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CEB is privileged to work with many individuals and organizations around the world to prevent and counter corruption.

We are deeply grateful to the global community of anti-corruption practitioners and law enforcement officials who work tirelessly on the frontlines to promote accountability, transparency and integrity. Their courageous efforts are instrumental to the progress made against this global threat thus far.

We would like to thank the many agencies, groups, institutions and secretariats with whom we cooperate closely. Our sincere thanks and appreciation also go out to our many donors from countries, international and private sector entities for their continued and generous support of our work over the past year, including Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, China, Denmark, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the European Commission, France, Germany, the International Olympic Committee, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Mexico, Norway, the State of Qatar, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Siemens, Sweden, the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, the UN Peacebuilding Fund, the United States of America, and the UN Office for Project Services.
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Corruption causes and fuels many of the world’s ills. By tackling corruption, we can meet these challenges and spark transformative change towards realizing the SDGs.

– Ghada Waly, Executive Director, UNODC

Corruption threatens the well-being of our societies, the future of our children and the health of our planet. It must be fought by all, for all.

– António Guterres, Secretary-General, United Nations
FOREWORD

“Addressing corruption across sectors and borders demands collaborative action; we can be effective only when we cooperate and coordinate with one another.”

– Brigitte Strobel-Shaw, Chief, CEB, UNODC

Creating a global community of anti-corruption practitioners

Nearly 20 years ago, the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) was adopted as a solemn statement of intent. Over these two decades, it has been translated into action around the world, as countries come together to review each other and improve their anti-corruption frameworks.

As we take stock of our progress, we see that the Convention has changed the landscape of anti-corruption efforts. Its Implementation Review Mechanism (IRM) has improved cooperation, knowledge exchange and the engagement with the private sector and civil society and promoted a range of legal and institutional reforms across countries. There is overwhelming agreement that participation in the Mechanism has helped to create a global community of practitioners tackling corruption.

Corruption and the SDGs

The Convention and its peer review mechanism are critical tools in the global effort to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.

Under SDG 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions, three of the targets call for the recovery and return of stolen assets, the substantial reduction of corruption and bribery in all their forms, and the development of effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels. The work to prevent corruption and illicit financial flows as well as recover and return stolen assets will boost national efforts to achieve the SDGs.

2022 – Year of anti-corruption action

Building on the momentum that was created in 2021 by the UN General Assembly’s first-ever special session (UNGASS) against corruption, the ninth session of the Conference of the States Parties (CoSPP) to UNCAC, as well as other high-level fora on anti-corruption, CEB focused its efforts, in 2022, on concrete and collaborative actions. These included, among others, building public trust and strengthening public institutions following the COVID-19 pandemic, ensuring good governance through the Global Judicial Integrity Network (GJIN), ensuring accountability through strong Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs), and improving cross-border cooperation through the Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities (GlobE) and the Stolen Asset Recovery (StAR) Initiative.

To better respond to anti-corruption priorities and technical assistance needs identified at the regional and country levels, we reorganized the Branch and established a new section focused specifically on field support, which includes field-based advisors and Anti-Corruption Regional Hubs that cut across all thematic areas and country engagements.

Our regional platforms in Southeast Asia, East Africa, Southern Africa, South America and Mexico, the Western Balkans, and West Africa and the Sahel strengthened collaborative efforts to fast-track UNCAC implementation and assisted States parties in ensuring that accountability, transparency and integrity become standard practice.

At CEB headquarters and in the field, we worked in partnership with governments, businesses, and civil society to deliver innovative and locally adapted initiatives against corruption, addressing a range of issues such as education, gender, youth, business integrity and corruption in specific sectors such as health, sports, the environment and climate change.

A shared responsibility

This Annual Report is a testament to the fact that tackling corruption, in all its myriad forms, requires a whole-of-government and society approach, including governments, anti-corruption practitioners, business, the media, and civil society, including youth and academia. Businesses are instrumental in preventing corruption by creating a company culture that is driven by integrity and ethical values and implementing an effective anti-corruption ethics and compliance programme; non-governmental organizations are crucial in holding their leaders to account; and free and fair media ensure issues are covered with integrity.

When we are – to quote the CEB vision – United Against Corruption, when we work together as a global community and all do our part, only then are we able to make progress towards our shared development goals and ensure a more open, inclusive, and just world.

189 parties have committed to the Convention’s anti-corruption obligations

Under UNCAC, States are legally obliged to prevent and criminalize corruption, promote international cooperation, recover and return stolen assets, provide technical assistance, and improve information exchange in both the private and public sectors.

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Corruption is a key impediment to sustainable development and the 2030 Agenda calls on Member States to “substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms.”
CEB works with governments, anti-corruption practitioners, business, the media, and civil society, including youth and academia, to prevent and counter corruption.

