



Middle East focus: The use of cell structures as family investment structures

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At Ogier, we have seen an active trend from families based in the Middle East wishing to restructure their investment portfolios to enable the assets to be managed more effectively and to address the needs of successive generations.

In each of our jurisdictions, the structures of choice are often cell companies (otherwise called segregated portfolio companies). Cell companies enable the segregation of investments into separate cells which will hold distinct asset classes. Each cell can appoint asset-specialists to manage the assets. They also enable the segregation of family branches into separate cells, enabling each branch to have more control over their own investment portfolios.

Cell companies provide a number of advantages. The relevant legislation provides that creditors of a cell shall have recourse only to the assets of that cell and not to the assets of the cell company or of any other cell. In addition, cell companies create platforms which can benefit from streamlined running costs, the ease of administration, the adoption of a centralised governance structure and bespoke reporting.

Where necessary, cell companies can be structured as private funds, enabling families to invest alongside other families, key employees or third parties.

Our specialist team works closely with the existing advisers to the families in order to advise on the most appropriate structure.

Find out more about cell companies in some of our other jurisdictions:

[Jersey Protected Cell Companies and Incorporated Cell Companies](#)

[Segregated Portfolio Companies in the Cayman Islands](#)

[Segregated Portfolio Companies in the BVI](#)

About Ogier

Ogier is a professional services firm with the knowledge and expertise to handle the most demanding and complex transactions and provide expert, efficient and cost-effective services to all our clients. We regularly win awards for the quality of our client service, our work and our people.

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Key Contacts



Emily Haithwaite

Group Partner, Ogier Legal L.P.

Jersey

E: emily.haithwaite@ogier.com

T: [+44 1534 514072](tel:+441534514072)



Richard Bennett

Partner

London

Hong Kong

E: richard.bennett@ogier.com

T: [+44 20 3835 9494](tel:+442038359494)



Tim Clipstone

Partner

British Virgin Islands

Guernsey

E: tim.clipstone@ogier.com

T: [+44 1481 752265](tel:+441481752265)



Simon Schilder

Partner

British Virgin Islands

E: simon.schilder@ogier.com

T: [+44 1534 514298](tel:+441534514298)

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