



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

2019/SOM1/ACT/WKSP/015

**The Use of Information and Communications
Technologies in the Implementation of the United
Nations Convention against Corruption**

Submitted by: UNODC



**Workshop on Digital Government, Integrity
Policies and Corruption Prevention Mechanisms in
APEC Economies
Santiago, Chile
27 February 2019**



UNODC

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

The Use of Information and Communications Technologies in the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption



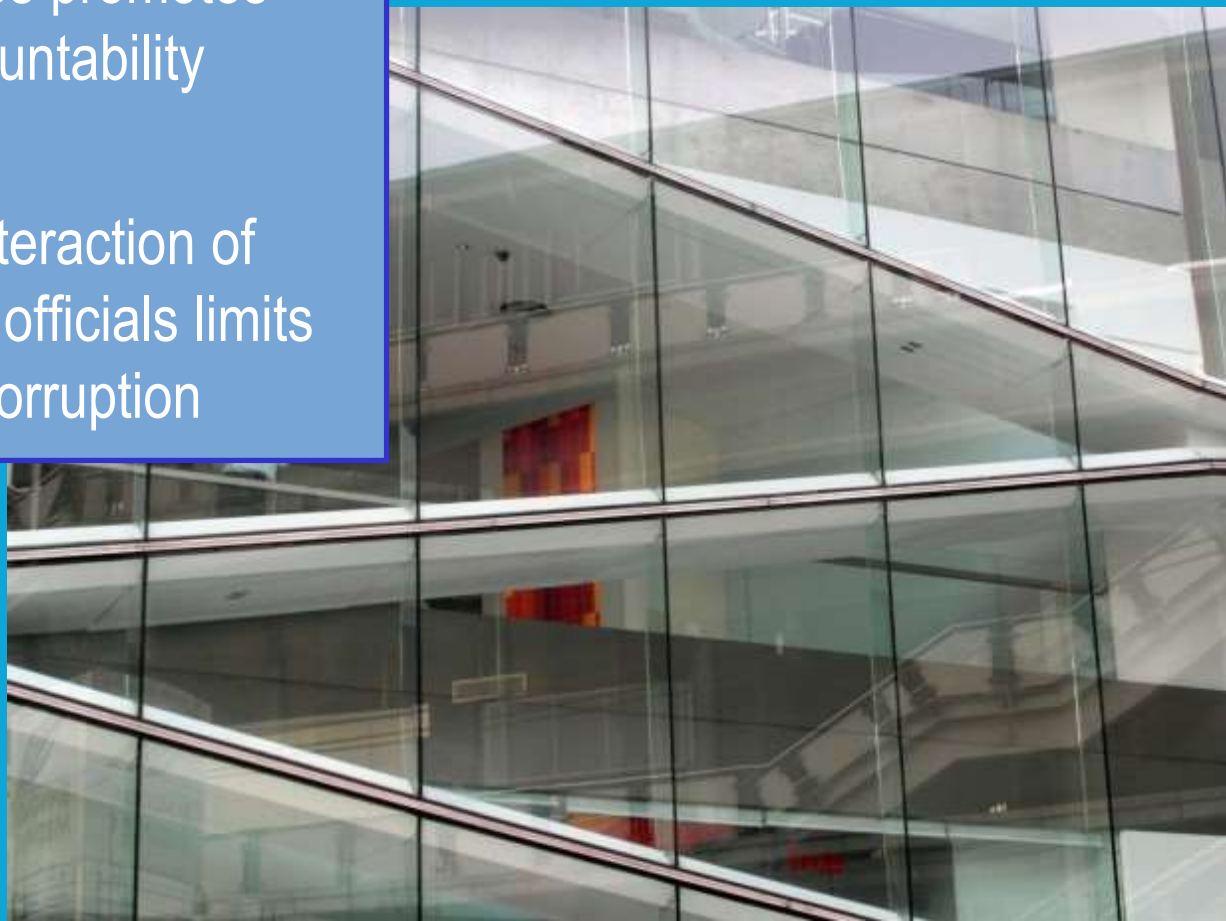
APEC – Chile

27.02.2019



Effect of ICT on corruption

- Easy access to government information and services promotes transparency and accountability
- Limiting face-to-face interaction of citizens with the public officials limits also opportunities for corruption





Integrity in Public Procurement

The trend: publication of procurement notices on government websites, establishing Internet procurement portals with templates of documents, fully integrated e-procurement solutions

A number of States are moving from systems which passively provide information to systems which allow for interaction with users

Interesting examples:

- Use of ICT and internet portals to conduct public consultations on future procurement procedures
- Use of ICT to manage the whole procurement process and to analyse the results of the procurement
- Use of ICT for procurement fraud detection (identification of conflicts of interests and fraud patterns)



UNODC

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Access to Information

ICT allows Governments to make information more accessible to their citizens:

- to provide access to information on the organization, functioning and decision-making process of government bodies
- to provide information to the public on the financial activities of the government





- Online transparency portals:
 - basic information on the structure of the public administration,
 - allowed for direct access to documents (legislation, regulations, bylaws)
 - Information on financial transactions and auditing reports
 - allowed for interaction with users
- Open government data standards
- Access to information - allowing members of the public to make specific requests for government information

Improve Public Service Delivery

- Sectoral and thematic portals providing electronic services
- Mobile centres providing a variety of public services to citizens





Promoting the Contribution of the Public to Decision-Making

- Using institutionalized consultation mechanisms to promote the participation of society through specialized structures involving representatives of the civil society and the private sector
- Using websites and mobile phone applications to stimulate public debate over important issues and to provide input into policy-making
- Using public opinion polls to seek input



Raising Awareness of Anti-Corruption Efforts

- All States take measures to ensure the visibility of the anti-corruption bodies
- Using social media to raise awareness on corruption
- Increasing use of Internet and mobile telephone applications to both provide information to the public on the activities of anti-corruption bodies and to seek input and feedback





Reporting of Corruption to Anti-Corruption Bodies



- Hotlines, website and mobile phone applications for reporting corruption
 - Benefit of having multiple options
 - Success depends on familiarity and trust
- Some allow for anonymous or confidential reporting



Conclusions

- Clear trend of increasing use of information and communications technologies to ensure transparency, engage the public and prevent and fight corruption
 - Can be seen both in developed and in developing States parties.
- The tools range from simple websites, to elaborate online solutions which allow for full interaction with the user and for provision of e-services.
- ICT is not a panacea but only a tool, which brings its own set of risks
 - ICT can also be misused
 - It cannot replace public officials in their decision-making function



UNODC

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

For more information:

www.unodc.org/corruption

www.track.unodc.org



Candice Welsch
Chief
Implementation Support Section
Corruption and Economic Crime Branch
UNODC, Vienna
(Candice.Welsch@unodc.org)