



UNODC
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

**UNITED
AGAINST
CORRUPTION**



Corruption and Economic Crime
2021 Annual Report

Strengthening Cooperation, Building Integrity



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Corruption and Economic Crime 2021 Annual Report

Strengthening Cooperation, Building Integrity

ACRONYMS

CEB	Corruption and Economic Crime Branch
CoSP	Conference of the States Parties
COVID-19	Coronavirus Disease 2019
FIFA	Fédération Internationale de Football Association
GLOBE	Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities
GRACE	Global Resource for Anti-Corruption Education and Youth Empowerment
HQ	Headquarters
IACD	International Anti-Corruption Day
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
ILO	International Labour Organization
INTERPOL	International Criminal Police Organization
IOC	International Olympic Committee
IRM	Implementation Review Mechanism
ISBN	International Standard Book Number
MENA	Middle East and North Africa
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SEE-TAC	Southeast Europe Together Against Corruption
SMEs	Small and medium-sized enterprises
StAR	Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative
STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
TRACK	Tools and Resources for Anti-Corruption Knowledge
UN	United Nations
UNCAC	United Nations Convention against Corruption
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNGASS	A Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
WHO	World Health Organization



Secretary-General, United Nations

Executive Director, UNODC

“Corruption is criminal, immoral and the ultimate betrayal of public trust. It is even more damaging in times of crisis – as the world is experiencing now with the COVID-19 pandemic.”

– António Guterres, Secretary-General, United Nations

“If citizens are enabled and equipped to push back against corrupt practices; if governments govern with integrity; if the international community cooperates through effective global partnerships and frameworks, we can collectively spark positive change and curb corruption.”

– Ghada Waly, Executive Director, UNODC





FOREWORD



Brigitte Strobel-Shaw
Chief, CEB, UNODC

Working together with governments, business, civil society and youth, UNODC's Corruption and Economic Crime Branch (CEB) has developed a broad and diverse ecosystem of anti-corruption work and has been very responsive in the face of the pandemic, focusing on critical substantive topics that address the needs of countries in every region of the world.

– Brigitte Strobel-Shaw, Chief, CEB, UNODC

There has been great progress since the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) was adopted in 2003. UNCAC has reached near universal adherence, with 189 parties committing to the Convention's anti-corruption obligations. There is global recognition of the importance of good governance and accountability, not to mention the political commitment to work across borders to better track, investigate and prosecute cases of corruption.

2021 – The year of anti-corruption

This past year saw several important milestones, including the UN General Assembly's first-ever special session (UNGASS) against corruption, the launch of a new global network to strengthen international cooperation against cross-border corruption (GlobE), and the ninth session of the Conference of the States Parties (CoSP) to UNCAC, setting the course for global anti-corruption efforts in the years to come.

The corruption prevention measures set out in the UNGASS political declaration and the various CoSP resolutions, along with the UN common position prepared by the UN

Global Taskforce on Corruption to coordinate anti-corruption support to Member States, will be critical to the building of public trust and the strengthening of public institutions as we recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Strengthening cooperation

Our team of anti-corruption experts, at headquarters and in the field, work in partnership with governments, anti-corruption practitioners, business, and civil society, including youth and academia, across the globe to facilitate collective and locally adapted solutions to corruption, making sure accountability, transparency and integrity become standard practice.

Supporting the effective implementation of UNCAC, we deliver technical assistance in corruption prevention, criminalization, law enforcement, international cooperation and the recovery and return of stolen assets. The regional platforms in Southeast Asia, East Africa, Southern Africa, South America, and the Western Balkans have created the mechanism to fast-track UNCAC implementation and strengthen collaborative efforts.

Despite the pandemic, we continued our programme delivery, moving activities online wherever possible, to better respond to the needs of States parties and Member States working to ensure a COVID-19 recovery with integrity.

We addressed a range of cross-cutting areas, such as ensuring transparency in public procurement and whistle-blower protection in the public health sector. We supported the mitigation of corruption risks within agencies mandated to protect ecosystems and prevent and counter crimes that affect the environment. We published a number of important and timely knowledge products, resources, and tools, including guidelines for building back from the pandemic as well as the first-ever Global Report on Corruption in Sport. We strengthened innovative anti-corruption initiatives with and for youth, academia, and the private sector as well as for judicial integrity and the recovery and return of stolen assets.

Momentum is strong, but there is still a long way to go

UNODC's Corruption and Economic Crime Branch has developed a broad and diverse programme of anti-corruption work and has continued to be responsive in the face of an unprecedented year for the global community, focusing on critical substantive topics that address the needs of countries in every region of the world looking to counter corruption and emerge stronger and more resilient from the pandemic.

This annual report features UNODC's work on corruption over the course of 2021. We aim to provide a solid overview of our efforts to tackle one of the most pressing, widespread, and damaging issues plaguing our society – one that impedes our progress on the 2030 Development Agenda and requires our immediate and collective action.

In cooperation with our partners across the globe, we will continue to build back with integrity and to come up with effective, innovative solutions to prevent and counter corruption in favour of a more open, transparent, inclusive, and just world.



WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

UNODC's Corruption and Economic Crime Branch works with governments, anti-corruption practitioners, business, the media, and civil society, including youth and academia, to prevent and counter corruption.

Established in 2005 to put into practice the obligations of the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), UNODC supports global policymaking and serves as the secretariat of the Conference of the States Parties (CoSP) to UNCAC, including its thematic working groups on prevention, asset recovery and international cooperation and the Implementation Review Mechanism. It works with its partners to facilitate collective and locally adapted solutions to corruption, delivering technical assistance in prevention, law enforcement, international cooperation, and asset recovery.

We also address various thematic areas impacted by corruption, such as judicial integrity, gender, youth, education, health, sports, whistle-blower protection, crimes that affect the environment, and business integrity.



WHERE WE WORK

UNODC's Corruption and Economic Crime Branch is active in 118 countries in all regions around the world, supporting States parties in assessing and strengthening their national anti-corruption laws, processes and institutions and in exchanging good practices with one another to make sure the obligations outlined in the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) are translated into day-to-day reality. Here are a few highlights of UNODC's 2021 anti-corruption initiatives, focused on a pandemic recovery with integrity.

In **South America**, authorities from **Chile, Colombia** and **Paraguay** shared knowledge and good practices on the use of information technology and early warning systems to better detect and prevent corruption in public procurement. They mapped potential corruption risks in public procurement processes as well as gender approaches to identify potential gaps where inclusivity may be enhanced.

The **Philippines** advanced plans to amend and digitize key procurement planning documents and integrate the Open Contracting Data Standard. The Securities and Exchange Commission worked to conform with the Beneficial Ownership Data Standard by taking steps to revise its beneficial ownership declaration form.