Through direct technical assistance, we are active in 86 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 United Nations Convention against Corruption are translated into day-to-day reality.

**OUR MISSION AND IMPACT**

As part of the anti-corruption peer review process in Mexico, a national process that follows the peer review model of the IRM, indigenous peoples shared traditional practices, such as Tequio, which is based on cooperative, mandatory, and unpaid work for the good of the community.

> We do not want our indigenous communities to become sick with that cancer called corruption. We have the right to continue our good practices of transparency, accountability, and local governance.
>  
> - Reyna Santillan, Citizen Participation Committee of the Anti-Corruption System of Oaxaca

In November 2022, the President of Timor-Leste opened our International Conference on Asset Recovery, bringing together the public and private sector to examine a draft asset recovery law based on good practices, the national context, and the asset recovery principles outlined in the Convention.

Viet Nam worked with us to develop a new inspection law to improve state management and anti-corruption efforts. The Law on Inspection was adopted by Vietnamese legislators on 1 November 2022.

GRACE initiative – the Power of Education: Over 70 young students from the village of Mirzamurad in India’s Uttar Pradesh state pledged to become Integrity Guardians, referring to integrity as a “superpower” to create a safer, peaceful, and more inclusive future.

A new network, Women Leaders in Anti-Corruption in South-Eastern Europe, encouraged women who work on anti-corruption and good governance across all sectors and industries to develop their skills and make their voices heard in the policymaking process.

Field-based Anti-Corruption Regional Hubs: Latin America and the Caribbean. A workshop on investigation and prosecution techniques helped national authorities across Argentina, Chile, Colombia, and Paraguay strengthen their responses to cross-border corruption cases.

In Kinshasa, DRC, collaborative efforts by national anti-corruption agencies helped identify solutions and priority actions to prevent the corrupt practices that are undermining the country’s forests, wildlife, and environmental resources.

In Ghana, the first survey on corruption in 20 years helped determine the prevalence of corruption affecting the population and aims to make corruption monitoring a regular activity in the country.
### 2022 AT-A-GLANCE

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<th>April</th>
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<td><strong>March</strong></td>
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<td>Judicial Integrity: Inaugural International Day of Women Judges; &quot;Women in Justice, Women of Justice&quot; campaign launched.</td>
<td><strong>Judicial Integrity:</strong> Global Report on Judicial Integrity and Well-being launched.</td>
<td>ASEAN: High-level Conference for South-East Asian Authorities held in Bangkok, Thailand.</td>
<td>UNGASS: Intersessional meeting convened on the achievements of the political declaration</td>
<td>Supreme Audit Institutions: Practical guide on cooperation between SAIs and ACBs launched at the XXIV International Congress of Supreme Audit Institutions (INCOSAI) in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.</td>
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<td>Southern Africa Regional Platform: Nine countries strengthen public procurement and whistle-blower protection. Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice: 1st intersessional meeting, expert exchange on Crimes that Affect the Environment and corruption that facilitates these crimes, held in Vienna, Austria.</td>
<td><strong>May</strong></td>
<td><strong>Implementation Review Group (first resumed 13th session):</strong> States parties began discussions on the second phase of the Implementation Review Mechanism.</td>
<td><strong>2022 FIFA World Cup:</strong> CEB joined the Integrity Task Force to monitor and report on possible match manipulation in real time.</td>
<td>Safeguarding Sports: Advocacy paper on Crime, corruption, and other wrongdoings in the transfer of football players and other athletes launched.</td>
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<td>Anti-Corruption Practitioners Network along the Silk Road Economic Belt: First regional workshop held in Samarkand, Uzbekistan.</td>
<td><strong>June</strong></td>
<td><strong>World Health Organization:</strong> CEB joined the Steering Committee of the Global Network for Anti-Corruption, Transparency and Accountability in the Health Sector.</td>
<td>UNGASS: Intersessional meeting convened on the achievements of the political declaration</td>
<td>Regional Platform: West Africa and the Sahel platform for fast-tracking UNCAC implementation launched in Dakar, Senegal.</td>
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<td><strong>July</strong></td>
<td><strong>GlobE Network:</strong> Second Plenary Meeting and second Steering Committee Meeting held in Vienna, Austria.</td>
<td><strong>2022 FIFA World Cup:</strong> CEB joined the Integrity Task Force to monitor and report on possible match manipulation in real time.</td>
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<td><strong>October</strong></td>
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<td>IACD: Uniting the world against corruption on International Anti-Corruption Day.</td>
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<td><strong>Coding4Integrity:</strong> Youth Anti-Corruption Hackathon held in São Paulo, Brazil to promote the use of ICT to counter corruption.</td>
<td><strong>November</strong></td>
<td><strong>Beneficial Ownership:</strong> Pan-African training workshop for 20 countries on beneficial ownership transparency in public procurement held in Gaborone, Botswana.</td>
<td>IEM: International Expert Meeting on Corruption during times of emergency and crisis held in Cairo, Egypt.</td>
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Sharing Good Practices: The Implementation Review Mechanism

The Convention’s Implementation Review Mechanism has broken new ground in efforts to tackle corruption. Since its inception, States have learned from and helped each other to strengthen their anti-corruption frameworks, sharing good practices to promote whistle-blower protection, recover stolen assets, prevent money-laundering, and engage the private sector and civil society in anti-corruption efforts.

