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THE 4TH REGIONAL COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE
FOR TRANSPARENCY, ACCOUNTABILITY AND
ANTI-CORRUPTION IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

MEETING REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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REPORT PREPARED BY
PHIL MATSHEZA, INTERNATIONAL CONSULTANT

REPORT REVIEWED BY
UNDP GLOBAL ANTI-CORRUPTION TEAM (SINGAPORE)
AND UNDP BANGKOK REGIONAL HUB'S TRANSPARENCY,
ACCOUNTABILITY AND ANTI-CORRUPTION TEAM

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT
ANGA TIMILSINA <ANGA.TIMILSINA@UNDP.ORG>
DIANA TORRES <DIANA.TORRES@UNDP.ORG>



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Acronyms	5
Executive summary	7
1. Background: the 4th Asia-Pacific Regional Community of Practice (CoP)	11
2. CoP Proceedings and Deliberations	14
3. Main Takeaways	16
3.1 Global trends, lessons learned and emerging issues on transparency, accountability and anti-corruption: Perspectives from UNDP	17
3.2 Anti-corruption Trends and Approaches: Perspectives of partners and donors	19
3.3 Collective action against corruption towards the SDGs	21
3.4 SDG 16+ and its opportunities to increase transparency, accountability and anti-corruption	22
3.5 Innovation and technology for anti-corruption in the context of the 2030 Agenda	24
3.6 The catalytic role of the business sector to achieve SDG 16	26
3.7 Social accountability initiatives for transparency, accountability and anti-corruption: National experiences	28
4. Recommendations	30
5. Way Forward	35
8. Annexes	36
Annex 1: Overview of countries climate policy framework and international commitments	37
Annex 2: Annotated agenda	40

ACRONYMS

ASEAN	Association of South East Asian Nations
AC CoP	Anti-Corruption Community of Practice
ACPIS	Anti-Corruption for Peaceful and inclusive Societies
CoP	Community of Practice
FCPA	Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA) USA of 1977
HLPF	High Level Political Forum
IACC	International Anti-Corruption Conference
ICT	Information Communication Technology
KPK	Corruption Eradication Commission
NACC	National Anti-Corruption Commission
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
PACC	Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change
PICs	Pacific Island Countries
PIFS	Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SIDA	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
SMEs	Small to Medium Enterprises
SIDS	Small Islands Developing States
SOI	Solomon Islands
TI	Transparency International
UNCAC	United Nations Convention against Corruption
UNGC	United Nations Global Compact
UN-PRAC	United Nations Pacific Regional Anti-Corruption Project
VNRs	Voluntary National Reviews
WB	World Bank

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



The 4th Regional Community of Practice (CoP) on Transparency, Accountability and Anti-Corruption for Asia and the Pacific was held on 11-12 June 2019 in Bangkok, Thailand. It was co-organized by the Transparency, Accountability and Anti-Corruption team based in UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub and the global programme on Anti-Corruption for Peaceful and Inclusive Societies (ACPIS) based in UNDP Global Centre for Technology, Innovation and Sustainable Development, Singapore. Around 90 participants from 22 countries attended the CoP, representing UNDP Country Offices in Asia and the Pacific, governments, donor partners, the business and private sectors, international and national CSOs, the media, academia, and other UN agencies.

The main theme of the CoP was 'Anti-corruption in the context of the SDGs', focusing on four emerging areas in the next generation of anti-corruption work: SDG16+, innovation and technology, business integrity, and social accountability.

Day 1 of the CoP focused on anti-corruption policies and global trends on anti-corruption. A high-level panel set the tone of the event, followed by presentations on global and regional trends, lessons learned and discussions on critical areas for future interventions. To ensure that the CoP was interactive, engaging and forward-looking, roundtable and panel discussions, followed by interactive Q&A sessions, were held. The sessions focused on taking stock on anti-corruption policies, frameworks and partnerships in the Asia-Pacific region. This was important, given that new surveys carried out by partners showed progress on corruption to be stagnating, though resources and interventions on anti-corruption have significantly increased. The CoP participants were thus challenged to identify and adopt future interventions that could curb current trends and reduce the prevalence of corruption.



Day 2 focused on how UNDP could strengthen its next generation of anti-corruption programming, particularly through four emerging areas identified at the CoP: SDG 16+, innovation and technology, business integrity, and social accountability. Speakers representing UN agencies, governments, civil society, and the private sector shared their unique experiences and expertise on these emerging areas. Group discussions further explored these topics, which culminated into a number of key messages and takeaways that reinforced common recommendations for future interventions and emerging issues. These included:

- 1** Most current interventions prioritise the prevention of corruption, compared to earlier preferences towards investigation and prosecution geared towards catching the “big fish”.
- 2** Reducing face-to-face interaction with service providers and the public through technology minimises exposure to corruption.
- 3** Social accountability through citizen engagement and collective action has proven to be very successful, yet it has tended to remain at pilot stages, with little upscaling of initiatives.
- 4** Anti-corruption interventions in the past have tended to be anchored in specific anti-corruption agencies. By integrating anti-corruption in SDG implementation in the context of the 2030 Agenda, anti-corruption becomes a national development priority.
- 5** A business case to fighting corruption has an added value to corruption prevention, by improving the environment for growth and investment in the economy.
- 6** Collective action by the business and private sectors can augment existing anti-corruption efforts.

In developing a new generation of anti-corruption interventions, a strategic paper will be developed based on the discussions at the 4th Asia-Pacific CoP. It was suggested that UNDP should continue strategically to promote new and innovative ideas, knowledge and interventions, while taking into account regional and country-specific variations in anti-corruption efforts. The organization should also continue to address the drivers of corruption as a prevention strategy while improving implementation and coordination of anti-corruption efforts. This will enable UNDP to strengthen its role as an incubator of new ideas, a knowledge broker, a facilitator, and a thought leader in promoting new approaches to anti-corruption.

The recommendations from all the sessions and group discussions to inform future discussions and interventions are also included in this Report.





1

BACKGROUND



UNDP's corporate engagement in anti-corruption can be traced back to 1998, when it launched its first anti-corruption publication *Fighting Corruption to Improve Governance*, which acknowledged that transparency and accountability were crucial to good governance and achieving equitable, socially inclusive development. The publication noted for the first time, that tackling corruption was an "essential aspect of UNDP's commitment to good governance and a top priority for national governments". In 2016, the Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) of UNDP, in its report *Evaluation of UNDP Contribution to Anti-Corruption between 2008 and 2015*, revealed that UNDP spent \$1.48 billion addressing drivers of corruption and spent a further \$372 million on specific anti-corruption programmes during the same period.

This was phenomenal progress over a relatively short period of time, creating interest in how this development came into fruition so quickly. UNDP's CoP networks and platforms partly provide the answer. Through its CoP meetings, UNDP has been successful in strengthening its global, regional and country-level networks, developing corporate policies, identifying anti-corruption priorities and needs, and reinforcing knowledge management. The CoP brings together UNDP practitioners from country offices, regional bureaux/hubs and headquarters, as well as representatives from key donors and programme partners, to discuss challenges, share good practices and lessons learned on anti-corruption during the course of their work.

The first Global Anti-Corruption CoP Meeting was held in Seoul in 2003 and had a modest participation of 25 selected experts. Participation at the CoP reached a peak of 100 participants at the 5th and 6th Global CoP meetings (in 2012 and 2015), demonstrating the appeal and effectiveness of the CoP as a platform for UNDP staff to exchange knowledge and experience on issues related to anti-corruption. To date, all six UNDP Global CoPs were held back-to-back with the biennial International Anti-Corruption Conferences (IACC) organized by Transparency International. This timing was strategic in increasing the visibility of UNDP, when it became part of the organizing committee of the IACC, and leveraged the global

platform for advocacy, enhancing partnerships, and sharing success stories from different countries and regions. As the importance of the Global CoPs increased, Regional Centers/Hubs also saw the benefit of organizing CoP meetings with a regional perspective. To date, Regional CoPs have been held in Asia and the Pacific, Europe and Central Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Arab States, with the participation of practitioners from HQ and other Regional Hubs.

