



GAIN THE POWER TO PROTECT

BECOME A KEY PLAYER IN
FIGHTING FINANCIAL CRIME



TBFC CERTIFICATION

BECOME A CERTIFIED
TBFC SPECIALIST

AMPLIFY YOUR EXPERTISE AND DEEPEN YOUR KNOWLEDGE - MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Attain the TBFC Certification and make a difference in protecting the economies and communities where you live and work.

BECOME A CERTIFIED TRADE BASED FINANCIAL CRIME SPECIALIST (CTBFCS) TODAY

Having completed the TBFC Certificate from AUB, you have attained working knowledge of trade finance and the intricacies of criminal exploitation via an array of financial crime facets - congratulations.

Continue your mission and evidence your subject matter expertise by attaining the Combating Trade Based Financial Crime Certification from the MENA FCCG - GCFFC. Be recognized as a Specialist.

THE CTBFCS DIVIDENDS

- Make a pronounced difference in the recognition of your experience and skills. Specifically, as a Certified TBFC Specialist, you will be able to link TBFC typologies with the latest trade sanctions evasion methods, scrutinize various trade documents, and recognize commercial fraud elements and effectively manage business sectors most prone to TBFC. In addition, you will be able to identify and develop leading TBFC Key Risk Indicators (KRIs), enhance corporate governance through Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), and lead your organization's effort to conduct a comprehensive TBFC risk assessment.
- Demonstrate mastery in the TBFC field as measured by industry leaders and embellished with ongoing hands-on knowledge reflective of daily experiences of combating TBFC experts.
- Achieve a higher purpose by partaking in protecting the integrity of the financial system while also arming yourself with inimitable knowledge.
- Highlight your value around the world and demonstrate your business acumen, ethics, and commitment.
- Tap into the networks of MENA FCCG and GCFFC, two entities uniting elite combating financial crime gurus seeking to drive a paradigm change in combating financial crime.

- Gain the opportunity to directly contact TBFC Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) from MENA FCCG TBFC Working Group representing different organizations; gain insights on how to handle compliance dilemmas that you may face in your daily work life.
- Stay abreast of developments in the TBFC landscape including evolving TBFC tactics, technological advancements, e.g. AI, machine learning, and interpretations of complex evolving regulatory mandates including via quarterly and ad-hoc circulations by TBFC SMEs.
- Join events with TBFC gurus (webinars and in-person) as they seek to connect with public private sector actors and harness dialogue, trust, and collaboration while focusing on thorny issues.

By taking a comprehensive approach, this Certification allows banking and corporate compliance officers, law enforcement investigators, regulators, auditors and others to arm themselves with diverse skills and broad-based knowledge across the TBFC spectrum with a focus on MENA region risks and typologies

PROCESS AND REQUIREMENTS

Certification Eligibility Criteria

- Complete the AUB professional Certificate in TBFC
- Minimum 2 years of related experience
- Pass comprehensive Certification Examination

The Examination

- Online Examination via AUB Platform.
- Composed of multiple-choice questions that include analysis of complex case studies with Hard/Moderate level of difficulty. For example, case studies will include scenarios combining trade based financial crime with trade sanctions evasion methods; practical application of red flags related to ICC rules, e.g. UCP600, URDG758, ISP98, etc.
- Passing score is 75%, score is displayed upon submission of Examination.
- The cost is a total of \$ 250 (comprised of 150 \$ (Exam Fee) + 100 \$ (License for 3 Years) paid upon registration.
- Submit registration for Certification within two years of attaining the TBFC Certificate.
- Complete examination within 6 months from registration date.

License Renewal

- Continued Processional Education (CPE), (60) total training hours (webinars and in-person events) for the three year period.
- Renewal fee (100 USD).

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

Certified TBFC Specialists are required to embrace conduct principles that align with the overarching purpose behind the inception of the awarding entities - MENA FCCG and GCFFC. In essence, both are not for profit entities striving to make a difference in the fight against financial crime and protecting the communities and the society. Their strength stems from collating efforts that center around most recent knowledge necessary to keep pace with the changing face of financial crime including TBFC.

