

CONCEPT NOTE



# VIRTUAL NATIONAL DIALOGUE AND REPORT LAUNCH

ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING AND COUNTER-TERRORISM  
FINANCING (AML/CTF) LAWS: *AN EXAMINATION  
OF THEIR IMPACT ON CIVIC SPACE IN UGANDA.*

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Tuesday 29th June 2021  
Live on **ZOOM**  
10:00am 12:00.



Co-funded by the European Union



Implemented by

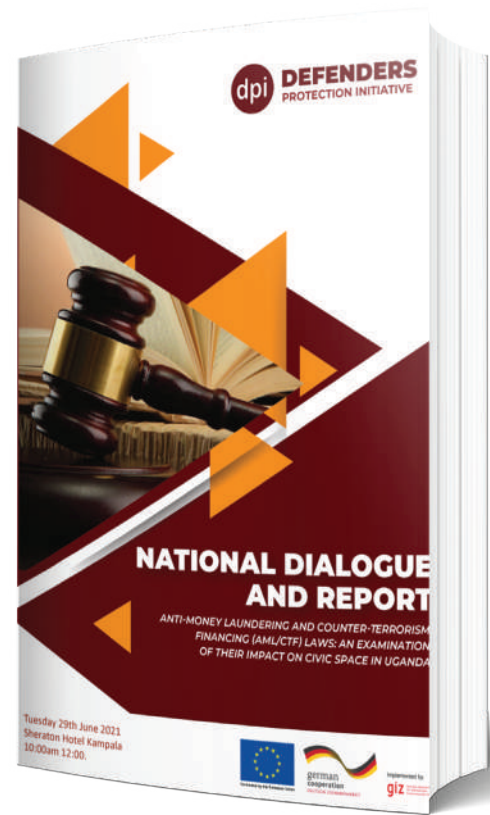


# Introduction

Since 2016, Defenders Protection Initiative has enhanced its focus towards mitigating the unintended consequences orchestrated by **Financial Action Task Force (FATF)** inspired laws/ regulations on the activities of legitimate charities in Uganda. During this period, DPI has been able to broaden her AML/CFT capacity building initiatives in 8 regions of Uganda, conducted research and strategic engagements by and for civil society actors as a pushback strategy against over-regulation.

As part of her novel initiatives, DPI will conduct a Virtual Roundtable Discussions and Report Launch of the study conducted between December 2020 and March 2021, titled: Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing (AML/CTF) Laws: “An Examination of Their Impact on Civic Space in Uganda”.

This comes against a backdrop of a systematic build-up of contracting civic space in Uganda, largely fueled by among other mechanisms, a litany of laws mostly having negative implications on the operating environment for civil society organizations in Uganda.



# Background

In the aftermath of the September 11, 2001, terror attacks on the United States of America (USA), countries around the world took heightened measures to enhance their national security and protect the life and property of their citizens. More significantly, the attack on the US created impetus for a global approach to the collective fight against terrorism. The United Nations which is the converging organ for all nations around the world has been at the forefront of this approach.

Over the last few years, the UN has come up with different strategies to empower individual memberstates in countering terrorism within their national jurisdictions while at the same time contributing to their collective responsibility to ensure that the world is safe. The initiative for countries to adopt **Anti-Money Laundering (AML) and Counter Terrorism Finance (CTF)** laws and policies has been one of the most prominent approaches in this endeavour. This approach (use of AML/CTF legislation) to counter terrorism is highly complimented by the work of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF)- an inter-governmental organisation founded in 1989.

By virtue of it being a member state, Uganda is enjoined to follow the UN counter terrorism recommendations including the adoption of relevant AML and CTF legislations. Similarly, although Uganda is not a member of FATF, it is obliged to follow its recommendations as a matter of international comity. Besides, Uganda and East Africa as a region has had its own bitter experience with terrorism. On July 11, 2010, the country experienced its worst terror attack in the form of twin bombings at two prominent places of entertainment. In both these attacks a substantial number of lives were lost (76 people) while many others were left with permanent

While the adoption of laws for the control of terrorism financing is a very critical step in the fight against terrorism, there is a growing concern that the enforcement of such counter terrorism measures without due regard to due process and fundamental rights and freedoms can have devastating consequences for the operations of civil society.