Each CoP focused on a major thematic area, based on the emerging issues of that period. As the 4th Regional CoP for Asia and the Pacific is the first CoP organized after the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, it is befitting that the CoP has focused on anti-corruption in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with a particular emphasis on SDG 16.

The absence of targets on good governance in the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) brought some frustration amongst governance practitioners. However, the 2010 UN General Assembly, which reviewed the progress on the MDGs, recognized that corruption contributed to uneven development in some regions and within countries. This repositioned anti-corruption as one of the key factors for achieving sustainable development. The UN General Assembly 2010 outcome document succinctly stated, “that fighting corruption at both the national and international levels is a priority and that corruption is a serious barrier to effective resource mobilization and allocation and diverts resources away from activities that are vital for poverty eradication, the fight against hunger and sustainable development.”¹ As such, the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by 193 Member States in 2015 was a major breakthrough for the anti-corruption movement, as it made an explicit link between



anti-corruption and peaceful, just and inclusive societies. SDG 16, in particular, aims “to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels”.

The 4th Asia-Pacific CoP was co-organized from 11 to 12 June 2019 in Bangkok, Thailand, by the Transparency, Accountability and Anti-Corruption team in UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub and the global programme on Anti-Corruption for Peaceful and Inclusive Societies (ACPIS) based in UNDP Global Centre for Technology, Innovation and Sustainable Development, Singapore. Around 90 participants from 22 countries attended the event, with the main theme ‘*Anti-Corruption in the Context of SDGs*’, focusing on four emerging areas in anti-corruption work:

- SDG16+ implementation and monitoring of anti-corruption targets;
- Innovation and technology;
- Private sector engagement and business integrity; and
- Social accountability.

Objectives of the CoP were:

- To provide an opportunity for UNDP practitioners to update themselves on emerging issues on corruption and anti-corruption in the context of the SDGs;
- To equip participants of the CoP with tools to support their host countries in the area of transparency, accountability and anti-corruption;
- To identify the needs and priorities of the CoP participants; and
- To share experiences and good practices, strengthen knowledge sharing, and promote interactive knowledge management.

¹ 2010 UNGA outcome document Paragraph 52

2

COP PROCEEDINGS AND DELIBERATIONS

Day 1 of the CoP focused on anti-corruption policies and global trends. A high-level panel set the tone of the CoP, followed by presentations by UNDP on global and regional trends, lessons learned and discussions on critical areas for future interventions. The high-level opening panel and organizing team encouraged the CoP to be interactive and constructive in taking stock of progress and identifying the way forward for anti-corruption entry points and interventions.

Two roundtable sessions focusing on anti-corruption policy were held: 1) Donor partners from DFAT, ADB, Sida, OECD and the UK FCO discussed 'Perspectives on anti-corruption trends and approaches in the Asia-Pacific region'; and 2) Partners from OGP, TI Australia, UNODC, Telenor Group, and National University of Singapore discussed 'Collective actions against corruption towards the SDGs'. Speakers highlighted that while cooperation, coordination and collective action remain a key challenge, they are also a key solution and key hope for successful anti-corruption interventions.

Day 2 of the Regional CoP built on the foundations laid on Day 1, and focused on how UNDP could strengthen the next generation of anti-corruption programming, particularly through the four emerging areas: SDG 16+, innovation and technology, business integrity, and social accountability. Four panel sessions were organized, where speakers representing UN agencies, governments, civil society, and the private sector shared their unique experiences and expertise on the four areas,

- **SDG 16+ and its opportunities to increase transparency, accountability and anti-corruption** (UNDP Bangladesh, TI Mongolia, UNDP Thailand, Government of Indonesia, and the Philippines Centre for Investigative Journalism)
- **Innovation and technology for anti-corruption in the context of the 2030 Agenda** (Lab Capital Bogota Ombudsman Office, Armenia National SDG Innovation Lab, UNDP Lebanon/Office of the Minister of State for Administrative Reform, UNDP Bhutan and Anti-Corruption Commission of Bhutan)



- **The catalytic role of the business sector to achieving SDG 16** (Myanmar Centre for Responsible Business, Thailand's Private Sector Collective Action Coalition Against Corruption, Indonesia Global Compact Network)
- **Social accountability initiatives for transparency, accountability and anti-corruption** (UNDP Philippines, UNDP Papua New Guinea, Infrastructure Transparency Initiative (CoST), and UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub)

Participants also engaged in discussion groups, where ideas on future interventions were discussed and presented back to the plenary. The 4th Regional CoP was characterized by a strong introspection that although much had been done by the international community, national governments and the whole of society, there was slow visible progress in the

reduction of corruption in the region. The CoP was therefore a forward-looking and solution-oriented platform.

It is important to highlight that the CoP was not only responding to global imperatives on anti-corruption, but was also in line with UNDP's Strategic Plan (2018-2021), which calls on building inclusive, effective and accountable institutions and mechanisms for the peaceful resolution of conflict and for advancing cohesion, including ensuring the inclusion of women, youth and other vulnerable groups, so that no one is left behind.

3

MAIN TAKEAWAYS

A high-level panel opened the CoP. UNDP Deputy Regional Director and Director of the UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub Ms Valerie Cliff welcomed participants and partners to the Regional CoP. Mr Paul Stephens, Chargé d’Affaires, Australian Embassy Bangkok and Ms Margaret Tongue, Chargé d’Affaires, British Embassy Bangkok, presented opening remarks, emphasizing that anti-corruption in the Asia-Pacific region was a priority for both Australia and the United Kingdom. The CoP was thus an opportunity for stronger partnerships and commitment to concrete action against corruption.

The opening panel set the tone of the CoP by noting that corruption is a major bottleneck and an impediment to sustainable development, peace and security. Both donor partners from Australia and the United Kingdom expressed satisfaction with the partnership with UNDP both at the global level and in Asia and the Pacific region, particularly the successful implementation of initiatives they supported.

This section presents the main takeaways from the 4th Regional CoP in Asia and the Pacific.

3.1 GLOBAL TRENDS, LESSONS LEARNED AND EMERGING ISSUES ON TRANSPARENCY, ACCOUNTABILITY AND ANTI-CORRUPTION: PERSPECTIVES FROM UNDP

Presented by: Mr Anga Timilsina, Global Programme Advisor on Anti-Corruption, UNDP; Ms Diana Torres, Project Manager, Promoting a Fair Business Environment in ASEAN, UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub; and Ms Mihaela Stojkoska, Anti-Corruption Specialist, UN-PRAC.

This session was a critical reflection of anti-corruption interventions at both global and regional levels from UNDP’s perspectives, given that corruption is constantly changing in line with the dynamics of the political economy. UNDP and its partners are expected therefore, to adapt to these changes as well as ensure the relevance of its interventions and strategies to fight corruption.

Several key messages emerged from taking stock on **global trends on anti-corruption**:

- **Innovation and technology:** While ICTs have helped to reduce corruption in many contexts, innovation should not be seen as synonymous with technology.
- **Gaps in anti-corruption efforts in the context of the 2030 Agenda:** In spite of tremendous progress in anti-corruption efforts, gaps still exist in terms of implementation of anti-corruption laws and policies; monitoring of anti-corruption targets in the SDGs; collective action and coordination among anti-corruption and development communities; and weak institutional capacity and political will.
- **Improving overall ethics and integrity:** Some of the abovementioned gaps are caused by a weak theory of change, a reactive approach, and a lack of a comprehensive approach. An overall ethics and integrity infrastructure is needed for sustainable interventions, which should also pay attention to a larger global, regional and national political economy context, including various issues from shrinking civic space to global security. Four key challenges that the world is facing, including climate change, demographic shifts, inequality, and the continued rise of

populism, are also likely to affect anti-corruption interventions.

UNDP’s added value on anti-corruption, as stated in the mid-term evaluation report of UNDP’s global anti-corruption programme, Anti-Corruption for Peaceful and Inclusive Societies (ACPIS), is as an incubator of new ideas, a knowledge broker, a facilitator, and a thought leader in promoting new approaches to anti-corruption. As such, UNDP should continue strategically to promote new and innovative ideas, knowledge and interventions, while taking into account regional variations in anti-corruption support. In addition, UNDP should continue to address the drivers of corruption as a strategy to prevent corruption, while improving the integration and coordination of anti-corruption efforts in sustainable development plans and strategies.

