

ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING (AML)

UAE AML/CFT Compliance Awareness

About us



اے ایم آر جی
جواب

INDIA | UAE



Founded in 1984, the firm has grown consistently over four decades to become a recognized tax advisory practice



Presence in UAE (Dubai) & India (Delhi, Mumbai, Dehradun)



Professional Team of over 150 members.



100+ customers across the globe.



MISSION

"We grow with the growth of our clients"



VISION

"To provide solutions with Honesty and Customer Satisfaction"

Table of content



Money Laundering, Terrorist Financing

UAE National Legislative Framework

Know Your Customer(KYC)

Customer Due Diligence (CDD)

Enhanced Due Diligence (EDD)

Risk-Based Approach (RBA) – Ongoing Customer Monitoring

AML Red Flags – Real Estate Transactions

Sanctions Screening

Table of content



Politically Exposed Persons (PEPs)

Suspicious Transaction Reporting (STR)

Reporting in the goAML Portal

End-to-End AML Reporting Process

Record Keeping

AML Compliance Process Flow

Money Laundering & Terrorist Financing



CORE CONCEPTS

Money Laundering

The process of concealing or disguising the illicit origin of proceeds derived from criminal activities so they appear to originate from legitimate sources.

Terrorist Financing

Providing, collecting, or making financial resources and funds available to support terrorist organizations, individuals, or acts.

Industries Covered under UAE AML Law

Financial Institutions

Examples include:

- Private banking services
- Credit facilities of all types
- Cash brokerage services
- Currency exchange and money transfer services

Designated Non-Financial Businesses & Professions

Key categories include:

- Real estate agents
- Dealers in precious metals and stones
- Lawyers, notaries and independent legal professionals
- Independent accountants
- Corporate and trust service providers

Virtual Asset Service Provider

Covered activities include:

- Exchange between virtual assets and fiat currencies
- Exchange between virtual assets
- Transfer of virtual assets
- Custody and administration of virtual assets

UAE National Legislative Framework

01

Federal Decree-Law No. 10 of 2025

Anti-Money Laundering, Combating the Financing of Terrorism and Illegal Organizations.

02

Cabinet Decision No. 134 of 2025

Implementing Regulation for Federal Decree-Law No. 10 of 2025.

03

MOE Supervision & Guidelines

The Ministry of Economy supervises DNFBPs and issues AML/CFT guidance covering CDD, reporting and compliance.

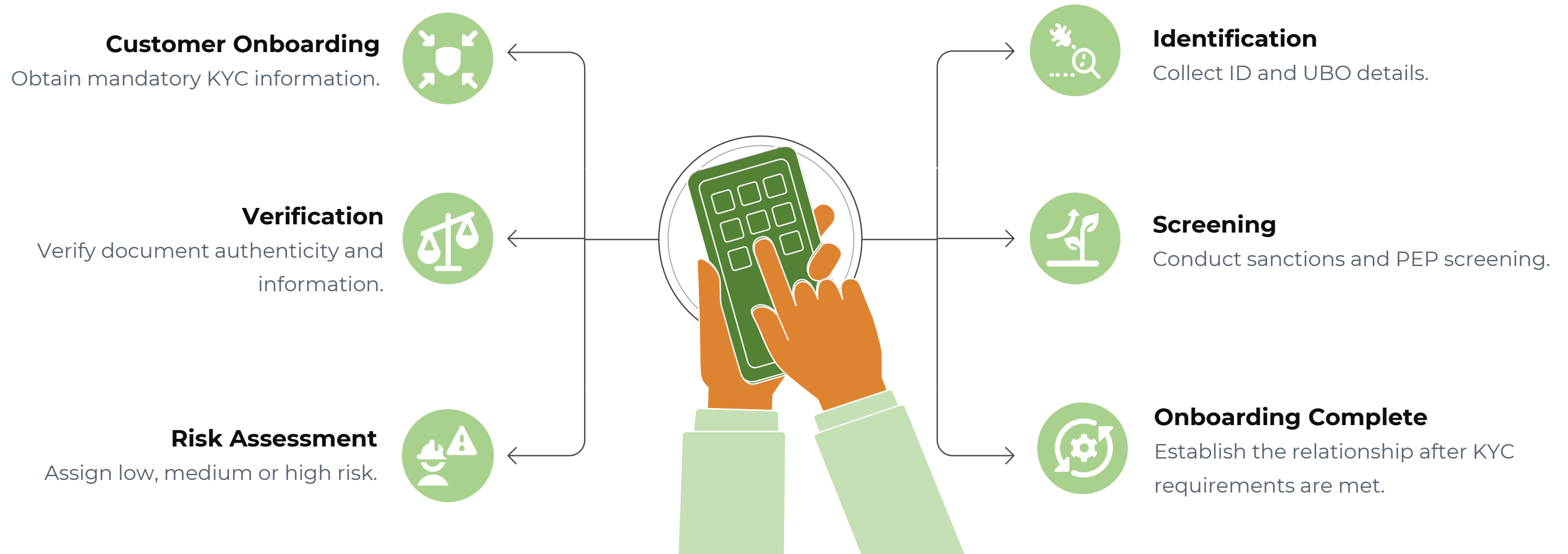
04

goAML Registration

Reporting entities are required to register on the UAE FIU goAML platform for regulatory reporting.

Know Your Customer (KYC)

A structured onboarding journey from identification to risk-based acceptance



KYC should be completed before establishing a business relationship, subject to applicable UAE AML requirements.

