

## EUROPEAN FOUNDATION CENTRE

## Coalition partners challenge Financial Action Task Force

The EFC and its key partners in a global non-profit organization (NPO) initiative have taken the lead to stop the disruption of legitimate activities undertaken by NPOs, which have been put at risk by counter-terrorism policy introduced by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).

**D**espite the lack of evidence to this effect, there are some government bodies, including FATF, which believe that NPOs including foundations are

particularly vulnerable to terrorist abuse. At the start of this year, EFC, as part of the core group of the global 120+ NPO coalition on FATF, co-signed a letter to FATF, requesting that it stop targeting the NPO sector and revise Recommendation 8 in line with the FATF-endorsed risk-based approach. The co-signatories cover a wide range of non-profits including foundations, donor networks, service delivery organizations, and human rights and transparency organizations, based in both the 'global north' and the 'global south'.

FATF's language, in addition to its power to evaluate country

implementation of its standards, has helped push overly restrictive regulations for non-profits around the globe and contributed to the growing problem of bank de-risking. FATF has already taken some positive steps to address these problems, as seen in its 2015 revision of the Best Practices Paper, which now includes specific revisions recommended by the global NPO coalition. It is now hoped that FATF will this year undertake a revision of Recommendation 8 and its interpretative note.

For more information

<http://fatfplatform.org>

## NETWORK OF EUROPEAN FOUNDATIONS

## Action for farmers in West Africa

To address the urgent need to reform current agricultural and food systems, a group of foundations has launched the Joint Action for Farmers' Organizations in West Africa (JAFOWA) with the aim of creating a dynamic and equitable farmers' movement in the region.

**T**he recent growth in agricultural output comes at a cost. The current production system creates many environmental problems, yet does too little to solve the issue of hunger. Furthermore, unfavourable policies have resulted in a retreat from farming in developing countries, with large numbers of predominantly young people forced to migrate to cities.

The African continent is set to become the most populated on earth, which means that



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addressing the agricultural challenges in this region is both timely and critical. JAFOWA will therefore provide grants and capacity development to farmers' organizations, as they can both implement change at farm level and advocate to local and national authorities.

With shared interests in sustainable and efficient food systems, agroecology and gender approaches, and spurred on by

the 2014 International Year of Family Farming, four foundations created this initiative: Fondation de France (chair), Compagnia di San Paolo, Fondazione Cariplo and New Field Foundation. The Network of European Foundations will operate the fund, with a base in West Africa. The initiative is open to new partners.

For more information

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