The session also discussed anti-corruption trends and emerging issues in **Asia and the Pacific**. While corruption remained a major barrier to achieving the SDGs in the region, progress had been made in setting up anti-corruption bodies with stronger mandates. Yet, setting up new institutions, policies and strategies is insufficient to curb corruption in the region. More innovative methods are urgently needed to tackle and prevent corruption in the region, as corruption and poor governance are seen to be eroding public trust in government institutions.

Numerous surveys showed that the performance of countries in the fight against corruption in South Asia and South East Asia showed little improvement and had stagnated over the last few years. The Corruption Perceptions Index CPI (2018) showed the regional average for the past 3 years to be the same (44/100), with only 22% of the population perceiving that corruption has declined².



In terms of SDG 16, there is little available data and countries tend to opt for reporting on goals where information was available. Notwithstanding these challenges, it was acknowledged that SDG 16 was a viable framework for anti-corruption, which acts as an enabler to accelerate the achievement of all the SDGs.

The session noted that SDG 16 is a viable entry point for the **Pacific region**, where many development challenges remain. For instance, only 2 out of 15 Pacific Island Countries (PICs) achieved all MDGs, 3 countries realized at least half of MDGs, and the rest achieved less than half of the MDGs. Furthermore, given the Pacific's cultural context, interventions should not only encompass developing systems and adopting new legislation, they should also include shifting the mindset of the population against corruption.

Challenges in anti-corruption efforts in the Pacific region include: weak institutional capacities; weaknesses in legal frameworks (legislation and implementation gaps); lack of anti-corruption practices; lack of resources; geographical isolation; cultural factors; gender inequality and challenges with inclusion overall; lack of media, communication and access to information, internet; and lack of data and statistics. In addition, the Pacific region, which has a large population of young people, suffers from a combination of unemployment problems and a vertical structure that creates challenges for young people's participation in decision-making. As such, adopting one regional approach for the Pacific, South and South East Asia will not work because of these unique challenges. Interventions will need to recognise contextual specificities in order to be relevant and effective in the fight against corruption.

Opportunities to tackle and prevent corruption in the Pacific region still exist through global anti-corruption frameworks (UNCAC and specific resolutions such as SIDS Resolution 7/7, SDG 16); regional frameworks PIFS and relevant regional resolutions; national champions (SOI, Kiribati, Vanuatu); and climate action.



3.2 ANTI-CORRUPTION TRENDS AND APPROACHES: PERSPECTIVES OF PARTNERS AND DONORS

Presented by: Ms Shireen Sandhu, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) of Australia; Mr David Binns, Asian Development Bank (ADB); Mr Klas Rasmusson, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida); Ms Mathilde Mesnard, OECD; and Ms Catherine Rylance, Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), United Kingdom.

“The corruption and anti-corruption landscape is changing. How are your responses/mechanisms changing?”

This session aimed to discuss donor and programme partners' experiences, strategies and analysis of anti-corruption context and trends in Asia and the Pacific, and their plans to address corruption issues in the region, identifying particular areas for partnership and cooperation with UNDP.

The representative from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) of Australia highlighted DFAT's strong anti-corruption focus on the Pacific because corruption lies at the heart of many challenges in the region. DFAT supports ACPIS and the UNDP-UNODC joint UN-PRAC project, and acknowledged that both agencies bring in different comparative advantages on anti-corruption. UNDP's governance and development approach complements UNODC's strong crime prevention and investigative angle, and its experience as secretariat of the UNCAC. DFAT acknowledged that the UN-PRAC project led to increased ratification of UNCAC in many Pacific Island Countries and improved engagement in the review process, including the adoption of Pacific-specific resolutions³.

The CoP also benefited from inputs from the Asian Development Bank (ADB), a lender primarily to governments, with a focus on protecting the money from donors as well as providing technical assistance to governments and fostering regional coordination.

The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency's (Sida) experience and approach to combating and controlling corruption risks is similar to UNDP's approach to anti-corruption. The representative shared that Sida acknowledges that corruption is a central barrier to poverty reduction, and anti-corruption interventions are central to any attempts to tackle democratic deficits. In demonstrating its priority to curb corruption, 30% of Sida's strategies include specific components on tackling corruption. Sida recognizes that understanding drivers of corruption and political and economic power dynamics supported by strong

³ SIDS Resolution 2/2 and sdg.iisd.org/news/unga-second-committee-approves-two-resolutions-on-sids

research helps in integrating anti-corruption into its development interventions.

The OECD representative shared that though its presence in the Asia-Pacific region is limited, OECD has focused on exchanging knowledge and sharing best practices, including recognized global standards. OECD has recognized the need to cooperate with other partners in the region so as to maximise the effectiveness of its anti-corruption assistance in the region.

The representative from the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office observed that the UK and the international community have come a long way on anti-corruption in the last 10 years. The UK, like UNDP, acknowledges that SDG 16 presents a huge opportunity to build collective action against corruption. Anti-corruption initiatives need to change current norms and behavior, because everyone loses out from corruption. One of the big shifts in anti-corruption interventions over the last few years has been the increasing collaboration between governments, the donor community, private sector, and civil society. The UK FCO representative emphasized the need to incentivize these partnerships.

Following the panel discussion, there was an active interactive session on what works and does not work in combating corruption. While calling for stronger partnerships, participants had common messages:

- A “one size fits all” approach does not work.
- All interventions need to be locally relevant, and should be a long-term investment, integrated in the existing systems.
- Interventions should avoid creating parallel systems, which is a common cause of failure of many anti-corruption programmes.
- There is a need to move from understanding what does and does not work, to understanding how to make it work.
- Simplistic messages should be approached with caution. For instance, democracy is not always an answer to all corruption issues, and corruption is not a preserve of poor countries.

3.3 COLLECTIVE ACTION AGAINST CORRUPTION TOWARDS THE SDGS

Presented by: Ms Shreya Basu, Open Government Partnership (OGP); Ms Serena Lillywhite, Transparency International Australia; Mr Francesco Checchi, UNODC; Ms Manisha Dogra, Telenor Group; and Ms Verity Thoi, University of Singapore.

Panellists representing Transparency International (TI), Open Government Partnership (OGP), UNODC, Telenor Group, and the National University of Singapore, discussed collective action undertaken by governments, civil society, private sector, academia and the international community to promote transparency, accountability and anti-corruption for sustainable development, reinforcing the importance of partnerships, collaboration, and whole-of-society and whole-of-government approaches to anti-corruption.

Open Government Partnership is a multilateral initiative with 75 member countries that aims to secure concrete commitments from national and subnational governments to promote open government, empower citizens, and harness new technologies to strengthen governance. OGP is overseen by a steering committee including representatives of governments and civil society organizations and has adopted 2,500 commitments from member states since 2011. In Asia and the Pacific, UNDP has a strong working relationship with OGP, which sees the following as promising areas and opportunities to advance SDG 16: EITI, open contracting, integrity infrastructure, CSOs and local government initiatives. It considers the role of CSOs as crucial and view CSOs as constructive partners for government in their capacity as watchdogs.

Transparency International sees itself as a coalition of various chapters, and each chapter is part of coalition with various sectors. There are diverse opinions in any platform and we should ensure that there are ways forward even if people disagree with each other. The representative from TI Australia reiterated that the media, investigative journalists, communities and

citizens need to be in the discussion, to make an active contribution and build the credibility of partnerships and coalitions against corruption.

The representative from the **United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)** highlighted the importance of UNCAC as the only binding treaty of its kind for the Asia-Pacific region. Participation and partnership is crucial not just for drafting legislation but also for implementation and advocacy. NGOs are consulted in the UNCAC review process, and some even report on the implementation of various aspects of the UNCAC.

A ‘whole of society’ approach does not work if the private sector is not part of the solution. The representative from **Telenor Group** highlighted that the technology Telenor and other similar companies have can break boundaries and barriers, and has the potential to reduce inequalities resulting from corruption. “What is in it for us (the private sector)?” Fighting corruption makes good business sense as it reduces costs and increases profits.