Customer Due Diligence (CDD)



Applying proportionate measures based on the customer risk profile

Examples of Lower-risk Customers

- Government organisations
- Publicly listed companies
- Entities with transparent ownership available from reliable sources
- Other customers assessed as low risk

CDD Approach

- CDD may be applied in accordance with applicable requirements where there is a demonstrably low ML/TF risk.
- Verification should be completed in a timely manner.
- The reason for any permitted delay should not obstruct the normal course of business.
- Beneficial ownership information may be sourced from reliable and independent sources where adequate transparency exists.

Enhanced Due Diligence (EDD)



Additional controls for customers presenting higher ML/TF risk

HIGH-RISK CUSTOMER INDICATORS

When EDD may be required

- UBO or senior management are PEPs.
- High-risk sectors or cash-intensive businesses.
- Links to high-risk jurisdictions.
- Charities, non-profit organizations and similar entities.
- Any customer presenting heightened ML/TF risk.

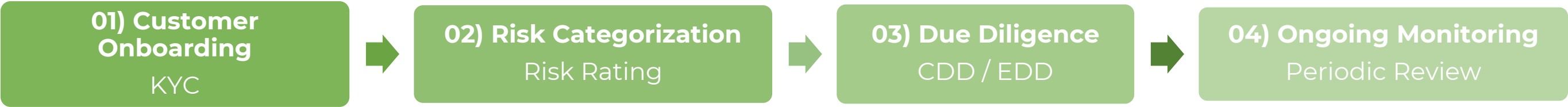
Typical EDD measures

- Verify the entity, UBOs, directors and authorized signatories.
- Establish source of funds and source of wealth.
- Understand the nature and purpose of the relationship
- Perform adverse media checks.
- Obtain senior management approval where required.
- Apply enhanced ongoing monitoring.

Risk-Based Approach (RBA) – Ongoing Customer Monitoring



Risk classification determines the intensity of due diligence and monitoring



RISK RATING CATEGORIZATION



DUE DILIGENCE BY RISK LEVEL



AML Red Flags – Real Estate Transactions

KEY RISK INDICATORS – REAL ESTATE SECTOR

High-value cash transactions ($\geq$ AED 55,000)

Third-party payments without a clear rationale

Transaction activity inconsistent with the customer profile

Reluctance or refusal to provide KYC documentation

Involvement of high-risk jurisdictions

Sanctions Screening



Screening customers and related parties against applicable sanctions lists

EXAMPLES OF APPLICABLE LISTS

Core Requirements

- Screen at onboarding and on an ongoing basis
- Screen customers, UBOs and authorized signatories
- Escalate confirmed matches immediately
- Apply required measures, including asset freeze where applicable
- Do not establish or continue a prohibited relationship

UAE Local
Terrorist List

UN Sanctions
List

OFAC List

EU List

FATF-related
information

Central Bank of
UAE lists

Confirmed sanctions matches must be escalated to the MLRO without notifying the customer, in line with applicable requirements.

Enhanced Due Diligence (EDD)



Additional controls for customers presenting higher ML/TF risk

HIGH-RISK CUSTOMER INDICATORS

When EDD may be required

- UBO or senior management are PEPs.
- High-risk sectors or cash-intensive businesses.
- Links to high-risk jurisdictions.
- Charities, non-profit organizations and similar entities.
- Any customer presenting heightened ML/TF risk.

Typical EDD measures

- Verify the entity, UBOs, directors and authorized signatories.
- Establish source of funds and source of wealth.
- Understand the nature and purpose of the relationship
- Perform adverse media checks.
- Obtain senior management approval where required.
- Apply enhanced ongoing monitoring.

Politically Exposed Persons (PEPs)



Identification, escalation and enhanced controls for PEP relationships

Who is a PEP?

A natural person who is or has been entrusted with a prominent public function in the UAE or another country, including senior political, government, judicial, military and state-owned enterprise officials, and senior officials of political parties or international organizations.

The concept also extends to relevant family members and close associates.

PEP procedures

- Screen the customer and UBOs against reliable PEP databases.
- Escalate identified PEPs to the supervisor / MLRO.
- Obtain senior management approval before establishing or continuing the relationship, where required.
- Establish source of funds and source of wealth as appropriate.
- Apply enhanced ongoing monitoring.

Suspicious Transaction Reporting (STR)



Recognising suspicion, escalating internally and documenting the 5Ws

COMMON GROUNDS FOR SUSPICION

- Customer refuses or fails to provide required KYC information
- Suspected criminal activity or fraud
- Adverse media involving the customer or related parties
- Inconsistency with the customer profile
- Unnecessarily complex transactions
- Inability to identify the bank account owner

THE 5Ws FOR AN EFFECTIVE INTERNAL STR (ISTR)

WHO

Parties involved

WHEN

Timing of the activity

WHERE

Place of the activity

WHAT

Details of the transaction / activity

WHY

Reason for raising the ISTR

Reporting in the goAML Portal



Key regulatory report types used by reporting entities

STR Suspicious Transaction Report

Used where a transaction is suspected to be linked to money laundering, terrorist financing or other criminal activity.

SAR Suspicious Activity Report

Used where suspicious behaviour or activity is identified, even if no transaction has occurred.

CNMR Confirmed Name Match Report

Used for a confirmed match against applicable sanctions lists, with escalation and reporting as required.

FFR Funds Freeze Report

Used where a confirmed sanctions match requires immediate freezing of funds or assets and reporting through goAML.

PNMR Partial Name Match Report

Used for a potential / partial name match requiring reporting in accordance with applicable requirements.

HRC High-Risk Country Report

Used for transactions involving high-risk countries where reporting is required.

HRCA High-Risk Country Activity Report

Used for high-risk-country activity identified during establishment of a customer relationship.

REAR Real Estate Activity Report

Applicable to qualifying freehold real estate purchase/sale transactions involving physical cash of AED 55,000 or more or virtual assets.

