EU AML/CFT
GLOBAL FACILITY

EU GLOBAL THREATS PROGRAMME

MIDTERM IMPACT ASSESSMENT · PHASE 2 · MAY 2026

From knowledge to institutional change

After 7 years of operation, in May 2026, the EU Global Facility on AML/CFT (EU GF) set out to establish what its support had actually changed in partner countries: whether capacity-building had translated into lasting institutional practice, and how far cooperation between authorities had deepened. The assessment combined an online survey of 278 stakeholders with 20 key informant interviews conducted onsite. The evidence converged: knowledge promoted by the Facility is not only used by individual practitioners, but **embedded in standard operating procedures, supervisory methodologies, and national legislation**. Here are some examples of positive change.

95.3%

of survey respondents now apply EU Global Facility knowledge, tools or methodologies in their day-to-day work.

71

institutions in 11 countries report stronger cross-border cooperation thanks to the EU GF - above the 10-partner country target.

20

interviews were conducted with senior officials from 16 countries and the ESAAMLG* Secretariat.

16

countries represented in the mid-term impact assessment report.

IMPACT IN PRACTICE

Mozambique

Removed from the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) grey list. Strengthened beneficial ownership framework supported by the EU GF, contributed directly to the country's delisting.

South Africa

Beneficial ownership made operational. Support carried the Financial Intelligence Centre from a theoretical understanding of Beneficial Ownership (BO) to a transparency framework integrated into national systems, with implications for anti-corruption work.

Seychelles & Malawi

Recommendation 8 in reach. Methodologies for identifying and mitigating terrorism financing risk in the NPO sector strengthened supervisory practice and alignment with international standards.

Ukraine

Reform aligned with EU accession. Technical assistance supported the drafting of Anti-Money Laundering and Counter Terrorist Financing legislation and regulatory alignment on BO registers, including Single Euro Payments Area accession requirements, and sustained a two-way exchange with European partners.

Algeria

Ahead of emerging risk. Training on virtual assets (VAs) and emerging threats increased the capacity of authorities to address complex financial crime. Support enabled the country's first-ever national risk assessment on VAs, informing new Central Bank guidance.

*ESAAMLG: Eastern and Southern Africa Anti-Money Laundering Group

WHERE IMPACT CONCENTRATES

Beneficial ownership

Legal frameworks drafted, registers established, transparency systems put into operation — reforms requiring coordination across several agencies.

NPO risk & FATF Recommendation 8

The most consistent evidence of institutional change: structured methodologies moved countries from partial compliance to higher levels of effectiveness.

Risk-based supervision

A shift from rule-based to risk-based models, applied in supervisory planning and decision-making rather than held as concept.

AN ACCELERATOR OF REFORM

Stakeholders in several countries stated that key reforms linked to FATF recommendations and mutual evaluation processes would likely have taken place eventually, but would have been significantly delayed without the targeted support of the EU AML/CFT Global Facility. Compliance improvements in Zambia and Seychelles were achieved within short timeframes following technical assistance.

IN THEIR WORDS

> “The EU Global Facility provided critical, hands-on support that enabled Mozambique to strengthen its AML/CFT system, apply knowledge in daily operations, and successfully achieve delisting from the FATF grey list.”
>
> Aurelio Matavele Junior · Director General, Financial Intelligence Unit, Mozambique

> “The EU Global Facility enabled us to move from a theoretical understanding of Beneficial Ownership to a fully operational framework, with tangible impact across institutions and the wider financial system.”
>
> Christofer Malan · Executive Manager, Compliance and Prevention, Financial Intelligence Centre, South Africa

> “The project enabled a complete transformation, from a fragmented compliance approach to a structured, risk-based supervisory system, contributing directly to our improved FATF standing and regional leadership.”
>
> Vinesh Sanasy · Registrar of Associations, Authority of the Registrar of Associations, Mauritius

WHAT WOULD CONSOLIDATE THE GAINS

01

Supporting collaboration with actors addressing IT systems and data infrastructure, the most cited constraint.

02

Help partners to formalise regional cooperation beyond informal professional networks.

03

Support countries in deepening their expertise on VAs, proliferation financing and asset recovery.

Stakeholders consistently identify four features behind the Facility's effectiveness: **demand-driven, practitioner-led, operational and flexible** . Preserving them is what keeps the model credible.