The representative from the **National University of Singapore** shared that the Centre for Governance, Institutions and Organisations (CGIO) generates data and insightful analysis to form an evidence base, see the big picture, and identify missing links where anti-corruption practitioners are needed. Educating and cultivating new agents of change is a crucial and sustainable way of promoting ethics and integrity.



3.4 SDG 16+ AND ITS OPPORTUNITIES TO INCREASE TRANSPARENCY, ACCOUNTABILITY AND ANTI-CORRUPTION

Presented by Mr Khurshid Alam, UNDP Bangladesh; Ms Urantsetseg Ulziikhuu, Transparency International Mongolia; Mr Wisoot Tantinan, UNDP Thailand; Mr Bimo Wijayanto, Executive Office of the President, Indonesia; and Ms Malou Mangahas, Philippines Centre for Investigative Journalism.

This session focused on the first of the four emerging areas for the next generation of anti-corruption programming – SDG 16+ implementation and monitoring. The CoP acknowledged that the main responsibility of implementing and achieving the SDGs lies with national governments. Hence, this session aimed to share national experiences on SDG 16+ at the country level, to provide insight on the effectiveness of SDG 16+ as a viable entry point for anti-corruption initiatives.

The Philippines' representative advised that power relations and political economy of corruption cannot be ignored at the country level. These should be reflected in the narrative on anti-corruption and need to be communicated better to all stakeholders, especially citizens, who should not only know about the issues, but need to be engaged in implementing SDG 16. The representative also highlighted that journalists should not be the last course of action, but should be brought into the narrative earlier in the discussion.

Indonesia was one of the countries that undertook the Voluntary National Review (VNR) on SDG 16, and they attributed the presence of political will at the highest level to be key in Indonesia's improvements in government effectiveness and prevention of corruption. A number of participants wanted to know the reasons behind Indonesia's remarkable progress in recent years and how they measured success and identified their priority areas. In this regard, the representative shared that there had been a high public demand in Indonesia to reduce corruption in the country. Indonesia had managed re-energize the anti-corruption movement by addressing the drivers of corruption which was consistent with its development priorities and helped to depoliticize the agenda. Digitalizing the government had also proven to be an important tool in improving public service delivery by reducing face-to-face interactions with service providers and the public leading to reduced opportunities for corruption.

It was however admitted that punishment and arrests of corrupt offenders had not resulted in a strong deterrent effect on corrupt acts in Indonesia. More efforts are needed to strengthen the criminal justice system and increase the institutional capacity to prevent and tackle corruption.



The Resident Representative of UNDP Bangladesh provided an update of progress in **Bangladesh**, which, like many countries in South and South East Asia, is improving in terms of wealth and economic growth, supported by anti-corruption laws, information acts, and tools in place. Yet, progress on anti-corruption and the rule of law has been a huge challenge, as shown in its 112th rank in the World Justice Project Rule of Law Index 2017-2018. Bangladesh considers SDG 16 as an integral component of development, otherwise it becomes difficult to improve development outcomes such as poverty alleviation. There is a need to invest in next generation leaders, as well as include civil society, media, indigenous and local populations in the collective fight.

In **Mongolia**, youth is considered an important stakeholder moving forward with the anti-corruption agenda. The representative from Transparency International (TI) Mongolia shared information on the TI's SDG 16 parallel reporting tool, which has helped provide a holistic overview of the country's anti-corruption progress there by overcoming challenges of global indicators. It was highlighted that civil society parallel reporting, akin to the CSO

shadow reporting in human rights mechanisms, could play an important role in bridging the gaps in data collection, complementing national statistical offices, and scrutinizing government actions on anti-corruption.

UNDP Thailand highlighted that **expanding civic space to monitor and reduce corruption** is considered crucial in the fight against corruption in **Thailand**, to avoid politicising anti-corruption efforts in the country. Fighting corruption should not be seen as the responsibility of the public sector alone, hence CSOs and the private sector must play an active role in monitoring corruption. In this regard, UNDP Thailand has been prioritizing citizen feedback, private sector coalition engagement, improving public service delivery, as well as improving the business environment – all important issues of public concern in Thailand.

Across the panel discussion, it was accepted that SDG 16 was not just a goal, but a facilitator for all other SDGs as it creates an enabling environment with many entry points (e.g. tax, justice projects, open data projects, etc.). However, there is still a need to identify the opportunities appropriately based on context.

3.5 INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY FOR ANTI-CORRUPTION IN THE CONTEXT OF THE 2030 AGENDA

Presented by Mr Juan Felipe Yepes, LabCapital, Bogota Ombudsman Office, Colombia; Mr Tigran Tshorokyuan, Armenia SDG Lab; Ms Natacha Sarkis, Office of the Minister of State for Administrative Reform; Ms Sangay Wangmo, UNDP Bhutan and Mr Rinchen Namgay, Anti-Corruption Commission of Bhutan.

The session heard from experiences from Colombia, Armenia, Arab States, and Bhutan. In this session., while there was consensus that innovation and technology are changing the ways in which we tackle and prevent corruption, there was a recurring emphasis that innovation is not synonymous with technology. Even if there was no new technology involved, innovative methods can be used in the fight against corruption. With rapid technological advances, remaining relevant is a major concern for all players in curbing corruption and is one of the fundamental challenges the anti-corruption movement faces, including transforming key institutions to harness the potential of innovation and technology for anti-corruption efforts.

Bhutan has recently conducted an 'Anti-Corruption Foresight' exercise as an innovative tool to enable planners to engage with possible futures, communicate visions and scenarios, and derive insights for strategic planning and decision-making. This has contributed to the finalization of Bhutan's third National Integrity and Anti-Corruption Strategy (NIACS) 2019-2023, to facilitate the achievement of an important National Key Result Area 'Corruption Reduced', under its 12th Five-Year Plan.

The innovation lab at the **Ombudsman's Office of Bogota in Colombia**, LabCapital, aims at increasing trust between citizens and government besides the traditional role of an Ombudsman, through co-designing solutions (government and citizens) in addressing inefficiencies, wastage and corruption. An example shared was the helpdesk project, which is an open innovation platform where citizens can come together to solve issues and monitor and ensure that government and municipalities fulfilled their promises to the public. One of the lessons learned from Colombia was that innovative initiatives should not be delivered in a one-off fashion, but rather they should be sustainable.

The **Armenian SDG Lab** was launched in 2017 as a joint venture between UNDP and the Government of Armenia. The main purpose of the Lab was to change the way the government and citizens interacted. The Lab supports SDG integration by focusing on three government and UNDP strategic priorities:

- **Data and technology** for sustainable development projects; e.g., creating an SDG barometer to monitor Armenia's SDG progress, using citizen-centric design to enhance certain government functions and features; e.g., enhancing a whistleblowing platform (Azdararir), and tracking complaints;
- **Filing e-requests**; and creating service standards (including digital services) that government needs to provide, based on 'users' research; and
- **Using experimentation** as an innovative way for measuring impact (e.g. through randomized controlled trials), smart asset declaration, smart public procurement monitoring, mainstreaming anti-corruption in public service, among others.

In the **MENA region**, corruption is identified as one of the main challenges. In sharing the experience from the Arab States, the representative highlighted that reputational incentives can be a strong prevention measure, and can be leveraged to reduce bribery/corruption transactions (for example, the experiment conducted in Moroccan hospitals). When institutions were aware that their activities were part of a corruption risk assessment, prevalence of corrupt activities noticeably went down. It is evident that sectoral interventions allow for specific measures that produce concrete results, where there is political will.



3.6 THE CATALYTIC ROLE OF THE BUSINESS SECTOR TO ACHIEVE SDG 16

Presented by: Mr Hady Fink; Ms Vicky Bowman, Myanmar Centre for Responsible Business; Mr Pana Ratanabanangkoon, Thailand's Private Sector Coalition Against Corruption; and Mr Y W Junardy, Indonesia Global Compact Network.