CEB trains focal points and governmental experts from the States parties under review and the reviewing States parties, supports the country reviews, and produces thematic reports on implementation trends and related identified technical assistance. This ultimately includes supporting the drafting of action plans, anti-corruption strategies and legislation, and providing capacity-building activities. In November 2022, the first in-person training for focal points and governmental experts since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic took place on the margins of the second resumed 13th session of the Implementation Review Group.

In 2022, under the first and second cycles of the peer review, a record number of 31 country visits took place, 19 responses to the self-assessment checklist were submitted, and eight executive summaries and eight country reports were completed and published.

To read the executive summaries and the country review reports and responses to the self-assessment checklist of those States parties under review that decided to publish these, visit our country profile pages.

In September 2022, States parties kicked off discussions around the next phase of the Review Mechanism to continue peer reviews as a useful tool for assessing and improving national anti-corruption frameworks.

Corruption Prevention – Good Practice

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

Putting the UNGASS Political Declaration into Practice

In September 2022, under the framework of the Conference of the States Parties and its four subsidiary bodies, governments gathered to discuss progress made and challenges faced in the implementation of the political declaration adopted at the UN General Assembly special session (UNGASS) against corruption. Representatives from States, civil society and international organizations exchanged challenges and good practices with regard to topics such as the role of professional enablers in tackling corruption, integrity in procurement, corporate compliance, whistle-blower protection, the use of networks to improve informal cooperation in cross-border cases or non-conviction-based confiscation.

In November 2022, the eleventh open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation in the prevention of and fight against corruption during times of emergencies and crisis response and recovery was held with a view to developing non-binding guidelines. States parties discussed their national experiences and efforts, including examples of measures to prevent, identify, investigate and prosecute corruption in this area, including through international cooperation.

That same month, the sixteenth meeting of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery was held, discussing good practices and challenges with respect to beneficial ownership and how it can foster and enhance the effective recovery and return of proceeds of crime

Strengthening the Role of Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs)

Another important entity in tackling corruption are SAIs – bodies which are responsible for detecting irregularities in the spending of public funds and ensuring public procurement is done in a transparent manner. CEB works to build the capacity of SAIs to counter fraud and financial mismanagement across government departments as well as to strengthen partnerships between SAIs and traditional anti-corruption bodies (ACBs).

In 2022, in collaboration with the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI), UNODC developed a practical guide showcasing good practices of collaboration between SAIs and ACBs to prevent and combat corruption, namely in the areas of prevention, enforcement, investigation and asset recovery, international cooperation, knowledge and capacity-building as well as on the use of information and communication technologies. A pilot regional workshop on the practical use of the guide was held in Mexico City, Mexico in September 2022. Organized in partnership with the Organization of Latin American and Caribbean Supreme Audit Institutions (OLACEFS), the workshop gathered SAIs and ACBs from 20 countries in the Latin America and Caribbean region. Several other workshops on the practical use of the guide will be delivered in coordination with INTOSAI through its seven regional organizations. Download a copy of the guide.

With the Administrative Control Authority of Egypt, we organized an international expert meeting from 12-13 December 2022 in Cairo, Egypt to develop non-binding guidelines to further prevent, identify, investigate and prosecute corruption during times of emergencies and crisis response and recovery.
Fostering Innovation and Technology

Artificial intelligence (AI), big data and other technologies are helping to equip SAIs and ACBs with the tools they need to tackle corruption more effectively. CEB supported Brazil, for example, in using AI systems in auditing processes in the public sector. In Chile, the SAI is using big data to analyse declarations of assets and identify conflicts of interest. In South Africa, the Auditor General’s Office is employing forensic data analytics and running electronic scripts to help identify procurement contracts that require further investigation. The SAI in the United Arab Emirates has meanwhile developed at least 50 automated audit procedures, and improved data quality, consistency and efficiency while analysing more than 10,000 potential cases.

Accelerating the Implementation of UNCAC: Regional Platforms and Anti-Corruption Regional Hubs

Supporting countries in identifying challenges, priorities, and good practices in anti-corruption efforts is a priority for CEB. Since 2017, we have been assisting States in the creation of regional anti-corruption platforms and are establishing Anti-Corruption Regional Hubs to bring technical assistance closer to the point of delivery.