End-to-End AML Reporting Process



From identifying a red flag to regulatory reporting and record retention



Records must be retained for a minimum of 5 years after completion of the transaction or termination of the business relationship.

Maintaining complete, accurate and retrievable AML records

01

Maintain

Soft and hard copies of relevant records and supporting documents.

02

Organise

Keep transaction records together with supporting documentation and maintain date-wise files.

03

Retrieve

Ensure records can be produced efficiently for audits, regulators, law enforcement or correspondent banks.

04

Retain

Retain records for a minimum of 5 years after completion of the transaction or termination of the relationship.

AML Compliance Process Flow



An integrated lifecycle of prevention, detection, escalation and reporting

01 Policies & Procedures

Define the AML control framework

02 Client Onboarding

Complete KYC and establish the relationship

03 Risk Assessment

Classify the customer and apply CDD / EDD

04 Screening & Monitoring

Sanctions / PEP screening and ongoing monitoring

05 Suspicion & Reporting

Escalate and report STRs / SARs and other applicable reports

06 Management & Records

Management reporting, regulatory records and 5-year retention



ABOUT AMRG



- AMRG Global is an international tax and regulatory advisory firm based in the United Arab Emirates, focused on assisting multinational businesses, investors, and cross-border enterprises in navigating complex tax and regulatory environments.
- The firm provides specialized advisory in UAE Corporate Tax, VAT, transfer pricing, cross-border structuring, and tax controversy matters. Our approach combines deep technical expertise with practical commercial insight to help businesses operate efficiently while maintaining regulatory compliance.
- AMRG Global operates in strategic collaboration with **AMRG & Associates (India)**, a well-established tax advisory and litigation firm with over four decades of professional experience. This integrated platform enables seamless advisory support for businesses operating between the **Middle East, India, and global markets**.
- Through this cross-border network, AMRG Global supports multinational clients with international tax planning, regulatory compliance, and dispute resolution across jurisdictions.

