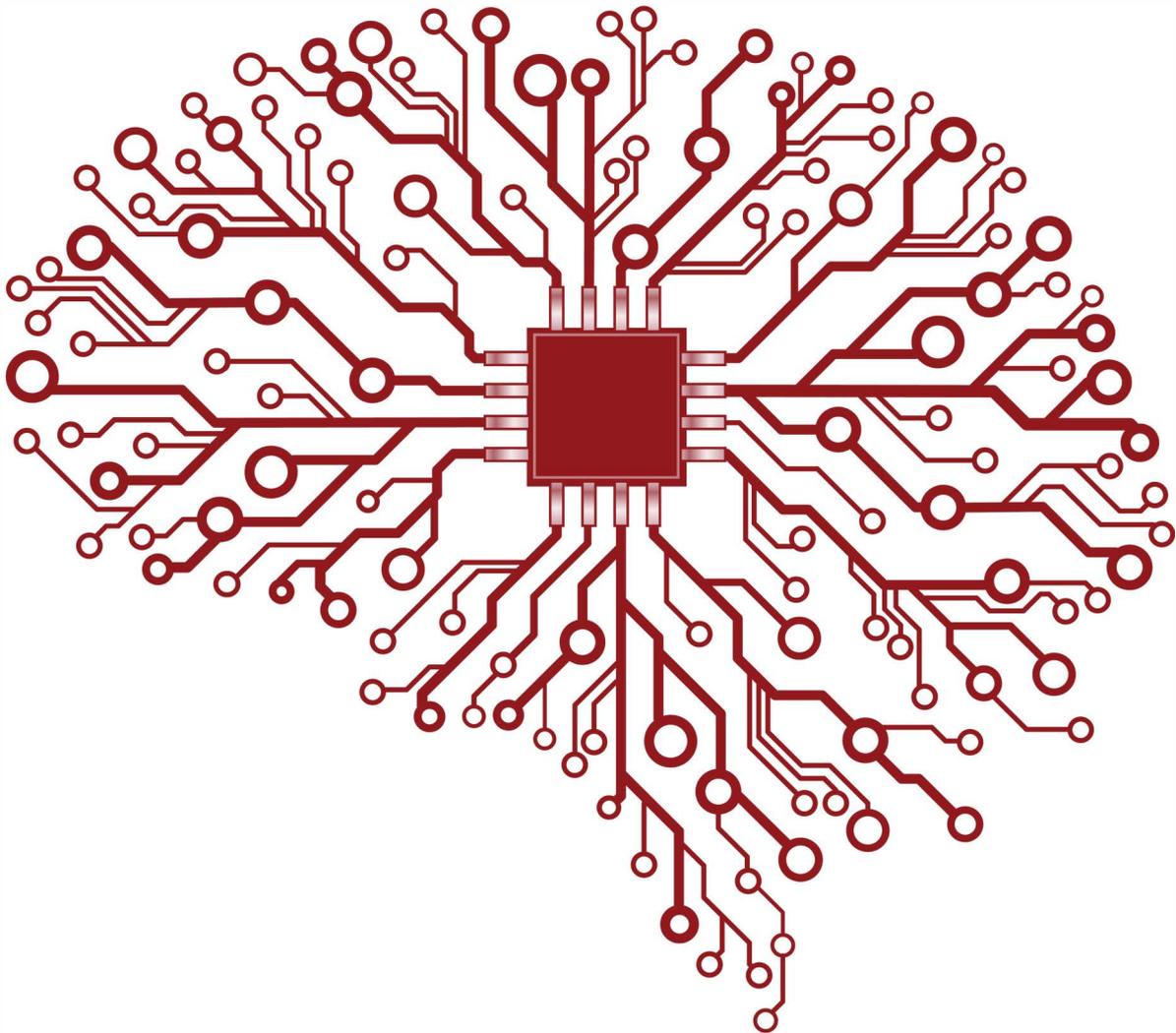




# PROJECTNEXUS

Strengthening Engagement. Enhancing Knowledge.