Against this backdrop, the Defenders Protection Initiative (DPI) with the support from the **Civil Society in Uganda Support Programme (CUSP)**, which is implemented by the **Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH**, with financial support from the **European Union** and the **German government**, commissioned a study whose objective was to examine the impact of Uganda's anti-money laundering and counter terrorism legislation on civic space. In addition to this, the study also explored the extent to which **FATF** style regulations have impacted on the operations of civil society in Uganda.



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**giz** Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

## Overall objective(s)

To conduct a virtual National Dialogue and report launch, titled Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing (AML/CTF) Laws: An Examination of Their Impact on Civic Space in Uganda. The launch particularly provides an opportunity to share, reflect and disseminate the findings with key stakeholders.

*Contributing To Promotion And Protection Of Human Rights, Good Governance, Rule Of Law, Peace And Democracy.*

## Methodology

The meeting organizers acknowledge the risk associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, thus have developed a set of measures to enable safe, open and inclusive convening among participants. These include among others:

### 1. Strict observance of the COVID-19 Sops'

The launch shall be held virtually. Thus, other participants will be invited to attend via a televised live event which will also be hosted on Zoom and streamed live on Social media platforms like Facebook and Twitter. The selected participants will represent a diverse group comprising of advocates, civil society leaders, academia, media practitioners, students, researchers and the donor community.



### 2. Protected Video Conference

The virtual roundtable discussions and report launch will be held using password to a protected videoconference room. Participants will be asked to identify themselves by name and organization at the time of entering the virtual meeting room.



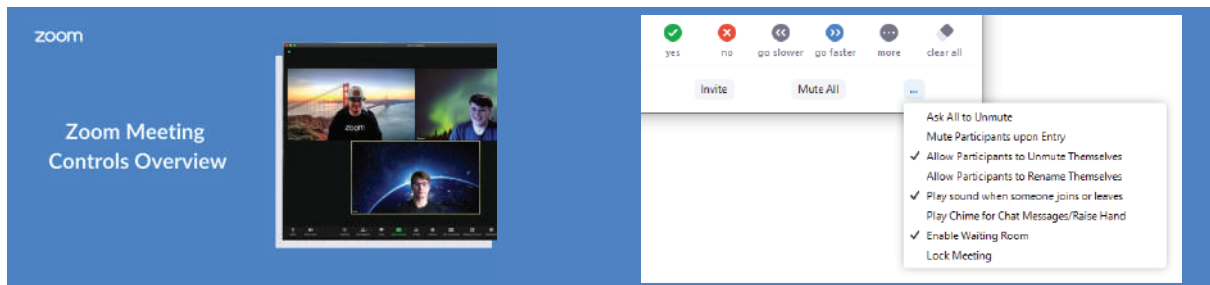
### 3. Program

The convening will be preceded with a presentation by the lead researcher **Mr. James Luyombya Nkubi**, on the Key research findings, followed by remarks from a Panel of Eminent AML/CFT regulators and NGO leaders. Expected on the Panel are - Executive Director-Financial Intelligence Authority, Executive Director-Uganda National NGO Bureau, Head Compliance Standard Chartered bank/ Uganda Bankers Association, Head of the Anti-Corruption Dep-ODPP, Executive Director DPI, Executive Director Uganda NGO Forum



### 4. Lists of participating organizations

A list of participating organizations and institutions will be shared with all the panelist in advance of the meeting.



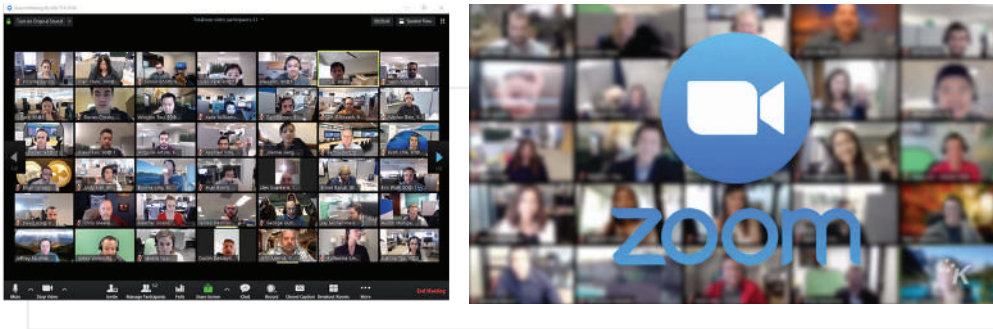
### 5. Live streaming

Formal remarks, panel presentations and discussions during the meeting will be will be streamed live and recorded.



