

Promoting a Fair Business Environment in ASEAN

Sustaining and Upscaling a Fair Business Environment in ASEAN

24 November 2022, Bangkok

Session 5: Strengthening Capacity in Government Institutions

16:45-17:45 Bangkok time

Background

In 2018 UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub has launched a regional project [Promoting a Fair Business Environment in ASEAN](#) (“FairBiz”) to improve business integrity and transparency in public procurement. With the generous support of the UK Government ASEAN Economic Reform Program, the initiative partnered with governments, the private sector, and civil society in seven countries: Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar¹, the Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam focusing on four areas of intervention:

1. **Encourage partnerships** between the public and private sectors, as well as civil society and development partners at the regional level, to implement and monitor integrity policies in ASEAN
2. **Improve transparency in government contracts** and increase compliance with international procurement and trade standards
3. **Promote business integrity** and sustainable practices for private companies and state-owned enterprises
4. **Strengthen anti-corruption strategies**, policies and laws and improve redress mechanisms for companies, investors and the broader public.

Over the course of the project, FairBiz has demonstrated how sustained efforts to fight corruption can bring tangible benefits. For example, preventive anti-corruption measures were achieved in four countries: anti-corruption strategy adopted in Malaysia, corruption prevention indicators updated in Thailand, and anti-corruption law updated in Vietnam. During the project’s lifetime, over 4000 stakeholders in ASEAN were engaged in supporting the adoption of responsible business practices, including 300 companies and, indirectly, thousands of their employees. The absolute majority (96.83%) of FairBiz participants from the government, private and civil society sectors reported feeling more comfortable engaging in dialogues on integrity and transparency. And when it comes to tangible benefits to societies, Thailand’s government reported \$460 million in savings brought about by enhanced scrutiny and accountability in infrastructure procurement, supported by FairBiz and Construction Sector Transparency Initiative (COST).

¹ Following the coup of 1st February 2021, UNDP, guided by the statements of the UN Secretary General, the SG’s Special Envoy on Myanmar and the High Commissioner for Human Rights, UNDP put on hold all activities engaging with the Government and the military authorities. FairBiz activities were suspended in Myanmar, in agreement with the FCDO since February 2021.

Objectives of the event:

The closing event aims to achieve three objectives:

1. Demonstrate project's achievements and lessons learned.
2. Ensure sustainability of project interventions beyond project duration
3. Showcase innovation that is taking place in different countries with potential for replication to other countries

The closing event is organized by UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub through its FairBiz project. The event will bring together governments and ASEAN representatives from the region along with private sector leaders and civil society representatives who contributed to the activities of FairBiz. The participants will also include representatives from the UK government, UNDP Country Offices in FairBiz countries, implementing partners and beneficiaries.

Session Description

It is estimated that every year the developing world loses more than US\$1 trillion in illicit outflows through government corruption². Promoting public integrity is, therefore, crucial to achieving SDGs and fostering accountability and transparency in public life.

The session aims to showcase FairBiz interventions and innovative practices in the ASEAN region to support government institutions to build their capacity to combat corruption.

In particular, representatives of the Malaysian National Centre for Governance, Integrity and Anti-Corruption will present a training programme for middle manager civil servants and an online dashboard to track the implementation of government commitments related to anti-corruption measures³. In Indonesia, FairBiz has supported National Agency for the Prevention of Corruption through the commissioning of three corruption risk assessments related to key sectors that are notoriously drivers of corruption (e.g. – plantations in Sumatra)⁴. In Thailand, FairBiz and the office of the National Anti-Corruption Commission developed recommendations for Thailand to effectively prevent corruption and reflect such improvement in the form of better international indicator scores⁵. Finally, in Vietnam, FairBiz collaborated with Government's Inspectorate in drafting an Anti-Corruption law. On a regional level, the project drafted a guidance note for practitioners on how to strengthen the strategic approach of Anti-Corruption Agencies in ASEAN to define and implement a data-based system to evaluate their performance.

² Global Financial Integrity, "Illicit Financial Flows in Developing Countries Large and Persistent" <http://www.gfintegrity.org/issue/illicit-financial-flows/>

³ The work with the Malaysian National Centre for Governance, Integrity and Anti-Corruption (GIACC) showed good results. In 2019 the project supported the development of a training programme implemented by GIACC on corruption for middle manager civil servants. The same year the project also supported the development and operationalisation of an online dashboard to track implementation of government commitments related to anti-corruption measures. The project also supported GIACC in developing and distributing to all government ministries a manual on developing their own Operational Anti-Corruption Plans. The project also supported GIACC in producing four knowledge products/manuals for use by government ministries to support their anti-corruption efforts.