The private sector can play an important role in resource mobilization, financing and implementation of the SDGs. UNDP is rather new in partnering with the private sector, as it has tended to work with governments and civil society. It is however acknowledged that with the SDGs, governments alone cannot deliver on the agenda. There are many functions and activities where governments have had monopoly, such as water and healthcare, but which are now increasingly run by the private sector. This increases the need for due diligence by the private sector.

Issues of corporate integrity have also been taking center stage; yet these tend to be external to the private sector. For instance, the business environment is affected by the country's governance and institutional environment; yet the private sector may not have much influence in its creation. The encouraging development is the abundance and availability of indicators developed to measure how fair the business environment is in a number of countries, making it easier to engage with businesses and the private sector. Yet, there is also a need to recognise that businesses and the private sector are not always victims but they are often willing players or instigators with incentives to choose shortcuts and engage in bribery and other corrupt acts.

Discussions in this session centered on the main challenges for businesses to contribute to SDG 16, including too many regulations with limited implementation.

The **Indonesian Global Compact Network** shared its experiences on collective action against corruption, guided by the 10th Principle of the UN Global Compact which states that "Businesses should work against corruption in all its forms", and calls on companies to develop policies and programmes to address corruption. The Global Compact also engages on socialization and awareness raising on business & human rights principles. Indonesia and the Alliance for Integrity supports activities such as: integrity week, integrity app, ethical leadership workshop with a focus on the perception and experience of individuals on unethical behavior.

In **Myanmar**, the **Centre for Responsible Business (MCRB)** is working on improving a fair business environment in the country. The MCRB started as a donor-supported organization and its initial mandate did not target corruption, however, with the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, SDG 16 provided an opportunity and entry point for MCRB to operate as a pro-responsible business NGO for the past 6 years,



engaging with government, business and civil society (CSOs) to generate positive momentum against corruption. In 2017-8, some companies requested the organization to serve as an umbrella body to lobby for the government to improve business environment in Myanmar and level the playing field. They have also worked with the Rakhine on the issue of shrinking civil space, through fighting discrimination, promoting diversity and inclusion in their programmes (e.g., on LGBT equality issues, disabilities, and promoting the rights of ethnic minorities).

Thailand's Private Sector Coalition Against Corruption shared its experiences on how investors and certifying bodies can help promote companies that comply with AC. Its experiences show that companies generate better returns if they are more sustainable. Collective Action against Corruption (CAC) was created in 2001 out of frustration of the high prevalence of corruption in doing business. A group of influential business persons came together and founded the CAC as a platform for companies of different sizes to fight corruption. Some of the interventions include: addressing the supply chain, making it essential to address corruption in SMEs; supporting a certification program for companies on how to build their

compliance systems, etc. The National Anti-Corruption Commission (NACC) and Public Sector Anti-Corruption Commission (PACC) can also be engaged to push public agencies to tackle corruption. Currently, the public procurement system is seeking to ensure that companies adopt anti-corruption programmes in order to be considered for contracts. It is recognized that the private sector and clean businesses can play an important role in creating a fair business environment and in pushing forward the anti-corruption agenda in the whole of society.

Some key messages from this session were:

- While punitive actions can act as a deterrent to corrupt practices; punishment alone is insufficient.
- Prevention plays a crucial role, and proactive actions by companies (e.g., in gift management, creating incentives to conduct businesses with integrity) are important.
- Businesses need to be engaged in the discussions against corruption and related thematic areas such as business and human rights, to promote a culture of integrity and ethical business practices.

3.7 SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY INITIATIVES FOR TRANSPARENCY, ACCOUNTABILITY AND ANTI-CORRUPTION: NATIONAL EXPERIENCES

Presented by: Mr Edward Gacusana, UNDP Philippines; Mr Appala Saripalli, UNDP Papua New Guinea; Mr Petter Matthews, CoST; and Mr Irakli Kotetishvili, UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub.

This session focused presenting achievements, challenges and lessons learned from social accountability initiatives that engage citizens and communities to promote transparency and demand accountability from governments.

The **Philippines** is an archipelago of more than 7000 islands and has more than 8,000 projects on service delivery each year, but has limited staff to monitor and deliver the required services, making it obvious that the Philippine government cannot deliver these projects alone. Through the Development LIVE (DevLIVE) platform supported by UNDP's global ACPIS programme, citizens have been empowered to monitor government services. This innovative initiative, through a social accountability approach, has allowed citizens to have a sense of ownership and has provided the government with a multiplier force for monitoring delivery of contracts and services. The sustainability of such projects and the impact on the ground will rely on continued joint efforts and effective communication and collaboration between government departments and citizen groups.

Papua New Guinea, with low penetration of internet, low availability of smartphones and high cost of Internet, 'Phones against Corruption' (P@C), a simple text messaging system supported by the global ACPIS programme, has been effective as a tool for reporting corruption in Papua New Guinea. Anonymous reporting has been a key feature of the P@C initiative in providing a safe space for citizens to denounce corruption, given the challenging social, cultural, economic and political context in the country. Given the positive results from the project pilot phase, the initiative has been scaled up in a second phase to increase its impact. Future steps to maximize its impact will include: increasing staff training and capacity, increasing resources and number of staff, and strengthening partnerships and awareness raising. This initiative is a good example showing that innovation does not always have to be high-tech.

Every year trillions of dollars are wasted in the infrastructure sector due to corruption, mismanagement and inefficiency. Corruption costs the infrastructure sector about a third of its revenues. Since 2012, the **Infrastructure Transparency Initiative (CoST)** has been addressing corruption to build stronger economies, better quality infrastructure and gain greater trust from the public while creating a fairer playing field. CoST monitors the use of resources and helps

in cost savings for governments' infrastructure programmes, which is a driver of economic growth. CoST has adopted OGP principles including: transparency and technology, citizenship participation and accountability. In particular it promotes social accountability as an approach to anti-corruption, by informing and empowering citizens on infrastructure projects, enabling them to scrutinize and monitor public decision-making and project delivery. In certain contexts which may be challenging, public events, roadshows and the use of radio and television are important channels for providing information to citizens.

Key lessons learned from CoST's social accountability initiatives are as follows:

- Good quality social accountability is time consuming and difficult but should not be an afterthought. It needs to be considered from the outset, with scoping studies essential from the start.
- Working through existing institutions helps to avoid creating parallel or new institutions where they already exist.
- There is need to balance between public engagement and involvement, and actual delivery of infrastructure.

- There should be measures in place to resolve disputes; hence, building responsive public institutions is important, so that when citizens exercise their social accountability, there are institutions who will respond to their demands accordingly.

In the **Europe and CIS region**, the representative from UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub emphasized that strengthening civic engagement is important in maximizing the effectiveness of innovative approaches to anti-corruption. In the ECIS region, citizen participation has been particularly important in monitoring local governance (corruption-free cities), public procurement, monitoring online asset declarations in Georgia and Ukraine, and engaging youth in assessing corruption risks and monitoring potential corruption risks in Ukraine (Open Odessa).

In general, panelists and participants agreed that governments cannot do everything and that is one of the reasons why participatory governance, including citizen engagement and involvement, is important in maximizing impact on the ground and is an important corruption prevention approach.



4

RECOMMENDATIONS

1 USING THE SDG FRAMEWORK AS AN ENTRY POINT TO ANTI-CORRUPTION INTERVENTIONS

Previous international development commitments particularly the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) did not address issues of corruption and governance, on the basis that these issues were difficult to measure. The result was that anti-corruption initiatives and institutions especially in developing countries were unable to mobilize more resources for tackling corruption as these were not part of the development agenda. It was later recognized during the mid-term evaluation of the MDGs that poor governance was partially to blame for the non-achievement of many goals within countries and across regions, a situation that was clarified and avoided by the adoption of the 2030 Agenda. The 2030 Agenda explicitly links anti-corruption with peaceful, just and inclusive societies to achieve sustainable development, peace and security. This creates a viable entry point for anti-corruption interventions in the context of the 2030 Agenda. SDG 16 in particular acts as an enabler for the achievement of all the SDGs. The CoP therefore recommended future anti-corruption interventions to use the SDG framework and other development priorities at the national and global levels as entry points.