Gibraltar Financial Intelligence Unit  
HM Government of Gibraltar



# nexus /'neksəs/ (noun)

## The meaning behind the name.

Nexus was chosen as a project name because it gave it a unique brand and means 'a connection or series of connections linking two or more things together'. This is exactly what the outreach program is designed to do; connect the public sector with the private sector to raise awareness in the fight against economic crime.

The "X" logo was designed to convey connection and linking, symbolising intersection and unity. In essence, the logo effectively communicates the idea of a network or web of relationships that are tied to a core, highlighting the project's role in linking and uniting people in a cohesive way.

[nexus@gfiu.gov.gi](mailto:nexus@gfiu.gov.gi)

# Introduction

Project Nexus is an award-winning initiative led by the Gibraltar Financial Intelligence Unit (GFIU) aimed at engaging reporting entities that are legally required to submit Suspicious Activity Reports (SARs). This initiative is designed to boost Gibraltar's efforts against the risks of financial crime including but not limited to Money Laundering, Terrorist Financing and Proliferation Financing by raising awareness, improving operational practices, facilitating smoother communication, and keeping reporting entities informed about evolving threats, risks, and changes in legislation.

Developed in collaboration with key stakeholders, Project Nexus helps ensure that all financial and non-financial institutions understand their role in protecting Gibraltar's finance centre from being abused by criminals.

# Sustainability

Project Nexus is a sustainable initiative, supported by the GFIU's three-year Corporate Communications Strategic Plan, ensuring long-term engagement and adaptability. Additionally, under the Proceeds of Crime Act 2015, the GFIU is responsible for providing relevant financial businesses with training and access to up-to-date information on the trends and typologies used by criminals and terrorists. Through Project Nexus, the GFIU ensures that institutions are equipped to recognise suspicious transactions and effectively respond to evolving threats.

# Objectives

The four primary objectives of Project Nexus are:



**Enhancing Awareness:** Increasing the understanding of the role of financial intelligence in identifying and preventing financial crimes.



**Improving Operational Practices:** Improving the quality of SARs by strengthening reporting procedures and applying best practices.



**Facilitating Communication:** Enhancing the flow of communication between the GFIU, reporting entities and the public sector.



**Keeping Informed of Evolving Risks:** Providing updates on changes in legislation and emerging criminal methods used to launder proceeds of crime, finance terrorism, or support proliferation activities.

# Strategy for Engagement

As part of Project Nexus, the GFIU has developed a strategy to ensure that engagement with reporting entities is inclusive, sustainable and effective. This strategy is designed to strengthen relationships with key stakeholders and enhance participation across the financial sector. These strategies include:

- 1** **Building Relationships:** Fostering trust and collaboration by engaging directly with reporting entities and professionals through personalised outreach and support.
- 2** **Creating a Welcoming Environment:** Ensuring that all interactions, whether in meetings, seminars, or workshops, provide a comfortable and open atmosphere where participants feel encouraged to engage and share their concerns.
- 3** **Increasing Accessibility:** Offering flexible engagement options such as online platforms and e-learning tools to accommodate the broader needs of financial and non-financial entities.
- 4** **Developing Alternative Engagement Methods:** Applying a variety of outreach techniques, from in-person seminars to virtual workshops, to ensure all entities have the opportunity to participate in ways that suit them best.
- 5** **Maintaining a Strong Presence:** Regularly engaging with reporting entities, professionals and other stakeholders to provide ongoing support and ensure continuous collaboration to highlight the requirements of the GFIU to enhance its intelligence products.
- 6** **Partnering with Organisations:** Collaborating with key partners, such as the Gibraltar Association of Compliance Officers (GACO), think tanks and academics, to broaden the reach of Project Nexus and incorporate a wide range of expertise from different sectors.