OUR SERVICES



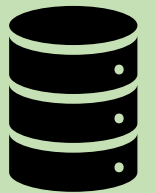
UAE VAT
Advisory



Cross-border
Structuring



Risk Advisory &
Internal Audit



Corporate Tax
Advisory



Transfer Pricing &
International Tax

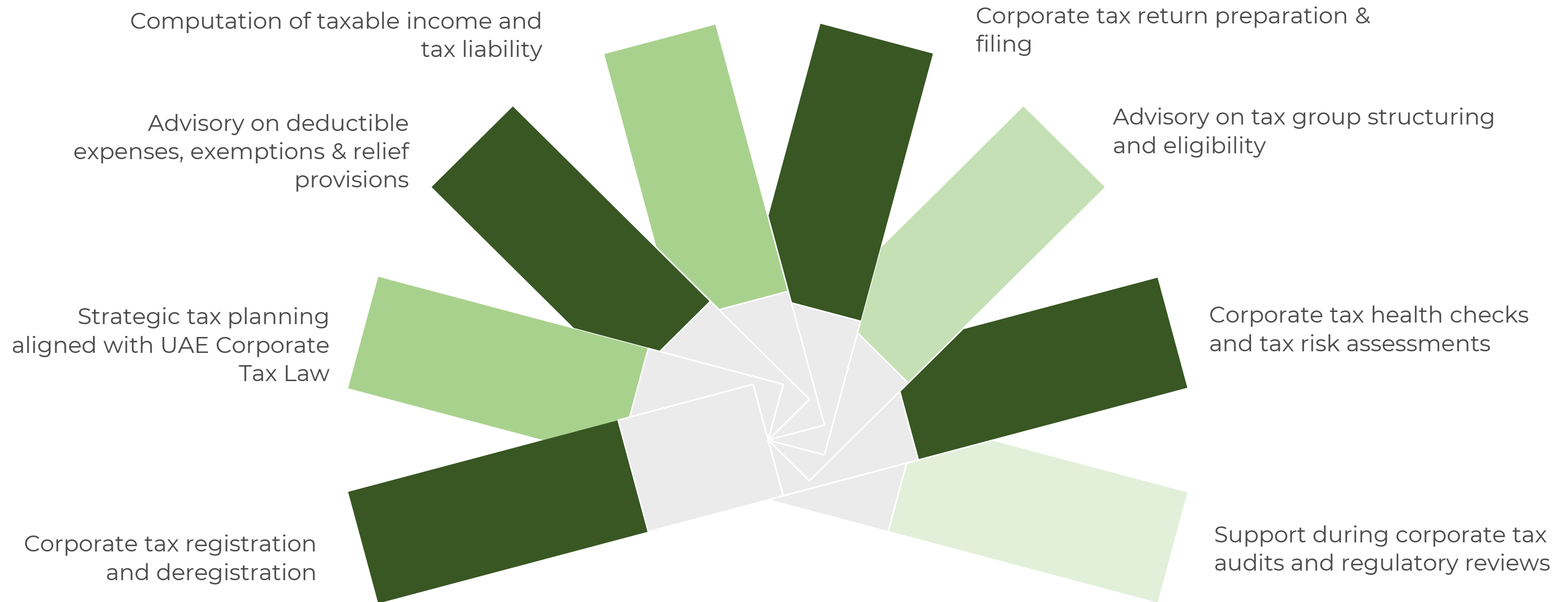


Tax Controversy &
Dispute
Resolution

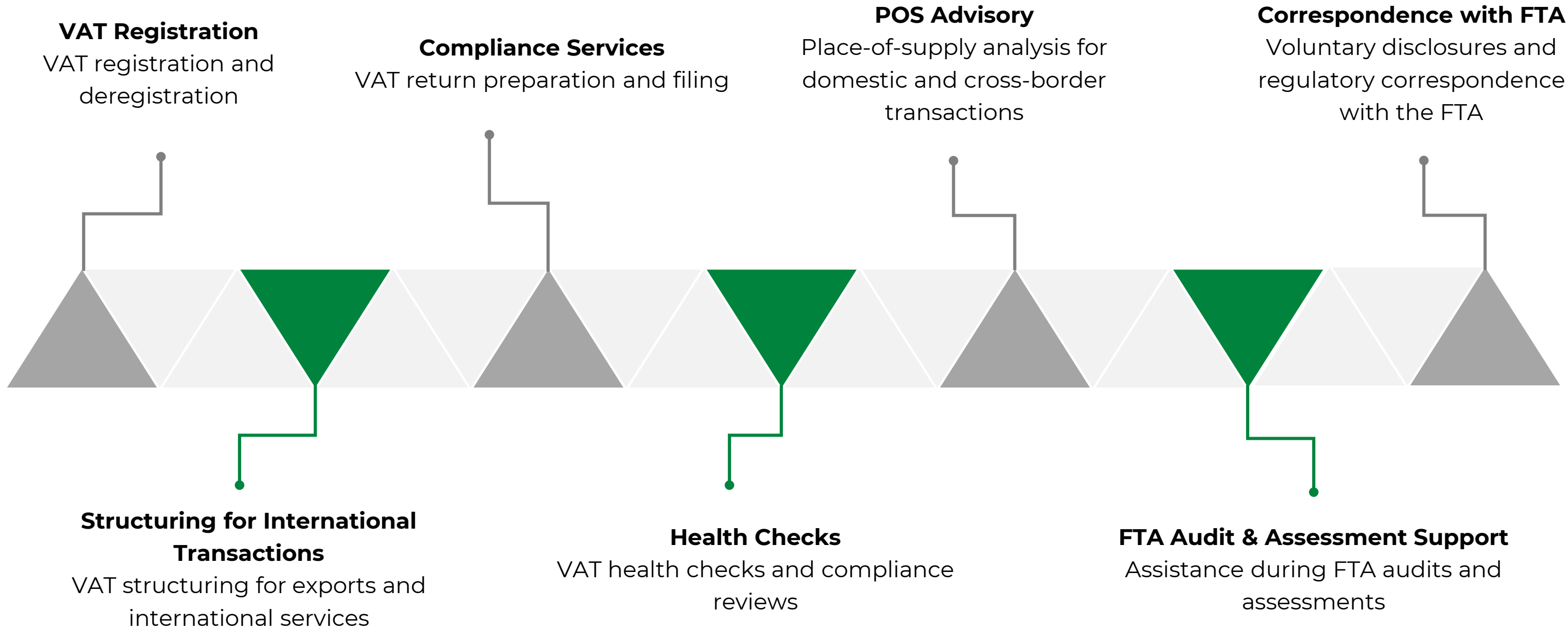


AML / CFT &
Regulatory