2 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT IS AN EFFECTIVE FORM OF ANTI-CORRUPTION INTERVENTION

A number of experiences were shared in the CoP, where citizen engagement is an effective form of anti-corruption intervention. For example, the innovative approaches from the Bogota Ombudsman's office, collective efforts by OGP, Transparency International, and the DevLIVE initiative in the Philippines all point to the successes of collective action, citizen engagement and social accountability to tackle and prevent corruption.

3 INVEST IN THE NEW GENERATION OF ANTI-CORRUPTION PROGRAMMING

in the four emerging issues: SDG 16+, innovation and technology, business integrity, and social accountability. Importantly, a one-size-fits-all approach does not work – interventions need to take into account the local context to be relevant, viable and effective (see annex 1).

4 POWER RELATIONS AND POLITICAL ECONOMY OF CORRUPTION CANNOT BE IGNORED AT THE COUNTRY LEVEL

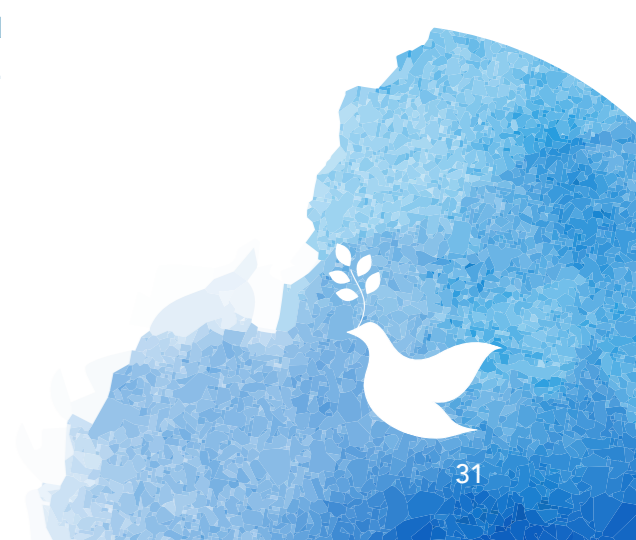
These should be reflected in the narrative on anti-corruption and need to be communicated better to all stakeholders, especially citizens, who should be engaged in efforts to prevent corruption. UNDP and other partners should ensure that their anti-corruption interventions are in line with the dynamics of the political economy at the country, regional and global levels, to ensure continued relevancy and effectiveness. This recommendation was made with the recognition that national anti-corruption interventions are influenced by regional and global geo-politics.

5 PARTNERSHIP, COLLECTIVE ACTION, AND EFFECTIVE COORDINATION

are necessary for successfully turning the tide against corruption. Stand-alone programmes and parallel interventions operating in silos were acknowledged as being ineffective, with collaboration and partnership an important recurring factor in the success of anti-corruption interventions.

6 UNDERSTANDING THE RISKS AND BENEFITS OF TECHNOLOGY FOR INTEGRITY AND ANTI-CORRUPTION

As is the case for solutions in any system, technology alone will never be a panacea in the effort to address corruption. What is crucial to ensure that technology can be useful for anti-corruption and integrity efforts, is recognising all the risks, challenges and gaps that exist, so that its benefits can be harnessed without abuse.



7 ADDRESSING THE DRIVERS OF CORRUPTION AND ADOPTING A PREVENTATIVE APPROACH

is a cost-effective way to improve the overall ethics and integrity infrastructure. In particular, meaningful engagement of the public was emphasized as essential not only to change the behavior and attitude of the public towards corruption, but also to reinforce a collective action approach that engages the whole of government and society, resulting in more sustainable outcomes. Even innovative interventions were considered to be more effective if it were people centered, and citizens and governments co-designed solutions to improve service delivery.

8 INTEGRATING ANTI-CORRUPTION IN DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES TO IMPROVE PUBLIC SERVICE DELIVERY

is an important entry point. In particular, social accountability approaches have proven to be an effective way of tackling corruption in sectors. Many successful projects were shared at the CoP meeting; for instance, in the Philippines where the ACPIS-supported DevLIVE initiative, through citizen monitoring, had improved service delivery in infrastructure and education. Social accountability is not a new intervention; however, the challenges of upscaling and sustainability still exist. Governments need to invest and broaden social accountability interventions from pilots to their integration into national development priorities, and to be reported on through SDG reports such as VNRs. It was recommended that next generation anti-corruption programming should target scaling up these interventions, packaged as improving SDG delivery. This will be important for financing the SDGs, especially at the local level.

9 DIGITALIZING GOVERNMENTS

has also proven to be an important tool in improving public service delivery and lowering the rates of public extortion by reducing face to face interactions with service providers and the public. Digitalization should be embraced and it has made great improvement in countries like India, Korea and Indonesia. However, digitalization needs to be supported by other monitoring measures for transparency without accountability can also breed impunity.

Recommendations from sessions and group discussions are attached as annex 1 for a more comprehensive list of the CoP suggestions.





5

WAY FORWARD

Based on inputs from the CoP, UNDP will draft a '*Strategic Note*' starting with the above recommendations, to reposition anti-corruption in the context of the 2030 Agenda, and to assume leadership in anti-corruption for development effectiveness together with other development partners. The strategic paper will aim to reposition UNDP internally and define how anti-corruption can help fulfil the mandate of the strategic plan in the context of SDGs. There may be need to address drivers of corruption as an approach and identify corruption risks in achieving the SDGs. Corruption is also a development financing issue, and hence the strategic note will seek to address funding gaps caused by corruption.

The strategic note will also address the roles of partners, including donors, the private sector, civil society organizations and communities, as well as cooperation with other UN agencies.

A strong partnership will be encouraged in developing new projects and interventions through joint initiatives. UNDP over the last few years has seen strong portfolios on anti-corruption in Asia and the Pacific and remained steady in the Arab region and in Europe and Central Asia, while it has been lacking in other parts of the world. The global architecture on anti-corruption needs to be reinforced. The Strategic paper will therefore map the way forward and form a platform for dialogue to reenergize the anti-corruption discourse and increase its uptake within UNDP and with its partners.

An interdisciplinary approach where corruption is analyzed through the numerous sectoral interfaces will help to reduce corruption at the institutional and sectoral level.

A new project proposal taking into account the recommendations from the CoP will be developed by UNDP in consultations with some of the partners who participated at the CoP.



ANNEX

ANNEX 1: MAIN ISSUES FROM GROUP DISCUSSIONS

1. Need a national conversation on value proposition for each stakeholder on the importance of achieving SDG16+/anti-corruption.
2. Innovation should be user-centered and should bring tangible results, not just for the sake of innovation.
3. No individual company can act alone – need to join hands – working tackling different sectors: group of business coming together can gather through chambers of commerce.
4. Social accountability is not an experiment, it should be part of the governance process.

ISSUES ON SDG 16+

5. Need for national conversation engaging multi-stakeholder core groups (government, private sector, CSO, etc.) in supporting the SDG 16+ implementation... This would help to develop a value-proposition for addressing corruption and achieving SDG 16+ targets, and design specific programmes (anti-bribery, political financing, open public contracting, etc.).
6. Target 16.5 presents an entry point to address all forms of corruption, and its indicators though specifically focused on bribery – provides programmes opportunities to explicitly target public sector corruption, and business integrity/bribery in business sector.
7. Localization of SDG 16+ to local government level and strategy for each stakeholder why fight against corruption is important.
8. Building sectoral approach: integrating SDG 16+ into national/local government and long-medium term plan, as well as into service deliveries sectors, i.e. health, education, etc.
9. Measuring progress and achievement: (i) Target vs Indicators of SDG Goal 16: the indicators do not full capture the complex/compound targets of SDG 16 (ii) though methodologies do not exist for tier III indicators and data is not regularly collected for tier II indicators, national governments can use the SDG indicators to conduct nationally driven assessments to establish baselines.
10. A theory of change on implementing SDG16+ which will help to define the knowledge, capacities and data gaps that need to be addressed.
11. SDG 16: There is a need for a national conversation.

ISSUES ON SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY

12. Social accountability is not an experiment, it should be part of the governance process.
13. Social accountability is expensive, but it's worth investing.
14. Improve what works in the past; mixed solutions (i.e. traditional and technology).
15. Ensure ownership of stakeholders to increase social accountability.
16. Social accountability initiatives should become part of governance, and not remain in the sphere of experiments.

