2001 by leading companies of the Portuguese economy, and from the inception is a member of the regional network of the WBCSD - World Business Council for Sustainable Development.
- Joining the *B Corps*, which represents the capacity of businesses to overcome social/environmental constraints. This entity seeks primarily to redesign the success of businesses based on sustainable ideas.

Q: What do you hope your team will gain through their participation as mentors in Connect to Success’ Corporate Mentoring Program?

Experience in assisting female business owners, understand their biggest challenges, difficulties and ways to succeed.

Q: What do you hope the mentee(s) selected by your company to participate in the program will achieve at the conclusion of his/her/their participation?

Professional and personal fulfillment for helping people to create and improve their businesses that operates in a different reality from his own.