In **Indonesia**, the Corruption Eradication Commission used data analytics as an early warning system to prevent and detect corruption.

Brazil assessed its national whistle-blower protection framework and its response to the pandemic, identifying key recommendations for national counterparts.

The National Treasury in **South Africa** assessed its declaration of interest form as part of a larger digitization process to further information exchange and coordination among oversight institutions while also enhancing beneficial ownership transparency.

Timor-Leste mapped potential corruption risks, particularly in health procurement.





THE THREAT

Corruption is one of the biggest obstacles to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. It fuels political instability and increases inequality, thwarting opportunities to achieve the full realization of human rights and gender equality. COVID-19, and other emergency health and humanitarian crises, create fertile ground for corruption to thrive.

Corruption in times of crisis can affect how quickly countries recover, endangering people's health, safety and livelihoods, as well as their access to food, water and medical supply chains.



As a result of the pandemic:

100 million people were pushed into extreme **poverty** (UNDP, UN Women 2021)

155 million people experienced acute **food insecurity** (UN 2020)

More than **1 out of 6** young people were **out of work** (ILO 2020)

37,000 fraudulent medical devices and **\$13 million** worth of dangerous pharmaceuticals were seized worldwide (INTERPOL Operation, March 2020)

\$17 trillion in lifetime **earnings lost** to students due to school closures (World Bank, UNESCO, UNICEF)



Consequences of corruption:

\$2 trillion in procurement spending **lost to corruption** each year (OECD 2016)

\$89 billion a year lost to corruption in Africa, close to double its \$48 billion in foreign aid (UNCTAD 2020)

Corporations shopping for tax-free jurisdictions cost governments up to **\$600 billion a year** (Tax Justice Network)

10 per cent of the **world's wealth** is hidden in offshore financial assets, preventing governments from collecting their fair share of taxes (NBER)

OUR RESPONSE

Adopted in 2003, the [United Nations Convention against Corruption](#) (UNCAC) is the world's only legally-binding, anti-corruption instrument. It is a unique tool to prevent and criminalize corruption, defining specific acts of corruption, such as bribery, embezzlement of public funds, money-laundering, and trading in influence, as criminal offences. It promotes international cooperation, the recovery and return of stolen assets, technical assistance and information exchange.

UNCAC has reached almost universal adherence with **189 parties**



+2 Somalia and Suriname joined in **2021**

The UNCAC peer review mechanism helps countries assess their national anti-corruption laws, processes and institutions and exchange good practices. UNODC's Corruption and Economic Crime Branch facilitates the Implementation Review Mechanism, working with governments to strengthen and equip policymakers and practitioners (including police, customs officials, judges, and prosecutors) with the tools to counter corruption in their own countries and across borders.

In 2021

The Corruption and Economic Crime Branch:



Reached 5,500+ anti-corruption practitioners through more than **60 trainings and workshops**.



Supported over **20 States** to review **anti-corruption legislation and policies**.



Drafted or revised 29 laws in **22 countries**.



Trained 2,300+ officials from **23 countries** to prevent, track, and prosecute corruption offences.

\$4+ billion recovered & returned

Over \$4 billion in assets were recovered and returned between 2010 and 2020, involving roughly 50 different countries of origin, transit and destination (around 15 per cent of this amount is related to the Sani Abacha case from Nigeria dating back to the mid-1990s)

SEE-TAC Launch

Southeast Europe Together Against Corruption Programme to curb systemic corruption in the region.

**Corruption and COVID-19**

[Policy Paper](#) sets out concrete actions to recover and respond to COVID-19 and future emergencies.

**Supreme Audit Institutions**

New UAE-funded \$5.4 million programme [launched](#) to strengthen corruption oversight bodies.

UNGASS Youth Forum

Young people from 93 nationalities gathered to find ways to tackle corruption.

Global Integrity Education

UNODC works with academia and the private sector to foster business integrity in Kenya, Mexico and Pakistan.

Somalia

188th party to UNCAC.

Private Sector

New Siemens Integrity Initiative funded a \$4 million project to strengthen business integrity.

**Implementing UNCAC**

12th session of the Implementation Review Group (resumed from June) and NGO briefing;
10th expert meeting on international cooperation under UNCAC;
15th session of the Working Group on Asset Recovery.

Open Contracting:

Cooperation with the Open Contracting Partnership to increase transparency in public procurement.

Coding4Integrity

Annual African Youth Anti-Corruption Hackathon promoted the innovative use of ICT to counter corruption.

**Suriname**

189th party to UNCAC.

Globe Network

First members meeting held in Vienna.



January

February

March

April

May

June

July

August

September

October

November

December

Western Balkans Regional Platform

Development of the Regional Anti-Corruption and Illicit Financial Flows Roadmap.

**Third Intersessional Meeting of CoSP**

Session convened to prepare for the UN General Assembly special session against corruption.

**14th UN Crime Congress**

[Kyoto Declaration](#) adopted to advance the rule of law and international cooperation against the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic.

FIFA Global Integrity Programme

UNODC and FIFA collaborate to tackle match manipulation across the globe.

**UNGASS against corruption**

Adoption of a [political declaration](#) to prevent and combat corruption, strengthen international cooperation.

**Globe Network**

New KSA-funded \$10 million initiative to bolster cross-border cooperation against corruption.

**Whistle-blower Protection**

Authorities from Chile, Colombia, and Paraguay gathered to identify international standards and share good practices.

UNOCT 2021 Counter-Terrorism Week

Ethical use of artificial intelligence and its implications for gender bias and discrimination in the courts presented by the Global Judicial Integrity Network.

Safeguarding Sport

UNODC publishes first-ever [Global Report on Safeguarding Sport](#) from corruption.

**Judicial Ethics Training Toolkit**

produced for judiciaries interested in rolling out ethics training for judges.

IACD

Say #NoToCorruption Campaign to highlight International Anti-Corruption Day.

**9th session of the Conference of the States Parties to UNCAC (CoSP9)**

Sharm el-Sheikh Declaration adopted to counter corruption in times of crisis.