ISSUES RELATING TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR

17. Private sector is skeptical because many factors are out of their control, and lack of law enforcement increase uncertainty.
18. Private sector needs to be trained, engaged on tools vs corruption.
19. Make it easy to start the “journey” together.
20. No individual company can act alone – need to join hands tackling different sectors e.g. group of business coming together can gather influence chambers of commerce.
21. Indonesia: anti bribery management system specific to Indonesia, based on FCPA - but some companies (big companies, especially if MNE) already did it – to comply with international regulations; political will and collaboration is key - adoption of ISO on a voluntary basis (but energy dept. required it for all its contractors, and then other ministries followed).
22. Develop good relationship with governments.
23. Difficult to provide incentives to business companies, including SOE, to come on board on AC fight: tax deduction, favorable fiscal policy can be incentives.
24. Professional bodies can also play a role, in terms of training and guidance in adherence to the law.
25. Build the case on why it matters (saving costs, becoming more competitive, market access, exposure, etc.) – maybe looking at examples from different areas such as climate change – why companies seem to be more ready to engage on taking action on fighting climate change - but not anti-corruption).
26. Private sector: the private sector itself needs to work together and create collaborations across its different players and sectors.

ISSUES RELATING TO INNOVATION

27. “Crowdsourcing innovation” - bring the wider public into innovation through launching competitive funding schemes.
28. Create knowledge base around social accountability initiatives, ensure proper documentation and transfer of knowledge.
29. Innovation: Innovation should be user centered.
30. Innovation: Innovation should be user centric.
31. Innovation is beyond technology.
32. Innovation should have a social accountability aspect (complete the feedback loop).
33. Innovation should be evidence based and data quality matters.
34. Sustainability of the innovative initiatives.
35. Innovation should be user centric and should bring tangible results and not just for the sake of it.
36. Innovation should be contextualized.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO UNDP

37. UNDP needs to support government to achieve low-hanging fruit e.g. bribery, and focus on systems building to address corruption in different sectors.
38. Harness different innovations within UNDP and share lessons learned.
39. Play a role of connector and convener to facilitate dialogue with actors that normally do not come together.
40. UNDP should leverage on convening various actors/sectors (e.g. face to face and virtual).

ANNEX 2: ANNOTATED AGENDA

DAY 1: TUESDAY, 11 JUNE 2019	
PART I: SETTING THE CONTEXT	
8:30 – 9:00	Registration
9:00 – 9:30	<p>Welcoming Remarks: Ms. Valerie Cliff, Deputy Regional Director for Asia & the Pacific, Director of UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub</p> <p>Opening Remarks: Mr. Paul Stephens, Chargé d’Affaires, Australian Embassy Bangkok Ms. Margaret Tongue, Charge’ d’Affaires, British Embassy Bangkok Master of ceremony: Mr. Phil Matsheza, International Consultant</p>
	Partners to highlight the relevancy of transparency and accountability in their work and how working with UNDP is relevant to their agenda. Should also address what they want out of the COP meeting.
9:30 -10:45	<p>Global trends, lessons learned and emerging issues on transparency, accountability and anti-corruption</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global trends, lessons learned and emerging issues on transparency, accountability and anti-corruption: UNDP response • Regional trends, challenges and opportunities for anti-corruption in Asia and the Pacific <p>Objective: To assess the global trends, lessons learned and emerging issues on transparency, accountability and anti-corruption including current status of implementation of anti-corruption targets of SDG 16 and discuss opportunities and challenges vis-a-vis anti-corruption trends in the Asia-Pacific region.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Anga Timilsina, Global Programme Advisor on Anti-Corruption, UNDP • Ms. Diana Torres, Project Manager, Promoting a Fair Business Environment in ASEAN, UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub • Ms. Mihaela Stojkoska, Anti-Corruption Specialist, UN-PRAC <p>Moderator: Mr. Nicholas Booth, Programme Advisor, UNDP BRH Q&A (15 minutes)</p>

	<p>Presentations to plenary (60 min), Q&A discussions (15 min)</p> <p>Topics for discussion in this plenary session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Role of COPs in accelerating AC interventions, its “historical” context - UNDP’s theory of change on SDG16 as an enabler for other SDGs and its intersection with other issues such as gender, youth and inequality, as well as the importance of engaging with multi-stakeholder players - and will highlight UNDP’s unique position at this intersection - Opportunities SDGs offer both programmatically and at country level - Innovation, private sector, social accountability, and SDG16+ as four key emerging lenses for new approaches (this will be the narrative throughout the COP) - Contextual analysis: if private sector is the key to delivering the SDGs then anti-corruption agenda needs to focus on transparent and accountable public procurement, business integrity and a level playing field for justice, growing role of social accountability mechanisms (this is not a new agenda, but we should stress its link to ‘Leaving No One Behind), as well as the role of youth entrepreneurship; gender
10:45 – 11:15	Group Photo and Coffee Break
11:15 – 12:45	<p>Round Table 1: Perspectives on anti-corruption trends and approaches in the Asia-Pacific Region</p> <p>Objective: To discuss donor and programme partners’ experiences, strategies and analysis of anti-corruption context and trends in the Asia-Pacific region and their plans to address corruption issues in the region, identifying particular areas for partnership and cooperation with UNDP.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Shireen Sandhu, Director, Law and Justice Section, Governance, Fragility and Water Branch, Development Policy Division, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) of Australia • Mr. David Binns, Director, Office of Anticorruption and Integrity, ADB • Mr. Klas Rasmusson, Senior Anti-Corruption Policy Specialist, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) • Ms. Mathilde Mesnard, Deputy Director for Financial and Enterprise Affairs, OECD • Ms. Catherine Rylance, Global Head of Anti-Corruption, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, UK Government <p>Moderator: Mr. Phil Matsheza, International Consultant</p>
12:45 – 14:00	Lunch

14:00 – 15:30	<p>Round Table 2: Collective actions against corruption towards the SDGs</p> <p>Objective: To discuss collective actions undertaken by governments, civil society, private sector and international community to promote transparency, accountability and anti-corruption for sustainable development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Shreya Basu, Asia-Pacific Lead, OGP • Ms. Serena Lillywhite, Transparency International Australia • Mr. Francesco Checchi, Anti-Corruption Advisor, UNODC • Ms. Manisha Dogra, Vice President Sustainability-Asia, Telenor Group, Singapore • Ms. Verity Thoi, Manager, Centre for Governance, Institutions and Organisations (CGIO), National University of Singapore <p>Moderator: Ms. Mihaela Stojkoska, Anti-Corruption Specialist, UN-PRAC</p>
	<p>Round Table (60 min), Q&A discussions (30 min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Each partner to discuss their perspectives on anti-corruption, and what are the prerequisites for a “whole-of-society” platform for fight against corruption; - Each partner to discuss what are the specific roles that various actors/ groups of actors (can) play, how they see themselves in this narrative and what’s in it for them? - What are/could be the good partnership platforms (current examples and thoughts around future partnerships); - Partners to reflect on who else is missing in the puzzle, what are the missing links and a way forward? - UNODC to reflect on the UNCAC processes and related findings related to partnerships; - Partners to reflect on the (potential) role of UN/UNDP in convening and accelerating partnerships against corruption - OGP to share views on how the open government agenda is contributing to SDG 16 and the overall Agenda 2030 - UNODC to speak on how to make intergovernmental process more inclusive to engage with CSOs and private sector - Telenor to demonstrate how it mainstreams good governance and anti-corruption in its business – for example (if applicable), how it raises awareness on anti-corruption along its supply chain/to its business partners. Ms. Dogra should also identify their biggest challenges and requests to governments or development partners. (They have produced anti-corruption handbook, an app, and they conduct integrity due diligence assessment of their business parties.)
15:30 - 15:45	Coffee break