As such, being a Certified TBFC Specialist requires adhering to a benchmark in conduct centered around the following:

- **PUBLIC INTEREST:** always acknowledge the higher purpose in protecting the integrity of the financial system; ensure objectivity and “doing the right thing” is your compass in your daily decisions.
- **BUILD MOMENTUM:** connect internally and externally and create momentum; help transform organizational culture and leadership to protect and create value.
- **COMPETENCE:** sustainable success is derived from a synthesis of education and experience. Embark on ongoing forward-looking learning and keep pace with most recent developments in the TBFC risk landscape.

ABOUT MENA FCCG & GCFFC

MENA FCCG IS A VOLUNTARY BODY THAT SEEKS TO BRING COLLECTIVE ACTION IN THE FIGHT AGAINST MONEY LAUNDERING AND TERRORIST FINANCE IN THE REGION. THE GROUP COMPRISES 13 BANKS REPRESENTING EIGHT MENA COUNTRIES, INCLUDING BAHRAIN, EGYPT, JORDAN, KUWAIT, LEBANON, OMAN, QATAR, AND THE UAE. THE GROUP IS PRESIDED OVER BY DR. WISSAM H. FATTOUH, SECRETARY GENERAL FOR THE UNION OF ARAB BANKS (UAB) WHILE MICHAEL MATOSSIAN IS THE CURRENT DEPUTY CHAIR. BOTH UAB AND LSEG ACT AS STRATEGIC PARTNERS TO THE GROUP.

THE GROUP HAS ALSO ESTABLISHED GLOBAL ALLIANCES WITH KEY BODIES SHARING THE SAME MISSION INCLUDING THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL AND THE WOLFSBERG GROUP. IN NOVEMBER 2021, THE GROUP OFFICIALLY LAUNCHED A EUROPE CHAPTER AT AN INAUGURAL MEETING IN LONDON. THE CHAPTER AIMS TO EXTEND MENA FCCG'S OBJECTIVES TO EUROPE BY BRINGING TOGETHER COMPLIANCE PROFESSIONALS OF ARAB BANKS OPERATING IN EUROPE TO ENHANCE FINANCIAL CRIME LITERACY AND SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION OF BEST PRACTICES. THE ARAB BANKERS ASSOCIATION ACTS AS THE STRATEGIC PARTNER AND THE CHAPTER HAS ENTERED A STRATEGIC ALLIANCE WITH THEMIS SERVICES, A SPECIALIST FINANCIAL CRIME CONSULTANCY.

ON THE OTHER HAND, THE GCFFC IS A PUBLIC-PRIVATE COALITION WITH THE AIM OF ENHANCING THE FIGHT AGAINST FINANCIAL CRIME GLOBALLY. THE MENA CHAPTER OFFERS MENA SPECIFIC INSIGHTS AND SOLUTIONS WHILE BUILDING ON THE CAPACITIES AND RESOURCES OF THE GCFFC. RECOGNIZING THAT GLOBAL PROBLEMS REQUIRE CONCERTED SOLUTIONS, EARLY 2021, MENA FCCG AND GCFFC - MENA ALIGNED THEIR PRIORITIES AND IDENTIFIED TRADE BASED FINANCIAL CRIME AS ONE OF THE KEY COLLABORATION AREAS. THE COLLABORATION CRYSTALIZED IN THE OFFICIAL RELEASE OF THE TRADE BASED FINANCIAL CRIME REFERENCE GUIDE IN OCTOBER 2022. [CLICK TO VIEW THE GUIDE AVAILABLE IN ARABIC AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE.](#)

THE GUIDE, CREATED BY WORLD-LEADING EXPERTS, FOCUSES ON TBFC METHODOLOGIES IN THE MENA REGION. IT PROVIDES A SINGLE, ACCESSIBLE SOURCE OF KNOWLEDGE AND INSTRUCTION FOR COMPLIANCE PROFESSIONALS, SUPERVISORY BODIES, CUSTOMS OFFICIALS, AND LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES ALIKE, TO CREATE ALIGNED UNDERSTANDING OF TRADE SYSTEM ABUSES AND METHODS AVAILABLE TO DETECT THESE ABUSES.

