



Risk, Remittances and Integrity (RRI) Programme

A partnership between
FSD Africa and Cenfri

November 2017



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The five-year RRI programme is a partnership between FSD Africa and Cenfri. Its aim is to improve welfare and boost investment growth in sub-Saharan Africa. To achieve this, it works to strengthen the integrity and risk management role of the financial sector and to facilitate remittance flows within and into the continent.

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Across sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), financial sectors face significant constraints to more formally serve consumers and facilitate inclusive growth:

- Insurance markets do not manage risk at scale and do not effectively contribute to growth and resilience.
- Despite fintech innovation, formal remittances remain inaccessible, unaffordable or inconvenient.
- Misaligned anti-money laundering and combatting the financing of terrorism (AML/CFT) regulations and related implementations limit access to critical financial services for many adults. This reduces the ability of financial systems to operate at scale, while it has a negligible impact on wholesale illicit flows that directly affect the fiscus and broader economic development.

To address these challenges, FSD Africa and Cenfri have partnered to strengthen:

- **Risk management** for development outcomes
- **Remittance channels** for resilience and investment
- **Inclusive integrity** while stemming illicit financial flows

Vision

Inclusive and safe financial sectors in SSA that can better manage risk, intermediate capital and allocate remittances – all to support growth and improve livelihoods

Mission

- To develop an inclusive insurance market that fulfils its optimal role in supporting growth and intermediating capital
- To improve the capacity of national financial sectors to identify, price and manage risk
- To devise inclusive and proportionate means of implementing risk management frameworks
- To develop markets for remittances
- To strengthen financial governance

The geographic scope

The RRI programme extends across SSA, with a special focus on countries that already have local UK Aid presence – either via financial sector deepening organisations (FSDs) or country offices – as well as fragile and conflict-affected states.

The stakeholders

The RRI programme's stakeholders include:

- Global standard-setting bodies
- Regional standard setting, regulatory and policy bodies/forums
- Public-sector players, notably policymakers and regulators
- Private-sector players, notably financial service providers, technical service providers, professional bodies and intermediaries
- Development organisations and partners
- Thought leaders
- Sponsors

Risk

RRI's Risk Management (Insurance) stream focuses on managing risk for development outcomes. Activities include:

- Catalysing insurance market development and promoting the role of insurance in both resilience and growth
- Broadening the global discourse on inclusive insurance through:
 - Building an evidence base
 - Convening stakeholders
 - Setting a new agenda for risk for development

Through these activities, the Risk Management stream aims to:

- Strengthen households' ability to manage risk
- Enhance investment through more productive risk taking and mobilisation of capital



Activities and engagement

	Country	Regional	Global
Build evidence base	Innovative solutions: Insurtech business models, Regulating for innovation		
	Insurance for growth: Capital market development, climate risk, health, urban development		
Support innovation and implementation - FSP and regulator	Market development support to FSDs	FSD Network risk capacity	Drafting support for IAIS Issues papers
	TA to FSPs and others	Actuarial skills development platform	
	Innovation workshops for FSPs		
	Training and TA to regulators and regional bodies		
Convening and agenda-setting		Establish/ support regional insurance forums (e.g. CIMA, CISNA)	Collaboration with A2ii, MiN, IDF, UN, GPFI, WB, InsuResilience and others to shape global standards and practice, for local benefit

Abbreviations

FSDs:	financial sector deepening organisations
FSP:	financial services provider
IAIS:	International Association of Insurance Supervisors
ILO:	International Labour Organization
TA:	technical assistance

Remittances

RRI's Remittances stream focuses on strengthening remittances channels for resilience and investment in growth.

Activities include:

- Working to reduce remittance costs, extend remittance flows and increase customer value by addressing:
 - Constraints to development of key corridors in SSA
 - The role of technology in overcoming barriers
 - The dependency on physical cash and last-mile realities that set the parameters for any intervention
- Enhancing development of supportive payment regulatory frameworks and systems for remittances in SSA
- Extending evidence on the growth impact of remittance flows, especially in facilitating cross border trade
- Informing global guidelines development with local SSA evidence and supporting their effective implementation at the country and regional level

Through these activities, the Remittances stream aims to:

- Strengthen the household resilience and livelihood impact of remittances by enabling more people to be served more efficiently, with lower costs and more appropriate services
- Mobilise greater remittance flows for development, through a move from cash to digital, as well as by enabling trade remittances and remittances for investment and growth