⁴ FairBiz has supported the agency through the commissioning of three corruption risk assessments related to key sectors that are notoriously drivers of corruption (e.g. – plantations in Sumatra) These studies have allowed the agency to "hit the ground running" and to identify drivers of corruption in each sector and the entry points to promote prevention of corruption.

⁵ [Improving Thailand's Prevention Measures on Corruption | United Nations Development Programme \(undp.org\)](#)

Government partners will present the results obtained so far, as well as challenges and successes and the way forward to support building a culture of integrity and more transparent and accountable public officials and institutions.

Session Objectives

The key objectives of this session are to:

- Explore the **successes and lessons learned** in the area of strengthening the integrity of government institutions.
- Identify **good examples** of national governments changing the culture of impunity in public administration and introducing the incentives for better behaviour. How can they be **replicated in other ASEAN countries?**
- Discuss ways to foster collective action approach between governments, private sector and civil society which will lead to increased trust for a more sustained impact.

Format (TBD)

The moderator will open the session (5 min) followed by a regional presentation on strengthening Anti-Corruption Agencies in the ASEAN region (5 min).

Zooming into country cases, the moderator will ask the panellists the following questions:

1. What are some of the successes in your efforts to strengthen integrity within governmental institutions? What was the role of FairBiz in driving these efforts and how can they be sustained beyond the project duration?
2. What lessons from implementing integrity-related interventions in your country can you share with counterparts in other countries? What support can your agency provide in replicating some of these efforts in other ASEAN countries?

Panellists

- Ms. Diana Torres (moderator), Assistant Resident Representative, Head of Governance and Participation, UNDP Vietnam
- Mr. Hady Fink, Advisor, Partnership for Transparency Europe
- Ms. Wan Suraya Wan Mohd Radzi, Chief Executive Officer, Malaysian Institute of Integrity
- Mr. Utit Buasri, Deputy Secretary-General of the National Anti-Corruption Commission, Thailand
- Mr. Hoang Duc Hung, Deputy Head of UNCAC Implementation Division, Anti-Corruption Bureau of the Government Inspectorate, Vietnam
- Mr. Pahala Nainggolan, Deputy for Prevention and Monitoring, Indonesia's National Agency for the Prevention of Corruption (virtually)

Detail Agenda

16:45-17:45	Session 5: Strengthening Integrity in Government Institutions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Ms. Diana Torres (moderator), Assistant Resident Representative, Head of Governance and Participation, UNDP Vietnam- Mr. Hady Fink, Advisor, Partnership for Transparency Europe Overview of the ACA Guide (virtually)- Ms. Wan Suraya Wan Mohd Radzi, Chief Executive Officer, Malaysian Institute of Integrity- Mr. Utit Buasri, Deputy Secretary-General of the National Anti-Corruption Commission, Thailand- Mr. Hoang Duc Hung, Deputy Head of UNCAC Implementation Division, Anti-Corruption Bureau of the Government Inspectorate, Vietnam- Mr. Pahala Nainggolan, Deputy for Prevention and Monitoring, Indonesia's National Agency for the Prevention of Corruption (virtually)

Speakers Profiles

Ms. Diana Torres, Assistant Resident Representative, Head of Governance and Participation, UNDP Vietnam



Mrs. Diana Torres (Colombia) is UNDP's Assistant Resident Representative and Head of Governance and Justice in Viet Nam. Diana has over 14 years of experience working in the United Nations at HQ, regional and country level, in the field of democratic governance and sustainable development, with particular expertise on anti-corruption, rule of law and access to justice and women's leadership and participation in decision-making. Diana has worked across different regions including Latin America, Africa, the Middle East and in Asia-Pacific. Previous to her current position in UNDP Viet Nam, Diana served as Regional Anti-corruption Advisor for UNDP's Bureau for Asia and the Pacific based in Bangkok, Thailand. Diana holds a Master's Degree in Conflict Resolution and Governance from the University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

Mr. Hady Fink, Advisor, Partnership for Transparency Europe



Dr. Hady Fink is a German national with over 15 years of experience in the field of anti-corruption, governance, and compliance.

