# ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING AND FINANCIAL CRIME IN 2024/2025: OPPORTUNITIES, RISKS AND CHALLENGES

## One (1) Day Workshop Outline

## OVERVIEW:

The global landscape of Anti-Money Laundering/Combating the Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT) within the financial sector is undergoing significant transformation. The relationship of technological advancements, regulatory changes, and the rolling out of new financial instruments has caused the reshaping of strategies and approaches employed by financial institutions and regulatory bodies.

In this new era characterized by the development of financial technologies, tools such as artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning (ML), and blockchain has emerged as a defining feature of AML/CFT efforts globally. As such financial institutions, are leveraging this technology to strengthen their defenses against the ever-evolving strategies of money launderers and anyone financing terrorism.

Going into 2025, the risks to financial institutions are not only on a domestic scale but also on a global scale to determine whether these risks are pertinent to our financial institutions. This includes a requirement that financial institutions (FIs) maintain an AML/CFT compliance program that is "effective, risk-based, and reasonably designed" to help focus resources and attention in a manner consistent with their risk profiles.

This course discusses recent AML/ATF compliance trends and risks that banks and other financial institutions should be aware of going forward into 2025.

**Topics Include:**

**ANTI BRIBERY AND CORRUPTION**

- Understanding corruption
- The craft of corruption
- Who are the stakeholders?

- High-risk countries, industries and customers
- Anti-corruption legislation
- Enforcement
- Approach to corruption risk mitigation
- Future trends and the rise of the anti-corruption professionals

## REGULATION OF VIRTUAL ASSETS/CRYPTO SPACE

- Background of virtual assets regulation
- Regulatory Environment re Virtual Assets ..
- Evaluation of the virtual asset regulatory environment in the Caribbean Region
- Vulnerabilities of Virtual asset space

## DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION OF AML/CFT

Technology is transforming the way we work and live. In many fields, it offers considerable efficiencies and cost savings. Innovative skills, methods, and processes that are used to achieve goals relating to the effective implementation of AML/CFT requirements or innovative ways to use established technology-based processes to comply with AML/CFT obligation

- The opportunities and challenges of new technology to help the private sector and supervisors implement AML/CFT measures more efficiently.
- The role of data pooling, collaborative analytics and data protection, taking stock of technologies that facilitate advanced AML/CFT analytics within regulated entities or collaborative analytics between financial institutions, while respecting national and international data privacy and protection legal frameworks.
- The role of big data and advanced analytics in transforming the capabilities of operational agencies in detecting and investigating money laundering (ML) and terrorist financing (TF) and understanding ML/TF risks.

## CORRESPONDENT BANKING

- Money Laundering Risk: Why Are Correspondent Banks at Such High Risk for Money Laundering?
- Correspondent Banks and the Challenge of AML Regulatory Compliance
- AML Regulatory Requirements: Guidelines for AML De-Risking at Correspondent Banks. Sanctions Considerations: Keeping up with the Latest Sanctions Developments
- Sanctions is one of the most important topics for the Caribbean given its proximity to politically volatile territories.
- the latest sanctions regulations impacting Caribbean compliance professionals.
- latest sanctions imposed on neighbouring high-risk jurisdictions including Haiti, Cuba and Venezuela
  - o Implications of Executive Order14114 and the secondary sanctions risks to financial institutions outside of the U.S., along with other changes in the U.S., U.K. and EU sanctions regimes
- Mitigate potential sanctions evasion risks associated with Russia, Iran and DPRK

## CYBERSECURITY

- Managing AML Risks During Ransomware Cyber Attacks
- Conduct of illegal activities using cybercrime
- Overview of cybersecurity (how networks are attacked, how the attacker's benefit, and how to mitigate those attacks).
- Cyber security threats, vulnerabilities, and risks and controls.

**THE COMPLIANCE FUNCTION:**

The need for Compliance expansion. Compliance's Expanding Coverage: Current and Future Roles, denotes and predicts this changing role. From enterprise risk to data, technology, and controls, Compliance will continue its value-add transformation. Expect this increasing Compliance role to include:

- Standard Setter and Enforcer to Culture Enabler
- Reputational Risk Overseer to Brand Guardian
- Compliance Risk Monitor to Enterprise Risk Governor
- Data Reporter to Data/Technology Change Agent
- Control Inspector to Emerging Impact Assessor

**AI IN AML: Combining AI and AML technologies to automate processes that precent financial crime by using algorithms and machine learning**

- Enhanced CDD
- Efficient Transaction Monitoring:
- Improved Suspicious Activity Reporting:
- Automated Risk Assessment
- Increased Accuracy and Efficiency
- Risks and Challenges of AI For AML

**BENEFITS**

Banking officers will gain some insight into the evolving world of AML/ATF Compliance and what is required to ensure that stakeholder and regulatory expectations are met whilst providing clients with innovative products and services thus ensuring sustainability and profitability.

The risk factors inherent in the evolving areas are discussed along with the ways to mitigate same. This will allow financial institutions to effectively pivot to proactively adjust their Risk programmes to meet this risk tolerance.

## WHO SHOULD ATTEND:

**Customer service agents and compliance officers employed within banks and other financial institutions including:** CCOs, CROs, CAMLOs, MLROs Auditors, Attorneys, Accountants, Broker Dealers, Commercial Banks, Credit Institutions, Credit Unions, Development Banks, Import & Export Businesses, Insurance Companies, Money Value Transfer Services, Mortgage Companies and Trust & Company Service Providers

## METHODOLOGY:

This workshop will incorporate an interactive mix of a PowerPoint presentation, group discussions, question and answer sessions and case study analysis.

## WHY YOU SHOULD ATTEND

- **Bank and Financial Institutions (FIs) Focused**
  - Focuses exclusively on financial crimes issues facing banks and FIs
- **Benchmark Your Program**
  - Benchmark your bank's AML/CFT/OFAC performance against leading practices.
- **Up-to-the-Minute Information**
  - Hear current and future risks and get trending red flags to improve system monitoring

**FACILITATOR'S BIO**

## <u>CANDICE R. HUGGINS</u>
*(LLB) (LEC) (GARP)*

Candice Huggins, chief compliance officer at a leading regional banking outfit.

Huggins's extensive experience spans over 20 years of work in the legal, risk management and regulatory compliance within the financial services sector with specialization in international financial services, compliance and risk management. She has worked in both the private and public sectors in multiple jurisdictions (Cayman Islands, British Virgin Islands, Barbados, Trinidad and Tobago and Canada).

Huggins has advised extensively on regional AML, fraud and risk issues through her work with international bodies such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF), World Bank (WB) and the Organization of American States. Specifically, she has served as a consultant for regional and international projects such as the CFATF (Caribbean Financial Action Task Force) Mutual Evaluation and Country Assessment and Preparation programs and the International Monetary Fund/World Bank Offshore Caribbean Pilot Project on AML compliance.

She has litigated in the area of white-collar crime contributing to the jurisprudence of the region as well as developed and implemented risk and compliance programs for credit unions, banks, trust & company service providers, securities companies and real estate agents.