# Three-Phase Approach

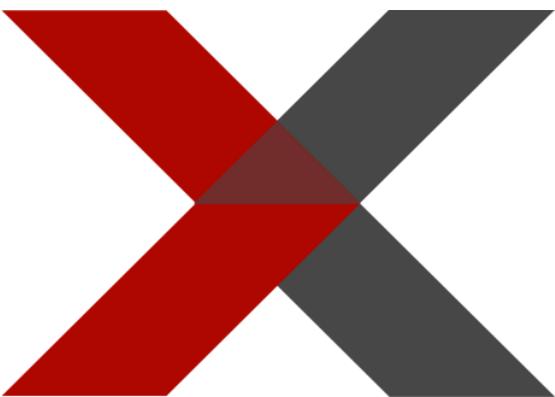
To enhance the good rapport established over the years between the industry and key partners, which had been improved by the support from the Gibraltar Association of Compliance Officers.



To ensure that the subjects in the program of events covered the most relevant and current information available, delivered through a forecast of regular events.



To develop a means of delivering training through the use of technology.





# Delivery Methods

**Project Nexus delivers outreach through various methods to meet the needs of different stakeholders:**

- 1** Formal Seminars: Larger presentations and workshops, often in collaboration with regulators and associations, to provide updates on legislative changes, compliance practices, and emerging trends in financial intelligence.
- 2** Engagement Clinics: One-to-one sessions with key individuals or firms that require specialised services to enhance their ability to detect financial crime and improve reporting standards.
- 3** Technology: The e-Nexus Series is an online initiative tailored to engage both financial and non-financial reporting entities using an e-learning platform. Through e-Nexus, participants gain access to training sessions and workshops aimed at increasing awareness of recent legislative updates, international financial obligations, and the evolving typologies employed by criminals and terrorists in illicit financial activities. Each customised workshop is interactive, allowing users to proceed at their own pace and at their convenience.

# The Nexus Cycle

The Nexus Cycle is a continuous improvement system that ensures the delivery of effective and relevant training by aligning objectives with current risks, trends, and typologies in financial crime. This structured approach enables the GFIU to assess the evolving landscape of Money Laundering, Terrorist Financing and, Proliferation Financing, incorporating these insights into a working plan or strategy for training and awareness sessions. The Nexus Cycle not only helps identify the specific training needs of reporting entities but also ensures that the content is timely and responsive to emerging threats.

After each session, the effectiveness of the training is reviewed, with feedback from participants playing a crucial role in shaping future initiatives. This feedback is integrated into the Nexus Cycle to continuously refine and update the program, ensuring that training remains relevant and impactful. Through this cyclical process, Project Nexus maintains a dynamic and adaptable outreach program that evolves alongside the ever-changing tactics used by criminals and terrorists.



# Feedback

Feedback is a vital component in the continuous improvement of Project Nexus. By collecting feedback after each training session, the GFIU gains real-time insights into what aspects of the outreach are working well and where adjustments may be needed. This immediate evaluation enables the GFIU to make targeted improvements to the content, delivery methods and venues used, in preparation for future sessions. Each iteration of training may present unique challenges, and real-time feedback allows the GFIU to address specific issues promptly, ensuring that the program evolves to meet participants' needs effectively.