GRACE Initiative

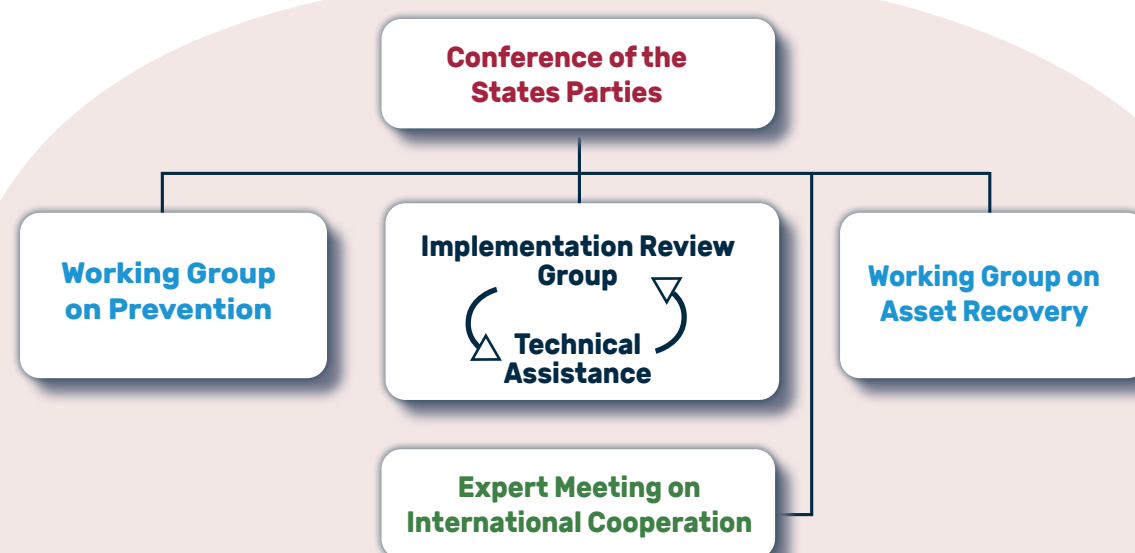
[Global Resource for Anti-Corruption Education](#) launched to strengthen the next generation to act with integrity.



Where would we be without the review mechanism? It has provided a place to meet and discuss our ideas and exchange on our successes and failures... We have inspired each other to look beyond our national context to find new solutions to old problems. Indeed, it has solidified a bond between small and big states in the anti-corruption community.

— Charles Ayamdoo, Director, Anti-Corruption,
Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice, Ghana

The UNCAC peer review mechanism empowers States parties to learn from and help each other implement the Convention and better counter corruption from various angles, namely preventive measures, criminalization and law enforcement, as well as innovative provisions that help tackle corruption in the private sector, protect whistle-blowers, recover stolen assets, and promote law enforcement cooperation across borders.



All States that have ratified, acceded to or signed the Convention are part of CoSP and its Working Groups on Prevention and on Asset Recovery, the Implementation Review Group (IRG), and the meeting of experts on international cooperation.

The Conference of the States Parties (CoSP)

CoSP is the main anti-corruption policymaking body of the Convention and the world's largest global, multilateral anti-corruption event. It meets every two years to review progress on UNCAC implementation and to discuss how States can better tackle corruption.

The ninth session of CoSP was held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt in December 2021 to explore innovative solutions to help restore public trust, strengthen national institutions, promote sustainable development, ensure economic and political stability and recover from the pandemic with integrity.

The resulting [Sharm el-Sheikh Declaration](#) underscored the corruption risks presented by pandemic relief spending. It called on countries to collect and share good practices to prevent and counter corruption during times of crisis.

The seven other resolutions adopted at CoSP9 addressed key issues such as beneficial ownership in asset recovery, regional and international cooperation, and education and youth empowerment, as well as advancing commitments made at previous sessions to enhance prevention and strengthening cooperation between supreme audit institutions and anti-corruption authorities.

CoSP9

2130 People
from **150** Countries | **74** side events

CoSP10

 **US** to host
CoSP10 in 2023

Strengthening the role of supreme audit institutions (SAIs)

UNODC works to improve cooperation between SAIs and anti-corruption bodies to more effectively prevent and counter corruption. During 2021, in collaboration with the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI), UNODC gathered 44 experts from SAIs and anti-corruption bodies from 24 different countries, to initiate the development of a practical guide to enhance the collaboration between SAIs and anti-corruption bodies. In addition, in a parallel event to CoSP9 in Sharm el-Sheikh, UNODC presented the zero draft of the practical guide, showcasing good practices in collaboration between such institutions.

Country Reviews

Through the Implementation Review Mechanism (IRM), States assess how they are living up to their obligations under the Convention. This peer review helps identify good practices and challenges in national anti-corruption laws, processes, and institutional frameworks, enabling countries to share experiences and learn from each other.

Country visits that were conducted in 2021 in the framework of the UNCAC Implementation Review Mechanism, brought together several States parties, both those under review and those reviewing. The approach of the UNCAC IRM is such that one “peer” reviewing State is drawn from the same regional group while another is from a different regional group. This has led to enriching dialogues among States that would rarely have the opportunity to work together closely, with last year grouping together the Central African Republic, Angola and Zimbabwe; Haiti, Colombia and Chad; the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait and Myanmar; and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Cuba and Ireland.

Many States have been able to strengthen their anti-corruption framework, by creating new legislation and independent anti-corruption authorities, improving stolen asset recovery, and engaging the private sector and civil society.

Reviews have been conducted in all six official United Nations languages. Executive summaries, country reports and self-assessment checklists are publicly available on the [UNODC website](#).



8,000 people trained
2,400 female



96 per cent of States
include **civil society, private sector**
in their country review process



Somalia and Suriname joined UNCAC in 2021

A remarkable achievement this year was Somalia’s accession to UNCAC. In August 2021, Somalia became the 188th party to be legally bound by the articles of the Convention and has made a commitment to enact laws and establish other measures to counter corruption, including its National Anti-Corruption Strategy and Independent Anti-Corruption Commission.

Surinamese President Chandrikapersad Santokhi initiated the process to join UNCAC in July. Suriname ratified the Convention in November 2021, becoming the 189th party to affirm its commitment to implement the Convention.



“Corruption is one of the fundamental issues undermining sustainable peace in Somalia...We all know that corruption is highly damaging for any country, but particularly so in developing nations.”

– Adam Abdelmoula,
Deputy Special Representative / UN Resident and
Humanitarian Coordinator for Somalia



Corruption Risk Management

UNODC helps countries identify, evaluate and prioritize corruption risks, developing mitigation strategies tailored to the specific context and available resources. UNODC also supports countries in implementing these strategies, through technical advice or assistance, support packages and on-site mentoring.

Regional platforms and hubs

A strengthened field-based capacity will enable UNODC to work closer to the point of delivery, support Member States' efforts to strengthen national and local institutions, and integrate anti-corruption measures in key sectors and national plans and strategies.

UNODC has created regional platforms in Southeast Asia, East Africa, Southern Africa, South America and Mexico, as well as the Western Balkans to fast-track UNCAC implementation, supporting countries in identifying gaps and good practices and coordinating with other development partners, business, and civil society organizations in the region to foster collaboration in tackling common challenges. Recognizing that corruption, money-laundering, and financial crime are shared security threats, these regions are committed to deepening regional cooperation and strengthening collective response. The platforms focus on priority reform areas such as public procurement, whistle-blower protection, and international cooperation.

