Alliance for Integrity

Enhancing business integrity through a global business-driven initiative

The Challenge

Corruption is a substantial impediment to sustainable development. Preventing corruption therefore contributes to reducing inequalities, it strengthens the rule of law, it enables investments and improves the business environment. The importance of preventing corruption is also reflected in SDG 16.5: substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms.

In order to successfully prevent corruption, the involvement of all relevant stakeholders is necessary. The private sector assumes a crucial role. On the one hand, legal trends towards stricter punishment of corruption associated crimes demand effective measures by companies – both internal and external. On the other hand, compliance can be a competitive advantage for companies. Business would be less expensive and more predictable without corruption. Globalisation interconnects economies at a large scale. Corruption does not stop at country borders, but uses transnational ways. Collective action curbs corruption in a sustainable manner at the regional as well as at the international level.

Project name	Alliance for Integrity
Commissioned by	Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Project region	Global, operating with a regional approach from Brazil, Ghana, Mexico and India
Duration	July 2018 – June 2021

Our Vision

The aim of the Alliance for Integrity is to promote integrity among companies, their business partners, and other relevant actors in the economic system by increasing capacities of companies to effectively prevent corruption. With a broad network of anti-corruption and compliance experts, we offer knowledge and support to our local and global partners.

About the Alliance for Integrity:

The Alliance for Integrity is a global initiative bringing together all relevant stakeholders in the field of corruption prevention in the private sector. Our major goal is to raise business integrity and compliance capacities.

The Stakeholders

The Alliance for Integrity is a business-driven multi-stakeholder initiative. The stakeholders engaging in the Alliance for Integrity are multinational companies, small and medium-sized enterprises, business associations, civil society organisations, public institutions, international organisations, and academia. The initiative was initiated by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the Federation of German Industries (BDI), and the German Global Compact Network. On a global level the Steering Committee, which is comprised of private sector, public sector, civil society as well as international organisation representatives, leads the decision-making process with the goal to promote responsible and fair business practices.

L. to r.: Participants of the Compliance Training for Businesses in Accra, Ghana, August 2016.

Business brunch in Brasilia, Brazil, April 2016.

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In our focus countries we set up a similar local governance structure to meet existing challenges with a set of demand driven measures.

Collective Action

The Alliance for Integrity believes that one of the most effective ways to fight corruption is taking collective action. While there is no single solution to curb bribery and corruption, collective action allows to create a level-playing field and to share knowledge and resources. Involving various stakeholders, we engage collectively to create a more compliant business environment on the national as well as on the global level.

Our Approach

Peer-to-Peer Learning

The best way to learn is usually from experiences of others. The Alliance for Integrity encourages its supporters to share their experiences in a variety of industries on local, regional, and global level, e.g. within the governance bodies or working groups. Good practice examples provide suggestions on how to implement compliance management systems in companies. The Alliance for Integrity offers a network of international experts willing to share their experiences and support to overcome certain management challenges during the implementation of a compliance management system.

Public-Private Dialogue

The role integrity plays in a society is also shaped by the social and political framework conditions. The Alliance for Integrity offers a neutral platform for exchange between representatives of businesses, civil society, and the public sector. This dialogue provides an opportunity to discuss challenges and solutions, and enhance fair market conditions.

Awareness Raising and Information-Sharing

Whether it is good practice examples, guidelines, or international studies, the Alliance for Integrity offers knowledge and practical tools to enable successful implementation of compliance measures. Furthermore, the Alliance for Integrity raises awareness for business integrity through conferences and publications, encouraging a global exchange on an equal footing.

Compliance Training and Train-the-Trainer

The Alliance for Integrity develops practical compliance training programmes (e.g. De Empresas Para Empresas – DEPE) which aim to improve the compliance capabilities of companies. In our DEPE training programme, compliance experts of multinational and/or local companies participate in a Train-the-Trainer workshop. Afterwards they facilitate corruption prevention training for (small and medium-sized) enterprises with little or no experience in compliance management. An online support desk offers support for participants in the implementation of compliance management systems.

ICR-Title

Since late 2011 there has been a BMZ budget item 'International cooperation with regions for sustainable development' (ICR). Measures under this item have specific characteristics. These include:

- Tackling global challenges across countries, regions and policy areas
- Network building with actors from the spheres of politics, administration, civil society and the private sector
- Costs are shared with cooperation partners and participants, financial participation for the purpose of upscaling must be considered.