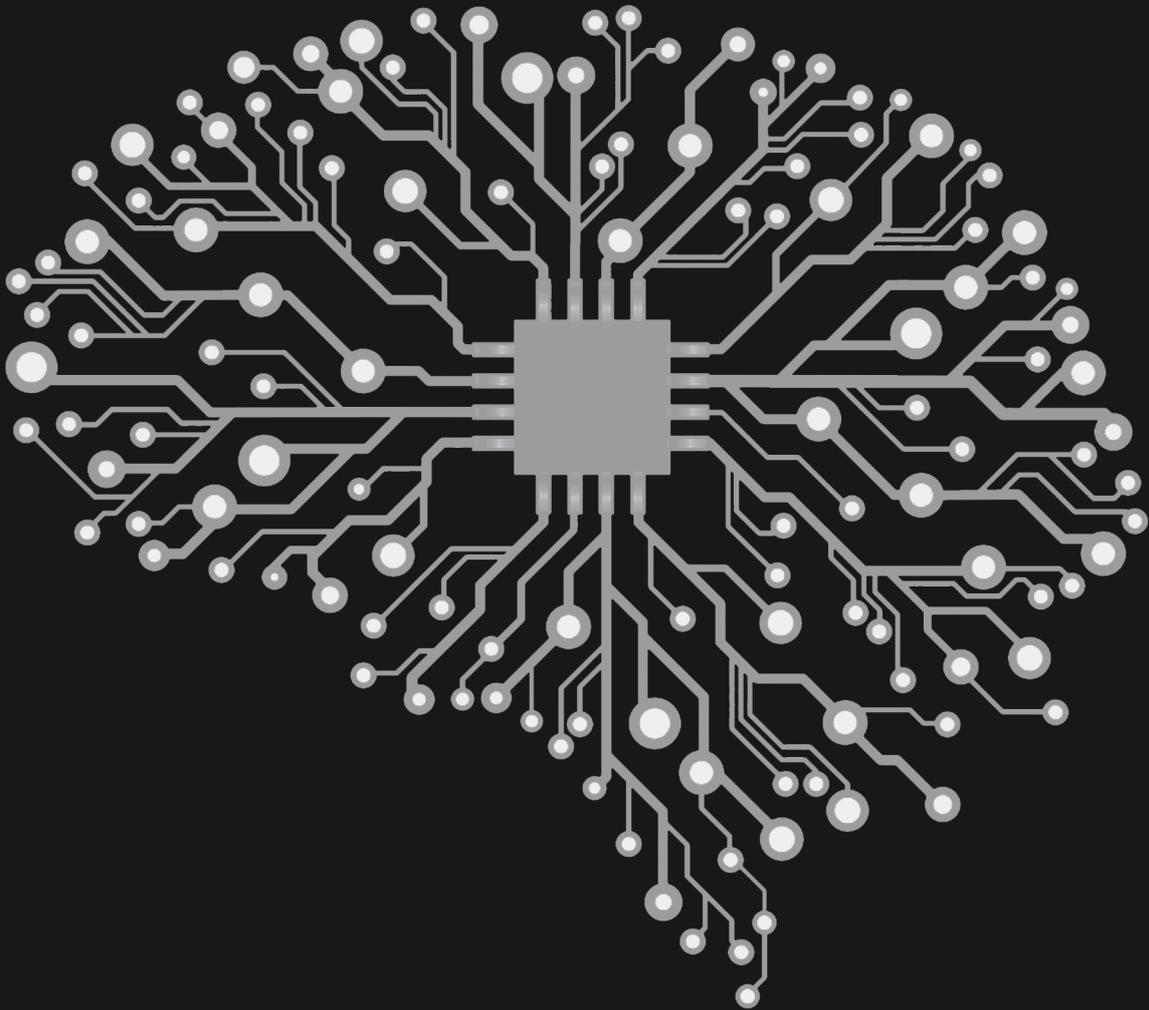
Feedback also plays a key role in enhancing the e-Nexus workshops. As users interact with the online training modules, their input is invaluable for refining the interface, improving the accessibility of materials, and adjusting content to ensure clarity and relevance. This stream of feedback allows the GFIU to continuously improve the e-learning experience, ensuring that e-Nexus remains a flexible and effective tool for educating reporting entities on the latest financial crime risks.

“ excellent  
best training session  
informative educational  
engaging brilliant delivery was excellent  
eye-opening insightful fantastic  
the most relevant training in years  
well done! productive great  
thought provoking well presented ”



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