



AML Focus Group Agenda

Date: 19 September 2024

Time: 10:30 - 12:30

Location: MS Teams

10:00 - 10:30 | Registration & Welcome Refreshments

- Arrival of participants
- Networking and informal introductions

10:30 - 10:40 | Welcome & Opening Remarks

- **Speaker:** Deneka Pillay
 - Introduction to the focus group objectives
 - Overview of the day's schedule

10:40 - 11:00 | Session 1: Current Trends in AML Compliance

- **Speaker:** Deneka Pillay
 - Key AML regulatory developments
 - Global trends and their impact on local financial institutions

11:00 - 11:40 | Session 2: Emerging Technologies: RegTech and Artificial Intelligence (AI)

- **Speaker:** Semyon Shafronov, Senior Data Scientist
 - RegTech solutions: Automating AML processes
 - AI and machine learning in transaction monitoring and suspicious activity detection
 - AI-powered monitoring systems for sanction screening, customer due diligence (CDD), and enhanced due diligence (EDD)

11:40 - 12:00 | Session 3: Are Accountants AI's? When Do You Need to Register?

- **Speaker:** Ashleigh Mooij, Manager Guidance and Prevention Financial Intelligence Centre.
 - The intersection of accounting and AI in compliance
 - When and how accountants are required to register for AML oversight

12:00 - 12:20 | Open Forum & Panel Discussion

- **Moderator:** Deneka Pillay
 - Discussion on future AML challenges and opportunities
 - Q&A with the speakers and participants

12:20 - 12:30 | Closing Remarks & Networking

- **Speaker:** Deneka Pillay
 - Summary of key takeaways
 - Next steps for collaboration and future events

About our Speakers

Deneka Pillay (Independent Consultant, Radix Executive: Risk and Compliance)

Deneka Pillay is an **Independent Compliance Consultant** with specialized expertise in **banking and financial regulatory compliance**. She provides compliance advisory services to a range of financial services providers, including fintechs, helping them navigate complex regulatory landscapes and ensure robust governance frameworks. Her independent consulting work focuses on **financial institutions**, where she advises on regulatory adherence, risk management, and governance best practices.

In addition to her consulting role, Deneka serves as the **Executive for Risk and Compliance at Radix**, where she oversees compliance initiatives and ensures regulatory adherence across the organization. With extensive experience in **technology strategy, project management**, and governance, Deneka brings a wealth of expertise in managing risk and regulatory compliance for financial institutions.

She holds **RE1** and **RE5 certifications** and is an approved compliance officer under the **Financial Advisory and Intermediary Services (FAIS) Act**. Earlier this year, Deneka became

one of the first nine professionals in South Africa to earn the prestigious **AMLCPrac designation**, solidifying her status as a national **AML specialist**.

Deneka is actively involved with the **Compliance Institute of Southern Africa**, where she contributes to the development of the **AML Training programme** and serves as an **examination assessor**. Her collaboration with various industry stakeholders keeps her at the forefront of regulatory changes, ensuring her clients and Radix stay ahead of industry developments.

Her commitment to **high standards of compliance** and ability to manage **complex projects** makes her an invaluable asset to financial institutions seeking to align with regulatory requirements and mitigate operational risks.

Semyon Shafronov – (Senior Data Scientist)

Semyon Shafronov is a **Senior Data Scientist** with over **5 years of experience** in the B2B sector and **16 years** working with large financial institutions. He specializes in **anti-money laundering (AML)** and **machine learning (ML)**, leveraging his expertise to develop and implement AI-driven solutions for transaction monitoring and compliance processes. His technical skills include **Python, SQL, Big Data**, and **Power BI**, with hands-on experience in deploying **classification, regression, clustering, and NLP models**.

During his time at **Promsvyazbank**, one of Russia's top banks, Semyon developed and implemented **machine learning models** and **complex rule systems** that significantly reduced labor costs in the AML department while improving the detection of suspicious transactions. His work led to a notable decrease in shadow transactions, streamlined compliance operations, and enhanced the efficiency of handling high volumes of daily payments.

Currently, Semyon serves as a **Data Scientist at Beeline**, one of Russia's leading telecom operators, where he applies his ML expertise to boost B2B sales through predictive modeling. He is passionate about the transformative potential of AI in business, particularly in AML and financial crime compliance, and continues to push the boundaries of **RegTech** and **AI-powered monitoring systems**.

Semyon holds a Master's Degree in **Clinical and Special Psychology** from **Moscow State University of Psychology & Education** and has further specialized through certifications in **Big Data** and **Data Science**. He is fluent in English and Russian.

Ashleigh Mooij - Manager, Guidance and Prevention at Financial Intelligence Centre

Ashleigh Mooij is an accomplished compliance and financial crime prevention professional currently serving as the Manager of Guidance and Prevention at the Financial Intelligence Centre (FIC) in South Africa. With over nine years of experience at the FIC, Ashleigh has played a pivotal role in shaping strategies to mitigate money laundering and terrorist financing risks, while ensuring that businesses adhere to evolving regulatory standards.

Ashleigh began her career in financial crime prevention at major financial institutions, including China Construction Bank and Investec Plc, where she held various key roles, such as MLRO (Money Laundering Reporting Officer) and Head of Financial Crime for Private Banking. Her

expertise in compliance and regulatory frameworks has been honed through her work in these institutions, contributing to her comprehensive understanding of risk management within the financial sector.

Ashleigh's commitment to continuous professional development is evident through her certifications, including the prestigious CAMS (Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialist) from ACAMS and AML CPrac (SA) from the Compliance Institute Southern Africa. She has also undergone specialized training through the FATF (Financial Action Task Force) Institute, where she completed both Assessor Training and Train the Trainer programs.

With a strong educational background from the University of Pretoria and the University of Johannesburg, Ashleigh is deeply involved in industry-related activities, frequently attending and participating in workshops, conferences, and seminars on banking law and financial crime prevention.

In her current role, she leads initiatives aimed at guiding businesses in managing compliance risks, contributing to a safer and more secure financial environment in South Africa. Ashleigh is known for her collaborative leadership style, technical proficiency, and commitment to upholding global financial security standards.