Activities and engagement

	Country	Regional	Global
Build evidence base	Corridor development: scoping to identify key SSA corridors and top barriers to development within these (incl. UK-SSA)		
	Payment ecosystem enablers: scoping payment system development in SSA to understand levers to support remittances		
	Unlocking remittance development and growth impact: Research on key barriers/enablers (e.g. cash reticulation, interoperability, identity, banking correspondence, digital SME trade payments)		
Support innovation and implementation - FSP and regulator	TA for interoperability: regional/national payment systems hub development (UK/fragile state connected to centralised hub) to improve interoperability and/or reliable encashment, with particular focus on cross-border mobile corridors		
	TA to FSPs: Development of fintech and for-purpose remittance products to support remittances expansion		
	TA to regulators: Development of payment systems supporting remittances (incl. DFS and effective cash support)		
Convening and agenda-setting	Influence key regional and global bodies: Feed results to influence key stakeholder work at the local level		
	Impact global standards: Input to ITU DFS guidelines working group		

Abbreviations

DFS: digital financial services
 FSP: financial services provider

ITU: International Telecommunication Union
 SMEs: small and medium-sized enterprises
 TA: technical assistance

Integrity

RRI's Integrity stream focuses on strengthening inclusive integrity while raising the issue of illicit financial flows. Its activities include:

- Reinforcing financial inclusion as a key risk mitigation strategy in financial integrity
 - Supporting financial sector supervisors to implement the FATF-required, risk-based approach to reduce the levels of financial exclusion resulting from misdirected AML/CFT compliance in many SSA countries
 - Supporting innovation beyond mobile by helping industry and regulators navigate and respond appropriately to emerging fintech business models
 - Building a local evidence base and frameworks to identify and understand the relationship between illicit financial flows, ML, FT and the impact on growth and inclusive integrity
- Developing the concept of identity from a financial integrity perspective and facilitate the development of aligned local and regional regulatory frameworks

Through these activities, the Integrity stream aims to:

- Better understand and address illicit financial flows as risks to integrity and underlying governance structures and the impact on growth agendas
- Raise international awareness and accountability of illicit flows
- Gain broad recognition of financial exclusion as a material risk to financial integrity and reinforce inclusive financial integrity as a key driver of financial inclusion strategies
- Build the capacity of regulators and FSPs to address inclusive financial integrity and illicit financial flows in sending and receiving jurisdictions

Activities and engagement

	Country	Regional	Global
Build evidence base	Conceptual framework for ML/FT and Illicit Financial Flows (IFFs) as risks to integrity and Inclusion: IFF note, develop IFFs risk mapping model, guidelines on inclusive integrity		
	Develop AML/CFT and Illicit flows risk data mapping and measurement framework		
	Advance Identity and cost of FATF compliance: Study on cost of compliance, study on innovative biometric identity models		
Support innovation and implementation - FSP, regulator, ESAAMLG	Technical Assistance to FSPs, regulators, ESAAMLG on FATF implementation, inclusive integrity and illicit flows: Develop tools, methodologies, guidelines and training on inclusive integrity, reducing IFFs at country and regional level ESAAMLG, GIABA, etc.		Influence standards at ITU, FATF: Engagement sessions
Convening and agenda-setting	Set up and maintain a Technical Advisory Group to advise research and influence integrity work		
	Influence ESAAMLG, GIABA, platforms on Inclusive Integrity and IFFs: Training, capacity building, expert sessions and sharing research outputs		

Abbreviations

AML/CFT:	anti-money laundering and combatting the financing of terrorism
ESAAMLG:	Eastern and South African Anti-Money Laundering Group
FATF:	The Financial Action Task Force
FSP:	financial services provider
ITU:	International Telecommunication Union
ML/FT:	Money Laundering/Financing Terrorism
TA:	technical assistance

Get involved. Contact us.

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About Cenfri

The Centre for Financial Regulation & Inclusion (Cenfri) is a global think tank and non-profit enterprise that bridges the gap between insights and impact in the financial sector. Cenfri's people are driven by a vision of a world where all people live their financial lives optimally to enhance welfare and grow the economy. Its core focus is on generating insights that can inform policymakers, market players and donors seeking to unlock development outcomes through inclusive financial services and the financial sector more broadly.



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About FSD Africa

FSD Africa is a non-profit company which aims to increase prosperity, create jobs and reduce poverty by bringing about a transformation in financial markets in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) and in the economies, they serve. It provides know-how and capital to champions of change whose ideas, influence and actions will make finance more useful to African businesses and households. It is funded by UK Aid from the UK Government.

FSD Africa also provides technical and operational support to a family of financial market facilitators or FSDs across SSA called the FSD Network.



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