Adoption of the

Regional Anti-Corruption and Illicit Finance Roadmap

June 2021, Western Balkans



UNODC worked with countries in the Western Balkan region to identify common priorities in the area of anti-corruption and illicit finance, formally adopting the Regional Anti-Corruption and Illicit Finance Roadmap in June 2021 and proactively targeting crime typologies such as corruption offences, cash smuggling, money-laundering in real estate, and corruption in sports.

Set for 2022, UNODC is also working to establish field-based hubs of anti-corruption advisors and experts to work more closely with countries and respond more rapidly to increasing requests for guidance, technical support, and capacity-building, particularly in the investigation and prosecution of complex multi-jurisdictional corruption cases, and the recovery of criminal proceeds.

Beginning with a regional hub in Mexico to support countries in Central America, the Caribbean and South America, UNODC will focus on anti-corruption priorities and technical assistance needs identified at the regional and country level, creating synergies with regional anti-corruption initiatives, such as the Follow-Up Mechanism for the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption. UNODC plans to replicate this regional hub model in other regions of the world, including in Africa and in Southeast Asia and the Pacific.

UN General Assembly special session against corruption

This past year, for the first time in its history, the UN General Assembly devoted a special session to corruption. From 2 to 4 June 2021, the world came together at the UN headquarters in New York to discuss challenges and measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation. Member States adopted a far-reaching [political declaration](#) that recognizes the negative consequences of corruption and commits to identifying gaps and challenges within the international anti-corruption framework, strengthening international cooperation and stepping-up implementation of the Convention.

Some 40 hybrid events were held in the margins of UNGASS 2021, covering such topics as corruption in the health sector, gender equality and anti-corruption efforts, stolen asset recovery, whistle-blower protection, as well as a [youth forum](#) and the official launch of the [GlobE Network](#) to encourage quick and efficient cross-border cooperation to end corruption.

Partnerships

Key to our success in tackling corruption are the partnerships we enjoy with entities across the globe:



We work together with a vast number of **international and regional organizations** in pursuit of joint anti-corruption efforts, including through the provision of substantive expertise for joint activities.



We develop strong partnerships with **private sector** entities and initiatives, in a bid to help the private sector strengthen its involvement with anti-corruption activities globally and level the playing field for businesses around the world.



We recognize the vital role of **civil society organizations** and work towards broadening the engagement of CSOs from all regions, in line with article 13 of UNCAC.



We collaborate with **academia** to encourage the incorporation of integrity and anti-corruption courses at all stages of the educational process.



We partner with others such as **Parliamentarians**, the **media**, and **sports institutions**.

Synergies

Within the context of the reviews, UNODC cooperates with the secretariats of other international anti-corruption peer review mechanisms, such as the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Working Group on Bribery, the Council of Europe's (CoE) Group of States against Corruption and the anti-corruption mechanism of the Organization of American States (OAS). In 2021, dialogue focused on ways to address the obstacles posed by the COVID-19 pandemic; the secretariats also exchanged experiences and good practices on issues such as the virtual conduct of intergovernmental meetings and country visits.

At CoSP9, UNODC, OECD and CoE published a joint message on enhancing synergies in the field of anti-corruption peer reviews. The secretariats also organized joint events, consulting one another on processes such as the UNGASS political declaration and providing input on the knowledge products of other organizations.

The challenge we are now faced with is to identify important transparency and accountability measures that States Parties can take to ensure a fair and sustainable recovery, and to be ready the next time a crisis puts integrity to the test.

– Brigitte Strobel-Shaw,
Chief, Corruption and Economic Crime Branch, UNODC

The COVID-19 pandemic has created opportunities for corruption to thrive and exposed the need to be better prepared in times of crises. Vast amounts of resources were allocated for crisis response and recovery, often with weak or insufficient oversight and accountability measures.

Corruption in disbursement processes during COVID-19 took various forms, such as embezzlement, preferential treatment, price gouging, unrecorded overpayments, and trading in influence. Organized criminal groups exploited the pandemic for financial gain, selling falsified medical products and testing kits or illegally obtained medicines.

Corruption in the private sector also had a severe impact on the recovery process and undermined pandemic assistance and recovery packages. The consequences have been devastating, particularly for women, youth, and the marginalized who suffer most from loss of income, opportunities, education, and jobs. This not only damages efforts to rebuild but also undermines public trust in democracy and institutions.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, UNODC has worked to ensure that anti-corruption is seen as an integral component of COVID-19 response and recovery efforts, calling for better oversight around emergency support packages, more open and transparent public procurement, enhanced business integrity, and support for public health organizations to effectively and rapidly respond to the pandemic and any other upcoming health crises as well as supporting the assessment and mitigation of corruption risks within their mandate areas. For example, UNODC supported the Ghana Health Service to map corruption risks related to its operations and to develop detailed strategies to mitigate these risks. We also supported the launch of a corruption risk assessment with the National Department of Health in South Africa.

COVID-19 and the health care sector

Even prior to COVID-19,
the health care sector was estimated to lose
\$455 billion globally
every year to corruption and fraud
(WHO 2018)

while
\$2 trillion
in **procurement spending**
was lost to corruption annually
(OECD 2016)



Public procurement transparency

This past year, with the support of the US Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, UNODC brought together national public procurement bodies, supreme audit institutions and anti-corruption authorities from nine countries to strengthen public procurement transparency and whistle-blower protection as an integral part of COVID-19 recovery efforts. Working with Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Chile, Indonesia, Paraguay, the Philippines, South Africa and Timor-Leste, UNODC is leveraging innovative anti-corruption technology, such as open data and data analytics, to inform and advance anti-corruption efforts.

COVID-19 response and recovery

UNODC co-led the UN System-wide Global Task Force on Corruption and published a series of [policy documents on COVID-19 and corruption](#), covering topics such as vaccines and corruption risks, fiscal response, health procurement and whistle-blowing measures.

[Corruption and COVID-19: Challenges in Crisis Response and Recovery](#) sets out a range of potential responses and concrete actions for countries to better recover and respond to COVID-19 and future emergencies, including various considerations for the immediate and long-term response to the pandemic. UNODC also conducted regional surveys on the role of anti-corruption agencies during COVID-19 to provide UNCAC States parties with tailored and innovative assistance to help identify anti-corruption challenges and good practices in national responses to the current pandemic as well as future crises. The findings will be published as a global report in 2022.



