

€46,5 Million

Budget contributed by the European Union, Germany and France

48 Months

(2024-2028)

49 Countries

Sub-Saharan Africa

4 Implementing Partners

Expertise France
GIZ
Civipol
FIIAPP

with the thematic contribution of the Swedish Tax Agency and CABRI

HOW TO SUBMIT A REQUEST ?

1. Partner countries submit requests via email to their corresponding regional hub [see contacts on page 2] and/or via the EU Delegation in their country.
2. After an initial assessment and within 1 month, SecFin Africa follows-up and both parties agree on the most appropriate modality of intervention.
3. SecFin Africa's expertise is deployed.

OBJECTIVE

The SecFin Africa project aims to support Sub-Saharan Africa countries to prevent and combat **illicit financial flows (IFFs)** linked to **transnational organized crime**, by strengthening **anti-money laundering** and **countering the financing of terrorism (AML/CFT)** efforts, in line with international standards. By aligning with the African Union's Agenda 2063 (Goal 20 on Financing Development) and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (Target 16.4 on reducing IFFs), SecFin Africa **contributes to boosting domestic resource mobilization**, fostering **sustainable development** and **promoting security** across the continent.

African countries lose **over \$89 billion annually** to illicit financial flows (IFFs), according to the most conservative estimates — an amount nearly equal to the combined annual inflows of official development assistance and foreign direct investment. **These flows drain resources vital for socio-economic progress**, weakening state capacity and domestic resource mobilization while stalling development in critical sectors such as healthcare, education, and infrastructure. Often stemming from unprosecuted criminal activities, these flows are laundered into legitimate systems, **fueling corruption, organized crime, and terrorism**.

SECFIN THREE-PILLAR APPROACH



I. Country level support: Strengthen AML/CFT compliance and effectiveness by providing tailored, demand-driven technical assistance and training covering the entire process—from detection, assessment, investigation, prosecution to asset recovery—through a multiagency approach, ensuring alignment with Financial Action Task Force (FATF) standards.



II. Regional cooperation opportunities: Support the capacities of regional bodies and networks with an AML/CFT mandate (e.g., FSRBs, ARINs), increase cooperation in financial investigations and improve information sharing on AML/CFT issues.



III. Civil Society Engagement: Increase public awareness and support civil society's role in promoting transparency and accountability through grants for Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), investigative journalism, whistleblowers, and research labs focused on tackling IFFs.

TYPE OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED

- Revision of AML/CFT legislative, regulatory, and policy frameworks.
- Institutional, legal, and financial investigations capacity building.
- Delivery of thematic online/onsite training, peer-to-peer exchanges, and mentorship.
- Assistance with national and sectoral risk assessments and strategies.
- Development of tailored AML/CFT curriculum at a national level.
- Development of supervision regimes for Financial Institutions, Designated Non-Financial Businesses and Professions (DNFBPs), and Non-Profit Organizations.
- Awareness-raising and promotion of interagency and public-private cooperation.
- Facilitation of FATF Standards Training Course (STC) and Joint Assessors' Trainings, as well as Egmont membership.
- Data exchange protocols and cross-border investigations.
- Organization of regional conferences, workshops and networking events.
- Digitalization expertise and development of statistical tools.
- Procurement of AML/CFT-related resources.
- Capacity building for CSOs on AML/CFT, anti-corruption, and whistleblower protection.

Implementing agencies:

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE PROJECT & CONTACT POINTS



Project Management Unit, Brussels (BE)

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Western Africa Hub, Dakar (SN)

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Southern Africa Hub, Pretoria (ZA)

Hub Coordinator: M. Frédéric Bayard
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COLLABORATION SPOTLIGHT

The International Capacity-Building Programme (ICBP)

The SecFin Africa project supports the **Swedish Tax Agency (STA)** and the **Collaborative Africa Budget Reform Initiative (CABRI)** to deliver the International Capacity-Building Programme (ICBP), a problem-driven initiative enhancing the capacity of selected countries.

STA and CABRI bring unmatched expertise in tackling complex reform challenges, **using the Problem-Driven Iterative Adaptation (PDIA) approach**. At the heart of the programme is the deployment of **professional coaches** who engage directly with participating institutions at country level. Over a 12-month period, these coaches work closely with participating administrations to identify and address IFF-related challenges, developing and scaling innovative, homegrown solutions. Each cycle involves new participants, fostering continuous learning and expanding capacity.

Key features:

- Intensive bi-monthly coaching sessions, including field visits, with 4–6 institutions involved per country.
- A flexible, iterative methodology addressing multiple, evolving challenges across cycles.
- Annual engagement of new officers and administrations for broader impact

Financing partners:



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Federal Ministry
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