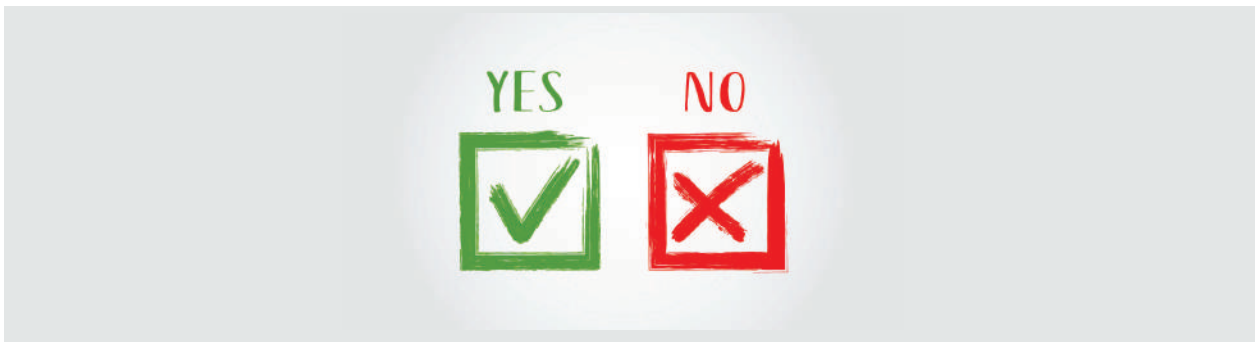
## 6. List of participants

A list of participants, including the individual's name, title, and affiliation, will be shared after the launch to all who attended.



## 7. Privacy

Participants are asked to indicate during the registration process whether they wish to be excluded from the participant list. Individual contact information will not be retained or disseminated without the individual's consent.



## 8. Do No Harm

Virtual National Dialogue during the meetings will inform the development of a DPI's "DO NO HARM" guidelines on the implementation of AML/CFT measures without interfering with the operation of legitimate entities. Additional data and insights will be collected through an online evaluation exercise of the launch.



# Program

Tuesday 29th June 2021

NAME	NAME	INSTITUTION	POSITION	TOPIC
10:00- 10:05AM	Mr. Yona Wanjala	Defenders Protection Initiative.	Executive Director	Welcome Remarks
10:06- 10:20AM	Mr. James Luyombya Nkubi	Kituo Chakatiba	Lead Researcher	Presentation of the research findings/Key Highlights
10:21- 10:30AM	Dr. Moses Isooba	Uganda National NGO Forum	Executive Director	Suggest practical remedial approaches to both regulators and sector players for mitigating the unintended assault on civic space /operation of NPOs in Uganda. (linking them to research findings)
10:31- 10:40AM	Ms. Cecilia Namuddu Muhwezi	Uganda Bankers Association	Head Compliance Standard Chartered bank	Suggest remedial approaches by the banking sector, to mitigate the unintended consequences of “De-risking” on operation of NPOs in Uganda. (linking them to research findings)
10:41- 10:50AM	Ms. Josephine Namatovu	The Office of the Director of Public Prosecution	Head of the Anti-Corruption Dep	What remedial approaches can be employed by ODPP, to mitigate the unintended assault on civic space /operation of NPOs in Uganda. (linking them to research findings)
10:51- 11:00AM	Mr. Stephen Okello	National Bureau for Non-Governmental Organizations	Executive Director	What remedial approaches are in place or planned by the National Bureau for Non-Governmental Organizations to mitigate the unintended assault on civic space /operation of NPOs in Uganda. (linking them to research findings)
11:01- 11:15AM	Mr. Sydney Asubo	Financial Intelligence Authority-FIA	Executive Director	What remedial approaches has the FIA, towards mitigating the unintended assault on civic space /operation of NPOs in Uganda. (linking them to research findings)
11:16- 11:25AM	Mr. Yona Wanjala	Defenders Protection Initiative.	Executive Director	Unpacking the “Do No Harm” Plan of Action that seeks to confront the unintended assault on civic space /operation of NPOs in Uganda and beyond. (linking them to research findings)
11:25- 12:00	QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION			
12:11- 12:15 PM	Germany Embassy	European Union Delegation in Uganda	Ambassador	Closing remarks and Launch

# THANK YOU

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