

Corruption and Development – How can Anticorruption be Integrated into Development Measures to Ensure Sustainable Development and Inclusive Growth

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) in collaboration with the Office of the Ombudsman in partnership with the Asian Institute of Management, Hills Program on Governance

Venue: Asian Institute of Management, TPIC and Bancon Room
3/F, 123 Paseo de Roxas, Makati City,
May 30, 2013, 08:30 am to 02:00 pm

Background

Transparency, accountability and integrity are key determining factors for sustainable development. Corruption and lack of accountability and integrity can have a major impact on the results of development cooperation. At the international level, 140 have signed the United Nations Convention on Anticorruption (UNCAC). There are various initiatives from all parts of society to fight corruption. Transparency International (TI) for example is a major actor in raising awareness on corruption and enhancing anticorruption efforts at international and national levels.

The Philippines is a State Party to the UNCAC and just recently completed its assessment of implementation. Under the current leadership of Aquino Administration, the fight against corruption is a major item on its agenda. A cabinet cluster on Good Governance and Anticorruption had been created, related mechanisms have been put in place and first steps towards implementation of integrity and anticorruption measures have been taken. For its part, the Office of the Ombudsman, which became fully operational in May 1988, is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year as lead agency tasked to investigate complaints against public officials. The Philippines Development Forum (PDF) Sub-Working Group on Anticorruption chaired by the Ombudsman and co-chaired by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), identified the following key challenges in fighting corruption (1) the need to strengthen the enabling policy environment to support anti-corruption efforts; (2) the need to establish and formulate clear benchmarks and results-based milestones and strengthen mechanisms to monitor and measure progressive realization of anti-corruption targets of Government; and (3) the need to strengthen capacities for citizens to engage and exercise their oversight powers to curb corruption and promote transparency in governance.

Corruption is one of the main obstacles to development. Corruption and a lack of transparency in public revenues and spending undermine poverty alleviation efforts and democratic participation. Public resources are squandered instead of being used to promote

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sustainable development for all. The World Bank Institute has estimated that bribery alone is costing the world 1 trillion US dollars every year. Corruption creates legal uncertainty. By inflating costs, it holds back the development of the private sector, distorts competition and deters investors. Corruption weakens political institutions and ultimately calls into question the legitimacy of the state. Disadvantaged sections of the population, particularly women and children, are worst hit. It makes it much harder and more expensive for them to access much needed public services such as basic education and health care. Corruption can be fuelled by inadequate control mechanisms and a lack of transparency and accountability. Country-specific factors also play a part. It is often a country's rich reserves of natural resources such as oil, gas, minerals or timber that spawn large-scale corruption and intransparency. In areas like infrastructure or the health sector, corruption can also stand in the way of development. TI has found, for example, that corruption seriously compromises an individual's right to health. In the end corruption and intransparency weaken progress towards attaining the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Prevention of corruption in development cooperation is a major challenge for all actors involved such as but not limited to the development partners, government agencies, private sector and civil society. The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) has elaborated a strategy on how to support partners in addressing corruption and integrity issues. Germany is helping development-oriented partner governments to rid government institutions of corruption and make public administration transparent, effective and responsive to the public's needs. Other development partners and multilateral banks have similarly developed approaches on how to support governments and civil society actors to address governance issues in order to achieve results of development efforts and make efficient use of national and international funding towards sustainable development. With climate change as an imminent threat to development and the increasing funding available from national budgets and international resources to address mitigation options and the impacts of climate change, the discussion includes strengthening the principles of accountability, transparency, integrity and the rule of law in the responses to climate change to pave the way to a more equitable, sustainable future for all.

In this light, GIZ, in collaboration with the Office of the Ombudsman and in partnership with the Asian Institute of Management (AIM), is organizing an event on Corruption and Development to discuss how corruption and intransparency can be most effectively addressed including how anticorruption efforts can be integrated into development measures to ensure sustainable development and inclusive growth. The event is line with the celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the Office of the Ombudsman.

Participants

The event will include stakeholders from government and development partners, private sector and civil society who have an interest in efforts towards good governance and anticorruption that assist the Philippines in achieving objectives of economic development, while ensuring ecological integrity, and social acceptance.

Programme:

Time	Activity
08:30	Registration
09:00	Welcome remarks: Atty Angela Garcia, Executive Director, AIM, Hills Programme on Governance Dr. Joachim Heidorn, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Philippines
09:15	Introduction: Mr. Robert Kressirer, Regional Director, GIZ Philippines and the Pacific Islands
	Session 1: Keynote and Panel Discussion: Anticorruption and Integrity – a Government and Development Partners Perspective Facilitator: Coco Alcuaz, Business News ABS-CBN
09:30	Hon. Conchita Carpio Morales, Office of the Ombudsman Keynote Speech: Corruption and Anti-corruption efforts in the Philippines – 25 years of Office of the Ombudsman
10:00	Hon. Florencio B. Abad, Secretary, Department of Budget and Management, Head of Cabinet Cluster Governance and Anti-Corruption (tbc) - Anticorruption and integrity in budgeting and management - challenges for development Representative of German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) / Dr. Stefanie Teggemann, Head of Anticorruption and Integrity Programme - Anti-corruption and integrity in German Development Cooperation – BMZ Policy on Anticorruption Toshihiro Tanaka, Country Director, UNDP - Impacts of Corruption on sustainable development and achievements of the MDGs - approaches how to address them
11:20	Open Forum
12:00	Session 2: Panel discussion: Anticorruption and Integrity – a Civil Society and Business Perspective Panellists: - Peter Conze, Transparency International - Ramon R. del Rosario Jr., Chairman of the Makati Business Club - Prof. Cielito M. Habito, Chairman Braintrust Inc - Mayor Donato Marcos, President League of Municipalities - Guillermo M. Luz, Co-chair of National Competitiveness Council Facilitator: Vincent T. Lazatin, Executive Director, Transparency and Accountability Network (TAN)
13:20	Open Forum
14:00	Closing

Morning snacks and lunch will be served.

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