Attracting Investment TO AFRICA

Modernizing Judiciaries IN AFRICA
Courts are the means by which individuals and businesses access justice...

Developing Financial Sectors IN AFRICA
Central banks and fiscal authorities are responsible for the financial stability...

Domestic Resources IN AFRICA
Land is one of the key factors of production and an important source of capital for Africans...

Natural Resources IN AFRICA
Natural resources – petroleum, crops, or minerals – are a source of public income to many...

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PROPERTY RIGHTS

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT TO AFRICA

Property rights underpin all economic activity: without the right to use land or property, there is little motivation to invest in productive activity.

Thomson Reuters helps African economies to fully secure paper records and cadastral maps, streamline registry and titling processes, and improve land administration services to the public. Assured of their property rights, people and investors can more confidently start businesses.

Q: HOW CAN LAND ADMINISTRATORS MAINTAIN LAND RECORDS DIGITALLY, PROTECT LAND RECORDS, AND PROVIDE MORE EFFICIENT PUBLIC SERVICES?

A: Aumentum Registry helps land administration officials record land ownership and transactions faster and more transparently for citizens and businesses. Data security and audit trails prevent illegal tampering with land ownership data. Aumentum OpenTitle is a simple, user-friendly solution designed for fast, de-facto land rights inventory in the field. It can even issue documentary evidence attesting those land rights in the moment.

Q: HOW CAN LAND ADMINISTRATORS MAINTAIN CADAstral MAPS OF LAND PARCELS?

A: Our cadastral mapping solution helps land administrators assess the boundaries and physical characteristics of land parcels – useful for land development, urban planning, and disaster mitigation and planning. Dynamically link legal documentation to a parcel record to connect ownership and use data with geo-referential data for added value to citizens and businesses.

Learn about our work with USAID in Sierra Leone and Guinea using OpenTitle
Learn about our work in Cross River State in Nigeria using Registry and Cadastre
Learn about our work in Gwinnett County in Georgia, USA using eGovernment

OUR ANSWER
AUMENTUM REGISTRY AND OPENTITLE

OUR ANSWER
AUMENTUM CADASTRE
EFFICIENT JUDICIAL & TAX INSTITUTIONS

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT TO AFRICA

Domestic and international investors need strong, transparent public institutions to do business. This is particularly true of courts and tax authorities – two major entities that impact a country’s business environment. Thomson Reuters can support these and other government institutions in making the judicial and tax environment of a country more transparent, efficient, and attractive to local and foreign businesses.

Q: HOW CAN COURTS RESOLVE CASES MORE EFFICIENTLY?

A: The World Bank’s Ease of Doing Business report estimates that African judiciaries will increasingly be judged and compared by the level of technology in their courtrooms. Thomson Reuters can bring this technology to Africa with C-Track, our modular, integrated, and configurable case management system. It is utilized by courts in the USA and UK to digitize processes, documents, and public services – automating formerly manual processes, and allowing for faster case resolution. Courts save time and money with C-Track, and citizens receive better service.

Q: HOW CAN TAX AUTHORITIES PREVENT EROSION OF THEIR TAX BASE THROUGH PROFIT SHIFTING?

A: Multinational companies are increasingly making legal use of their many locations to shift profits to more tax-friendly jurisdictions. These shifts can represent lost tax revenues for African economies. Our Transfer Pricing databases and BEPS Action Manager tools can help governments perform more effective audits of transfer pricing reports, and ensure that the taxes they are paid correspond to the value created in their jurisdiction.

OUR ANSWER

C-TRACK COURT CASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

READ MORE

TRANSFER PRICING

Watch this video: 2014 Jurisdiction of the Year - Cape Town, South Africa

Read feedback from Richard Slowes, of the Minnesota Supreme Court in the USA

Read our 2016 Global BEPS (Base Erosion & Profit Shifting) Readiness Report
IMPROVED PUBLIC SECTOR GOVERNANCE

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT TO AFRICA

Strong, ethical governance in the public sector builds a stable domestic business environment. At the same time, a culture of public sector integrity helps governments ensure intended use of public funds and mitigate financial, criminal, operational, and reputational risks. Thomson Reuters, one of the most ethical and trusted companies in the world, has a plethora of solutions to help African government create that culture of integrity.

