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POLICY GUIDE FOR NATIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION AUTHORITIES ON MEANINGFUL YOUTH ENGAGEMENT IN ANTI-CORRUPTION WORK

Independent Commission Against Corruption, Hong Kong, China

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

International Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities

2023



PROJECT PARTNERS

Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) is a law enforcement agency in Hong Kong, China, dedicated to combatting corruption in the public and private sectors through law enforcement, systemic prevention and community education. ICAC also recognizes the importance of international cooperation in the fight against corruption and works closely with its counterparts all over the world.

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) is supporting countries and territories to make the world safer from drugs, organized crime, corruption and terrorism. Because the scale of these problems is often too great for countries and territories to confront alone, UNODC offers practical assistance and encourages transnational approaches to action. The Organization is committed to supporting Member States in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

International Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities, established in 2006, is an independent and non-political anti-corruption organization with a mandate to promote the effective implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption and to assist anti-corruption agencies worldwide in the prevention of and fight against corruption.

December 2023

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The project partners would like to acknowledge the invaluable inputs of all the experts, youth, members of the research and writing team, representatives of the project partners, as well as anti-corruption authorities that participated in the development of this Guide.

Thanks go to Hady Fink, Chris Morris, Iris May Ellen Caluag and Brook Horowitz who prepared the draft text of this Policy Guide. We would also like to thank Dionela Bigcas, Lady Diandra, Christian Manahan, Celine Santos, Dimitris Ziouvas and IBLF Global, for their contribution to the research and the project as a whole.

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Anti-corruption authorities that responded to the questionnaire

Organization	Country or territory
Anti-Corruption Committee	Armenia
Corruption Prevention Commission	Armenia
Anti-Corruption Directorate with the Prosecutor General	Azerbaijan
Ministry of Justice	Azerbaijan
Anti-Corruption Commission	Bangladesh
Front of National Organisations against Corruption	Benin
Anti-Corruption Commission	Bhutan
Agency for the Prevention of Corruption and Coordination of the Fight against Corruption	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Anti-Corruption Bureau	Brunei Darussalam
Commission for Anti-Corruption and Illegal Assets Forfeiture	Bulgaria
Special Anti-Corruption Brigade	Burundi
National Anti-Corruption Commission	Cameroon
Anti-Corruption Organisation	Chad
Office of the Comptroller General of the Republic	Chile
Independent Commission Against Corruption	Hong Kong, China
Commission Against Corruption	Macau, China
Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions	Denmark
The State General Inspectorate	Djibouti
Office of the State Attorney General	Ecuador
Prosecutor's Office	Estonia
National Bureau of Investigation	Finland
Office of the Special Prosecutor	Ghana
National Transparency Authority	Greece
Financial Intelligence Unit	Grenada
National Protective Service	Hungary
Integrity and Anti-Corruption Commission	Jordan
Public Service Office	Kiribati
Corruption Prevention and Combating Bureau	Latvia
Special Investigation Service	Lithuania
Prosecutor General's Office	Lithuania
Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission	Malaysia
Anti-Corruption Commission	Maldives
Malta Police Force	Malta
Independent Commission Against Corruption	Mauritius
Citizen Participation Committee of the National Anticorruption System	Mexico
Executive Secretariat of the National Anticorruption System	Mexico
National Anticorruption Center	Moldova
Independent Authority Against Corruption	Mongolia
National Authority for Probity, Prevention and Fight against Corruption	Morocco
Anti-Corruption Commission	Myanmar
Economic and Financial Crimes Commission	Nigeria
Department of Internal Control, Criminal Investigations and Professional Standards of the Ministry of Internal Affairs	North Macedonia

Organization	Country or territory
National Accountability Bureau	Pakistan
National Authority for Transparency and Access to Information	Panama
Council for the Prevention of Corruption	Portugal
National Integrity Agency	Romania
Anti-corruption General Directorate	Romania
Office of the Ombudsman	Rwanda
Attorney General's Chambers	Saint Lucia
Office of the Ombudsman and National Human Rights Institution	Samoa
National Office for the Fight against Fraud and Corruption	Senegal
Agency for Prevention of Corruption	Serbia
Anti-Corruption Council	Serbia
Corrupt Practices Investigation Bureau	Singapore
Corruption Prevention Department	Slovakia
Special Prosecutor's Office of the General Prosecutor's Office	Slovakia
Commission for the Prevention of Corruption	Slovenia
Supreme State Prosecutor's Office	Slovenia
Special Prosecution Office against Corruption and Organised Crime	Spain
Agency for the Prevention and Fight against Fraud and Corruption of the Valencian Community	Spain
Anti-Fraud Office of Catalonia	Spain
Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau	Tanzania
National Anti-Corruption Commission	Thailand
Anti-Corruption Commission	Timor-Leste
National Agency on Corruption Prevention	Ukraine
Prosecutor General's Office	Ukraine
National Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine	Ukraine
Abu Dhabi Accountability Authority	United Arab Emirates
Government Inspectorate	Vietnam
Zimbabwe Anti-Corruption Commission	Zimbabwe

Anti-corruption authorities that provided additional inputs

Organization	Country or territory
Anti-Corruption Commission	Bhutan
Anti-Corruption Bureau	Brunei Darussalam
Independent Commission Against Corruption	Hong Kong, China
National Transparency Authority	Greece
Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission	Kenya
Public Service Office	Kiribati
Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission	Malaysia
Executive Secretariat of the National Anticorruption System	Mexico
National Anticorruption Center	Moldova

FOREWORD

Addressing corruption is no easy endeavour and certainly one that cannot be fought in silos. It requires a whole-of-society approach, where stakeholders from all sectors come together and support functional synergies to understand, prevent and combat corruption in all its forms.

