

## Self Assessment Report on Project Implementation

### Korea:

#### Integrity level evaluation

Pillar 1 – Developing effective and transparent systems for public service

Implementing agency/ contact: Evaluation & Survey Officer, Korea Independent Commission Against Corruption (KICAC), Director An Jun-ho

Project budget: 372 million won (cost for conduction of the survey)

Starting date: January 25, 2002

Closing date: April 8, 2003 (date when the assessment result was published)

#### Project objectives

The purpose of the evaluation is:

- To identify real levels of corruption and corruption-generating factors in public agencies using scientific methods drawing on opinions of civil applicants, clients of public service.
- To support efficient implementation of anti-corruption activities in corruption-prone areas and stimulate public agencies to render voluntary efforts to correct identified problem areas.

#### Project inputs

The project was carried out among those who have frontline experience in the public service process. In this respect, the survey can be complementary to that of Transparency International, which analyzes simple, subjective perception.

##### *Survey Methodology*

Responses were collected through telephone interviews with 30, 639 civil applicants who directly confronted public service during the period from May 1, 2001 to April 30, 2002 (432 people on average per agency).

##### *Evaluation Criteria*

11 categories were selected including Perceived Integrity Level, Potential Integrity Level, etc.

##### *Target Organizations & Services*

71 public service agencies were selected as target groups: central agencies & commissions (19), administrations (14), city & provincial governments (16), provincial education offices (16), public companies (6). (Those with a low proportion of frontline contacts with civil applicants were excluded.)

The survey was conducted in the area of public application services susceptible to corruption due to arbitrary decisions or treatments (348 services in total, averagely 4.9 per agency).

#### Project outputs

The integrity level of 71 public agencies was measured. The 1st round measurement was conducted from July 2 to August 17, 2002 on 20 administration-level agencies and public companies. The 2nd round measurement was conducted from September 25 to November 23, 2002 on 51 central authorities, commissions, city & provincial governments, and provincial education offices.

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The result was made public on April 8, 2003 and notified to individual agencies, ultimately aimed at inducing voluntary efforts to increase the integrity level from low-ranking, high-risk groups.

## **Project overall assessment**

Validity and objectivity of evaluation was ensured by consulting advisory groups and target agencies in determining target areas of public services and evaluation criteria.

Rather than ex post facto control, an effective approach was taken to identify the realities of corruption by adopting scientific methodology and ultimately to eliminate corruption-generating factors based on the survey result.

## **Follow-up action**

The next survey is scheduled for September 16-December 15, 2003. Target organizations and services will be extended to include lower levels of local government agencies and public service related entities, totalling 310 agencies: central authorities and commissions (20), administration-level agencies (14), local autonomous bodies (264), public companies (12).

The 2003 survey result will be released in early 2004. The improvement degree of individual organizations is also planned to be published to effectively spur efforts to reduce corrupt practices.

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