

Country case: The Construction Industry Ethics and Compliance Initiative in the United States

Description

The Construction Industry Ethics and Compliance Initiative (CIECI) is a non-profit private association that brings together more than 50 companies in the US construction industry to establish a process for the industry to promote integrity and ethical conduct.

The construction industry is the United States' largest industry, ranging from building contractors who construct homes, schools, hospitals, sky scrapers and shopping centres to the heavy construction industry that builds power plants, highways, bridges, airports, dams, water treatment facilities and the like. Vast and diverse, the construction industry consists of architect/engineers, contractors and subcontractors who tend to specialise. The essential goals of the initiative are the advancement of organisational cultures that encourage and support ethical behaviour and compliance with the law, and the sharing of best ethical and compliance practices within the industry.

The Initiative requires each signatory company to pledge to follow six core ethical principles, to adhere to these principles, and to participate in an Annual Best Practices Forum to discuss best ethical and business conduct practices among its members and with representatives from government and other organisations. The core principles are:

- Each member shall have and adhere to a written Code of Business Conduct. The Code shall establish high ethical values and compliance with the law applicable to the US construction industry.
- Each member shall train its personnel as to their personal responsibilities under the Code.
- Each member commits itself to work together toward maintaining open competition in the industry, free of conflicts of interest and undue influences.
- Each member shall be responsible for sharing best ethical and compliance practices in implementing the principles with others.
- Each member shall participate in the Annual Best Practices Forum.
- Each member, through participation in this Initiative, shall be accountable to the public.

Source: OECD (2015), [Effective Delivery of Large Infrastructure Projects: The Case of the New International Airport of Mexico City](#), OECD Publishing, Paris.

Public Procurement
Principle: **Integrity,
Capacity**

Procurement Stage:
All phases

Audience: **Policy Maker,
Procuring Entity, Private
Sector, Civil Society**