Q: HOW CAN GOVERNMENTS AVOID THIRD PARTY RISK?

A: International organizations and corporations are increasingly attracted to growing African economies. They work with governments as suppliers, vendors, and partners. But to ensure that a third party organization doesn’t present risks to a government entity – reputational, financial, or regulatory risks – governments depend on Thomson Reuters 3rd Party solutions. Our high quality risk intelligence and our unparalleled coverage help Africa governments know more deeply with whom they are working.

Q: HOW CAN GOVERNMENTS IMPROVE PUBLIC SECTOR AUDITS, CONTROLS, AND RISK MANAGEMENT?

A: Internal governance and public financial management are topics of increasing urgency for African government entities. Thomson Reuters provides solutions to perform faster, more robust internal audits and to develop comprehensive enterprise risk management frameworks. We are thought leaders in the use of data and technology to increase governance and battle corruption.

Read our white paper on the elements of a strong Anti-Corruption program, and how Thomson Reuters can help

Building a culture of integrity begins with every individual public servant. Browse the catalog of courses here

WATCH
THIRD PARTY RISK SOLUTION OVERVIEW VIDEO

OUR ANSWER
AUDIT MANAGER, ENTERPRISE RISK MANAGER

EXAMINING ANTI-BRIBERY AND ANTI-CORRUPTION PRACTICES IN THE SUPPLY CHAIN
Tom Fox
SHARING YOUR INVESTMENT NARRATIVE

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT TO AFRICA

For a government that wants to attract international investors, one great challenge is reaching those investors. Another is delivering a compelling message. The world’s image of Africa has reached its lowest point since 2011, according to an EY report. Reuters News Agency is the largest international news agency in the world. Through content production and media training, we can prepare governments to win global media.

Q: HOW TO REACH THE BROADEST AUDIENCE ABOUT A COUNTRY’S ACHIEVEMENTS?

A: It is important in an organization to celebrate success, and no less so with Africa’s governments. Events, ceremonies, or milestones are also important signals to the international community that your economy is up-and-coming. Our Reuters media teams offer customized media services which can help your achievement reach the eyes and ears of millions, by being distributed to our global media network of over 750 broadcasters with detailed reporting on where the content received the most interest.

OUR ANSWER
REUTERS CONTENT SOLUTIONS

Q: HOW CAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS PREPARE TO ENGAGE MEDIA?

A: Public sector entities are required to be “public” entities. That is, they must be transparent, and frequently engage with their citizens, often through mass media. Media engagement is a skill, and can be challenging for public servants. The Thomson Reuters Foundation offers Media Training Workshops, with Communications Trainers who were once journalists themselves teaching how to best deliver messages to print, TV, and radio journalists in a clear and confident manner.

OUR ANSWER
REUTERS MEDIA TRAINING

Govt events covered in emerging markets:

- View Global Competitiveness Forum 2016
- View 1st International Conference on Islamic Banking & Finance
MODERN, DIGITAL COURTS
MODERNIZING AFRICAN JUDICIARIES

Courts are the means by which individuals and businesses access justice – for rule of law to hold weight, courts must function well. However, case management is a complex endeavor, and in many African nations the quantity of manual processes and paper documents inhibit quick effective dispensation of justice. Use of digital documentation and processes can mitigate these challenges and streamline court case management.

Q: HOW CAN TECHNOLOGY HELP COURTS TO PERFORM BETTER IN THEIR MISSION TO DISPENSE JUSTICE?

A: Courts are pressured by citizens and businesses to provide better services – including e-services - and be more accessible and transparent. Financial realities place cost pressures to "do less, with less" on courts as well. C-Track Court Case Management digitalizes processes, reducing workload for all users in the court, relieving workload pressures, and resolving more cases in less time, for less money. The solution generates reports on the court’s work, allowing for better performance benchmarking.

