

Session 4

Joining Forces: Anti-Trafficking Governance By and Through Partnerships

November 28

15:00 – 16:15

The criminal structures behind human trafficking and modern slavery are organized and international. This requires an equally coordinated and cross-border response from relevant public and private actors in the anti-financial crime field. Panelists will show what established national public-private partnerships are already achieving in this area and reflect on their systemic importance. They will also provide insights into the current work of newer forms of anti-trafficking partnerships, such as cross-border public-private partnerships or partnerships between anti-money laundering authorities of different jurisdictions. The group will reflect on the potential of such partnerships for governance in the broadest sense, be it as an established component of a banking anti-financial crime compliance framework, as a standard setter for industry and banking regulation, or as a mechanism for effective crime governance between states.

Moderator

Hennie Verbeek-Kusters, Head, FIU Netherlands

Hennie Verbeek-Kusters has been the head of FIU Netherlands since 2008. Under her leadership, the focus of FIU Netherlands has shifted to greater cooperation with public and private partners in the fight against money laundering and the financing of terrorism, both nationally and internationally. Mrs. Verbeek-Kusters was previously head of Egmont Group and joined the advisory board of FAST in 2021.

Panelists

Gábor Aurél Simonka, Head, Hungarian Financial Intelligence Unit (HFIU)

Gábor Simonka is Head of the Hungarian Financial Intelligence Unit (HFIU) and a Member of the Steering Committee of the European Financial Intelligence Public Private Partnership (EFIPPP) where he also leads a workstream on enhancing the quality of Suspicious Activity Reports. Under Gábor's leadership, Project Helena, a Public-Private Partnership on human trafficking, was established in Hungary.

Alvaro Ortega, Financial Intelligence Unit Director, Santander

Alvaro Ortega is the Financial Intelligence Unit Director at Santander Bank where he evaluates the Bank's exposure to financial crime threats, coordinates external relationships, and leads corporate threat assessment measures. He was also recently appointed by Europol to lead Trafficking in Human Beings' Working Group on New Risks and Typologies at the EFIPPP.

Muluken Yirga Dubale, Senior Legal Expert on AML/CFT, Eastern and Southern Africa Anti-Money Laundering Group Secretariat

Muluken Yirga Dubale is a legal professional with over 15 years of extensive experience in both practicing and teaching various legal disciplines, with a focus on AML/CFT issues and international cooperation. Currently, he is Senior Legal Advisor at the Eastern and Southern Africa Anti-Money Laundering Group Secretariat, where he plays a vital role in handling legal, law enforcement, and FIU matters. Additionally, Muluken serves as a focal point for issues related to modern slavery, human trafficking, and migrant smuggling.

Evita Situma, Senior Specialist: Financial Crime Compliance/Divisional Manager, Discovery Bank

Evita Esther Situma is a Senior Specialist: Financial Crime Compliance/Divisional Manager at Discovery Bank, an innovative award-winning digital bank. Evita currently holds a CAMS, CGSS certification, and is completing a Masters in Corruption and Governance at the University of Sussex. Evita also plays an active role in the Modern Slavery Human Trafficking Expert Working Group at the South African Anti-Money Laundering Integrated Task Force.

Resources

- [Mobilizing Anti Money Laundering Actors in the Fight against Modern Slavery \(FAST and CFATF\)](#)
- [FAST Recommendations Unanimously Adopted by African Financial Authorities ESAAMLG \(FAST\)](#)
- [Compendium of Promising Practices on Public-Private Partnerships to Prevent and Counter Trafficking in Persons \(UNODC\).](#)