



Financial Integrity and Inclusion

Through its programming on financial integrity and inclusion, the Global Center develops and delivers capacity development support, conducts innovative research, and provides independent policy advice to advance interlinked development, security, and financial integrity and transparency aims. The Global Center engages with government, civil society, academics and think tanks, multilateral bodies, and the private sector to strengthen institutional capacities on anti-money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism (AML/CFT), support regional coordination to curb illicit financial flows and transnational crime, and promote expanded access to financial services.

OUR WORK

The Global Center seeks to advance AML/CFT policies and procedures that simultaneously advance multiple financial inclusion objectives. The Global Center has extensive practical experience with emerging and cash-intensive economies, including in East Africa, North Africa, and the Middle East. The Global Center works with private sector entities, governments, and nongovernmental actors to facilitate the translation of international standards into practical implementation tailored to local contexts.

Balancing Risk and Protecting Access

The Global Center has established a strong reputation for conducting context-specific research and advising governments and other stakeholders on the development of evidence-based policies that protect the integrity and stability of the financial system without excluding underserved actors.

- **De-Risking.** The Global Center collaborated with Oxfam America to produce one of the first

comprehensive analyses of the linkages between “de-risking” and the ascendance of AML/CFT policy, including ambiguity in the risk-based approach, rising compliance and enforcement costs, and low client profitability.

- **Tracking Progress.** The Global Center has experience assessing AML/CFT frameworks, monitoring and evaluating jurisdictional progress, and identifying risk profiles and mitigation approaches in collaboration with local partners and stakeholders. This analysis informs the development of practitioner-oriented guidance and programming.
- **Sector-Specific Analysis.** The Global Center has deepened the understanding of money laundering and terrorism financing vulnerabilities in key sectors, including formal and informal remittances (hawalas), nonprofit organizations, and mobile money platforms. It has provided recommendations for balanced regulatory approaches that bolster safeguards against abuse while protecting the access to and operations of these critical development, humanitarian, financial, and business channels.

Strengthening Institutional Capacities to Counter Illicit Financial Flows

The Global Center has over a decade of experience in designing and implementing tailored capacity-building programs intended to strengthen jurisdictions’ abilities to combat illicit financial flows. This includes support to strengthen AML/CFT legal frameworks, deepen compliance with the guidance of the Financial Action Task Force, and promote regional and international AML/CFT cooperation and integration.

- **Financial Intelligence Units.** Global Center has collaborated with financial intelligence units (FIUs) in various stages of development to deliver capacity development assistance on topics such as conducting national risk assessments, analyzing suspicious transactions, developing AML/CFT indicators, implementing sanctions and asset freezing measures, and selecting and implementing AML/CFT software. The Global Center promotes peer learning, engaging experts from developing and well-established FIUs and facilitating exchanges between FIUs to enable the sharing of practical guidance and enhance coordination.
- **Compliance and Supervision.** To support robust AML/CFT regimes, the Global Center works with reporting entities to raise awareness of compliance obligations, identify sector-specific risks and vulnerabilities, and advance the quality of suspicious transaction reports. It engages with regulatory bodies to promote effective AML/CFT supervision, including assisting countries in identifying regulatory gaps and developing risk-based supervision policies and manuals. The Global Center also supports locally led efforts to improve legislative frameworks and promote interagency cooperation.
- **Investigation and Prosecution.** The Global Center has engaged a wide spectrum of criminal justice actors, including law enforcement, customs and border officials, anticorruption bodies, prosecutors, and judges, to strengthen capacities to trace and curb illicit financial flows and effectively adjudicate financial crimes. This includes facilitation of certification programs, practitioner-focused simulation exercises, guidance on implementing mutual legal assistance, and support for locally developed AML/CFT manuals and training curriculums within existing academies and training institutions.
- **Strategic Advice and Guidance.** In order to support sustained and comprehensive implementation of AML/CFT measures, the Global Center serves as a key strategic adviser to partner institutions and stakeholders. It works closely with these actors to translate international policy into operational contexts, identify and mitigate challenges to implementation, and encourage intra- and interagency coordination and relationship building.

About the Global Center on Cooperative Security

The Global Center works with governments, international organizations, and civil society to develop and implement comprehensive and sustainable responses to complex international security challenges through collaborative policy research, context-sensitive programming, and capacity development. In collaboration with a global network of expert practitioners and partner organizations, the Global Center fosters stronger multilateral partnerships and convenes key stakeholders to support integrated and inclusive security policies across national, regional, and global levels.

For more information on the Global Center's financial integrity and inclusion work, please contact Jason Ipe, Deputy Director, at jipe@globalcenter.org.