THE GUIDE PLANTED THE SEED FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE TBFC PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE IN COLLABORATION WITH AUB AND THE JOINT DEVELOPMENT OF A CERTIFICATION AS A TRADE BASED FINANCIAL CRIME SPECIALIST (CTBFCS).

KEY ENDORSEMENTS



MICHAEL MATOSSIAN

Founder MENA FCCG and Vice Chair GCFFC MENA Chapter

"Criminals are constantly finding more creative ways to abuse the global trade system. As such, knowledge around detecting and preventing TBFC cannot remain static. Become a Certified TBFC Specialist to continually build on your competences and gain timely insights on risks and risk mitigation measures."



DAVID LEWIS

Former FATF Executive Secretary / GCFFC Financial Crime Fighter of the Year / RUSI Fellow / Managing Director, Global Head of Financial Crime Advisory @ Kroll

"Trade-based financial crime is complex, poorly understood and likely to be far bigger than we know. If you want to understand how it's done, how to detect it, and protect your country or business from the harm it causes, this course is for you."



MUZAMMIL EBRAHIM

Partner, Deloitte Financial Crime and Data Analytics, UAE

"Responding to the financial crime challenges including TBFC requires a new paradigm, one that focuses on cross border and cross sectoral collaboration among key stakeholders to ensure greater efficiency in tackling this global threat. This Certificate developed by the MENA FCCG & GCFFC and offered by AUB provides comprehensive hands-on experiences from practitioners on the latest and most complex criminal typologies as well as insights on risk mitigation measures necessary to protect the integrity of organizations and the financial system as a whole."

**DR. WISSAM H. FATTOUH**

*Secretary General of Union of Arab Banks and
MENA FCCG Chair*

“Criminal organizations continually tap new means to exploit the trade system to move their ill-gotten gains without detection. This certification provides an up-to-date and comprehensive understanding of TBFC issues and empowers you to make a difference in the fight against financial crime.”

**IBTISSEM LASSOUED**

Former Chair, GCFFC MENA Chapter

“We are conscious we cannot beat TBFC but we can effectively manage the risks it poses by building competence and raising vigilance and controls around evolving threats and tactics. It is with this mindset that I implore relevant stakeholders from the public and private sector to take this Certification.”

**JOHN CUSACK**

Former Chair of the GCFFC and the Wolfsberg Group

“TBFC is one of the most prevalent yet least well understood financial crimes, but this is set to change at least for those that obtain the TBFC Certification. This certification’s curriculum collates the experience of TBFC subject matter experts across all aspects of trade and is a must have for those that want to know more or are on the front line of protecting the integrity of the trade and international financial system from TBFC, both in the public and private sectors.”

ABOUT MENA FCCG

The MENA Financial Crime Compliance Group (MENA FCCG, www.menafccg.com) is a voluntary body that seeks to bring collective action in the fight against money laundering and terrorist finance in the region. The Group comprises 13 banks representing eight MENA countries, including Bahrain, Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, and the UAE. The Group is presided over by Dr. Wissam H. Fattouh, Secretary General for the Union of Arab Banks while Michael Matossian is the current Deputy Chair.

The Group also seeks to enhance dialogue among public and private sector actors as the best medium for a more targeted and intelligent approach for responding to the changing face of financial crime. In November 2021, the Group officially launched a Europe Chapter at an inaugural meeting in London. The chapter aims to extend MENA FCCG’s objectives to Europe by bringing together compliance professionals of Arab banks operating in Europe to enhance financial crime literacy and support implementation of best practices. The Arab Bankers Association acts as the strategic partner and the Chapter has entered a strategic alliance with Themis Services, a specialist financial crime consultancy.

Member Banks



MENA FCCG Strategic Partners and Alliances



For further info:

MENA FCCG Secretariat

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