Q: HOW CAN A CASE MANAGEMENT SOLUTION INTEGRATE WITH EXISTING TECHNOLOGIES IN COURT?

A: The case management, e-filing, and public access modules of C-Track integrate with all major, existing systems and applications used in court rooms, allowing it to slide into existing infrastructure. The solution can be configured to an individual court’s workflows and rules, and changes can be made by users – without need of technical support. C-Track also replaces previously manual processes – such as document generation, calendaring, and document delivery – with digital, automated process.

WATCH
C-TRACK PRODUCT VIDEO

WATCH
C-TRACK PRODUCT VIDEO
PUBLIC PROSECUTION & LEGAL DEPARTMENTS
MODERNIZING AFRICAN JUDICIARIES

Government prosecutors and legal departments have a special mission – representing the government, itself a representation of the people, in a legal context. Like any legal professional, their jobs are complex. Legal research, cases, and clients to manage. Thomson Reuters has been providing legal professionals with their preferred technological tools and expert advice for years.

Q: HOW CAN PUBLIC PROSECUTORS AND LEGAL REPRESENTATIVES IMPROVE THEIR FRONT-OFFICE OPERATIONS WITH TECHNOLOGY?

A: Much of legal work is composed of time-consuming, routine workflows or processes – such as billing, reviewing case files, and compiling documents. When these processes are manual, their quality and time-to-completion is varied and not standardized. These routine, manual tasks waste time of valuable human assets, and threaten the compliance and quality of legal work. Automating these with technology solves these problems, and offers the additional benefit of contextualizing all these activities as digital data. That data can be centralized and visualized – data such as case details, transactional information, time recordings, contact management, and document management. MatterSphere is Thomson Reuter’s solution for just that – digitalizing and automating processes and data typically needed in the legal profession to save public servants’ time, and to repurpose that data to generate greater efficiencies and insights in their work.

OUR ANSWER
MATTERSPHERE

Q: WHERE CAN PUBLIC LEGAL PROFESSIONALS GET THE BEST INFORMATION, FASTEST TO SUPPORT THEIR WORK?

A: Courts and legislators have produced oceans of legal information and content over time. Navigating this content requires more than just access to the information, but intelligent tools to find the relevant content and answers one needs. Where tools won’t suffice, one needs other people – legal experts in their fields, who can guide you to the answers you need. Public legal professionals use just such tools and solutions through our tool Westlaw – the world’s preferred online legal research technology – and Practical Law, our teams of legal experts that you can tap into for opinions and answers.

OUR ANSWER
WESTLAW AND PRACTICAL LAW
LEGAL TRANSPARENCY
MODERNIZING AFRICAN JUDICIARIES

The first step to improving access to justice is improving access to legal information. Thomson Reuters can digitalize and distribute laws, regulations, and case content through various legal content solutions: Westlaw, ProView, and Rule Book Hosting. Tools allow professionals and citizens to explore, search, and annotate this content on the internet and mobile devices.

Q: CAN AFRICAN JUDICIARIES MOVE BEYOND PAPER DOCUMENTS?

A: It is a common sight in the courtrooms of the world for a legal team to enter with armfuls of paperwork, notes, and tomes of case law which they will consult while arguing their case. Aside from the environmental concerns, all this physical content slows the research and litigation work of courtrooms, public legal officials, and private practitioners as well. Thomson Reuters works with legal authorities around the world to make that content available through an eReader application, ProView, on iPad, Android, tablet, or computer.

OUR TEAM PROVIDES GUIDANCE ON HOW TO MANAGE RULEBOOK CONTENT, AND SUPPORTS YOU WHEN UPDATING OR PUBLISHING RULES.

Q: HOW TO BRING THE LAW CLOSER TO CITIZENS AND BUSINESSES?

