

# TAX FLASHLIGHT

Updates on Economic Justice in the EAC eataxgovernance.net

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# NEWS



#### KENYA: The A to Z of the 2023 Finance Bill

The Kenya Finance Bill 2023 was tabled to the National Assembly on 4 May 2023 for its first reading. The Bill seeks to amend various laws relating to taxes and duties with the goal of increasing government revenues from taxes collected. This article outlines some of the key changes proposed in the Bill which is currently under consideration in the National Assembly. <u>Read the full analysis</u>

## EVENTS

# Submissions to the Parliamentary Committee on Finance and National Planning on the Kenya Finance Bill 2023

Following the tabling of the Finance Bill earlier in May, EATGN and Civil Society Organizations under the banner of the Okoa Uchumi Coalition (OUC) analyzed the bill's draft proposals and submitted their joint recommendations to the National Assembly's Departmental Committee on Finance and Planning. The proposals were prepared with the current economic status of the country in mind. They cautioned the Kenyan government against overtaxing citizens and offered alternate means to meet revenue collection targets. <u>Read summarized statement</u>



#### **Open Government Partnership (OGP) 5th National Action Plan Co-Creation Multi-Stakeholder Forum**

The Open Government Partnership (OGP) is a combination of government leaders and civil society to promote transparent, participatory, inclusive, and accountable governance. In OGP, partners co-create two-year action plans with concrete steps and commitments across a broad range of issues. The aim of this Multi-Stakeholder Forum (MSF) was to examine the implementation of the fourth National Action Plan for Open Government (NAP4) in Kenya, and building on its successes, kickstart the co-creation process of the fifth National Action Plan (NAP5).



## PUBLICATIONS



### Curbing Illicit Financial Flows and Tax Injustice in Africa: A toolkit for Members of Parliament

Illicit financial flows (IFFs) and tax injustice have significantly limited the extent to which the African continent can meaningfully respond to the multiple crises it has experienced over the last few years. Political will and greater coordination within African governments is necessary to combat this phenomenon. This toolkit provides Members of Parliament with concise, yet comprehensive and practical information and resources needed to effectively legislate and provide oversight on IFF matters and tax justice at the national, regional and continental levels. <u>Access your copy</u>

### POSITION STATEMENT

#### A letter to the IMF Africa Mission to Kenya

Following an invitation from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Nairobi Office to participate in consultations on Kenya's ongoing fiscal consolidation program, civil society organizations under the banner of the Okoa Uchumi Campaign declined to engage with the IMF. The decision to abstain from the meeting was based on the fact that, despite previous meetings, the IMF has consistently ignored collective contributions to the process, with the consultations serving as a perfunctory process that continues to put the majority of Kenyans at risk of hunger and poverty. <u>Read Full statement</u>



## TAX GLOSSARY



#### Tax Arbitrage

Tax arbitrage is the practice of profiting from differences that arise from the ways various types of income, capital gains, and transactions are taxed. The complexity of many countries tax codes allows for individuals to seek out legal loopholes or restructure their transactions in such a way that they are able to pay the least amount of tax.

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