To efficiently tackle this daunting task, impactful measures must seek to transcend traditional top-down institutional responses, which includes looking at young people as what they are: an essential part of any sustainable and efficient solution.

How can this be achieved? Through quality education and meaningful empowerment.

In the spirit of fostering partnerships to promote the role of young people as agents of positive change and to provide assistance to anti-corruption authorities in meaningfully engaging young people in their anti-corruption work, and as we celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) of Hong Kong, China (which is serving as Presidency and Secretariat of the International Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities (IAACA)) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) joined forces to develop this present guide that is aimed at spearheading the empowerment of young people everywhere in order that they can be finally recognized as a truly formidable anti-corruption force.

As we stand on the cusp of a new era, marked by an increasingly significant role that our youngest partners have in forming our society, ICAC, UNODC and IAACA present this ***Policy Guide for National Anti-Corruption Authorities on Meaningful Youth Engagement in Anti-Corruption Work*** with great pleasure and an optimistic view on its wide use by the world's anti-corruption authorities. With their dynamic attitudes, strong echoing voices, unwavering spirit, innovative thinking and limitless energy, today's young people are integral to building a present and a future that is resilient to corruption and crime.

This publication serves as a beacon of hope for impactful youth involvement in the anti-corruption movement. It includes motivational stories of young people working with anti-corruption authorities on improving transparency in public services, promoting integrity among their peers and coming up with innovative ideas to prevent unethical practices, thus championing transparency, accountability, ethics, integrity and, above all, justice.

We hope that all anti-corruption authorities, after reading this publication, will feel inspired to pursue the fight against corruption for and with young people, no longer as mere beneficiaries of their actions, but as active partners. We hope to see a stark increase in the creation of national, regional and global enabling environments for young people to contribute to anti-corruption efforts by making anti-corruption policymaking inclusive of the needs and concerns of a very large component of the population: young people.





When young people are meaningfully engaged as co-leading partners, their fresh ideas on problems such as corruption can unearth innovative solutions that may well have been overlooked by policymakers and practitioners. By embracing diversity and harnessing the power of youth inclusion, we can surely pave the way for a more equitable society that understands the needs of its citizens and puts them in a position to contribute to the common good.

Corruption, as a crime by itself and simultaneously as an enabler of all crimes, evolves with time: it follows trends and adapts to an ever-changing and hyperconnected society. In this light, it becomes even more apparent how crucial the skills and aptitudes of the world's young people are to fighting corruption, because they have the power to influence their peers, their families and their communities.

If we believe that we all can and should contribute our time and efforts to strive for a corruption-free world, then it is time we sit together, learn from and about each other, help each other be the best version of ourselves and finally realize that intergenerational mutual learning is the foundation for well-rounded, efficient and sustainable joint anti-corruption efforts.

In conclusion, if there is one big idea we are aiming to put forward and promote through this publication, it is that today, if we are serious about igniting behavioural change in our global society, youth empowerment is no longer an optional approach, but a necessary one.

We hope this publication can be a catalyst for positive change everywhere: one that shows us the pathway to creating a culture of rejecting corruption. The road will surely be challenging, but with determination, collaboration and tireless effort, our journey will lead us to build a legacy that we all, present and future generations, can be proud of.

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A CALL TO ACTION

We, members of the Youth Advisory Board, established to support the development of this present guide, are eager to ensure inclusive and equitable development of not just our own generation, but also future generations.

We commit to joining the fight against corruption, a battle which must be won to save people and the planet, and to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

We congratulate the Independent Commission Against Corruption of Hong Kong, China, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities for developing this present guide, and we welcome the opportunity for young people to contribute to and embrace the anti-corruption authorities that are already engaging young people.

This initial youth engagement must continue, expand and follow meaningful youth engagement principles if anti-corruption authorities are to realize the full potential of partnering with young people.

We call on anti-corruption authorities and international anti-corruption organizations to:

Develop and support

- Communication campaigns, anti-corruption awareness workshops and capacity-building of anti-corruption authority staff, young people and other key stakeholders to support meaningful youth engagement in anti-corruption authorities

Establish

- Youth advisory boards with anti-corruption authorities and international anti-corruption organizations to co-design and support the roll out of the present guide
- Local and international multi-language web-based platforms for meaningful youth engagement in anti-corruption authorities to develop local inclusive programmes, ensuring that the poor and vulnerable are not left behind

Recognize

- Mobilize and recognize youth champions and youth ambassadors of anti-corruption across all anti-corruption authorities
- The efforts of young people in fighting corruption (awards, incentives, feature stories that are widely shared, etc.)

Discuss

- Through roundtable meetings, focus groups, consultations and other fora, where young people and anti-corruption authorities can share their perspectives and experiences in partnering in anti-corruption activities

Implement

- Ensure transparency with all stakeholders through the monitoring of the implementation of the present guide by young people and by sharing its recommendations
- Draft, test and roll out toolkits on anti-corruption authorities' meaningful youth engagement readiness, the operationalization of anti-corruption authorities' meaningful youth engagement and the monitoring and evaluation of meaningful youth engagement in anti-corruption authorities
- Monitor and report annually on anti-corruption authorities' meaningful youth engagement readiness in the context of their work with young people

 From the Youth Advisory Board of the
Policy Guide for National Anti-Corruption Authorities on Meaningful Youth Engagement in Anti-Corruption Work

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