A: How legislators and regulators make their laws and rules more easily accessible and understandable for citizens and businesses? Legal language is not always the most user-friendly: is there a way to make this content digestible for those it affects, to increase understanding of the law? Thomson Reuters Hosted Rulebooks Service hosts, manages, and maintains “rulebooks” on a micro site that can be inserted in to a regulator’s own website. Our team provides guidance on how to manage rulebook content, and supports you when updating or publishing rules.

OUR ANSWER
PROVIEW

OUR ANSWER
HOSTED RULEBOOK SERVICE
LAW REFORM INITIATIVES

MODERNIZING AFRICAN JUDICIARIES

Laws must change and evolve to match the change and evolution of countries and societies. Judicial authorities have the weighty responsibility of reforming law when necessary, and many African nations are currently in the process of doing just that. Thomson Reuters acts as a strategic partner in the reorganization, rationalization, and republishing of reformed law.

Thomson Reuters provides unrivaled legal solutions that integrate content, expertise, and technologies to give our customers smarter ways to work. Courts, prosecutors, and legal officials around the world depend on our solutions and expertise.

In Africa we leverage this expertise in a consultative manner, working together with judiciaries and law reform commissions to make their laws more relevant to the societies they govern, more understandable for citizens and businesses, and more in line with international standards. If you are preparing for, or are currently in the process of a large legal reform project, reach out to our Africa Legal team to learn more about how Thomson Reuters can help you.

OUR ANSWER

BESPOKE LAW REFORM PROJECTS
Land is one of the key factors of production and an important source of capital for Africans, especially as agriculture employs 65% of the continent. However, without a strong land administration system, including a registry to verify ownership, cadastral maps to determine borders, and valuations to facilitate a fair, transparent land market, this capital will go unleveraged. Thomson Reuters Aumentum is our suite of software modules, each addressing different challenges that African land authorities face.

Q: HOW CAN LAND AUTHORITIES MANAGE CADAstral MAPS OF LAND PARCELS?

A: Physical maps are an important part of land administration – especially in Africa’s rapidly growing cities, with crowding property boundaries and need for greater infrastructure development. Aumentum Cadastre, with embedded Esri GIS technology, enable administrators to collect and manage physical property data, link the data to ownership information, and make that data accessible to the public.

Q: HOW CAN LAND AUTHORITIES IMPROVE THE SPEED AND ACCURACY OF PUBLIC SERVICES WHILE REDUCING COSTS?

A: Disparate systems for different services and the balance between digitalized and yet-to-be-digitalized land records can make offering land-related public services difficult, especially as land administration capabilities are developing. Aumentum Recorder offers the complete range of recording capabilities for submitting and updating land records, with flexible options for customization, and a “collect-data-once” configuration that integrates to billing, valuation, and public access systems.

Read more about how land authorities empower rural communities.

Find out how land authorities can improve the administration of land.
PROPERTY TAXES
MOBILIZING DOMESTIC RESOURCES IN AFRICA

As governments across the globe face unprecedented demand to boost efficiency and maximize budgets, property taxes become an increasingly vital revenue source. Thomson Reuters Aumentum Valuation and Tax were designed to establish a fair and transparent basis for property values and subsequently collect and manage property tax revenues.

Q: HOW CAN AUTHORITIES ESTABLISH A FAIR, TRANSPARENT VALUATION BASIS FOR PROPERTY TAXES?

A: In order to encourage and sustain economic growth, local governments must establish an accurate and transparent basis for property taxation through fair and equitable valuations. Thomson Reuters Aumentum Valuation was designed by CAMA professionals to support international best practices in appraisal, putting decades of experience and knowledge in the hands of African land authorities.

Q: HOW CAN PROPERTY TAXES BE EASIER TO UNDERSTAND AND PAY?

A: When taxes are easier to understand and pay, taxpayers are more likely to pay them. Aumentum Tax automates settlements, balances, and turnovers, and gives staff and taxpayers immediate access to information in an intuitive interface, enabling faster tax payments and high quality, digital taxpayer service.