UNCAC and COVID-19

ARTICLE 5(3)

Endeavor to periodically evaluate relevant legal instruments and administrative measures with a view to determining their adequacy to prevent and fight corruption



ARTICLE 9(2)

Take appropriate measures to promote transparency and accountability in the management of public finances [which] shall encompass, inter alia:
(c) A system of accounting and auditing standards, and related oversight;
(d) Effective and efficient systems of risk management and internal control

UNCAC

Under the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), each State party shall:

ARTICLE 13(1)

Take appropriate measures ... to promote the active participation of individuals and groups outside the public sector ... by such measures as:
(a) Enhancing the transparency of and promoting the contribution of the public to decision-making processes;
(b) Ensuring that the public has effective access to information



ARTICLE 10(b)

Take such measures as may be necessary to enhance transparency in its public administration, including with regard to its organization, functioning and decision-making processes, where appropriate. Such measures may include, inter alia:
(b) Simplifying administrative procedures, where appropriate, in order to facilitate public access to the competent decision-making authorities





Women are usually located at the lower rung of the socio-economic ladder; their voices are less heard, and they have less access to facilities and services, so where there is a disruption occasioned by corruption in the chain, they are likely to suffer more than their male counterparts.

– Lilian Ekenayanwu, Head,
Technical Unit on Governance and Anti-Corruption Reforms, Nigeria

Corruption impacts women and men differently, results in the exclusion of females in decision-making roles, and perpetuates negative social stereotypes, limited economic power and educational opportunities. There is evidence of the disproportionate impact of corruption on women during public health crises, including during the COVID-19 pandemic, and its effect on the provision of education and health care. Gender-sensitive whistle-blower reporting and protection systems and a victim-centred approach are of particular importance for women as the lack of protection, fear of reprisals and the level of confidentiality can negatively impact the decision to report corruption.

UNODC works with Member States to nurture a more inclusive fight against corruption, harnessing gender as an agent for change in national anti-corruption efforts. Gender mainstreaming means finding equitable solutions for all persons in a society, regardless of biological sex and gender identity or social position.

More should be done to ensure that gender is truly mainstreamed within anti-corruption programming and technical assistance delivery.

'I am a woman against corruption'

SPAK Indonesia

2,430 women

Trained to be anti-corruption champions, introducing better institutional and public service delivery systems in Indonesia.



Addressing the gender dimensions of corruption

UNODC's publication *The Time is Now: Addressing the Gender Dimensions of Corruption*, highlights the reasons and ways in which corruption impacts women in the workplace and in daily life and calls for more reliable data about the prevalence of different varieties of corruption and their associated gendered processes. The publication explores how gender equality policies can have a positive effect in preventing and countering corruption, ensuring that all voices are heard equally. It includes three case studies from Brazil, Ghana, and Indonesia, each with their own unique anti-corruption landscape and gender narrative, and it provides recommendations that can be applied by other countries working to mainstream gender in their anti-corruption programming.

At the ninth session of CoSP, a high-level panel, 'Women Leaders in Integrity: considerations for an inclusive recovery', examined what an inclusive and gender-responsive recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic should include in order to reflect the hallmarks of UNCAC, namely: integrity, transparency, and accountability.



Female public officials are consistently less likely to engage in corruption than their male counterparts

(UNODC 2020,
Gender & Corruption in Nigeria Study)

Gender-responsive recovery

The majority of those working in the informal sector globally are women. In low-income countries, the number can be as high as 92 per cent. The exclusion of women in COVID-19 recovery efforts therefore further fuels the feminization of poverty through loss of livelihood. As a corruption prevention measure, countries should include women in decision-making processes and apply gender responsive budgeting and gender impact assessments of socio-economic response packages and disbursement processes.

The international community must ensure that young people are not only heard, but understood, not only engaged but empowered, and not only contributing but leading global efforts.

– Jayathma Wickramanayake,
UN Secretary-General’s Envoy on Youth

Young people are important agents of change, proposing innovative solutions, driving social progress, and inspiring political change to improve the lives of people and the health of the planet. They have the capacity to revolutionize the way society views and addresses corruption, but all too often youth are excluded from decision-making and lack access to information.

UNODC paid special attention to the needs and concerns of youth this past year, leveraging their enthusiasm, creativity, and innovative ideas to promote transparency and speak out against corruption—a crime that affects their ability to find good jobs, get an education or access quality health care services.

Supporting education and access to digital skills for youth can be a gamechanger, empowering future generations to resist and prevent corruption.

GRACE: Educating the integrity leaders of tomorrow

In 2021, UNODC launched the GRACE initiative—[Global Resource for Anti-Corruption Education and Youth Empowerment](#). A major step towards empowering the next generation to promote transparency, accountability, integrity, and a culture of rejection of corruption, GRACE is structured around three areas: primary and secondary education; academia and research; and youth empowerment.

A youth advisory board will work to advance the GRACE initiative, which aims to engage with young people in countries and regions around the world, share good practices and experiences in anti-corruption in their communities; and provide anti-corruption training, tools, and resources. GRACE will also work to link social entrepreneurship with integrity and ethics issues, namely through an anti-corruption hackathon series and seed funding for innovative youth-led projects.

1.8 billion people
are between the ages of **10-24**

the **largest generation**
of youth in history (UNFPA)

As a female working in Artificial Intelligence, it was very exciting to come up with an innovative solution to fight corruption.

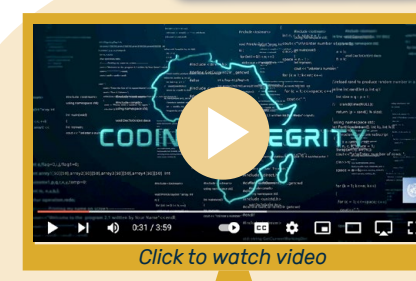
– Joy Kareko, Team Enigma, Kenya

Fostering innovation and technology

Innovative approaches to involve young people were rolled out this past year to find youth-led solutions to corruption. One example was UNODC’s #Coding4Integrity African Youth Anti-Corruption Hackathon, harnessing the talent and skills of youth from Egypt, Kenya, Nigeria, Senegal, and South Africa.

Over 1,900 developers from the five African countries applied to take part in the hackathon and after an extensive evaluation process, 200 final participants were chosen and divided into 65 teams. ICT solutions were developed around a series of thematic areas, including transparency in public administration; transparency in public procurement and the administration of public finances; safe and reliable reporting of corruption; and financial investigations. More than a quarter of participants were female, ensuring both that the solutions being generated were gender-inclusive, and that the gender gap within the ICT space—like with other industries and professions—was being addressed.

