SITUATION OF THE FIGHT AGAINST ILLICIT FINANCIAL FLOWS IN GABON

Partners

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1. Institutional, legal and regulatory framework

- Creation within the Gabonese Government of a Ministry dedicated to Good Governance;


- Establishment of the National Agency for Financial Investigation (ANIF), a body in charge of monitoring financial flows, in relation with financial institutions. The ANIF is governed by Community Regulation N°01/CEMAC/UMAC/CM of 16 April 2016 on the Prevention and Suppression of Money Laundering, Terrorist Financing and Proliferation in Central Africa.
1. Institutional, legal and regulatory framework

- Our country, Gabon, has regalian administrations, notably the General Directorate of Customs and Indirect Rights and the General Directorate of Taxes, which are responsible for ensuring the regularity of financial flows. These administrations have implemented reforms aimed at the dematerialisation of payment systems.

- The 2019 reform of the judicial system allowed the creation of specialised Tribunals and Courts for the repression of offences related to illegal mining, forestry and fishing activities.
2. Strategy and Actors to combat IFFs

- With the support of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Government of Gabon has developed a Strategy Document to Combat Corruption and Money Laundering (DSLCCBC). This document targets 10 priority sectors likely to be subject to illicit trafficking.

This strategy is led by the ANIF and the CNLCEI.

- The vision guiding the implementation of the DSLCCBC is expressed through the concept of PRECIS (Prevention, Education, Conditions, Incentives, Sanctions).

- Among the actors involved in the fight against illicit financial flows in Gabon are the National Financial Investigation Agency (ANIF), the National Directorate of the Bank of Central African States (BEAC) and its secular arm, the Central African Banking Commission (COBAC), and the Inter-Governmental Task Force against Money-Laundering in Central Africa (GABAC)
3. Inter-agency or inter-institutional collaboration

- As part of the actions carried out, a collaboration was initiated between the CNLCEI, the Security Forces and the Public Prosecutor's Office;
- Likewise, between the ANIF, the banking sector and the Public Prosecutor’s Office for money laundering offence;
- April 2021: Launch of a diagnostic study on the national assessment of governance, corruption and the risk of illicit financial flows in the implementation of public policies.

4. suspected illicit commercial financial flows to Gabon

- Regardless of the origin of the flows (exports, imports, inward investment, outward investment, public contracts) and without in-depth studies, the suspected illicit financial flows for Gabon are tax fraud, violation of market rules, corruption and money laundering.
6. Expectations of the pilot project.

- Conduct in-depth studies to estimate the 4 financial flows mentioned above (Tax Fraud, Market Abuse, Corruption and Money Laundering);

- To contribute to the implementation of objectives 16.4 and 16.5 and in special way the reduction of illicit financial flows, the strengthening of the recovery of stolen goods, the fight against all forms of organised crime, the significant reduction of corruption in all its forms;

- Strengthen the capacity of all Actors combating IFFs;

- Establish a mechanism for measuring and sharing data related to IFFs.
Thank you for your attention