EBRD TFP

Improving knowledge to promote trade finance

European Bank
for Reconstruction and Development

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The EBRD's Trade Facilitation Programme (TFP) supports partner banks in expanding their trade finance business by strengthening expertise and capabilities, enabling them to provide a broad range of trade finance products to their clients. In this context, the TFP actively promotes knowledge transfer between partner banks and relevant domestic and international stakeholders through: (i) individual advisory services, (ii) online education, (iii) capacity-building workshops and seminars, (iv) information sessions and forums, (v) peer-to-peer knowledge sharing.

Trade finance knowledge

The programme supports the sharing of expertise and the accumulation of institutional know-how to strengthen partner banks' trade finance capabilities and help them build practical skills across a wide range of trade finance instruments.

Digitalisation

Support is provided to partner banks in modernising trade finance operations through digitalisation, helping them assess existing processes, understand digital trade developments and prepare for the transition toward more efficient, secure and resilient trade finance solutions.

Green and sustainable trade finance

We support partner banks in building the capacity to finance climate-aligned technologies and materials. By strengthening technical know-how and raising awareness of green trade finance opportunities, we help banks identify, structure and promote transactions that contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Compliance

Partner banks are supported in strengthening compliance and financial crime prevention frameworks in line with international standards, including AML/CFT, sanctions, KYC and KYCC in trade finance, helping banks manage evolving regulatory requirements, maintain access to correspondent banking and mitigate de-risking.

Factoring

The TFP helps partner banks build and expand factoring and supply chain finance capabilities to better support SMEs and exporters, strengthening their operational, legal and risk management capacity to deliver receivables-based financing solutions.

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E-Learning and certifications

The TFP provides partner banks with access to the e-learning certification programme delivered in partnership with the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) and technology partner Coastline Solutions. The programmes offer structured online training in core trade finance instruments and rules, including documentary credits, collections, standby letters of credit, demand guarantees and Incoterms®, enabling trade finance professionals to build strong technical foundations.

In cooperation with FCI, the global association for factoring and receivables finance, the TFP provides partner banks with access to specialised online training on factoring and supply chain finance. The current online learning offer includes courses on Introduction to Factoring and Receivables Finance, Fundamentals of Domestic and International Factoring, and Supply Chain Finance and Reverse Factoring.

Through its cooperation with the International Compliance Association (ICA), the TFP provides comprehensive online training on compliance and financial crime prevention. ICA e-learning courses cover both theoretical and practical aspects of AML/CFT and sanctions compliance in a trade finance context, supporting partner banks in strengthening compliance frameworks and meeting international regulatory standards.

The TFP partners with the ICC Academy to provide the Certificate in Digital Trade Strategy (CDTS), an online certification programme focused on digitalisation in trade finance and digital trade. The CDTS equips partner banks with a holistic understanding of digital trade and supply-chain transformation, including standards, data exchange, interoperability and the enabling legal environment.

In collaboration with BAFT (the Bankers Association for Finance and Trade), the TFP offers online training and professional certifications in trade finance and transaction banking. BAFT e-learning courses cover areas such as advanced trade finance, transaction banking, cash management, foreign exchange and transaction risk, supporting partner banks in strengthening practical skills across core transaction banking disciplines.

Through its partnership with Trade Treasury Payments (TTP), the TFP delivers interactive online insight modules covering trade finance, treasury, digitalisation, sustainability and regulatory developments, helping banking professionals stay informed about rapidly evolving market dynamics and international best practices. Two modules are currently available, focusing on open account trade and supply chain finance and structured trade and commodity finance, with a total of eight modules planned.

The TFP works with ACAMS (the Association of Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialists) to provide partner banks with access to globally recognised online certifications in AML, sanctions and financial crime prevention. These certifications support ongoing capacity-building across EBRD regions, helping partner banks strengthen compliance frameworks in line with international standards

Events and workshops

The TFP's events and workshops bring together hundreds of representatives from issuing and confirming banks, along with regulators, industry experts and other trade finance practitioners. These events provide valuable opportunities for knowledge sharing, peer learning and networking, and serve as a platform to discuss key market developments, emerging risks and evolving practices in trade finance. Examples include:

- EBRD TFP Banking Forum
- EBRD Annual Meeting – TFP Information Session and Awards Ceremony
- Cross-regional AML/KYC and sanctions workshops
- FCI-supported factoring workshops
- Cross-regional green trade finance workshops
- Cross-regional digitalisation-focused workshops and awareness-raising events

Individual advisory services

Our tailored individual advisory services support partner banks in strengthening and modernising their trade finance operations, enhancing compliance and risk management, and developing new trade finance products. This advisory support enables banks to respond to evolving client needs, maintain correspondent banking relationships and expand access to trade finance for local importers and exporters, thereby supporting international and intra-regional trade.

Financial sanctions framework advisory, Georgia

This advisory service supported a partner bank in Georgia in developing a robust sanctions compliance framework required to sustain trade finance activity within the global correspondent banking network.

Trade finance operational advisory, Central Asia

The TFP supported partner banks across Central Asia in strengthening trade finance operations and institutional capacity. The support focused on improving transaction processing, internal procedures, correspondent banking practices and staff expertise in trade finance instruments.