#Coding4Integrity Hackathon



The winners of the #Coding4Integrity Hackathon were:

- Team **Valoro (Egypt)**
- Team **Enigma (Kenya)**
- Team **STEM (Nigeria)**
- Team **Fisk (Senegal)**
- Team **Blockchain Bulls (South Africa)**

UNGASS Youth Forum against corruption

300 participants from 93 nationalities gathered online for the **UNGASS Youth Forum against corruption** to help lead the design of future anti-corruption efforts. A [Youth Statement](#) was produced and then presented to world leaders at UNGASS in New York.



“Our goal is to work in partnership to disrupt and dismantle the systems that enable the corrupt to steal with impunity. Only direct communication and cooperation across borders will help us ensure that high-level, large-scale corruption does not compromise our global efforts to achieve our development goals.”

– Pedro Garrido Pascal, Judicial Police, Spain

International cooperation—one of the central goals of UNCAC—is critical to eradicate the corrosive effects of corruption. UNODC’s Corruption and Economic Crime Branch has established a number of initiatives to facilitate cooperation across borders, including the [StAR Initiative](#) with the World Bank to support the recovery of stolen assets, the new [GlobE Network](#) community of anti-corruption practitioners, and the [Global Judicial Integrity Network](#)—a worldwide movement of judges working to prevent corruption in the justice system.

Stolen Asset Recovery (StAR) Initiative



Together with the World Bank, UNODC established the Stolen Asset Recovery (StAR) Initiative to support countries in implementing chapter V of the Convention. It has been providing assistance to States since 2007 to recover stolen assets and end safe havens for corrupt funds and illicit financial flows. In 2021, StAR assisted 18 countries and trained more than 1,900 people.

An update of StAR’s flagship toolkit for practitioners, the [Asset Recovery Handbook](#), was launched in December last year, while a new guide on [Automated Risk Analysis of Asset and Interest Declarations of Public Officials](#) was published in August.

StAR is currently analysing data collected from States parties on the actual quantities of proceeds of corruption that are frozen, confiscated, and returned globally directly from country authorities. A full report will be published in 2022. Findings from the research were presented at CoSP9 in a conference paper [Mapping international recoveries and returns of stolen assets under UNCAC: an insight into the practice of cross-border repatriation of proceeds of corruption over the past 10 years](#).

Asset and interest disclosure (AID)

AID has been widely used by public officials to counter corruption and build integrity, public sector transparency and accountability. Many countries also use electronic systems to collect, analyse, and publish declarations.

160+ countries use **AID systems** (WBG)

\$10 billion in stolen assets **recovered and returned** since **2010**

The Global Judicial Integrity Network

One of the key prerequisites for safeguarding human rights is the presence of strong, resilient, independent, and inclusive judicial systems. It is imperative that the judicial system be independent and that judges act with the highest level of integrity.

UNODC’s Global Judicial Integrity Network, established in 2018, gathers judges and judiciaries to strengthen judicial integrity and prevent corruption in the justice sector, including through the development of guidance materials and tools, the collection and dissemination of good practices and experiences, and the promotion of dialogue and peer support. Over 7,000 members of the judiciary in some 73 jurisdictions worldwide have benefited from the [Judicial Ethics Training Tools](#). Over the past year, in response to the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Network supported numerous training sites in designing and delivering virtual or hybrid ethics training activities.

The GlobE Network

The Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities (GlobE Network), conceived during the G20’s first-ever Anti-Corruption Ministerial Meeting in 2020, was officially launched in June 2021. It aims to improve direct cooperation between countries’ law enforcement authorities, in line with a key provision of UNCAC (article 48). UNODC serves as the secretariat of this global community of anti-corruption law enforcement authorities that exchange information and cooperate informally to better track, investigate, and prosecute corruption cases across borders.

The [first GlobE Network Meeting](#) took place in Vienna in November 2021 to begin the critical work of establishing a governance structure, determining member priorities and agreeing on a [Charter](#). A 15-member Steering Committee was also formed to ensure that the Network’s activities directly reflect on-the-ground realities of the members themselves, with Spain and Saudi Arabia selected as Chair and Vice-Chair of the Network. By the end of 2021, 84 anti-corruption law enforcement authorities from 50 countries had joined GlobE. The long-term goal is universal membership by all UN Member States.



GlobE Network members met for the first time in Vienna in November 2021. [Click to watch the video](#)

“To succeed, we must hold companies accountable and foster business ecosystems that enable transformational change, which includes removing corruption from the equation once and for all.”

– Sanda Ojiambo, CEO and Executive Director, UN Global Compact

Governments cannot counter corruption on their own. The private sector plays an important role in reducing corruption globally. A central part of UNODC’s mission is to help the private sector strengthen its involvement with anti-corruption activities globally and level the playing field for businesses around the world.

UNODC helps private sector companies build their capacity to play a bigger role in preventing and countering corruption, improving accountability and transparency in industries and supply chains, educating and empowering employees to speak up and report corrupt practices, and promoting a culture of business integrity. The cooperation of private entities, especially financial institutions, is often key to launching and conducting investigations into corrupt practices.

Helping companies promote integrity

The Fight against Corruption is an e-learning tool for the private sector, produced in partnership with the UN Global Compact. In six short video scenarios, users are faced with common corruption risks and guided through UNCAC requirements in each situation.

This interactive tool is free to use and available in 31 languages, offering companies around the world the option to apply it directly in their anti-corruption compliance training programmes. UNODC’s practical guide on the steps companies can take to establish an effective anti-corruption ethics and compliance programme and has been used as a starting point by companies around the world.

In July 2021, UNODC’s new Global Action for Business Integrity project was initiated in seven countries: Brazil, Colombia, Egypt, Ethiopia, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, and Uzbekistan. Funded by the Siemens Integrity Initiative, the project aims to advance legislative anti-corruption reforms, support governments in preventing and countering corruption in and with the private sector, strengthen communication among the public and private sectors, and provide guidance to companies and SMEs on adopting and implementing anti-corruption systems.

Empowering the next generation of business leaders

For companies to be able to operate successfully in a business environment in which corruption is not tolerated, it is essential that future business leaders are educated as to the risks of corruption and the international instruments which guide national anti-corruption efforts.

Through the Global Integrity Education project, UNODC is creating a talent supply chain of university graduates who are empowered to act as ethics ambassadors. The project localizes UNODC’s anti-corruption and integrity and ethics university modules for the national level, using case studies of actual integrity challenges in specific industries to foster ethical decision-making by future private sector employees and equipping students with ethical mindsets and skills at the start of their professional careers to benefit the private sector in the long run.

In 2021, UNODC provided training on anti-corruption, integrity and ethics to 295 university lecturers from Kenya, Mexico, and Pakistan who in turn trained more than 7,500 students. Students then gathered first-hand experience of compliance and integrity issues during internships in the private sector.



University students and the private sector collaborate to address integrity, ethics, and anti-corruption practices, especially in industries vulnerable to corruption.