PART II: DEEP DIVE ON THE FOUR EMERGING LENSES FOR TRANSPARENCY, ACCOUNTABILITY AND ANTI-CORRUPTION	
15:45 - 17:00	<p>SDG 16+ and its opportunities to increase transparency, accountability and anti-corruption</p> <p>Objective: To share experiences on the progress of SDG 16+ in terms of its implementation and monitoring at the country level, including the analysis of the current state, challenges and proposed solutions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Democratic deficit and the gaps that need to be addressed to meet SDG16 in the Philippines - Ms. Malou Mangahas, Executive Director, the Philippines Center for Investigative Journalism. • Transparency International’s SDG 16 parallel reporting tool, TI Mongolia, Ms. Urantsetseg Ulziikhuu • Country update, Bangladesh – Mr. Khurshid Alam, Assistant Resident Representative, UNDP • Country update, Thailand – Mr. Wisoot Tantinan, Governance lead, UNDP Thailand • Indonesia (a Voluntary National Review 2019 country) - TBC <p>Moderator: Mr. Klas Rasmusson, Senior Anti-Corruption Policy Specialist, SIDA</p>
	<p>Country presentations (60 min), Q&A discussions (30 min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Voluntary National Review (VNR) - Indonesia to present how the VNR process helps bolster dynamic for anti-corruption agenda – and talk about their gaps & challenges, lessons learned - The Philippines - democratic deficits in the Philippines and what are the gaps that need to be addressed to meet SDG16, with a particular focus on civic education and outreach. - All countries to discuss whether the SDGs and SDG16, in particular, are adding value and transforming the way in which countries, private sector etc. are thinking about anti-corruption and the broader transparency and accountability agenda - TI Mongolia to present the SDG 16 parallel reporting tool and what Mongolia learnt from this process. - Thailand and Bangladesh will present country examples of measuring SDG 16 anti-corruption targets, the current situation, gaps, challenges and way forward. - To reaffirm UNDP’s approach in treating SDG16+ as allowing it to show how the ‘transparency and accountability’ agenda works with anti-corruption, and how rule of law/access to justice is an accelerator for all the SDGs including gender, health, inequality etc.
17:00 - 17:15	Wrap up by Phil Matsheza
17:30 – 19:00	Networking Reception at Pullman Bangkok King Power Hotel (Glen Bar)

DAY 2: WEDNESDAY, 12 JUNE 2019	
9:00 – 10:30	<p>Innovation and technology for anti-corruption in the context of 2030 Agenda</p> <p>Objective: To unpack the process of applying innovative solutions to anti-corruption</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Innovative approaches to building trust in Bogota by Mr. Juan Felipe Yepes, Lab Capital Coordinator, Bogota Ombudsman Office, Colombia • Armenia National SDG Innovation Lab by Mr. Tigran Tshorokhyan, SDG Public Policy Lead • Innovation from the Arab States by Ms. Natacha Sarkis, Anti-Corruption Officer, Office of the Minister of State for Administrative Reform • Anti-corruption foresight for National Development of Bhutan by Ms. Sangay Wangmo, Portfolio Manager, UNDP Bhutan and Rinchen Namgay, Planning Officer, Anti-Corruption Commission of Bhutan <p>Moderator: Mr. Kal Joffres, Co-founder & CEO of Tandemic</p>
	<p>Some key guiding questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Moderator to start by defining what we mean by innovation (learning as the approach, not necessarily about technology) and also briefly mentioning the risks of [inappropriately applying] technology - What has worked for countries presenting its experience applying innovation in its anti-corruption efforts? What has enabled that result or success (important to reflect on the enabling context and political economy)? What is happening now? - To clarify the role of technology as a catalyst rather than target solution in a vacuum – what other factors need consideration/what needs to happen before rolling out these ‘solutions’ or application? - Is UNDP’s work so far and what we plan to do really heading towards fostering multi-stakeholder collaboration to address systemic challenges fuelling corruption, via innovative approaches?
10:30-10:45	Coffee Break

10:45 – 12:00	<p>The catalytic role of the business sector to achieving SDG 16 – Transparency, accountability and anti-corruption</p> <p>Objective: To reflect on how the private sector can be a driver for reforms and contribute to SDG 16 with an impact on all integrated aspects of peace, justice, and anti-corruption.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Hady Fink, Lead author of the Baseline Study, Promoting a Fair Business Environment • Ms. Vicky Bowman, Director of Myanmar Centre for Responsible Business • Mr. Pana Ratanabanangkoon, Project Director of the Thailand’s Private Sector Collective Action Coalition Against Corruption • Mr. Y. W. Junardy, President of Indonesia Global Compact Network <p>Moderator: Ms. Diana Torres, Project Manager, Promoting a Fair Business Environment in ASEAN, UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub</p>
	<p>Presentations (60 min), Q&A discussions (15 min)</p> <p>This session’s overall narrative will assert that the SDGs, including SDG16, need to also be implemented by private sector – and demonstrate examples of how the private sector is contributing specifically to SDG16 and the transparency, accountability and anti-corruption agenda</p> <p>Suggested questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How fair is the business environment in ASEAN – and what are the recommendations to make it easier to do “clean business” in the region? What are the challenges perceived by the private sector in their ability to contribute to SDG 16? What could be done to facilitate their contribution? How business could engage with governments and civil society actors to call for their support in creating a fair business environment? What is the role of investors and certifying bodies in supporting companies that show leadership and commitment in anti-bribery and anti-corruption programmes?
12:00 - 13:15	Lunch

14:15 -15:15	<p>Group Discussion on the four emerging lenses for Transparency, Accountability and Anti-corruption</p> <p>Objective: Discuss the way forward for anti-corruption programming in the context of the 2030 Agenda by considering lessons learned, UNDP's comparative advantage and paying close attention to capacity, coordination, knowledge, data and methodology gaps in mainstreaming and implementing the anti-corruption targets of SDG 16.</p> <p>Themes and suggested facilitators:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="329 457 1389 701"> <thead> <tr> <th>THEMES</th> <th>SUGGESTED FACILITATORS</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>SDG16 implementation and monitoring of anti-corruption targets</td> <td>Anga and Nick</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Innovation and technology</td> <td>Kal and Irakli</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Private sector engagement</td> <td>Diana and Liviana</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Social accountability</td> <td>Aida and Mihaela</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>[8 groups - each theme will be addressed by two groups]</p> <p>Group facilitators will facilitate discussion (1 hour) on the way forward for anti-corruption programming in the context of the 2030 Agenda around these questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1)What are the lessons learned on {theme}? 2)What can be the role of UNDP in mainstreaming and implementing the anti-corruption targets of SDG 16 in relation to {theme}? 3)Which gaps may need to be addressed in terms of capacity, knowledge, data on {theme}? <p>The group facilitators will then convene over coffee-break and collectively prepare 3 slides, one for each of these questions, consolidating the key outcomes of group discussions, that will be presented in the half-hour session "Key priorities going forward".</p>	THEMES	SUGGESTED FACILITATORS	SDG16 implementation and monitoring of anti-corruption targets	Anga and Nick	Innovation and technology	Kal and Irakli	Private sector engagement	Diana and Liviana	Social accountability	Aida and Mihaela
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15:15 – 15:45	Coffee Break										
15:45 – 16:15	Key priorities going forward										

16:15 -17:15	<p>Closing session</p> <p>Objective: To reflect on the major outcomes of the policy dialogue, present closing remarks and outline the way forward</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Klas Rasmusson, Senior Anti-Corruption Policy Specialist, Sida • Ms Shireen Sandhu, Director, Law and Justice Section, Governance, Fragility and Water Branch, Development Policy Division, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) Australia • Dr. Bimo Wijayanto, Senior Advisor, Office of the President of Indonesia (TBC) • Mr. Jonathan Turner, South East Asia Regional Director for Economic and Trade Policy, UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office • Representative from private sector • Mr. Nicholas Booth, UNDP BRH <p>Moderator: Mr. Phil Matsheza, International Consultant</p>
	<p>In addition to the group work reflections (from previous session), the moderator will ask each speaker to comment on certain points planned to be included in the COP outcome report.</p>



United Nations Development Programme

Bangkok Regional Hub

3rd Floor United Nations Service Building

Rajdamnern Nok Avenue, Phranakorn

Bangkok 10200 Thailand

For more information: www.asia-pacific.undp.org

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