Compliance

Corporate Tax



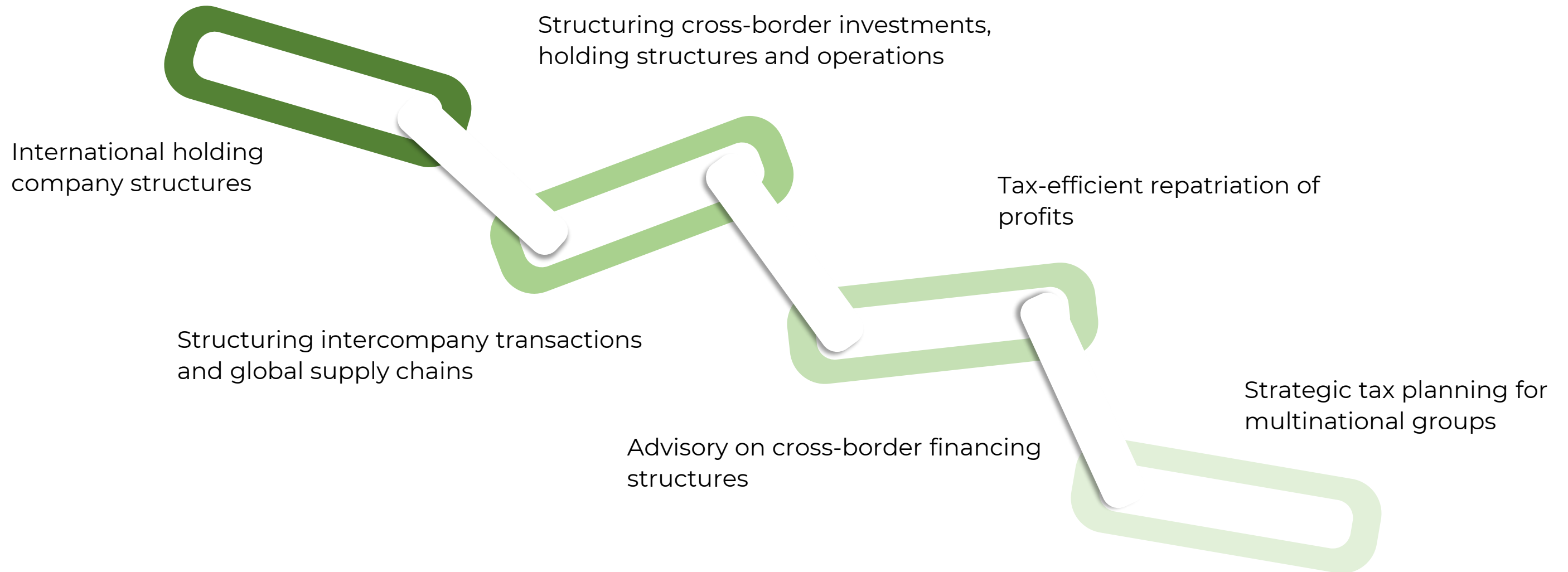
VAT Consultancy Service



Transfer Pricing & International Tax



Cross-border Structuring



Tax Controversy & Dispute Resolution



AMRG Global represents clients in tax disputes and regulatory proceedings, providing strategic defense and structured dispute resolution support.

