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Adoption of Integrity Programmes in the Public Sector for Preventing Corruption

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*Al servicio
de las personas
y las naciones*

ADOPTION OF INTEGRITY PROGRAMMES IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR FOR PREVENTING CORRUPTION

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UN APPROACH



Goal 1:
End poverty in all its forms everywhere



Goal 2:
End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture



Goal 3:
Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages



Goal 4:
Ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning



Goal 5:
Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls



Goal 6:
Ensure access to water and sanitation for all



Goal 7:
Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all



Goal 8:
Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all



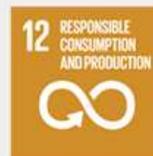
Goal 9:
Build resilient infrastructure, promote sustainable industrialization and foster innovation



Goal 10:
Reduce inequality within and among countries



Goal 11:
Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable



Goal 12:
Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns



Goal 13:
Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts



Goal 14:
Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources



Goal 15:
Sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, halt biodiversity loss



Goal 16:
Promote just, peaceful and inclusive societies



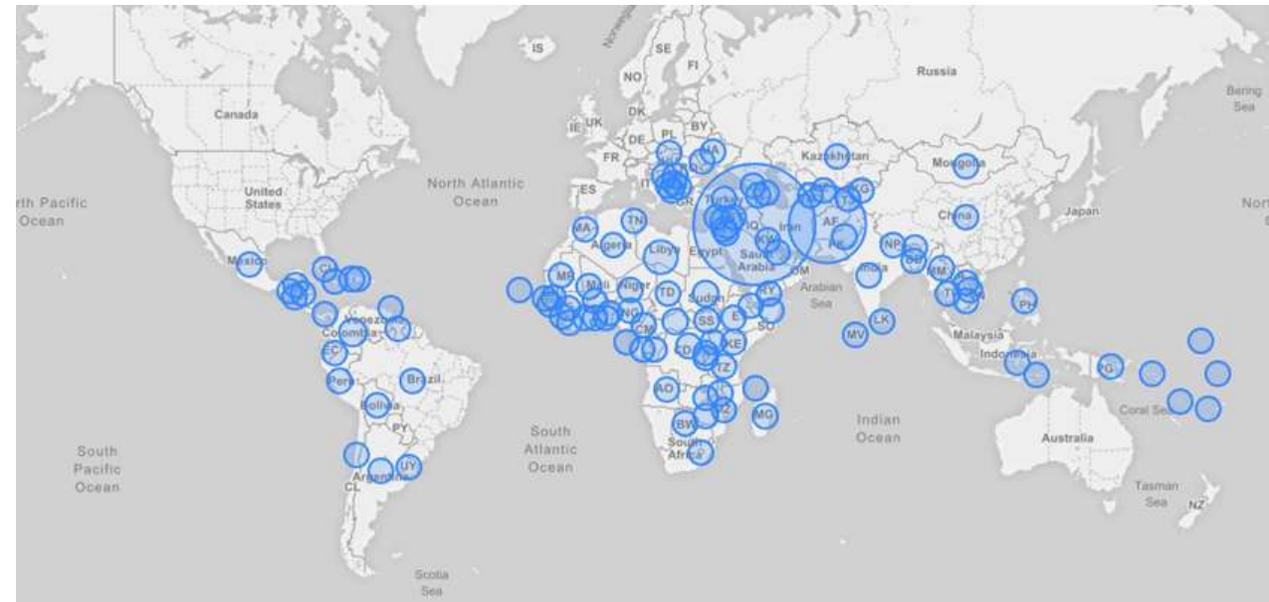
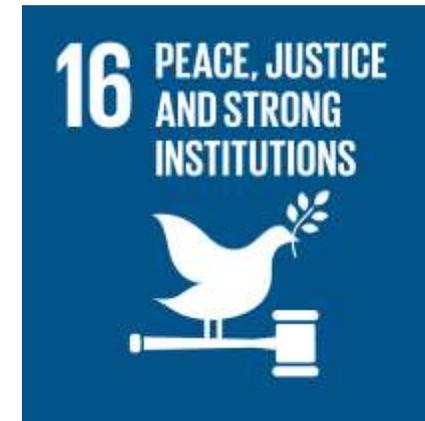
Goal 17:
Revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development





INTEGRITY, ANTI-CORRUPTION AND THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

- *Nearly all countries have ratified or acceded to the UN Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC).*
- *The SDGs Agenda was a major breakthrough for the anti-corruption movement because it capitalizes on the importance of promoting transparency, accountability and anti-corruption, and makes an explicit link between corruption, peace, just and inclusive societies.*
- *SDG 16 includes key factors needed to ensure access to justice, build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels, and tackle corruption.*
- *Goal 16 and its targets are not only a valuable and important aspiration in its own right; it is also an important enabling goal for the entire sustainable development agenda.*





LESSONS FROM PAST EXPERIENCES

1. In the long run, corruption prevention is equally important as enforcement and prosecution, and is conducive to reduction of corruption risks.
2. UNCAC is a means and not an end in itself. It is an excellent entry point to engage with governments to foster governance reform and ensure compliance with global standards.
3. Pilot sectoral initiatives in education, health, and water sectors need to be taken to the next level with more investment in time and resources that will ensure sustainability and national ownership.
4. Improving transparency needs to go in hand with efforts to enhance accountability of both public and private institutions.
5. Fighting corruption requires time and results are not often visible in the short run. It is important to put measurable targets from the program inception.