He has been dealing with corruption throughout his academic and professional career in different positions in all sectors, public, private, and civil society.

Hady is an Advisor at [PTF Europe](#), engaging in topics related to Anti-Corruption Agencies, Corruption in the Health Sector, and Civil Society Monitoring.

He holds a PhD in Intercultural Studies, as well as master's degrees in Economics and in International Cultural and Business Studies, all from Passau University.

Ms. Wan Suraya Wan Mohd Radzi, Chief Executive Officer, Malaysian Institute of Integrity



Datuk Wan Suraya Wan Mohd Radzi is vastly experienced in international trade, entrepreneurship, investment, and industry spanning more than twenty-seven (27) years of service with the Malaysian Government including twenty-three (23) years at the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), a five-year stint in Brussels as Malaysia's Minister-Counsellor to the European Community, Belgium and Luxembourg, and another five years in Singapore as Malaysia's Minister-Counsellor on trade and investment.

She was also the Secretary General of the Ministry of Entrepreneur Development and Cooperatives (MEDAC) and played a key role in the establishment and development of the new Ministry setup and machinery from 2018-2020. She was instrumental in the drafting and launching of Malaysia's National Entrepreneurship Policy 2030.

From 2020-2021, she was entrusted to set up a new Ministry of National Unity. As Secretary-General, she was responsible for formulating and launching Malaysia's National Unity Policy and the National Unity Blueprint 2021-2030.

Datuk Wan Suraya now helms the Malaysian Institute of Integrity (IIM) which has been entrusted to cultivate and strengthen integrity among Malaysians, including the public and private sector as part of the Malaysian Government's resolve to combat corruption.

Mr. Utit Buasri, Deputy Secretary-General of the National Anti-Corruption Commission (NACC), Thailand



Mr. Buasri is an expert with 33 years of corruption prevention and suppression experiences. He has held many leadership positions, including the Director of Policy and Strategy department and the Assistant secretary-General, before holding a position of Deputy Secretary-General of the NACC at present. He is currently responsible for the anti-corruption mission including promoting anti-corruption participation, anti-corruption education, and corruption barometer, anti-corruption measure, public good governance promotion and the Integrity and Transparency Assessment: ITA.

Mr. Hoang Duc Hung, Deputy Head of UNCAC Implementation Division, Anti-Corruption Bureau of the Government Inspectorate, Viet Nam



Mr. Hoang Duc Hung has been working for Government Inspectorate of Vietnam since 2006. From 2006 to 2014, he worked in the Department of Inspection, Settlement of Complaints and Denunciations of Internal Affairs and General Economy.

From 2014 up to now, Mr. Hung has been working for the Anticorruption Bureau as a Deputy Head of UNCAC Implementation Division. He was appointed as one of three national focal points for UNCAC implementation assessment of Vietnam. My main tasks relate to international cooperation of AC, consulting and contributing ideas to adjust and amend laws, decrees, circulars on AC field, as well as verifying assets and income declarations.

Mr. Pahala Nainggolan, Deputy for Prevention and Monitoring, Indonesia's National Agency for the Prevention of Corruption



Born in Jakarta, in February 1965, Pahala Nainggolan graduated from State Accounting School in 1992 and later Master's degree majoring in Financial Management in 2001 and a doctoral degree in Financial Management, both from the Faculty of Economics - University of Indonesia.

At the beginning of his career, he worked as a government auditor for 6 years including assignments as a tax auditor. Mr. Pahala moved to the private sector as a Finance Specialist for multinational companies. Since 2000, prior to joining KPK (Commission for Eradication of Corruption), he took assignments with USAID, AusAID, CIDA, World Bank, and ADB. In those assignments, he was seconded to several government institutions and engaged with various sectors, such as basic education, marine conservation, capacity building of non-profit organisations, public finance, forestry, infrastructure, and governance trust funds for local government. Aside from those assignments, he authored six books about finance, accounting and taxation for non-profit organisations in addition to his six pieces of research on bonds and taxation of the stock market in Indonesia. He also served as treasurer for four local foundations in providing support for the poor in rural areas.

Mr. Pahala brings 30 years of experience in the public and private sectors along with his hands-on experiences in managing non-profit organisations to his current position as Deputy for Prevention in the KPK. He currently manages about 250 staff in five working units: Wealth Report, Gratuity, Public Education and Services, Research-Development, and Coordination and Supervision.