Our services include:

01

Representation before the Federal Tax Authority (FTA)

02

Advisory during tax audits and regulatory investigations

03

Preparation of reconsideration requests before the FTA

04

Strategic defense against tax assessments and penalties

05

Support in dispute resolution proceedings

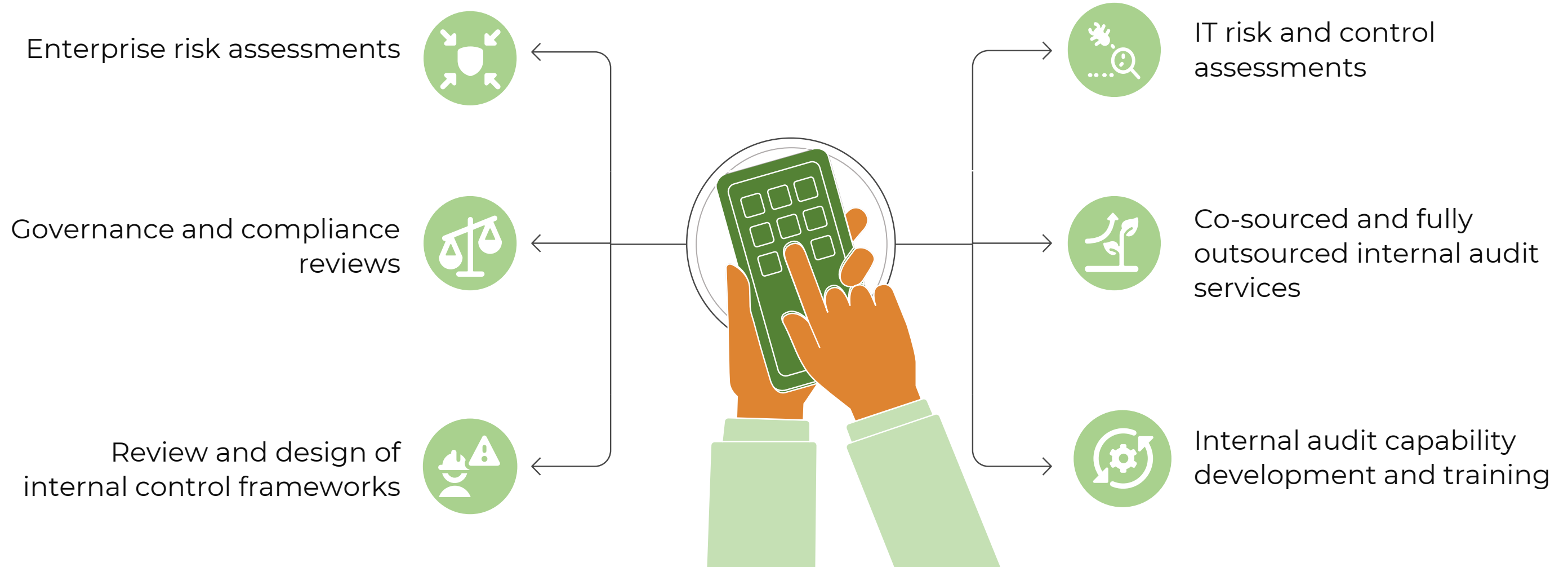
06

Advisory on regulatory compliance and litigation risk management

07

Voluntary disclosure filings before the FTA

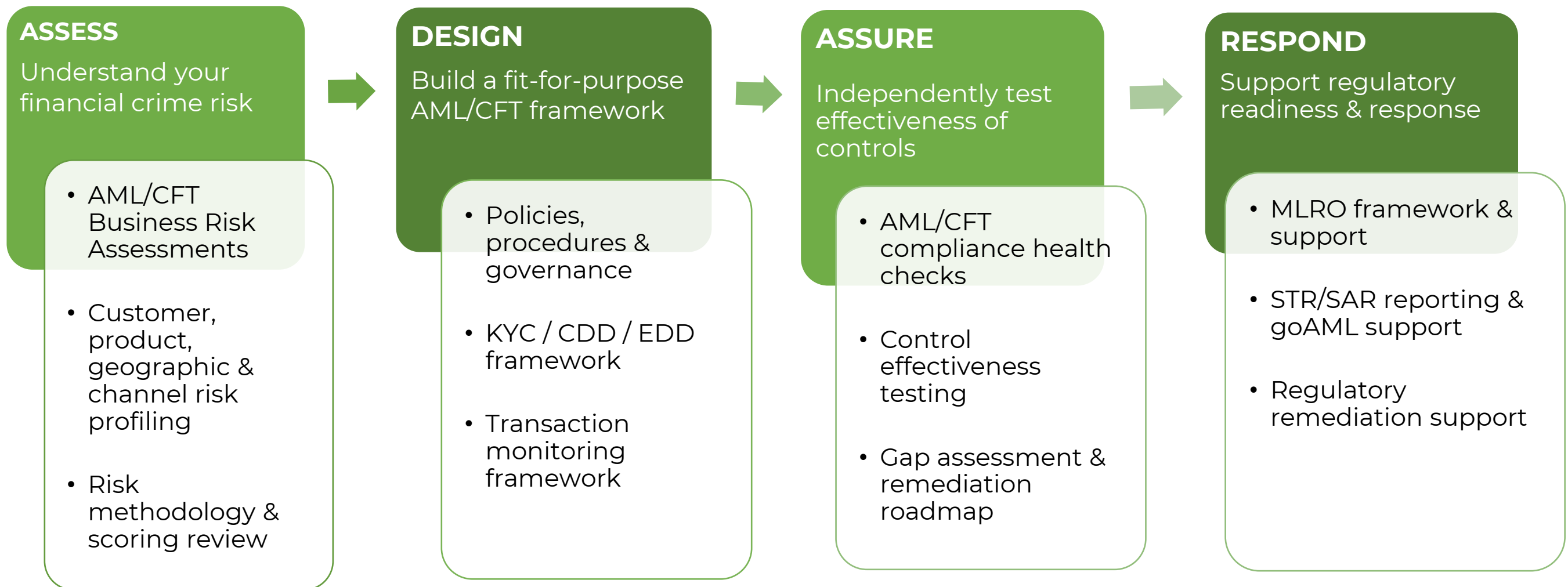
Risk Advisory & Internal Audit



AML / CFT & Regulatory Compliance



End-to-end advisory and independent assurance to help organisations manage financial crime risk with confidence.



Seamless Cross-border Network Integration



AMRG Global operates in strategic coordination with **AMRG & Associates (India)**, forming a robust, integrated network that ensures:

- Seamless cross-border tax advisory and structuring.
- Coordinated appellate representation across jurisdictions.
- Harmonised regulatory alignment and compliance.
- Efficient, integrated workflow management for complex engagements.



This integrated structure supports multinational clients engaging in substantial inter-company transactions, cross-border investments, and international expansion between the Middle East and South Asia.

IFZA Authorized Partner



AMRG Global is an **Authorized Partner of IFZA**, delivering end-to-end business setup and support services in Dubai.



