



NPO WORKING GROUP

Collaborating to create a vibrant civil society

NPO WORKING GROUP WEBINAR | 25 JANUARY 2024, 10:00 – 12:00

Navigating Challenges related to money laundering and terrorist financing regulations. Updates and insights from the NPO Working Group.

INTRODUCTION

On Thursday, 25th January 2024, The NPO Working Group will host a webinar addressing the challenges faced by anti-terrorism and anti-money laundering (AML) regulations for civic space. These regulations are designed to address serious global concerns but have had unintended consequences for civic space and human rights globally, when governments misinterpret or misapply the recommendations set by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).

The NPO Working Group has been actively monitoring changes in South African legislation due to FATF's recommendations, since 2021. We have been sharing updates and encouraging organisations to be aware of how these changes and how they may impact our human rights. Members of the NPO working group will provide updates and insights from the NPO Working and will present a call to action for the sector.

We have invited Anthony Masake, a human rights advocate with over a decade of experience in working with most-at-risk human rights defenders and marginalised communities to share the Ugandan experience of FATF's influence on the regulatory environment for Ugandan civil society. He is a 2023 Fellow of the Fisher Family Summer Fellows Program at the Center on Democracy, Development and the Rule of Law (CDDRL), Stanford University. He has worked with the Legal Aid Project of the Uganda Law Society (ULS) for over 7 years during which he facilitated over 400 sensitizations in outreach activities in prisons and communities. He is currently the Head of Programmes at Chapter Four, where he has facilitated over 350 trainings on legal compliance issues for NGO leaders across the country.

OBJECTIVES

1. Raise awareness & share information on FATF recommendations and how these are impacting the South African nonprofit regulatory environment.
2. Strengthen civil society's engagement with government, FATF, FATF-style regional bodies (FSRBs), and other stakeholders to safeguard civic space.
3. Encourage nonprofits to actively engage and collaborate with the NPO Working Group, fostering a collective effort to address challenges related to money laundering and terrorist financing regulations.



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METHODOLOGY

The webinar is structured to last for 2 hours, employing a balanced approach between information-sharing and participant interaction. This will include insights from regional and local experts through presentations, as well as active engagement from participants through a question-and-answer session and feedback opportunities.

Presenters will have approximately 10 minutes each to share content on their respective topics. The presentations will provide a general overview while giving participants valuable insights into the impact money laundering and terrorist financing regulations have and may still potentially have on the South African nonprofit sector.

PROGRAMME

10:00 Welcome & Introduction

10:15 Presentations by Experts:

1. The role of FATF and its influence on civic space and why we should be concerned – Ann Bown
2. The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) & the Ugandan experience – Anthony Musaka
3. The South African experience, the bills that have been proposed and passed and other changes related to FATF. – Glenn Farred

10:50 Q&A

11:20 How to get involved. A Call to Action for the nonprofit sector!

11:45 Closure & thanks