Regional Platforms

By the end of 2022, six regional platforms had been established, the latest one in November 2022. These cover Eastern Africa, Southern Africa, South-East Asia, South America and Mexico, South-Eastern Europe, and West Africa and the Sahel. The platforms each adopt a roadmap of commitments and activities designed to advance countries’ efforts to implement UNCAC in thematic areas jointly identified by the participating countries. This past year, the platforms focused on priority reform areas such as public procurement, whistle-blower protection, and international cooperation.

In March 2022, the platform for South America and Mexico included gender and information technology as transversal thematic areas. The platform for West Africa and the Sahel, established in November 2022, agreed on prioritizing asset recovery, financial investigations, integrity systems and whistle-blower protection systems. It is also the first platform where gender-specific measures are mainstreamed throughout its action plan.

A workshop on public procurement was organized for the regional platform in East Africa, while another was held on whistle-blower protection and public procurement in Southern Africa.

CEB also provided technical assistance to the countries of the regional platform for Southern Africa on asset declaration and conflicts of interest in public procurement. We continued to promote the application of information technologies and digitalization tools for anti-corruption and worked closely with its partner, Open Contracting Partnership (OCP), in this regard.

The capacities and skills of 384 anti-corruption practitioners in the Western Balkans region have also been improved, effectively addressing asset recovery, strengthening international cooperation, and creating six jurisdictional action plans, two asset recovery strategies, and 11 knowledge products in local languages.

In August 2022, a conference held in Bangkok, Thailand strengthened regional cooperation and the capacity of ASEAN countries to counter corruption and other serious crimes. The conference recommendations were presented at the eleventh session of the open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation and focused on strengthening legal and institutional frameworks for the recovery of stolen assets, which is a top priority for the region.

Anti-Corruption Regional Hubs

The establishment of field-based Regional Hubs represents an evolution in our anti-corruption service delivery. As part of UNODC’s network of field offices, the Regional Hubs help backstop and strengthen anti-corruption technical assistance in the countries of their regions. As they develop and mature, the Anti-Corruption Regional Hubs will serve as repositories of regional expertise, good practices, and lessons learned in UNCAC implementation. The first of these was established in Mexico in 2021 with support to surrounding countries in Central America, the Caribbean and South America. We continue to be present at the regional level in Central Asia (Uzbekistan), East Africa (Kenya), West and Central Africa (Senegal), the Pacific (Fiji), South-East Asia (Thailand), South-Eastern Europe (Serbia), Southern Africa (South Africa), as well as at the country level in Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Honduras, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, the Philippines, and Somalia.

“Initiatives such as this, where we share regional and international best practice against corruption, ultimately lead to our collective victory.”

- Mulambo Haimbe, Zambia’s Minister of Justice
International cooperation, one of the central goals of the Convention, is critical to addressing large-scale corruption.

CEB has established a number of initiatives to facilitate cooperation across borders, including the Globe Network community of anti-corruption law-enforcement practitioners and the STAR Initiative in partnership with the World Bank to support the recovery of stolen assets.

A Global Community of Anti-Corruption Practitioners

The Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities (Globe Network) is a fast-growing community of practitioners countering corruption. It connects law enforcement authorities from across the world to help them collaborate directly, informally, and securely across borders. Since its launch in June 2021, the Globe Network has attracted 130 authorities from 70 countries (as of end-2022) which coordinate and cooperate directly to advance their cases. Visit Globe membership to see participating countries, authority members and observers. The second and third plenary meetings of the Globe Network were held respectively in Vienna in June 2022 and in Madrid in November 2022 to create connections, share good practices, and establish secure communication solutions for case-related operational assistance. 61 bilateral meetings between representatives of Globe member authorities on ongoing cases were facilitated in the margins of the plenary meetings. The launch of Globe Threema - a secure communication channel for the exclusive use of Globe practitioners - was a major step taken during the year. Since coming online, user registrations have doubled, and average daily usage tripled. In total, 64 briefings on Globe were delivered by the Globe secretariat, CEB and UNODC senior management; and Globe was presented to the subsidiary bodies of the CoP, the G20, BRICS and 24 other multilateral forums.

Recovering and Returning Stolen Assets

Together with the World Bank, we established the Stolen Asset Recovery (STAR) initiative in 2007 to support countries in implementing chapter V of the Convention. For the past 15 years, STAR has been providing assistance to States to recover stolen assets and end safe havens for corrupt funds and illicit financial flows. In 2022, STAR assisted 15 countries to trace, seize, freeze, confiscate and return assets involved in cases of corruption and supported them in adopting new laws or amendments related to asset recovery and in opening new asset recovery cases, as well as delivering capacity-building workshops.

