

DESIGNING ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS THREATS IN A COMPLEX WORLD

“Building Robust AML Frameworks for Compliance, Resilience, and Risk Reduction”

Schedule

Date	Venue	Fees (Face-to-Face)
22 - 24 Sep 2026	Manama, Bahrain	USD 2495 per delegate

► **Available delivery methods:** Face-to-Face & Online Training

Introduction

As global financial systems become more digitized and interconnected, the threat landscape for money laundering continues to evolve. Criminal networks exploit new technologies, cross-border transactions, and regulatory gaps—challenging traditional Anti-Money Laundering (AML) efforts. Organizations must go beyond check-the-box compliance and design proactive AML programs aligned with emerging risks and evolving regulations.

This 3-day course equips compliance, risk, and audit professionals with the skills to design, assess, and enhance AML programs that are risk-based, adaptive, and fit for today’s complex threat environment. Participants will learn how to integrate customer due diligence, transaction monitoring, suspicious activity reporting, and emerging typologies into a robust AML framework.

Objectives

By the end of this course, participants will be able to:

- Design and assess AML programs that meet international standards and local regulations
- Apply risk-based approaches to customer onboarding, KYC, and ongoing monitoring
- Detect and respond to suspicious transactions using real-world typologies
- Strengthen governance, reporting, and internal controls for AML compliance
- Prepare for AML audits, regulator inspections, and cross-border investigations

Why Attend

- Enhance your organization's defense against money laundering risks and reputational damage
- Learn about current and emerging AML threats including crypto laundering, shell companies, and TBML
- Benchmark your AML program against FATF recommendations and regional laws
- Understand the lifecycle of AML risk management—from risk assessment to SAR filing
- Practice developing red flags, typologies, and internal reporting protocols

Target Audience

This program is designed for:

- AML compliance officers and financial crime investigators
- Risk, audit, and legal professionals in financial institutions
- Bank regulators, FIU analysts, and supervisors
- Professionals in fintech, crypto, and digital banking operations
- AML consultants, attorneys, and investigators

Individual Benefits

Key competencies that will be developed include:

- Proficiency in AML program design and enhancement
- Risk-based customer due diligence and onboarding
- Investigation and SAR drafting skills
- Ability to conduct AML risk assessments and gap analyses
- Familiarity with global AML frameworks and typologies

Organizational Benefits

Upon completing the training course, participants will demonstrate:

- Enhanced AML compliance and regulator readiness
- Reduced exposure to legal, reputational, and operational risks
- Stronger detection of suspicious patterns and complex laundering tactics
- Improved documentation, internal controls, and transaction monitoring systems
- A more resilient and proactive anti-financial crime culture

Instructional Methodology

The course follows a blended learning approach combining theory with practice:

- Strategy Briefings - Overview of global AML frameworks and evolving threats
- Case Studies - International money laundering cases and enforcement actions
- Workshops - Red flag analysis, program gap assessments, and SAR simulations
- Peer Exchange - Experience sharing across banking, fintech, and regulatory domains
- Tools - AML risk matrix templates, audit checklists, and typology databases

Course Outline

DETAILED 3-DAY COURSE OUTLINE

Training Hours: 7:30 AM - 3:30 PM Daily Format: 3 Learning Modules | Coffee Breaks: 09:30 & 11:15 | Lunch Buffet: 01:00 - 02:00

Day 1: Foundations of AML Compliance and Risk

- Module 1: Global AML Frameworks and Standards (07:30 - 09:30) • FATF recommendations and regional compliance mandates • AML/CFT regulatory landscape in the GCC and MENA regions • Key components of an effective AML program
- Module 2: Risk-Based Approach to AML (09:45 - 11:15) • Risk assessment methodology and AML risk matrix • Customer risk ratings and segmentation • Regulatory expectations and audit readiness
- Module 3: Customer Due Diligence and KYC (11:30 - 01:00) • CDD, EDD, and simplified due diligence • KYC lifecycle: onboarding to ongoing monitoring • Politically exposed persons (PEPs) and beneficial ownership
- Workshop - AML Program Gap Analysis (02:00 - 03:30) • Review of AML program structure • Identification of improvement areas

Day 2: Transaction Monitoring, Typologies, and Reporting

- Module 1: Transaction Monitoring Frameworks (07:30 - 09:30) • Designing monitoring rules and thresholds • Alerts, case management, and escalation protocols • Manual vs. automated monitoring systems
- Module 2: Emerging Money Laundering Typologies (09:45 - 11:15) • Trade-based money laundering (TBML), smurfing, crypto laundering • Shell companies and layering techniques • Typology red flags by product/channel
- Module 3: Suspicious Activity Reporting (SAR) (11:30 - 01:00) • When and how to file SARs • Documentation, narrative writing, and filing workflows • Regulatory expectations and confidentiality
- Workshop - Typology Mapping and SAR Simulation (02:00 - 03:30) • Practice identifying typologies • Drafting a SAR narrative

Day 3: Governance, Internal Controls, and Future Threats

- Module 1: AML Governance and Internal Controls (07:30 - 09:30) • Three lines of defense and roles of the AML officer • Policies, procedures, and internal audit readiness • Board reporting and escalation
- Module 2: Technology, Innovation, and AML (09:45 - 11:15) • AI and machine learning in AML monitoring • Fintech/Regtech tools and limitations • Blockchain, DeFi, and crypto compliance
- Module 3: Global Enforcement Trends and Future Risks (11:30 - 01:00) • Lessons from enforcement actions and fines • Emerging threats: digital ID fraud, sanctions evasion, money mules • Preparing for evolving regulatory focus
- Final Workshop - AML Program Enhancement Plan (02:00 - 03:30) • Develop a roadmap to strengthen your AML framework • Peer feedback and final Q&A

Certification

Participants will receive a Certificate of Completion in Anti-Money Laundering Program Design, validating their ability to create, evaluate, and enhance AML frameworks to meet global compliance standards and mitigate financial crime risks.

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