OUR ANSWER
AUMENTUM VALUATION

OUR ANSWER
AUMENTUM TAX

See our work with the Valuations Office in Cape Town, South Africa

Find out more about what we’ve done in USA
PROTECTING THE VALUE OF RESOURCES  
MANAGING AFRICA’S NATURAL RESOURCES

Natural resources – petroleum, crops, or minerals – are a source of public income to many African nations. The AfDB estimates that Africa’s extractive resources will contribute over $30B USD per annum to government revenues for the next 20 years. Ensuring that the nation receives a fair value for these commodities, that future commodity revenues are protected from market fluctuations, and that value is not leaked from the country via tax or trade mechanisms is important to making the best use of these sources of national wealth.

Q: HOW CAN NATIONAL RESOURCE COMPANIES ENSURE THEY ARE FAIRLY COMPENSATED FOR THE COMMODITIES THEY PRODUCE?

A: Global commodities markets are complex and dynamic, but it is these markets where African economies capitalize on the wealth of their natural resources. When negotiating contracts to supply commodities to buyers, or royalties agreements with private corporations helping to extract the commodities, it is critically important to ensure that the state will receive a fair price for its natural wealth. Our unique pricing data and analytical tools in Thomson Reuters Eikon helps commodities professionals understand these markets.

OUR ANSWER  
EIKON FOR COMMODITIES

Q: HOW CAN TAX AUTHORITIES ENSURE THAT VALUE FROM COMMODITIES IS NOT LOST THROUGH CROSS BORDER TRADE?

A: Tariffs on international trade and transfer pricing regimes are designed to ensure that movements of goods – such as commodities – are not used to steal value from one economy to another with more advantageous fiscal policies. But ensuring compliance with these policies, and collecting the associated fees, can be challenging. Our Transfer Pricing data and solution helps perform audits of transfer pricing reports from multinational commodities firms, and our Global Trade solution helps make Export Processing Zones more efficient.

OUR ANSWER  
ONESOURCE GLOBAL TRADE MANAGEMENT
LAND AND MINERAL RIGHTS MANAGEMENT

MANAGING AFRICA’S NATURAL RESOURCES

Land is the most basic and essential natural resource of a country. Land rights are required to extract other natural resources – like petroleum, minerals, and agricultural crops. But more importantly, it is where citizens and businesses live and work. There are few places on earth with so much potential to link the welfare of people to resource development. The AfDB writes that Africa has the largest arable land mass of the world’s continents, and half of its population employed in agricultural activities.

Q: HOW CAN RESOURCE AUTHORITIES UNDERSTAND WHERE THEIR NATURAL RESOURCE WEALTH IS, WHO HAS RIGHTS TO IT, AND HOW IT IS BEING EXTRACTED?

A: Land administration serves the needs of public entities with governance over natural resources. Cadastral maps and registries can be augmented with information about how the land is used, whether any petroleum, mineral, or agricultural resources are being collected there, and by whom. For example, a mineral authority can assess land to be given in concession to a mining company as part of a PPP, to determine who owns it and how to value it. Agricultural authorities can determine if an appropriate diversity of crops is being cultivated. Various modules of the Thomson Reuters land administration solution, Aumentum, can help resource authorities to do these things and more.

OUR ANSWER

AUMENTUM
NATURAL RESOURCE GOVERNANCE
MOBILIZING DOMESTIC RESOURCES IN AFRICA

The wealth of natural resources in Africa unfortunately attracts people and organizations with unethical intentions. Disappearing public funds, illegal resource extraction, and other criminal activities threaten this vital source of government funding, and undermine efforts to develop economies. There is perhaps no part of African public sectors that requires a strong governance framework as its natural resource-focused organizations.

Q: HOW CAN GOVERNMENTS EVALUATE PARTNERS, SUPPLIERS, AND OTHER THIRD PARTIES WHEN COLLABORATING TO DEVELOP THE NATION’S NATURAL RESOURCE POTENTIAL?

A: Strong, deep due diligence is required in evaluation of third parties in various commodities industries. It’s important to ensure that reputational, operational, financial, and compliance risks are identified and mitigated as much as possible. To this end, Thomson Reuters 3rd Party Risk Solutions help public entities of all kinds evaluate individuals and organizations for different types of risk, with hundreds of analysts and thousands of sources powering the intelligence we offer you.

