



*Promoting Anti-Corruption
Collective Action through Global
Compact Local Networks*

UN GLOBAL COMPACT ANTI-CORRUPTION

INTRODUCTION

The 10th Principle against Corruption commits UN Global Compact participants not only to avoid bribery, extortion and other forms of corruption, but also to develop policies and concrete programmes to address corruption. Companies are challenged to join peers, Governments, UN agencies and civil society to realize a more transparent global economy.

Through Collective Action – a process of cooperation between various stakeholders with the aim of jointly countering corruption – companies can together take concrete steps to scale-up efforts and strengthen good business practices. In December 2010, the Global Compact launched its Collective Action Project in partnership with five Global Compact Local Networks in Brazil, Egypt, India, Nigeria and South Africa. This four-year Project seeks to:

- Facilitate ongoing dialogue between the private and public sectors;
- Offer an opportunity for a range of stakeholders to explore how Collective Action efforts can create incentives for ethical business performance;
- Scale up existing anti-corruption efforts in the five target countries; and
- Provide business participants and other stakeholders with knowledge, skills, strategies and resources to promote ethical business practices and transparency in business operations within each of the five countries.

Important progress has been achieved through each of the five country-level Collective Action Projects, particularly in engaging key stakeholders and strengthening their collaborations to pave the way for greater Collective Action against corruption. The projects have also contributed to raise awareness of the value of ongoing dialogue and joint efforts in the fight against corruption, as well as on the benefits of responsible, ethical business practices.

Project Partners

Instituto Ethos (Brazil); the Egyptian Junior Business Association (Egypt); the Global Compact Network India; the Nigerian Economic Summit Group (Nigeria), and the National Business Initiative (South Africa).

INTEGRITY, YOUR

BRAZIL

The Brazil project has focused on bringing together committed stakeholders to promote transparent and clean business practices in hosting and convening international sporting events. The goal of the Collective Action Project is to foster debate and the development of public policies and tools to ensure proper public expenditures. In this respect, sectoral agreements are being promoted to increase transparency and accountability in public infrastructure investments and procurement benefiting from the 2014 FIFA World Cup and 2016 Olympic Games. The project continues to work on influencing policy through advocacy and to improve business practices.

INSTITUTO
ETHOS

MAIN ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Established local committees in the 12 host cities of the World Cup, which bring together more than 100 national entities from civil society, business, unions and governments, to engage in and promote multi-stakeholder dialogue on transparency, public procurement and investment;
- Developed Municipal and state-level transparency indicators, which have helped to provide arguments to pass the Lei de Acesso Informa (Access to Information Law) that grants citizens the right to access public budget and expenditure information; and
- Contributed to set in motion public commitments from city Mayors to improve municipal transparency mechanisms.



In Egypt, the Collective Action Project has identified key stakeholders, as well as crucial factors contributing to corruption in the country, and has aimed to strengthen regional and international partnerships to promote sustainable economic growth. The Collective Action Project is currently exploring the processes for developing robust anti-corruption policies and procedures with special emphasis on small- and medium-sized enterprises (SME) and on enhancing transparency and integrity in business-to-Government transactions.

MAIN ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Developed the Integrity Pledge Initiative to address the needs and challenges of the SMEs working in Egypt; and
- Established a joint committee between one of the project partners, the Ministry of Industry and Foreign Trade in Egypt and the Egyptian Junior Business Association, to initiate a dialogue between businesses and the Government on corruption.

EGYPT

BEST INVESTMENT

INDIA

This project has been working towards addressing specific corruption-related challenges in India by bringing together relevant stakeholders and establishing a platform for ongoing public-private dialogue. Through national consultations on transparency and anti-corruption measures in procurement, the Collective Action Project had made recommendations on behalf of businesses to India's Public Procurement Bill of 2012. Additionally, various publications have helped in raising awareness of business efforts and key areas where greater action is needed. The project continues to serve as a platform for ongoing dialogue and the promotion of Collective Action efforts.



Global Compact Network
India

MAIN ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Developed *Understanding the Demand and Supply Equations of Corruption and Fraud: An insight into Corruption and Fraud by the Private Sector in India* based on a series of regional consultations. Released at the B20 Summit in Russia in 2013, the publication received significant media coverage in India; and
- Undertook outreach to a wide range of stakeholders in different sectors to identify key dilemmas and challenges, as well as best practices, in Collective Action.



The Collective Action Project has convened leaders from the private and public sector and other stakeholders to establish a platform for dialogue in Nigeria. To contribute to addressing Nigeria's corruption challenges, the Collective Action Project has focused on building alliances of like-minded business and public officials with the aim of creating a platform for collaboration and capacity building. Additionally, the Collective Action Project has explored the challenges and opportunities around Collective Action in the country and how to bring about greater transparency and integrity in business. The Collective Action Project continues to work to further engage business and key stakeholders in the fight against corruption.

MAIN ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Increased dialogue between key actors in the oil and gas industry, one of the largest industry sectors in Nigeria, on issues of fraud and corruption;
- Raised awareness of the corruption problematic in the country and on the specific issues pertaining to how to eliminate corruption in procurement processes; and
- Engaged a significant number of SMEs in joint dialogue.

NIGERIA

SOUTH AFRICA

This Collective Action Project has directed its efforts towards building long-term Collective Action through public-private dialogue. Specifically, the project seeks to foster the creation of robust norms for transparency in business transactions. Efforts have been made to engage with the National Treasury with regard to the implementation of Integrity Pacts and alignment of procurement regulations with anti-corruption standards. In addition, South Africa's infrastructure/construction sector has been deeply involved with the Collective Action Project through a task force that explores how to maximize impact through education, awareness and training for the sector. Efforts are ongoing to promote a culture of ethics and raise awareness of Collective Action.



MAIN ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- High-level conversations with the Government through the National Treasury on introducing Integrity Pacts for procurement processes
- Increased efforts to link with South Africa's business schools to share insights from the business community,
- Increased awareness among business, Governments, and the general public about the value of Collective Action in fighting corruption.

Acknowledgement

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Foundation for the
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The Ten Principles of the United Nations Global Compact

The UN Global Compact asks companies to embrace, support and enact, within their sphere of influence, a set of core values in the areas of human rights, labour standards, the environment, and anti-corruption:

HUMAN RIGHTS

- Principle 1 Businesses should support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights; and
- Principle 2 make sure that they are not complicit in human rights abuses.

LABOUR

- Principle 3 Businesses should uphold the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining;
- Principle 4 the elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour;
- Principle 5 the effective abolition of child labour; and
- Principle 6 the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.

ENVIRONMENT

- Principle 7 Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges;
- Principle 8 undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility; and
- Principle 9 encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.

ANTI-CORRUPTION

- Principle 10 Businesses should work against corruption in all its forms, including extortion and bribery.