IFZA[®]

**AUTHORIZED
PARTNER**

**COMPANY
INCORPORATION**

**TRADE LICENSE
RENEWALS**

VISA SERVICES

**LEASED OFFICE SPACE
WITHIN IFZA DUBAI**

In-house Technology



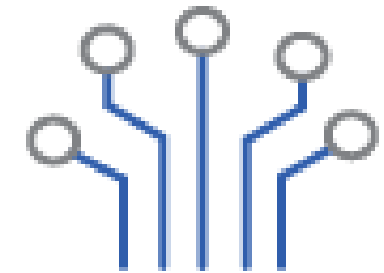
MICROSOFT ONEDRIVE

OneDrive provides secure file storage and easy accessibility, allowing our teams to collaborate seamlessly. With real-time sharing and version control, it enhances productivity and ensures that important documents are always at our fingertips.



ZOHO SERVICES

We utilize Zoho's suite of applications, these tools enhance our operational efficiency and support better communication, allowing us to focus on delivering exceptional service.



IN-HOUSE TAX ASSISTANT

Our In-house AI expert for navigating Goods and Services Tax in India. Gain insights, operational guidance, and compliance support tailored for businesses and tax professionals.

In-house Technology



REGULATORY AI MONITORING

Our in-house AI solution monitors official tax and regulatory updates, delivering timely insights on new legislation, clarifications and compliance developments to help businesses assess impact and respond efficiently.



COMPLIANCE AUTOMATION TOOL

Our in house-RPA automate repetitive compliance workflows, improving accuracy, reducing manual intervention and enhancing operational efficiency.



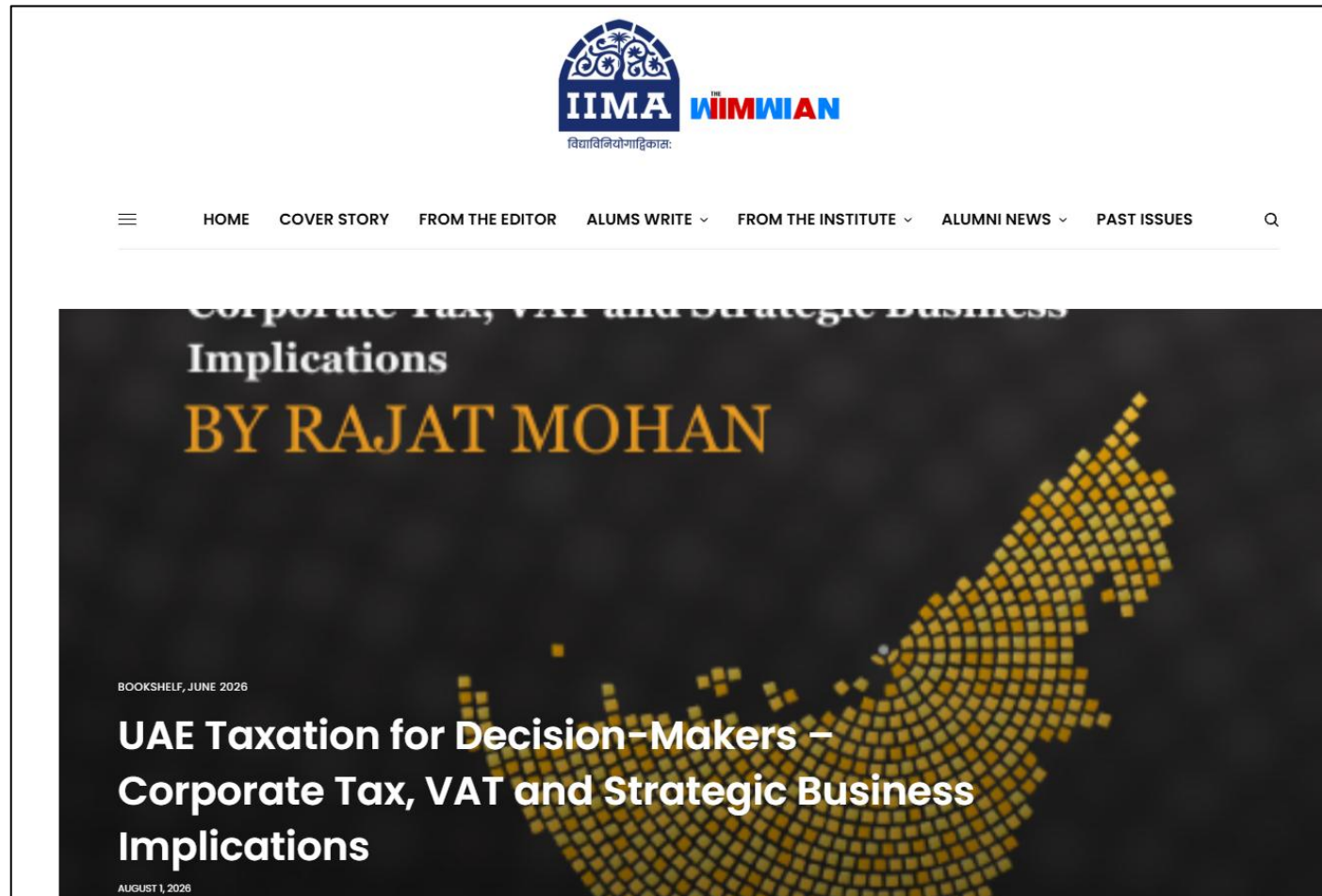
LEGAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