Q: HOW CAN NATIONAL RESOURCE COMPANIES IMPROVE INTERNAL GOVERNANCE AND RISK MANAGEMENT?

A: Transparency and governance are critically important in national resource companies. Frequently, large cash flows from resource revenues flow through these organizations back to the nation’s coffers, and its crucial to manage the risks this presents. Thomson Reuters can help increase internal transparency with workflow solutions for these entities’ compliance managers, auditors, and risk managers, as well as comprehensive compliance training courses for all the entities’ public servants.

Q: HOW CAN GOVERNMENTS BETTER UNDERSTAND THE SUPPLY CHAINS OF THEIR KEY COMMODITIES?

A: Commodity markets are complex, and their supply chains involve countless complex, nuanced activities and players. These moving parts are difficult to manage for any organization. A combination of factors – FX risk, potential supply disruptions, logistics and freight, and more make supply chain management a challenge. Thomson Reuters has combined a variety of its solutions into a package designed specifically to help organizations address this challenge, with tools to manage price risk, screen suppliers, and stay informed of market developments.

OUR ANSWER
THIRD PARTY RISK SOLUTIONS

OUR ANSWER
AUTOAUDIT, AUDIT MANAGER & ENTERPRISE RISK MANAGER

OUR ANSWER
SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT SOLUTION
MONETARY AND FISCAL POLICY
DEVELOPING AFRICA’S FINANCIAL SECTORS

Central banks and fiscal authorities are responsible for the financial stability and health of the nation. Planning and implementing monetary policy and fiscal policy are key responsibilities of these government entities. This means having access to the information to assess policies’ impact, and to new tools to more effectively implement policy when necessary.

Q: HOW CAN POLICYMAKERS BETTER PLAN FUTURE POLICY?

A: Policy analysis is a challenging job, frequently involving data analysis and model building. Analysts may consider the impact of past policies or peers’ policies by looking at many different data sets. Thomson Reuters offers real-time, historical, and fundamental data from global markets and economies, along with powerful visualization and analytical tools to support this analysis. Additionally, our feeds of pricing and reference data can be delivered directly into native systems to power models and applications built by analysts.

Q: HOW CAN CENTRAL BANKS AND FISCAL AUTHORITIES IMPLEMENT THEIR POLICIES AND MORE CLOSELY MONITOR POLICY IMPACT?

A: Central banks often implement monetary policy through auctions of currency or short term instruments. Fiscal authorities also use auctions to plan a country’s longer term debt with investors and banks. The process of managing these auctions often makes use of public announcement portals, telephone negotiations, email, and sometimes even human couriers. Streamline the auction workflow of any financial instrument with our desktop application, Eikon Auctions and TR FX Trading.

Q: HOW CAN AUTHORITIES BETTER MONITOR MARKETS AND ASSURE STABILITY?

A: Central banks are responsible for the stability of domestic FX and money markets, but identifying the source of market volatility and reacting appropriately is difficult – especially if domestic trades are reported once a day. By using our FX trading solutions for trading or confirmation in the domestic market, and leveraging our Market Tracker solution, central banks can receive detailed trade reporting data in real-time, and react in a more timely, targeted way to sources of volatility.

OUR ANSWER
THOMSON REUTERS EIKON

OUR ANSWER
EIKON AUCTIONS AND TR FX TRADING

OUR ANSWER
MARKET TRACKER AND TR FX TRADING
FINANCIAL MARKET DEVELOPMENT

DEVELOPING AFRICA’S FINANCIAL SECTORS

Financial markets are a key source of capital for companies, and a means of investment for people and businesses. As these markets develop in size and complexity in Africa, so do the opportunities that they afford businesses and investors in the local economy. There is a long way to go — according to a 2012 World Bank report, sub-Saharan African economies had the weakest financial markets in terms of depth, efficiency, access, and stability.