UNCAC and the private sector

Article 12 of UNCAC emphasizes the crucial role of the private sector in anti-corruption efforts. Companies that promote anti-corruption standards, including effective compliance systems and integrity measures, contribute to fair competition and the integrity of markets. UNCAC also encourages cooperation between companies and investigating and prosecuting authorities (article 39), providing for the protection of whistle-blowers, witnesses, experts, and victims (articles 32 and 33).



Our work with UNODC to prevent corruption in the illegal wildlife trade resulted in strengthened institutional policies and processes that are contributing to enshrining the culture of zero tolerance to corruption. I am very pleased to see how the positive results in Kenya led to the replication of this approach in other countries.

– Hon. Najib Balala,
Cabinet Secretary for Tourism and Wildlife of Kenya

Preventing corruption in the illegal wildlife trade

UNODC supports countries in their efforts to counter corruption that facilitates environmental crimes, including wildlife and forest crime and crimes in the fisheries sector. Our focus has been on supporting wildlife, forest, and fisheries authorities to assess and manage corruption risks within their operations. This support has led to institutional and structural changes and strengthened accountability and transparency measures.

In 2021, UNODC assisted 16 agencies with a mandate to protect the environment or address crimes that affect the environment in assessing and managing risks of corruption. For example, UNODC assisted the Kenya Wildlife Service in the development of an internal whistle-blower and complaint management system, and the Kenya Forest Service in the development and launch of the institution's code of conduct, its whistle-blower policy and the corruption prevention policy.

UNODC also builds the capacity of frontline practitioners to identify cases where financial investigation should be undertaken and has provided mentorships for investigators to familiarize themselves with financial investigation techniques.

UNODC helped 16 agencies manage corruption risks and trained **9 countries** in financial investigations related to **crimes that affect the environment**

UNODC further facilitates national and international cooperation on corruption related to crimes that affect the environment. For example, we have supported the establishment of multi-agency units to foster increased cross sectoral coordination. We have also strengthened capacity to effectively request mutual legal assistance and have facilitated the exchange of contacts between national authorities.

In 2021, UNODC supported nine countries with mentoring or training on financial investigations linked to crimes that affect the environment.

UNODC has developed several knowledge products to help prevent corruption in the organizations entrusted with the protection of the environment and natural resources. It is developing a guide, *Rooting out Corruption*, to be published in 2022, which focuses on corruption that enables the destruction of forests.



At CoSP9, UNODC published:

Preventing and Combating Corruption as it Relates to Crimes that Have an Impact on the Environment.



Wildlife Crime: Key Actors, Organizational Structures and Business Models.



UNODC helps assess and mitigate corruption risks linked to wildlife conservation in Garamba National Park in north-eastern Democratic Republic of Congo.

We are truly thankful for the partnership that we established with UNODC...to tackle some of the toughest issues facing our sport, including child safeguarding, protecting sport integrity, and preventing crime.

– Gianni Infantino, President,
Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA)

Sport has the power to inspire and unite, but corruption and crime threaten to undermine its positive contribution to our lives. Particularly when linked to abuse and exploitation of vulnerable groups and youth, the impact has a devastating effect on societies. The huge influx of money in sports, the rapid growth of sports betting, and a changing technological landscape have all transformed the way sport is played and consumed, presenting criminal networks with opportunities to exploit sport for illicit profit.

UNODC works closely with governments, law enforcement, sports organizations, and anti-corruption and criminal justice authorities from over 130 countries to tackle corruption and crime in sport. By implementing relevant conventions and resolutions, preventing, and investigating match-fixing, empowering women in sport, and conducting research to develop evidenced-based actions to prevent and counter corruption in sport, we are ensuring sport remains a force for good.

It is only in partnership with others that we can effectively tackle criminal activities like corruption, which affects unfortunately all areas of society, including business, politics, and sport.

– Thomas Bach, President, IOC.

In 2021, we renewed our partnership with the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to continue joint efforts in tackling corruption and crime in sport and support activities that enhance sport's contribution to the achievement of the SDGs.

With IOC and FIFA, we organized virtual workshops on tackling corruption and crime in sport for governments and sports organizations from Africa, the Caribbean, Central America, North America and South America. We also organized workshops in South-Eastern Europe with IOC and the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) and collaborated with FIFA to implement the FIFA Global Integrity Programme involving 152 national football associations. In addition, initiatives and projects tackling corruption and crime in support were implemented by UNODC in Egypt, Greece, and Mexico.

UNODC played a lead role in the development of the [Group of 20 \(G20\) High-Level Principles on Tackling Corruption in Sport](#), adopted in October 2021. In partnership with IOC, a resource guide on [Legal Approaches to Tackling the Manipulation of Sports Competitions](#) was published in November 2021, while a document on [Tackling Bribery in Sport: An Overview of Relevant Standards and Laws](#) was launched by the International Partnership against Corruption in Sport.



We published our first-ever [Global Report on Safeguarding Sport from Corruption](#), which revealed the sheer scale, scope and complexity of corruption in sport and flags an urgent need for a unified response to counter the problem. Close to 200 experts from governments, sports organizations, the private sector, and academia contributed to the report, which examines issues such as illegal betting, competition manipulation and abuse in sport. It offers a playbook of existing initiatives to tackle corruption, report wrongdoing, and apply existing legislation to prevent and counter corruption in sport.

**\$756
billion**

The sports industry is valued at \$756 billion
(including products, transportation, entertainment)

**\$1.7
trillion**

Sport is even bigger business for organized criminal groups,
with an estimated \$1.7 trillion illegally wagered on sports
worldwide and \$140 million laundered through sports every year

**\$557
million**

The unregulated rise of e-sports leaves audiences, estimated to be
\$557 million in 2021, vulnerable to corruption



UNODC's Corruption and Economic Crime Branch produces a wide range of publications to assist countries and anti-corruption practitioners. It maintains an [online directory](#) of national anti-corruption authorities and a global database of challenges and good practices in anti-corruption.

Our online portal, Tools and Resources for Anti-Corruption Knowledge or TRACK, includes a legal library and sections focused on asset recovery, education, and the private sector. In 2021, the portal benefited from a technological update which has further improved accessibility. [The StAR Asset Recovery Watch Database](#) houses the latest international asset recovery cases that involve the proceeds of corruption. The following is a list of publications on corruption produced and shared in 2021.



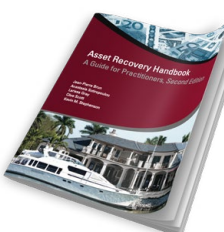
The Time is Now: Addressing the Gender Dimensions of Corruption explores how gender equality policies can have a positive effect in preventing and countering corruption, providing recommendations to mainstream gender in anti-corruption programming. It includes case studies from Brazil, Ghana, and Indonesia, each with their own unique anti-corruption landscape and gender narrative (ISBN: 978-92-1-148354-3 / 181 pages).



