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Action Summary

Horizontal Facility for the Western Balkans and Türkiye III

Action against Money Laundering in Türkiye

(HF III-AMLT)

Action title	Action against Money Laundering in Türkiye
Action area	Türkiye
Budget	€ 545 000
Funding	European Union / Council of Europe
Implementation	Economic Crime and Cooperation Division, DG I, Unit I, Council of Europe
Duration	48 Months

I. Background

The European Union/Council of Europe Horizontal Facility for the Western Balkans and Türkiye (also referred to as: Horizontal Facility phase III or HF III) is a co-operation initiative of the European Union and Council of Europe for South East Europe. The first phase of the Horizontal Facility ran from May 2016 to May 2019, and the second phase ran from May 2019 to December 2022. The third phase of the Horizontal Facility will be implemented from January 2023 to December 2026, and it will continue to build on the Statement of Intent signed on 1 April 2014 by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe and the European Union Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy, in which both Organisations agreed to further strengthen their co-operation in key areas of joint interest.

The Horizontal Facility includes Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and Türkiye. Beneficiaries and counterparts include governmental bodies at all levels, notably specialised structures within the Ministries of Justice, Interior and Finance, anti-corruption bodies, judicial and prosecutorial services, anti-money laundering supervisory bodies, Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs), and representatives of civil society.

II. Action's approach in Türkiye

As part of the Horizontal Facility III, Action against Money Laundering in Türkiye aims at following up on the key recommendations of FATF as well as requirements of the evolving EU acquis in the areas of anti-money laundering and counter terrorism financing (AML/CFT).

The Action will focus on supporting the authorities in several directions including:

1. Strengthening the management of ML/FT risks through preventive measures;

* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSC 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.

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2. Enhancing the capacity to fight economic crime through the effective use of financial intelligence and enhanced asset recovery mechanisms.

III. Action's Objectives and Outcomes

The overall objective of the Action is to contribute to consolidation of the rule of law in Türkiye through prevention and control of economic crimes in accordance with European standards and the EU *acquis*. The specific objectives of the Action are:

Anti-money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism	Intermediate Outcome 1	Strengthened management of ML/FT risks through preventive measures
	Immediate Outcome 1.1	Guidance on assessing sectoral ML and TF risks provided
	Immediate Outcome 1.2	Guidance for development and implementation of a risk-based approach by designated non-financial businesses and professions introduced
	Immediate Outcome 1.3	Strengthened methodologies for on-site and off-site supervision of FIs and DNFBPs based on risk
	Immediate Outcome 1.4	Recommendations for the application of effective, proportionate, and dissuasive sanctioning policy with regard to DNFBPs
	Immediate Outcome 1.5	Enhanced effectiveness of measures for verification of the beneficial ownership (BO) information
	Immediate Outcome 1.6	Introduced measures for setting up of centralised automated mechanism on bank accounts
	Intermediate Outcome 2	Enhanced capacity to fight economic crime through effective use of financial intelligence and enhanced asset recovery mechanisms
	Immediate Outcome 2.1	Enhanced use of financial intelligence to support ML investigation and prosecution commensurate with major identified risks
	Immediate Outcome 2.2	Improved strategic analytical function of the Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU)
	Immediate Outcome 2.3	Strengthened effectiveness in confiscation of proceeds and instrumentalities of crime
	Immediate Outcome 2.4	Improved data-collection system for monitoring the effectiveness of AML/CFT measures

IV. Implementation Arrangements

As a key actor in this thematic area, the Council of Europe's Economic Crime and Cooperation Division (ECCD) is in charge of implementing the activities under the Action.

For the purpose of implementing various specific activities, the Action engages international experts with demonstrated experience in the field of fighting against economic crime as well as local experts from Horizontal Facility countries in order to ensure that the project delivers high quality assistance to the beneficiaries.

V. Contacts

<p>Economic Crime and Cooperation Division Action against Crime Department Information Society - Action against Crime Directorate Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law – DG I Council of Europe F-67075, Strasbourg, Cedex, FRANCE</p> <p>www.coe.int/econcrime https://www.coe.int/en/web/corruption/projects/amlt</p>	<p>Evgeni Evgeniev Head of Unit Phone: +33 (0)3 88 41 25 11 Email: Evgeni.Evgeniev@coe.int</p> <p>Zahra Ahmadova Program Manager Tel: +33 (0)3 88 41 28 44 E-mail : Zahra.Ahmadova@coe.int</p>
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