Q: HOW CAN MARKET TECHNOLOGY SCALE WITH GROWTH AND NEW COMPLEXITY OF DEVELOPING MARKETS IN AFRICA?

A: African financial markets have come a long way, and are still developing in size and complexity. If the critical technology underpinning markets can grow and change with the market’s needs, then it can serve as a catalyst rather than an obstacle to growth. Thomson Reuters FX Trading is just such a piece of technology — a trading platform with access to local and global counterparties, a range of analytical tools for all markets and needs, and different trading paradigms.

OUR ANSWER

TR FX TRADING AND EIKON MESSENGER

Q: HOW CAN THE GOVERNMENT HELP DEVELOP THE FIXED INCOME MARKET?

A: Fixed income markets are important — they are indicators of investors’ longer term expectations of potential. They’re also important sources of long term funding for private companies — allowing African corporations to think and act more strategically. These markets depend on a benchmark yield curve, which in turn depends on the government debt market. Our primary market auction solution streamlines the bond auction process. Results of auctions, as well as a national yield curve, can be published over our platform to reach thousands of financial market professionals and participants. Thomson Reuters can work with central banks and fiscal authorities to ensure that economic and market information about their economy is available and updated on our platform for interested parties — domestic and international – to access and use in market making.

OUR ANSWER

EIKON AUCTIONS, THOMSON REUTERS EIKON AND CONTRIBUTE YOUR DATA
PUBLIC FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT
DEVELOPING AFRICA’S FINANCIAL SECTORS

Ensuring the proper, intended distribution and use of public funds is a hot issue in many emerging markets today. Scandals about missing or illicitly used government money hurt a country’s welfare and reputation – consider Brazil’s recession in the wake of the Lava Jato scandal at national oil company Petrobras. Public entities can increase transparency, prevent similar scandals, and earn the trust of their citizens.

Q: HOW CAN PUBLIC ENTITIES AVOID 3RD PARTY RISK FROM CONTRACTORS, PARTNERS, AND PROVIDERS?

A: Governments interact with a great variety of private sector individuals and organizations – consultants, contractors, supplier, and partners to name a few. Public entities must be judicious in whom they work with, to ensure that public money contributed to purchases, joint ventures, or PPPs will be used ethically and for the public good. Thomson Reuters can help governments do the required due diligence of potential 3rd parties to search for reputational, financial, or criminal risks.

Q: HOW TO MAKE INTERNAL AUDITS OF PUBLIC ENTITIES MORE EFFECTIVE?

A: Independent assurance providers are the third line of defense in governance of risk according to the Chartered Institute of Internal Auditors, with internal auditors as the most important of these. Within public entities, internal audit play a crucial role to bringing transparency to public financial management. Thomson Reuters offers workflow solutions to ensure that risks are captured, tracked, and mitigated more quickly and effectively than ever.

Q: HOW CAN PUBLIC FINANCIAL ENTITIES PREVENT AND DETECT CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES IN THEIR FINANCIAL SECTORS?

A: In many emerging economies, risks of financial crime, such as money-laundering or financing of terrorist activities, are major concerns. For fear of unknowingly being involved in such crimes, international companies and investors may avoid an economy vulnerable to them. Financial authorities, such as central banks, financial intelligence units, and regulators, have a responsibility to prevent such illicit activities.

OUR ANSWER
3RD PARTY RISK SOLUTIONS

OUR ANSWER
AUTOAUDIT AND AUDIT MANAGER

OUR ANSWER
WORLD-CHECK AND ENHANCED DUE DILIGENCE REPORTS
OPTIMIZED REGULATION AND SUPERVISION

DEVELOPING AFRICA’S FINANCIAL SECTORS

Financial regulators in emerging markets need to strike a balance between prudent regulation to prevent systemic risk, and strangling regulation that inhibits growth. Knowing how to do this is difficult, because as markets innovate and change, so must regulation. Once regulation is in place, supervising to ensure compliance is another challenge.

Q: HOW CAN REGULATORS MORE INTELLIGENTLY PLAN NEW REGULATION?