UNDP'S APPROACH TO PREVENTING CORRUPTION

Corruption risk mitigation approach, particularly in health, education, water and infrastructure, justice and security

Social accountability approach of enhancing the monitoring and oversight of services by communities and civil society organizations and promoting the use of ICT technologies (through innovation and open data)

Empowerment approach through gender, youth and private sector engagement to enhance transparency and accountability

Institutional capacity development approach (e.g., supporting the capacity of anti-corruption agencies to monitor budgets, infrastructures and services including procurement processes).



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INTEGRITY SYSTEMS AT NATIONAL LEVEL

**UNITED
AGAINST
CORRUPTION**



INTEGRITY SYSTEMS: A CHANGE IN APPROACH

Traditional approaches based on the creation of more rules, stricter compliance and tougher enforcement have been of limited effectiveness. A strategic and sustainable response to corruption is public integrity. Integrity is one of the key pillars of political, economic and social structures and thus essential to the economic and social well-being and prosperity of individuals and societies as a whole.

(2017 OECD Recommendation on Public Integrity)

A coherent and comprehensive integrity SYSTEM



Commitment

Top-level management develop the necessary legal and institutional frameworks and display high standards of personal propriety.



Responsibilities

Public sector organisations co-ordinate well with each other, with well-defined responsibilities. It is clear 'who does what'.



Strategy

Using data and indicators for evaluation and based on legitimate risks to integrity, a strategy is developed outlining objectives and priorities.



Standards

Rules and public sector values are reflected in laws and organisational policies and are effectively communicated.

A CULTURE of Public Integrity



Whole of society

Businesses, individuals and non-governmental actors uphold public integrity and do not tolerate corruption.



Leadership

Managers lead with integrity in public sector organisations; they carve out the 'integrity agenda' and communicate it to the organisation.



Merit based

The public sector strives to employ professional and qualified people that have a deep commitment to the public service integrity values.



Capacity building

Public officials are skilled and trained to apply integrity standards.



Openness

Integrity concerns are openly and freely discussed in the workplace and it is safe to report suspected violations of integrity.

Effective ACCOUNTABILITY



Risk management

An effective integrity risk management and control system exists in public sector organisations.



Enforcement

Corruption and other violations to integrity are detected, investigated and sanctioned.



Oversight

Oversight bodies, regulatory enforcement agencies and administrative courts perform external control.



Participation

A transparent and open government allows for the meaningful participation of all stakeholders in the development and implementation of public policies.



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INTEGRITY PROGRAMMES IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR





PUBLIC INTEGRITY AND INTEGRITY PROGRAMMES

Public integrity refers to the conduct of officials aligned to values, principles and ethical standards that enable and organization to perform its functions with the general interest prevailing over private or particular interests.

Based on our experience, the main components of an institutional integrity system include:

- a) Risk assessment
- b) A code of conduct
- c) A dedicated internal structure for managing integrity (integrity officials, integrity coordinators and integrity committee)
- d) A platform for handling concerns and reports of misconduct
- e) A dissemination and communications strategy
- f) Monitoring and performance assessment for improvement



EXPECTED IMPACT OF AN INTEGRITY PROGRAMME

At national level/in the general political context

- Facilitates the functioning of the democratic system
- Promotes integrity and transparency values
- Addresses public trust problems
- Compliance with UNCAC and other international standards

At institutional level

- Reflects a consensus on ethical standards
- Reflects an organizational culture truly committed with probity and transparency
- Strengthens public trust
- Minimizes risks of conflicts of interest
- Adoption of best practice and standards

For organization members

- Provides the necessary guidelines on ethics
- Emphasises honesty and good conduct
- Prevents the occurrence of corruption
- Encourages internal consultation for understanding ethical duties
- Allows an overall better performance of functions

- Substantially improves ethics abilities of officials/employees
- Provides orientation for decision-making towards common or general benefit
- Guides officials/employees especially in “grey areas” or situations where there is not a clear correct answer.



ALTERNATIVES FOR IMPLEMENTATION

It is expected that officials/employees will adopt the ethical principles as their own, instead of conducting themselves for fear of sanctions



BEST PRACTICE (Transparency International)

- Expected conduct is clearly set out;
- Formal and specific ethics provisions that include dissemination methods
- A body is clearly put in charge of providing support and promoting compliance
- A legitimate, properly funded body/authority is in charge of imposing sanctions, by means of transparent procedures
- An external regulation model may be considered, as it is often considered as more reliable and transparent
- A confidential channel is established for reporting, as well as whistleblower protection
- Other best practice includes permanent training on anti-corruption, public accountability and the establishment of a permanent office or body on public standards.





Thank you

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