The STAR initiative contributed to 32 global policy events and launched two new publications: Signatures for Sale: How Nominee Services for Shell Companies Are Abused to Conceal Beneficial Owners, on how corporate arrangements are abused to obscure the identity of those in control of shell companies, and Taxing Crime: A Whole-of-Government Approach to Fighting Corruption, Money Laundering, and Tax Crimes, on the benefits of inter-agency cooperation between tax authorities and law enforcement agencies to prevent, detect and recover illicit financial flows derived from tax evasion, corruption and money-laundering.

Strengthening Judicial Integrity

From law enforcement to financial investigation units and the judiciary, institutions at the forefront of tackling corruption must be independent and empowered with the necessary resources if the tide is to be effectively turned against this crime. CEB works with States to build capacity in their criminal justice systems, including by providing training programmes on integrity in law enforcement, corruption investigations (including the use of open-source information to support such investigations), financial investigations, and special investigative techniques to investigators, prosecutors, and law enforcement officials.

Our Global Judicial Integrity Network is a worldwide movement of judges working to ensure a strong, resilient, independent, and inclusive judicial system. In 2022, the Global Judicial Integrity Network continued to play a leading role in promoting peer learning among judges and judicialiers, facilitating access to relevant tools and resources, and identifying and addressing emerging integrity-related challenges faced by judges worldwide.

In March, the Network celebrated the first International Day of Women Judges, organizing various awareness-raising activities on ways to promote the full and equal participation of women at all levels of the judiciary. On this occasion, UNODC Executive Director Ghada Waly launched the campaign “Women in Justice, Women for Justice”.

The publication of a global survey report, Exploring Linkages between Judicial Well-being and Judicial Integrity, provided insights into judges’ experiences and needs with respect to physical and mental well-being in connection to their judicial duties.

The Network also continued to enrich its website with new content, including opinion pieces, webinar recordings and other thematic resources. It shared non-binding guidelines on the use of social media by judges, a paper on gender-related judicial integrity issues, and a guide to developing codes of judicial conduct. Its Judicial Ethics Training Tools continue to serve over 70 jurisdictions worldwide in their national training activities.

Also in 2022, under the umbrella of the Network, CEB supported the delivery of training on various aspects of judicial integrity in Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Spain, Thailand, and the Caribbean region.

In November 2022, at the International Expert Meeting on Asset Return in Nairobi, Kenya, practitioners, civil society and international organizations examined how asset return can contribute to the achievement of the SDGs. They exchanged knowledge on the latest developments, including recent successful asset return cases.
Health systems are particularly vulnerable to corruption. They are technically complex, involve a myriad of actors with sometimes conflicting interests, and there is often an imbalance of information between the various stakeholders.

Procedures, such as procurement of medicines and medical equipment, infrastructure development and service delivery are highly vulnerable to corruption risks. These vulnerabilities to corruption of the health-care system have been exposed and amplified worldwide during the COVID-19 pandemic. Strong anti-corruption measures can help safeguard crisis response and recovery efforts and ensure that measures aimed at enhancing health and well-being for all have a significant impact.

CEB works with countries to prevent and counter corruption in public health system organizations, in particular regarding the assessment and management of risks of corruption, the protection of whistle-blowers and transparency in public procurement. In 2022, we provided support to Cambodia, Ghana and Timor Leste in developing and implementing corruption risk mitigation strategies to prevent and counter corruption within their operations and enhancing ethical behaviour. It also supported the Health Profession Council of South Africa in the development of a new whistle-blower protection policy.

CEB is part of the steering committee of the Global Network for Anti-Corruption, Transparency and Accountability in the Health Sector.

Protecting whistle-blowers

In 2022, CEB provided technical assistance to ten countries to develop and strengthen legislative or policy frameworks on whistle-blower protection, such as standard operating procedures (SOPs) for internal whistle-blower reporting and protection mechanisms. The organization continues to put into practice the whistle-blower protection guidelines outlined in our publication, Speak-Up for Health. Tailored support was provided to Ghana for the development of SOPs for all institutions that are given a role by the whistle-blower protection law, as well as to the Health Profession Council of South Africa for the development of a new whistle-blower protection policy.

Ensuring transparency in public procurement

Corruption risks can be found at every stage in the procurement process, from tender to delivery. In emergency contexts such as the COVID-19 pandemic, regular, competitive procurement processes are often suspended to provide rapid assistance to those in need.

A new automated procurement reporting system aims to ensure proper diligence to avoid substandard products, the waste of essential resources, and companies colluding to set higher prices.

CEB collaborates with the Open Contracting Partnership (OCP) to support technical assistance delivery and provide mentorship on open contracting and public procurement transparency to 22 countries, including on ways to improve data quality and publish procurement data in an accessible format to facilitate external monitoring.

In 2022, work focused on strengthening public procurement transparency by using beneficial ownership information in procurement processes. Workshops were held on transparency and data management in public procurement in Chile and on transparency, data management and value for money in public procurement in Paraguay.

