The 10th Regional Conference: Preventing and Combating Corruption in Infrastructure Projects in Asia-Pacific

The 10th Regional Conference was organized to address corruption in infrastructure projects, bringing together leaders and practitioners from the region in three meetings: (1) The inaugural Business Integrity Meeting, to explore corruption risks in infrastructure projects, along with the anti-bribery compliance climate in the region; (2) Public Integrity Network Meeting, to discuss solutions to curb undue influence, strengthen risk management, and improve corruption prevention; and (3) Steering Group Meeting, to review the results of the BI and PIN meetings, work program, plans of the Initiative, members capacity development needs, and other matters. A High-Level Segment, chaired by H.E. Mr. Truong Hoa Binh, Deputy Prime Minister of the Government of Viet Nam and leaders from ADB and OECD shared their views on developing a holistic approach to address corruption in infrastructure, combining prevention, law enforcement, and business integrity perspectives.

The Meetings

Business Integrity Meeting, 3 December 2019
The inaugural Business Integrity meeting focused on promoting business integrity in infrastructure projects. Over 100 participants from 20 countries representing business, government, civil society, and international organizations attended the BI supported by ADB, OECD, and UNDP. The meeting objective was to foster an exchange of views and the sharing of experience on risks, challenges, and best practices in the area of business integrity. The participants discussed corruption risks and the compliance climate in infrastructure projects and brainstormed on solutions to better equip business to combat bribery and corruption.

Public Integrity Network Meeting, 4-6 December 2019
The 3rd Public Integrity Meeting focused on corruption prevention in infrastructure projects and advanced the debate on undue influence, policy capture, risk management, audit, data analytics, and SDGs. Country examples and cases from Australia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, PR China, Cook Islands, Georgia, Japan, Malaysia, Nepal, Thailand, and Viet Nam enriched the discussions and exchange of good practices. More than 140 participants from 28 countries representing practitioners and leaders from government institutions, anti-corruption bodies, private sector, civil society organizations, and international organizations participated in the meeting.

Steering Group Meeting, 5 December 2019
Sixty five representatives from 16 member countries and jurisdictions, development partners, the Initiative’s Secretariat, and observers attended the 23rd Steering Group Meeting. Mr. Nguyen Van Thanh, Deputy Inspector General of the Government Inspectorate of Viet Nam welcomed the participants and chaired the meeting together with Mr. Jeffrey Schlagenhauf, Deputy Secretary General of OECD and Mr. John Versantvoort, Head of ADB’s Office of Anticorruption and Integrity. Ms. Cholpon Mambetova of ADB presented the findings and recommendations of the 2018 external evaluation of the Initiative and Ms. Mathilde Mesnard led the OECD team in presenting the implementation status of the Work Program of the Initiative (2018-2020), Integrity Report of Thailand, and Reports on the Business Integrity and Public Integrity Network meetings. The results of the members’ group discussions on capacity development needs were also presented by the Initiative members. Read the steering group meeting agenda and watch video.

This newsletter was prepared by the Secretariat of the Anti-Corruption Initiative for Asia and the Pacific