A centralized platform for managing legal matters, documents, workflows and sending automated timely reminders—enhancing efficiency, visibility and control.

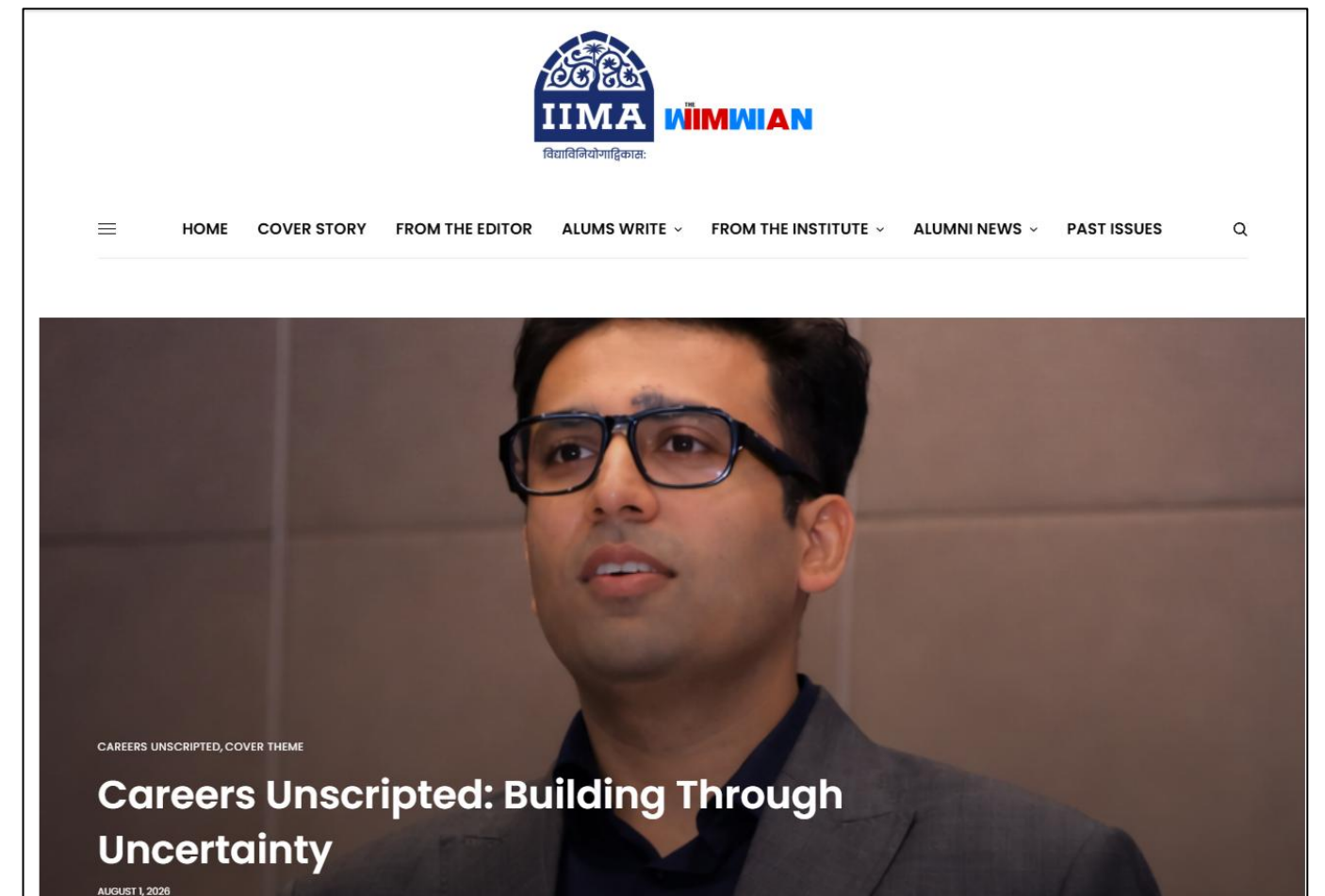
Milestones



IIMA Alumni Magazine Recognition

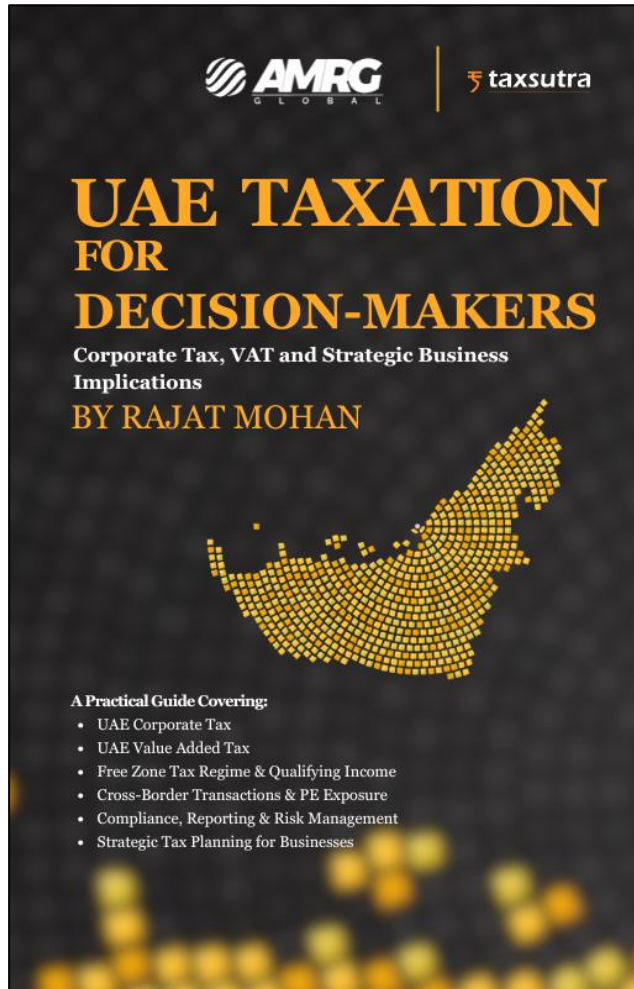


[Bookshelf June 2026 Rajat Mohan](#)



[Cover Story – Rajat Mohan](#)

Milestones



Latest Publication

This publication offers a practical and structured guide to the UAE's evolving tax landscape, with a focus on its impact on businesses and investors.

- **Understanding UAE Taxation:** Covers the introduction and evolution of **VAT and Corporate Tax** in the UAE.
- **Legal & Regulatory Framework:** Simplifies key **tax laws, provisions, and compliance requirements**.
- **Business Impact:** Examines implications for **corporate structuring, transactions, and business operations**.
- **Cross-Border Perspective:** Highlights considerations for **international businesses, investors, and cross-border transactions**.
- **Strategic Relevance:** Provides insights to help **business leaders and professionals** navigate the UAE's tax environment and make informed decisions.

ACCREDITATIONS

Shortlisted by



Indirect Tax Firm of the year 2026

Ranked by



Indirect Tax

2022,2023,2024,2025,2026

Ranked by



General Corporate Tax

2023,2024,2025,2026

Shortlisted by



7 categories – Year 2025

1 categories – Year 2023

Highly Regarded by



Tax Practitioner of the Year
2025, 2026

AMRG in the News



AMRG professionals are regular contributors of expert commentary, articles, and columns in reputed journals, magazines, and national publications.





Mr. Rajat Mohan
Managing Partner

Partner-Driven Advisory Model

Our practice is led by a partner-driven structure, ensuring a hands-on approach and unparalleled oversight:

- Direct partner involvement in all complex engagements.
- Strategic oversight of cross-border initiatives.
- Coordinated appellate representation across jurisdictions.
- Diligent implementation supervision.
- Commercial alignment balanced with regulatory defensibility.

Regularly featured in leading financial publications such as **Mint, Money control, and The Economic Times – CFO**, for expert commentary on international tax and regulatory developments.



CONTACT US



INDIA OFFICES



Delhi Office

AMRG Tower, Delhi



Dehradun Office

Beside Hyatt Centric, Rajpur Road, Dehradun



Mumbai Office

Kandivali East, Mumbai 400101



UAE OFFICES



IFZA Office

IFZA Business Park, Dubai Digital Park, Dubai Silicon Oasis, Dubai-UAE



JLT Office

Jumeirah Business Centre 5, Cluster W, Jumeirah Lake Towers, Dubai-UAE



SINGAPORE OFFICES



SINGAPORE Office

UB One Singapore 408830



Email:

uae@amrg.in
rajat@amrg.in



LinkedIn:

[AMRG Global](#)

Website : www.amrg.in



©2026 AMRG & Associates

Published in India. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form, or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise without prior permission, in writing, from the publisher. This publication contains information in summary form and is therefore intended for general guidance only. It is not intended to be a substitute for detailed research or the exercise of professional judgment. Neither AMRG nor any other member of the firm can accept, any responsibility for loss occasioned to any person acting or refraining from action as a result of any material in this publication. The information contained in this communication is intended solely for the use of the addressee and others authorized to receive it. If you are not the intended recipient you are hereby notified that any disclosure, copying, distribution or taking any action in reliance on the contents of this information is strictly prohibited and may be unlawful. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by phone, fax or email and delete it from your system. AMRG Global is neither liable for the proper and complete transmission of the information contained in this communication nor for any delay in its receipt. In case you wish not to receive this information then do write back to the sender of this information, in case you have received it directly from AMRG servers then you can unsubscribe the same at **www.amrg.in**



THANK YOU