



134.564
231.678
456.123
24.4446
783.134
458.274
735.120
459.192
76.4308
94.3748
11.3965
456.123
24.4446

ILLICIT FINANCIAL FLOWS DATA COLLECTION TOOL

for informed policy decisions in combating financial crimes



DATA: A POWERFUL WEAPON TO COMBAT DIRTY MONEY

“It is a capital mistake to theorize before one has data.”

- Sherlock Holmes, in “A Study in Scarlet” by Arthur Conan Doyle

Today, data has become an **essential input for policy decisions** in many fields. In light of the increase in numbers of transnational financial crimes, policies to tackle criminal proceeds and financial flows should also better utilize the power of data.

Most countries have been collecting data on crimes and criminality successfully for decades. But many of the **existing crime data collection systems do not capture the financial aspects** of these crimes.

To support our client countries in the **systematic collection of data on illicit proceeds and financial flows**, the World Bank Group (WBG) has developed the Illicit Financial Flows Data Collection Tool (IFFD Tool).

The tool aims to collect data on **proceeds and financial flows related to money laundering, serious crimes, and tax evasion.**



OBJECTIVE

- **TO BUILD A CULTURE** of data collection on illicit proceeds and financial flows.
- **TO ESTABLISH A LIVE DATABASE** that will grow over time as more data is added.
- **TO RAISE AWARENESS** about the value of data on illicit proceeds and financial flows, and to train the stakeholders.
- **TO SUPPORT COUNTRIES** in their assessments of money laundering and illicit financial flow risks.
- **TO SUPPORT A RISK-BASED APPROACH** to anti-money laundering.
- **TO STRENGTHEN THE CAPABILITIES** of countries’ existing crime data collection and management systems.
- **TO SUPPORT COUNTRIES’ COMPLIANCE** with Financial Action Task Force’s Recommendation 1, Recommendation 33, Immediate Outcome 1 and other relevant international obligations.

ULTIMATE GOAL:
Inform relevant policy actions through timely and reliable data.



FEATURES

- **Simple and transparent** software consisting of an entry form and a database.
- **Developed in-house** by the World Bank Group in a cyber-secure environment.
- **Adaptable to local context** and maintained by local IT experts, without reliance on IT support from WBG.
- **Option of full integration** into a country’s existing data management systems (with WBG support).
- **Aims to capture proceeds of all serious crimes and tax evasion** in addition to money-laundering cases.
- **Collects statistical information only**, does not require the collection/recording of confidential details of cases.
- **Administered by a central government authority**, such as the Financial Intelligence Unit, the Ministry of Justice, the Prosecutor’s Office, or law enforcement in collaboration with other relevant agencies.
- **Countries should decide** which agency will be the data collection center and establish the coordination framework for effective data collection and submission.



INSIGHTS: THE ENTRY FORM

The entry form is short and easy to understand. It has been designed with a view to balancing the added value of each data point against operational aspects such as user convenience, and time required to complete the form.

The form consists of five parts: Case Identification, Case Categorization, Analysis of Illicit Proceeds, Amount and Types of Illicit Proceeds, and Case Narrative.

Data collection fields focus on key aspects of illicit proceeds and flows, such as their source crimes, patterns, sectors, products and services, and origination and destination countries. The aim is to complete the form for all cases that generate significant amounts of illicit proceeds.

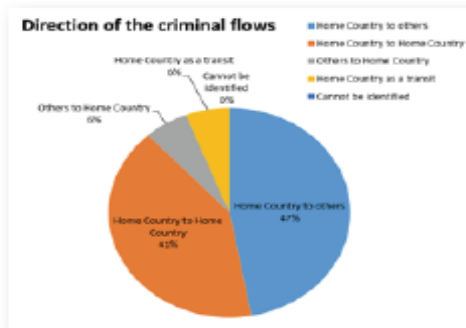
The tool captures the cases at investigation or later stages.

Suspicious transaction reports are covered by this tool only if they turn into investigations.



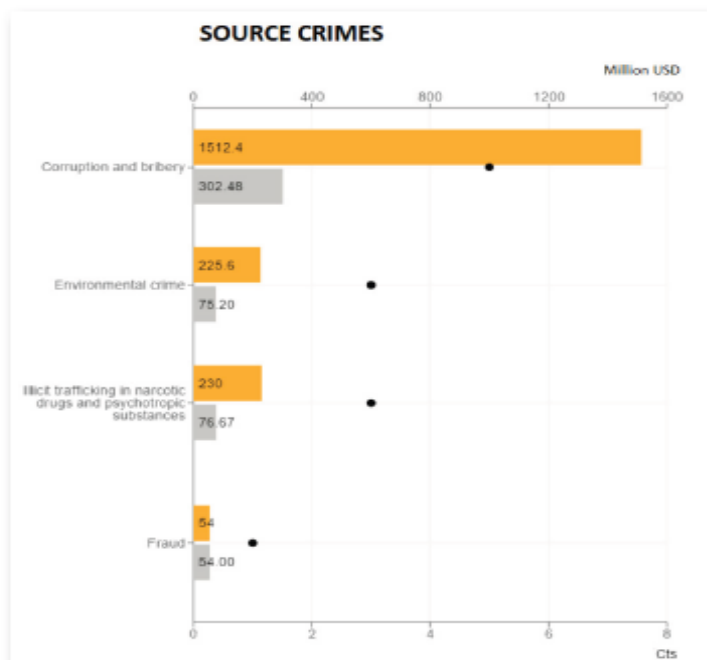
INSIGHTS: THE ANALYSIS

The tool has an analysis page which contains built-in charts and tables. These are updated automatically as the database grows. If needed, more charts can be added by the WBG team or local IT experts.



The analysis results are based on numbers of the cases, total proceeds of crimes associated with these cases, and the average proceeds of crimes derived from these two indicators.

The tables and charts can be generated in local currency, USD, or EUR. The analysis can be printed as a PDF document.



INSIGHTS: THE DATABASE

The main strength of the IFFD Tool is its database.

Overtime, the tool will allow the country to build a comprehensive database.

The statistical meaningfulness of the outputs depends on the number of cases in the database as well as the quality of the inputs. When launching the IFFD Tool, countries should enter data from the past 5-10 years into the database. Going forward, new cases should be recorded on an ongoing and real-time basis. The statistical value of the data will improve as the number of cases increases. Countries should use extra caution in the interpretation of the data, especially before the number of the entries reaches three-digit numbers.

The analysis page in the tool has a limited number of tables and charts. These utilize simple analysis techniques. However, counties can apply advanced statistical methods to the raw data in the database to enhance the analysis as desired. The database can be exported as an Excel file.

This database can be an important asset, not only for money laundering or illicit financial flow risk assessments but also for macro-economic and socio-economic research and studies.



WBG SUPPORT

The tool has been developed for self-implementation by Financial Intelligence Units and/or other competent government authorities and is easy to use. It comes with a detailed guidance manual.

If needed, WBG can support authorities in the introduction and implementation of the tool.

If a country already has a criminal / judicial data management system, the tool can be integrated into this existing system. WBG can also support countries during this process.

Contact Information

Please fill and submit the following form to our team, to download the IFFD Tool. Contact the local World Bank Group office in your country for technical assistance requests.

[IFFD Tool Request Form](#)

Finance, Competitiveness, and Innovation Global Practice

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