

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP FACTORY

ATTF

15 years of transferring savoir-faire

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Patrick Wallerand, Director of International Programmes at ATTF – Financial Technology Transfer Agency explains how the transfer of knowledge puts Luxembourg on the world map.

What is the role of ATTF?

The main mission of ATTF is to transfer banking and finance knowledge and expertise to specific, target countries, now numbering more than 40. This technical assistance is part of the general policy of cooperation of the Luxembourg government. Through its work, ATTF also promotes the image of Luxembourg as a financial centre on a global level. Thanks to the financial support from the state, ATTF has organised since its creation in October 1999 more than 1,300 training seminars gathering over 25,000 financial professionals. "We can estimate that every day one of our experts is training somewhere in the world", says Patrick Wallerand, Director.

Showcasing Luxembourg expertise

Relying on a network of more than 120 experts all emanating from the financial sector, and in cooperation with its local partners, the agency organises about one hundred short courses (3-10 days) every year. In 2014, ATTF

organized 8,004 man/days of training for 2,256 participants.

Training takes place both abroad in partner countries and in Luxembourg where some participants can even acquire or get prepared to international certifications for instance in risk management, treasury, prevention of money laundering or private banking. Patrick Wallerand explains: "The participants we receive in Luxembourg are all impressed by the high level of the subject matter and the professional structure of our training where practical cases complement the necessary theoretical backbone. Quite often they turn up as excellent ambassadors of our financial marketplace."

Sharing knowledge

ATTF experts and specialists work in over 40 countries of mixed economic and financial profiles. As for the content of the training, a local partner (a central bank, banking association, training institution, etc.), acting as a spokesman for the sector, selects a topic in ATTF's

catalogue of approximately 50 events, covering banking, finance and behavioural areas.

Over the past 5 years, ATTF has also provided over 1,300 consultancy days, usually consisting of technical assistance projects for regulators and supervisors in emerging countries. Patrick Wallerand comments: "The financial crisis has shown the importance of having specialised skills; topics relating to control, risk management and regulatory issues have become predominant, as has the continuation of training leading to the issuance of a recognised qualification. This requires a constant questioning, and an adherence to our values: professionalism, respect, commitment, integrity and openness. There is also an increase in the number of direct requests from commercial entities wishing to access a recognised expertise. Moreover, we will soon be launching a network of former participants, who will become true "ambassadors" of Luxembourgish financial know-how."



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