A: Adapting regulation to the changing realities of African financial markets requires regulators to be quick on their feet. It helps to know how peer regulators write rules about similar challenges or aspects of markets. Thomson Reuters aggregates different regulators’ rule books in a navigable, easily searchable format. Regulators can search for how certain issues are handled elsewhere, see regulatory updates and news, and see historical changes to rule books over time.

OUR ANSWER
REGULATORY INTELLIGENCE

Q: HOW CAN REGULATORS MAKE COMPLIANCE EASIER FOR REGULATED ENTITIES?

A: If regulated entities don’t know the rules, it is difficult to obey them! The most basic thing that a regulator can do to make compliance easier is make their rules transparent and accessible – host them online, clearly delineate between old and new rules, and make them user friendly. Additionally, having some sort of educational element to compliance – a kind of training to ensure that individuals at regulated entities understand and acknowledge the rules.

OUR ANSWER
HOSTED RULEBOOK SERVICE AND COMPLIANCE LEARNING

Q: HOW CAN SUPERVISORS BETTER ASSURE STABILITY IN MARKETS AND THE BANKING SECTOR?

A: Supervision of the financial sector takes many forms – overseeing market stability, scrutinizing bank balance sheets, and checking for corporate governance at financial institutions. It is especially important considering 8 of 10 of Africa’s largest banks have been fined by regulators according to a recent PwC report. Our Market Tracker solution gives central banks real-time oversight of market activity – a big step up from average, end-of-day trade reporting. Our evaluated pricing teams can help authorities by giving independent prices of assets from systemically important banks’ balance sheets.

OUR ANSWER
MARKET TRACKER AND THOMSON REUTERS EVALUATED PRICING
THOMSON REUTERS IN AFRICA
GO TO AFRICA.THOMSONREUTERS.COM

We’ve been invested in Africa for almost 150 years. With offices in seven African countries, employing nearly 300 people that service clients in more than 25 countries on the continent, our mission is to empower Africa’s success by providing governments, financial institutions, universities and corporations the tools to move from aid-based economies to self-sustaining knowledge-based economies.

Romulen Pillay
Senior Director: Legal and Government Business Sub-Saharan Africa
Thomson Reuters
Contact Details:
O: +27 11 775 3000 ext: 3113
M: +27 83 518 5193
romulen.pillay@thomsonreuters.com

Kevin Callagher
Head of Financial and Risk Africa
Thomson Reuters
O: +27 11 775 3000
M: +27 79 437 4445
kevin.callagher@thomsonreuters.com

Caroline Mugadi
Regional Business Lead
East Africa
Thomson Reuters
O: +254 20 499 1100/1216
M: +254 72 274 2291
caroline.mugadi@thomsonreuters.com

Chuba Ogbue
Regional Business Lead West Africa
Thomson Reuters
O: +234 17 700 7335
M: +234 817 192 3482
chuba.ogbue@tr.com

SOUTH AFRICA:
JOHANNESBURG
138 West Street,
Sandton
Fourth Floor
The Chelsea
Johannesburg
South Africa
2196
+2711 775 3000

SOUTH AFRICA:
CAPE TOWN
Third Floor
The Apex,
Kinetic Way
Bridgebay Precinct
Century City
Cape Town
South Africa
7741
+2721 405 6440

NIGERIA
Sixth Floor
KPMG Towers
Bishop Aboyade Cole Street
Victoria Island
Lagos
Nigeria
+234 1700 7315

IVORY COAST
Residence Montbenon
Immeuble Les Germaux
Apartment Number 4
Zeme Etage,
Cocody, Abidjan
Ivory Coast
+225 22 44 2556

SENEGAL
Rue Des Ecrivans
Angle Rue G
Point E Pann
Dakar, Senegal
+221 33864 5076/77

KENYA
12th Floor
Finance House
Loita Street
Nairobi
Kenya
+254 20 449 1204

MAURITIUS
Sixth Floor
Orbis Court
132 St Gene Road
Quatre Bornes,
Mauritius
+ 230 466 3062