

# CoSP10

## Implementation Review Mechanism: Highlights and Achievements



**UNODC**  
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime



Conference of the States  
Parties to the United Nations  
Convention against Corruption

11-15 December 2023 • Atlanta, United States



Almost  
**1,500**  
good practices  
identified

&

Over  
**9,000**  
recommendations  
made

be reviewers in the course  
of the 260 completed 1st  
and 2nd cycle reviews

## IRM Performance Highlights

**1st  
cycle**



responses  
to the self-  
assessment  
checklist

**185**

**2nd  
cycle**

**164**



direct  
dialogues

**178**

**122**



executive  
summaries

**176**

**84**



full country  
review reports

**164**

**50**



involved other  
stakeholders

**89%**

**97%**

# THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ADOPTION OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST CORRUPTION REPRESENTS A PIVOTAL MILESTONE IN THE GLOBAL EFFORTS TO COUNTER CORRUPTION.

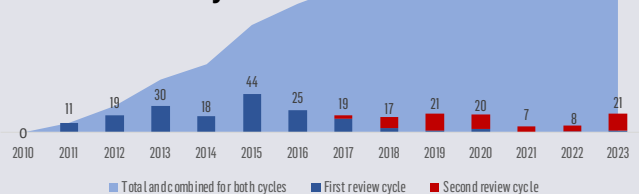
With 190 parties, the Convention is the only universal legally binding anti-corruption instrument. Its far-reaching scope covering prevention, criminalization and law enforcement, international cooperation and asset recovery, along with the mandatory nature of many of its provisions, make it a unique instrument to support States in their efforts to address corruption domestically and across borders.

The Implementation Review Mechanism, established in line with article 63(7) of the Convention through resolution 3/1 of the Conference of the States Parties to UNCAC, is a peer review process aimed at assisting States in the implementation of the Convention by identifying good practices and gaps in their anti-corruption legislation, policies and practices. By providing a technical, objective and non-adversarial framework for discussions with and between governments on programming for anti-corruption reforms, the Mechanism serves as a basis for strong legal, institutional and policy developments to prevent and counter corruption.

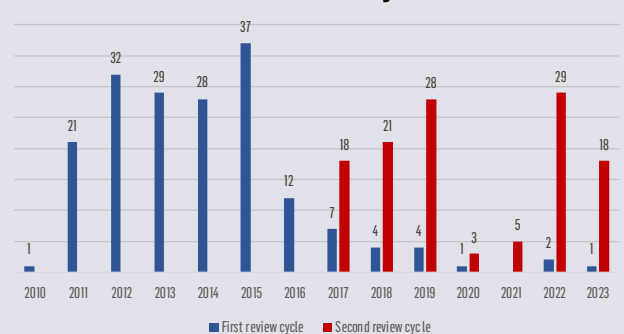
The findings of the review process are encapsulated in the executive summaries, which highlight key recommendations, good practices and technical assistance needs identified during the course of the review process (available [here](#)). These documents are published and translated into the six official languages of the United Nations to widely disseminate the outcomes of the review process. In addition to these, more than half of all States parties having finalized their reviews have chosen to render public their full country reviews on the UNODC website.



## 260 Completed executive summaries for the first and second review cycles



## 301 completed country visits over the last 13 years



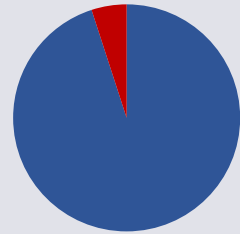
## IMPACT

As of 1 December 2023, almost all reviews in the first cycle, covering the Convention's chapters on criminalization and law enforcement and international cooperation, have been completed, with 94 per cent of all executive summaries finalized. The second review cycle, covering the chapters on prevention and asset recovery, is well underway, with 45 per cent of the executive summaries completed.

With 260 finalized executive summaries and 301 country visits or joint meetings held for States parties across both review cycles, the country reviews have provided a comprehensive and detailed analysis of global challenges in the fight against corruption as well as solutions employed by countries to address them.

The involvement of reviewing experts from States parties of the same geographical region and from different regions has enabled a global exchange of ideas, providing knowledge-sharing opportunities for countries with diverse judicial, legal, political, economic and social systems and legal traditions. With 93 per cent of the country visits across both cycles involving the participation of other stakeholders, including representatives of non-governmental organizations, the private sector, and academia, the exchange of ideas with individuals and groups outside the public sector has further supported domestic efforts to identify legal and policy gaps and other challenges in implementation.

**98 per cent of States parties participated in one or more IRM country visit**



■ States parties that participated in at least one IRM country visit ■ States parties that did not

**Country visits involving participation of CSOs, academia, and other stakeholders**

93%



Other stakeholder engagement

7%



No other stakeholder engagement

Since the launch of the Implementation Review Mechanism, reviewing experts identified over 9,000 challenges and almost 1,500 good practices spanning all substantive provisions of the Convention. In addition, nearly 70 per cent of all reviewed States have identified a total of 4,348 technical assistance needs, ranging from legislative assistance to capacity-building, institution-building, policymaking, research/data-gathering and analysis, facilitation of international cooperation with other countries, and the sharing of good practices.

Through follow-up reporting after a review or during the meetings of the Implementation Review Group, more than 153 States parties have shared information on good practices, experiences and measures taken after the completion of their first cycle reviews or in preparation for the second cycle, with measures ranging from the creation of new and independent anti-corruption authorities, the active engagement of the private sector in the fight against corruption, the opening of a dialogue with civil society, the introduction of new criminal offences or the signing of new mutual legal assistance treaties to the sharing of technical support with neighbouring countries. The solutions countries are finding and implementing to prevent and fight corruption are creative, diverse, and effective. Specific examples of good practices and achievements can be found in the dedicated reports by the Secretariat available on the UNODC website ([www.unodc.org](http://www.unodc.org)).

At the upcoming 10th session of the Conference of States parties (COSP), a decision is expected to extend the second cycle of the IRM (currently due to end in June 2024) until June 2026, in order to allow for the completion of the reviews. The next phase could begin shortly thereafter, should CoSP11 so decide, and States parties have started discussing the future of the IRM. The thematic scope and structure of a next phase, the timeline for its launch and follow-up to observations made in the first phase are key points of the discussion.

## IMPACT STORIES

States parties have adopted a range of legal, institutional, and policy changes after the completion of their respective reviews. While the scope of such changes is broad and varied depending on the specific gaps identified in the review process, the examples below illustrate a broad range of measures undertaken by States parties to the Convention:

One State party prepared a legislation road map for the revisions of its criminal code aimed at addressing the gaps identified through the review process concerning illicit enrichment, active bribery of foreign public officials, corruption in the private sector, and trading in influence.

One State party simplified its administrative procedures using information technology to facilitate citizens' access to the relevant decision-making procedures of public authorities.

One State party undertook a comprehensive review of their international cooperation law, which helped to streamline cooperation, allowed for the enforcement of foreign non-conviction based proceeds of crime orders from any jurisdiction and increased the range of law enforcement tools available to assist other countries.

One State party established an ethics and integrity directorate mandated to receive and process the declarations of public officials and adopted measures to enable greater scrutiny of politically exposed persons and beneficial ownership.





**UNODC**  
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime



Conference of the States  
Parties to the United Nations  
Convention against Corruption  
11-15 December 2023 • Atlanta, United States