In Indonesia, a public-private dialogue on beneficial ownership and transparency brought together 190 representatives from the government, private sector and civil society, and was held in partnership with UNDP, Transparency International Indonesia and Publish What You Pay Indonesia.

In the Philippines, CEB supported the development of automated procurement reports to ensure compliance with the Open Contracting Data Standard, which enables disclosure of data and documents at all stages of the contracting process by defining a common data model. Also in the Philippines, compliance with beneficial ownership disclosures increased dramatically, with 300,000 companies out of an eligible 680,000 disclosing their beneficial ownership information as a result of the outreach by the Securities and Exchange Commission and CEB’s ongoing collaboration with Open Ownership.

Regional workshops on advancing anti-corruption through beneficial ownership transparency in public procurement processes were also held for 20 countries in Sub-Saharan Africa. Further training workshops to address corruption risks in public procurement were also held in Timor-Leste in June 2022 and in Viet Nam in September 2022.
In 2022, the interest of the international community to tackle corruption and economic crime in sport continued to grow. Examples included references to these issues in resolutions adopted by the UN General Assembly and saw the G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group focusing its 2022 Accountability Report on this topic.

CEB, through its Programme on Safeguarding Sport from Corruption and Economic Crime, organized, or supported over 60 activities to enhance the capacity of criminal justice authorities and sports organizations to tackle corruption in sport at national, regional and international levels, involving more than 1,200 beneficiaries from 140 States parties.

This included a national workshop for Paraguay and regional workshops for countries from the Baltics and the Pacific and involved working with the key partners of the Programme, the International Olympic Committee and FIFA, as well as the European Union, the Council of Europe, INTERPOL, the International Partnership against Corruption in Sport, World Rugby and the International Tennis Integrity Agency, among many others.

In addition, CEB launched its advocacy paper on Crime, Corruption, and other Wrongdoing in the Transfer of Football Players and other Athletes and organized a meeting of experts to review a joint UNODC-IOC-INTERPOL draft Guide on the Effective investigation of Competition Manipulation, which is slated for publication in 2023.

Prior to the World Cup 2022, we collaborated with FIFA to deliver the Global Integrity Programme to 450 criminal justice authorities and football association officials to prevent and tackle corruption and integrity threats to football. During the World Cup, we joined the FIFA World Cup Integrity Task Force to monitor all 64 matches played during the World Cup for match manipulation incidents and integrity related issues.

The Belt and Road Initiative is one of the largest international cooperation platforms for economic development and international investment. To mitigate corruption risks in relation to international investments, CEB is working to implement UNCAC in countries along the Silk Road Economic Belt, including Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, China, Georgia, Greece, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Montenegro, Serbia, Tajikistan, Turkey and Uzbekistan.

With funding from the UN Peace and Development Trust Fund, we launched the Anti-Corruption Practitioners’ Network. Two regional workshops for investment and anti-corruption practitioners were organized to develop policies and systems to prevent corruption in large-scale international investment projects, addressing issues such as corruption risk assessment and corruption proofing of legislation, detection and investigation of corruption offences in such projects, including the use of forensic audit and analytics techniques. Various tools and knowledge products on ensuring the integrity of international investment projects were developed.

We also conducted awareness-raising activities regarding issues in addressing corruption allegations in investor-state dispute resolution. We continue to study this topic and presented its outcome and suggested measures to various forums, including the Symposium on Supranational Responses to Corruption co-organized by the World Bank and OECD in April 2022.
The private sector has a crucial role to play in reducing corruption and promoting accountability, integrity, and transparency in industry and across supply chains.

CEB supports businesses – in particular small businesses – in identifying and mitigating corruption risks. This past year, the Business Integrity Portal was launched, housing a wealth of resources, tools, and good practices from our anti-corruption Collective Action projects, implemented in over 16 countries with funding from the Siemens Integrity Initiative.

For example, in Myanmar, CEB worked with companies and business associations to strengthen internal measures to prevent and counter corruption.

In Colombia, public and private sector representatives were brought together to prevent corruption in the energy and health-care fields through sectoral risk assessments and the development of joint policy recommendations.

In Sudan, we partnered with the Anti-Corruption Academy of the Egyptian Administrative Control Authority to deliver a workshop in Khartoum for small and medium-sized business representatives on developing compliance, transparency and integrity standards and programmes. This workshop was held within the framework of the project “Strengthening the Private Sector Capacity to Prevent Corruption and Enhance Integrity in the Arab Countries,” funded by Siemens Integrity Initiative and being implemented in six Arab countries: Egypt, Iraq, Libya, Morocco, Sudan, and the United Arab of Emirates.

