

## TAX FLASHLIGHT

Updates on Economic Justice in the EAC eataxgovernance.net

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### **NEWS**



### **World Employment and Social Outlook 2023**

Properly valuing key work is central to renewing the social contract. It is at the core of strengthening social justice based on the principle that every individual should earn a dignified and decent living from their work. Doing so will make societies and economies function better and reduce poverty, inequalities and social tensions. This report, developed by the International Labor Organization (ILO) calls for a revaluation of the work of key workers and greater investment in key sectors in order to fully reflect their economic and social contributions.

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## **EVENTS**

## Webinar on unpacking the legal mechanisms under the Kigali International Financial Centre (KIFC)

20th March 2023

The Tax Justice Network Africa (TJNA), African Forum and Network on Debt and Development (AFRODAD) and East African Tax and Governance

Network (EATGN) recently published two jointly developed policy briefs examining beneficial ownership laws and loopholes for illicit Financial flows under the Kigali International Financial Center. This webinar brought together key stakeholders to unpack the legal mechanisms under the KIFC and determine whether they encourage or allow for harmful tax practices. As the establishment of International Financial Centers (IFCs) in Africa gains traction, the webinar also aimed to raise awareness of the potential effects of an IFC using Rwanda as a case study.



# The Strathmore Tax Research Centre (STRC) Inaugural Tax Law Hackathon

The STRC Tax Law Hackathon was created to encourage advocacy and scholarship in tax law. The event presented students drawn from multiple universities in Kenya with an opportunity to eloquently present solutions to tax challenges through incisively written submissions and skilful oration. EATGN coordinator, Leonard Wanyama participated in two sessions of panel discussions addressing pertinent issues on tax and the role that students and practitioners can play in propelling the tax regime forward. It is hoped that in future this platform will create a pool of young African professionals with a keen interest in understanding tax law.



### **PUBLICATIONS**



## The State of Play of Beneficial Ownership Registration in Africa in 2022

Beneficial ownership transparency is gaining ground in Africa. More than half of the continent has committed to publicly disclose the beneficial owners in sectors prone to corruption and fraud; public procurement and the extractive industries. This report examines the commitments of all African countries to beneficial ownership transparency. It delves more deeply into the 18 African jurisdictions covered by the Tax Justice Network's Financial Secrecy Index 2022. Get the full report

## BLOG

# Improving Tax Language is a Key Aspect of Advanced Public Finance Management

Tax is a representation of interests, an understanding of governance, an application of sanctions, pursuit of economic justice, and a platform for civic education. Its communication must recognize this because it is at the heart of state formation and its transformation, hence it must not be taken so casually, especially within the context of constructing more responsible citizenship. On tax issues, broader public understanding is key to ensuring compliance with the law, or else any confusion opens an opportunity for tax avoidance and evasion. Read more



#### TAX GLOSSARY



#### **Flat Tax**

A flat tax refers to a tax system where a single tax rate is applied to all levels of income. This means that individuals with a low income are taxed at the same rate as individuals with a high income. Proponents of the flat tax system say that it encourages citizens to earn a high income without worrying that they will be punished for earning more, as is the case with a progressive tax system. However, critics say that a flat tax rate places an unnecessary burden on low-income earners since they remain with less income to sustain their standards of living. Learn more

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