COVID-19 Vaccines and Corruption Risks outlines ways to identify and mitigate corruption risks related to the manufacture, allocation, and distribution of COVID-19 vaccines. It is part of a series of UNODC [policy papers](#) to address challenges and propose recommendations for the immediate and long-term response to the COVID-19 pandemic (14 pages).



Speak up for Health: Guidelines to Enable Whistle-Blower Protection in the Health Care Sector provides a step-by-step process to establish internal policies and procedures that facilitate the disclosure of allegations of wrongdoing and protect reporting persons. The guidelines provide a roadmap to creating an open and fair whistle-blower reporting culture in the health care sector that encourages people to speak up early when they have a concern (61 pages).



Asset Recovery Handbook is a recognized how-to reference for practitioners working to recover stolen assets located in foreign jurisdictions. It identifies the challenges that practitioners are likely to encounter and introduces good practices. First published in 2011, this updated guide incorporates developments based on the experience collected during the decade, including new legislation and case examples (ISBN 978-1-4648-1616-1 / 435 pages).



Measuring Organized Crime in the Western Balkans shows that corruption and organized crime are mutually reinforcing, leading to systemic weaknesses in the rule of law (108 pages).



Automated Risk Analysis of Asset and Interest Declarations of Public Officials.

As more countries shift to using electronic filing of asset declarations systems, this publication provides advice on how to organize the process and what steps to take to develop the risk analysis framework. It addresses issues of integration with external data sources and the level of the system's transparency. It is intended for practitioners who deal with the establishment and operation of asset declaration systems at the national level (31 pages).



Preventing and Combating Corruption as it Relates to Crimes that Have an Impact on the Environment. This paper provides an overview of the relationship between corruption and crimes that have an impact on the environment and of the efforts made at the national and international levels to prevent and counter corruption related to such crimes (82 pages)



Wildlife Crime: Key Actors, Organizational Structures and Business Models describes the key actors and roles needed for wildlife crime to exist, the common modus operandi (business models) of organized criminal groups, and how to investigate an illegal wildlife supply chain (34 pages).



The Global Report on Corruption in Sport reveals the scale, scope and complexity of this crime and flags an urgent need for a unified response to counter the problem. It examines issues such as illegal betting, competition manipulation, and abuse in sport. It also highlights existing initiatives to report wrongdoing and legislation to tackle corruption in sport (297 pages).



Legal Approaches to Tackling the Manipulation of Sport Competitions assists lawmakers, policymakers, prosecutors, and other relevant officials in developing effective legislation to prosecute those involved in the manipulation of sports competitions and shares good practices in a way that facilitates and enhances effective criminal justice responses (74 pages).



Orders without Borders: Direct Enforcement of Foreign Restraint and Confiscation Decisions offers an in-depth analysis of this crucial step in the process of asset recovery. Focusing on 31 jurisdictions, this book provides good practices for countries interested in implementing (or strengthening) direct enforcement approaches in their legal frameworks (186 pages).



Photo: UN/Jevgenijs Seolokovs

LOOKING FORWARD

“As 2021 with all its challenges comes to an end, with many important anti-corruption commitments made during this landmark year, let us agree that 2022 will be the year of action. Let us keep our promises to people and youth, letting no one down, and leaving no one behind.”

— Ghada Waly, Executive Director, UNODC

We look forward to 2022 as a year of action, mobilizing Member States, cooperating across borders, and working collaboratively across sectors to prevent and counter corruption and economic crime.

Because a more inclusive society is a less corrupt society, we aim to do more to include under-represented groups, especially women and youth, in decision-making processes to curb corruption and to make progress towards the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its guiding principle to “leave no one behind”.

In this current Decade of Action to deliver the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030, we will amplify the Secretary-General’s call for all sectors of society to re-engage around the SDGs. In particular, SDG 16, which includes commitments to counter corruption, increase transparency, and tackle illicit financial flows, is critical to the achievement of the entire sustainable development agenda. When leaders abuse their power and steal funds earmarked for food, clean water, health and education, progress on all the other SDGs is halted.

Building on the momentum of last year’s global anti-corruption efforts, with the UN General Assembly’s special session against corruption, the ninth session of CoSP, and the 14th UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, our priority for 2022 will be to support countries, particularly developing countries, to better track, investigate and prosecute transnational cases of corruption, improve the management of public funds, and ensure a more sustainable and ethical recovery from the pandemic.

A number of UNODC publications are already set to be launched in 2022. They are focused on corruption in the health sector, bribery, the recovery and return of stolen assets, compensation for victims of corruption, as well as corruption risks related to food safety and animal and plant health.

We are grateful for our diverse partnerships with the public and private sectors, civil society, academia, and youth and look forward to an active year ahead, using multiple and inclusive approaches to restore public trust and empower the next generation to resist and prevent corruption.

Acknowledgements

Our vision of an open, transparent, inclusive, and just world relies on the notion of shared responsibility, on all parts of society playing their part in tackling corruption. We are deeply grateful for the rich diversity of individuals, governments, businesses, and civil society organizations with whom we partner and who make our important work possible.

In particular, we would like to thank all those who enabled our work, be it through political and financial support, technical and substantive expertise, and partnered with us. Your contributions allowed us to better respond to the needs of Member States, engage in priority areas and launch new and exciting anti-corruption initiatives.

Finally, UNODC is privileged to work with a global community of frontline anti-corruption practitioners and law enforcement officials. We thank each and every one of them for their invaluable engagement and collaboration. They are instrumental to the successful execution of our anti-corruption efforts around the world.

Financial support



2021 Budget | **\$16,025,854**

Our work in tackling corruption and economic crime is only made possible thanks to the generous support of our donors and funders. In 2021 our combined budget for headquarters and field-based work from regular and extrabudgetary sources amounted to \$16,025,854. We also benefited from a range of in-kind contributions which assisted our work across the globe.

Testament to the support we receive, we are proud to count a varied set of donors from countries, international entities, and the private sector over the past year. Our sincere appreciation goes out to the following, who financially supported our work during 2021:

Australia	International Olympic Committee	Siemens
Austria	Italy	Sweden
Belgium	Japan	UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs
Canada	Liechtenstein	United Arab Emirates
China	Luxembourg	United Kingdom
Denmark	Mexico	UN Peacebuilding Fund
European Bank for Reconstruction and Development	Norway	United States
European Commission	Qatar	UN Office for Project Services
France	Republic of Korea	
Germany	Russia	
	Saudi Arabia	



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