

# Fact sheet

## Anti-Corruption and Integrity

### The Challenge

Due to **the abuse of entrusted authority for illicit gain** (definition of Corruption) private interests often exert influence in an attempt to gain personal benefits usually to the detriment of society at large. Corruption is therefore one of the greatest constraints on development: scarce resources are diverted, huge sums are siphoned off. Citizens are directly affected by the negative consequences of corruption, when governments are unable to provide public goods and services for example in the areas of health-care, education and security. In the end, corruption further reinforces social inequalities, poverty and other injustices like social exclusion and distributional conflicts. In consequence, the fight against corruption has been included in the sustainable development agenda. **Goal 16.5 of the Sustainable Development Goals**, calls for a substantial reduction of bribery and corruption in all their forms.

### Our Approach

For an effective fight against corruption, countries must establish a functioning anti-corruption chain. This chain must cover prevention of corruption, detection of corruption, investigation of corruption and finally the sanctioning of corruption. Depending on the specific country context, different institutions have different mandates and responsibilities along this chain, for example anti-corruption authorities, police, public prosecutors and the courts. GIZ supports partner countries in identifying and eliminating weak spots within this chain for example through the following services:

**Prevention** – introduction of transparent and participatory processes as well as sensitization and training of civil society, public institutions and the private sector.

**Detection** – supporting anti-corruption authorities, offices of ombudsmen or supreme audit institutions as well as supporting an active civil society, effective whistleblower protection and investigative journalism.

**Investigation** – establishment of specialized units in police, tax administrations and the judiciary, or supporting international cooperation concerning criminal prosecution and effective mutual legal assistance requests.

**Sanction** – fostering integrity within the judiciary – especially courts – and a functioning penal system, but also effective confiscation of illegal assets and asset recovery.

**Coordination** – Improving the flow of information alongside the entire anti-corruption chain and strengthening of cooperation among all involved actors.

Due to the multi-actor approach of bilateral technical cooperation, the focus is indeed on cooperating with and supporting the **public sector**. Nevertheless, we also advise the public sector to engage and include the **civil society** or **private sector** in the reform processes and we cooperate with civil society and the private sector directly. The cooperation with non-state actors can be especially helpful during reform process, if there is a lack of political will to follow through with the planned reform agenda. Alternatively, **short-term and often sectoral anti-corruption measures** could be a first step to kick-start long-term reforms. Especially in politically difficult or fragile contexts, short-term measures and their visible positive results such as complaint mechanisms concerning sub-national service providers can foster the political and societal will and pressure for reforms.

By applying the multi-actor and multi-level approach, entry points for relevant and successful anti-corruption measures can be identified in any country, sector or programme.

### Our Services

#### Advising the national anti-corruption reform process:

Specific anti-corruption programmes can support national anti-corruption efforts. For example, GIZ can advise on the national legal anti-corruption framework, support the strengthening and capacity building of anti-corruption authorities and/or foster the cooperation between relevant

authorities that have a mandate in preventing, detecting, investigating and/or sanctioning of corruption.

**Utilizing the synergy-effects with other good governance reforms:** Anti-Corruption measures can be integrated into good governance programmes. For example, a programme on administrative reform could also advise on re-organizing the public procurement process in a corruption sensitive manner or introducing an integrity management system for civil servants – both measures contribute to the prevention of corruption within the public sector. Alternatively, a programme to strengthen the rule of law could also advise on strengthening investigative capacity concerning corruption cases.

**Mainstreaming anti-corruption into sector-specific reforms:** Corruption Risk Assessments for the specific country and/or sector form the basis for integrated or supportive anti-corruption measures within sectoral development programmes (e.g. in the areas of health, education or water). To mitigate the identified risks at least two of the so-called **anti-corruption principles transparency, participation, accountability and integrity** have to be strengthened within the identified risk area. For example, publishing the official and valid fees for public services is not sufficient. Effective accountability only exists, if citizens also have the possibility to report and complain about illegitimate behavior and demands of public officials.

## Your Benefits

The fight against corruption supports economic growth by ensuring that economic competition follows the principles of a free-market, that transaction costs for companies are reduced and that (legal) certainty for foreign investors is guaranteed. This does also strengthen the mobilization of domestic resources. Furthermore, such measures also increase trust in public institutions, for example when affected institutions fight nepotism and the misuse of public funds and resources. Especially the fight against corruption within security institutions such as the police and military

contributes directly to conflict prevention and safeguarding human rights.

Our advisory services improves the capacities of our partners in the areas of prevention, detection, investigation and sanctioning of corruption. Based on our **experiences gathered from advising on anti-corruption measures worldwide** and incorporating technical expertise in different areas, we can offer holistic approaches for increasingly complex and transnational challenges.

## Project example

The programme „Preventing and fighting corruption in Indonesia” supports the Indonesian Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK) with the implementation of measures to prevent corruption in selected sectors, as well as in provinces and municipalities. With the assistance of the German development cooperation, a central training unit was created within KPK that designs and organises internal and external training courses. 34 KPK staff have been trained as coaches and have raised awareness among more than 2,500 training participants since mid-2014. Educational material and training modules on corruption prevention ensure that the topic is assigned a high level of importance early on in the training of civil servants and that it is factored into the competence standards applicable to the staff of forestry authorities. Furthermore, a national integrity system is now in place. This involved introducing whistleblower systems that handle over 2,000 complaints each year as well as setting up a portal for the publication of wealth declarations by politicians, government representatives and civil servants. More than 35,000 users access this information each month. Because of the improved access to information and the promotion of civil society engagement, significant improvements have been made in the prevention and detection of corruption.

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