The Global Integrity Education project seeks to establish a talent supply chain of young graduates and professionals who are empowered to become a driving force for ethical business in their future workplaces. To achieve this goal, we brought together university lecturers and business representatives from Kenya, Mexico and Pakistan to localize 16 university modules on anti-corruption, ethics and integrity with practical examples from the private sector. 28,000 university students from 16 universities in the three countries benefited from the teaching of the modules. The localized modules are freely accessible on our Business Integrity Portal.
Corruption is a key enabler of crimes that affect the environment, such as wildlife and forest crimes, crimes in the fisheries sector, illegal mining, and waste trafficking.

It ultimately fuels the loss of biodiversity, natural resources fundamental to community livelihoods and government revenue streams. Crimes that affect the environment are one of the most serious forms of transnational organized crime, bringing vast profit for the criminals and corrupt who can illegally obtain permits or licences to operate, reducing the likelihood of their illegal activities being detected or punished, and disguising the illegal proceeds of their crimes.

In 2022, support was provided to 17 authorities across 11 countries, responsible for the management of wildlife, forests, and fisheries resources, on the assessment and management of risks of corruption. Through this, we worked with a range of actors across the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana, Indonesia, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, São Tomé and Príncipe, Tanzania, Thailand, and Uganda.

During 2022, work continued with the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) to strengthen accountability and transparency measures. The Kenya Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC) developed a Performance Indicator to combat and prevent corruption and unethical practices and promote standards and good practices in government. During the year, KWS received a 100 per cent score for the Indicator, demonstrating how it put in place procedures for the prevention of corruption in line with national regulations. This was a truly noteworthy achievement, compared to the 88 per cent given in 2021 and 49 per cent in 2020. The 2022 KWS national wildlife census report highlighted an increase in rhinos, elephants and lions. Furthermore, KWS led the Kenyan Coastal Region Inter-Agency Dialogue which translated into the development of an inter-agency corruption risk mitigation plan and enhanced inter-agency collaboration.

At the UN Oceans Conference held in July in Lisbon, Portugal, we hosted a side event, in partnership with the UN Food and Agriculture Organization and the Wildlife Justice Commission. Titled “Crime, corruption, and environment: a criminal justice approach for ocean action and achieving SDG 14,” it outlined how crimes in the fisheries sector, marine pollution and trafficking of marine species affect the health of the ocean and economies of coastal countries by fueling corruption and creating conditions in which further crime – including serious and organized crime – can be perpetrated. The panel discussion highlighted the need to complement integrated ocean management and risk mitigation with a criminal justice approach. Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, São Tomé and Príncipe, Tanzania, Thailand, and Uganda.

Supporting wildlife, forest, and fisheries authorities to assess and manage corruption risks within their operations results in stronger institutional policies and processes, helping to develop a culture of zero-tolerance of corruption.

Corruption Prevention – Good Practice

In Vienna, Austria in February 2022, over 800 participants from 94 countries attended the expert discussion of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) on how to prevent and combat crimes that affect the environment and corruption that facilitates these crimes by making the best possible use of relevant international instruments and by strengthening legislation, international cooperation, capacity-building, criminal justice responses and law enforcement efforts.

Photo: UN Women Cameroon

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Supporting wildlife, forest, and fisheries authorities to assess and manage corruption risks within their operations results in stronger institutional policies and processes, helping to develop a culture of zero-tolerance of corruption.
A more diverse and inclusive work environment is a less corrupt one. CEB works with Member States to nurture a more inclusive approach against corruption, empowering youth to break established cycles and structures of corruption and become changemakers in national anti-corruption efforts.

The UNGASS political declaration recognizes the role young people play as agents of change. As the largest youth generation in history at 1.8 billion globally, youth hold the potential to change mindsets and generate an atmosphere of zero-tolerance of corruption at all levels of society.

CEB’s Global Resource for Anti-Corruption Education and Youth Empowerment (GRACE) initiative unlocks this potential by empowering the next generation to promote transparency, accountability, integrity, and a culture of rejection of corruption. It engages young people in countries around the world, sharing anti-corruption practices, tools and resources and linking social entrepreneurship with integrity and ethics issues.

GRACE works with authorities in primary and secondary education systems and supports them in mainstreaming ethics and integrity into teaching. In 2022, educators and academics from nine countries were trained using the resources of the GRACE initiative.

More specifically, CEB organized a series of training workshops for 54 academics from 40 higher educational institutions in Africa. In June and September 2022, CEB, in cooperation with the International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA), organized two online anti-corruption summer schools for 90 students and young people from 46 countries from Eastern Europe and Asia and the Pacific region.

The first-ever CEB “YouthLED” Integrity Advisory Board was established in March 2022, bringing together 25 passionate young people from different parts of the world to act as champions and help advise us on advancing education and youth empowerment as a key tool to prevent and fight corruption locally, regionally, and globally.

2022 also saw the organization of a successful anti-corruption youth hackathon in Brazil – Coding4Integrity – that linked up passionate young coders to identify tech-based solutions to tackle corruption.

CEB also supported the Government of Japan in the organization of the second edition of the Global Youth Forum for a Culture of Lawfulness under the theme of “The role of youth in achieving a diverse and inclusive society”. 100 young people from more than 50 countries participated in the discussions. Their recommendations were presented to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) at its intersessional meeting held in December 2022.

Supporting education and access to digital skills for youth can empower future generations to resist and prevent corruption.
CEB produces a wide range of publications for 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.

Tools and Resources for Anti-Corruption Knowledge—or TRACK—houses a Legal Library with a variety of anti-corruption resources arranged by UNCAC chapter as well as by thematic areas. Expanded in 2022, TRACK now features a database of publications related to gender.

The StAR Asset Recovery Watch Database monitors international asset recovery cases that involve the proceeds of corruption, and the new Business Integrity Portal houses a wealth of good practices from our anti-corruption Collective Action projects, funded by the Siemens Integrity Initiative.

The following is a list of reports, papers and other knowledge products on anti-corruption that we published and/or supported in 2022:

**Enhancing collaboration between Supreme Audit Institutions and Anti-Corruption Bodies** is a practical guide showcasing good practices in collaboration between SAIs and ACBs.

**Signatures for Sale: How Nominee Services for Shell Companies are Abused to Conceal Beneficial Owners** analyses the abuse of corporate arrangements to obscure the identity of those in control of shell companies and shows how strengthening the regulation of nominee arrangements can enhance the transparency of shell companies and help reduce financial crime.

**Taxing Crime: A Whole-of-Government Approach to Fighting Corruption, Money Laundering, and Tax Crimes** looks at the benefits of inter-agency cooperation between tax authorities and law enforcement agencies working on preventing, detecting, and recovering the illicit financial flows derived from tax evasion, corruption, and money-laundering.

**Corruption in Ghana: People’s Views and Experiences** focuses on the results of the first survey carried out in 20 years on corruption affecting the population of Ghana. It determines the prevalence of corruption and its prevailing typologies and includes an important gender component. It also aims to make corruption monitoring a regular activity in the country.

**Crime, Corruption, and Wrongdoing in the Transfer of Football Players and other Athletes** builds on the findings and recommendations of the UNODC Global Report on Corruption in Sport and examines the issues of crime and corruption associated with the systems used for the transfer of athletes.

**IPACS Task Force 4 Tackling Bribery in Sport: An Overview of Relevant Laws and Standards** takes stock of international legislative provisions concerned with active and passive bribery in the public and private sectors.

**Exploring Linkages between Judicial Well-Being and Judicial Integrity** is a policy paper that provides a concise analysis of collected data for effective actions and initiatives to promote the well-being of judges worldwide.

**International Cooperation for the Investigation of Corruption Cases in South America and Mexico** (Cooperación Internacional para la Investigación de Casos de Corrupción en Sudamérica y México) provides an overview of the legal frameworks regulating mutual legal assistance and extradition for cases of corruption in South America and Mexico (only available in Spanish).
20th Anniversary of the UN Convention against Corruption (2003 – 2023)

2023 marks the 20th anniversary of the adoption of the UN Convention against Corruption by the General Assembly. CEB recognizes the ground-breaking measures of this important tool to support peace and the Sustainable Development Goals, and we take pride in its near-universal adherence, in a world united against corruption.

Yet, corruption continues to pose a significant obstacle to peace, security, sustainable development, and human rights. It continues to weaken government institutions, erode public trust, and jeopardize justice and the rule of law.

As we celebrate this important milestone and our efforts within and across nations to prevent and counter corruption, we must also recognize that we need to get significantly better at translating the principles of the Convention into action. We must get significantly better at using the tools at our disposal to safeguard our scarce resources from corruption. We must get significantly better at cooperating across borders to track, investigate and prosecute cases of corruption.

We must build wider alliances, including with the private sector and civil society, in an anti-corruption space conducive to public participation; where information can be sought, received, and published freely with no fear of reprisal; and where governments can be held to account.

The only way we can truly tackle corruption is through an inclusive, collaborative and coordinated response, ensuring we reach all parts of society to shift mindsets away from corrupt practices and towards ethics, integrity, accountability and transparency.

Our unique role as guardian of the Convention, our expertise in countering transnational organized crime and terrorism, and our ability to bring people together places us squarely at the centre of developing the kind of participatory approach required across all sectors to strengthen anti-corruption legislation, build the anti-corruption capacities of public and private sector stakeholders, and enable dialogue, partnerships and knowledge-sharing.

In 2023, let us bear witness to the pledges and commitments we have made and strengthen our resolve to continue our important work together as a global community united against corruption.