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CIVIL SOCIETY PARTICIPATION IN THE UNCAC REVIEW

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OUTLINE



NEED: CIVIL SOCIETY PARTICIPATION IN THE UNCAC

- In fighting corruption, CSOs provide the checks for improving accountability in the public and private sector. This is valid for all countries and becomes even more essential in countries suffering from a lack of peace and security, good governance, fundamental human rights, and economic prosperity. CSOs are also crucial for strengthening the rule of law and are therefore an integral part of UNODC technical assistance in this area.
- The fight against corruption is a **collective responsibility** involving Member States as leaders & other stakeholders incl. Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and the Private Sector

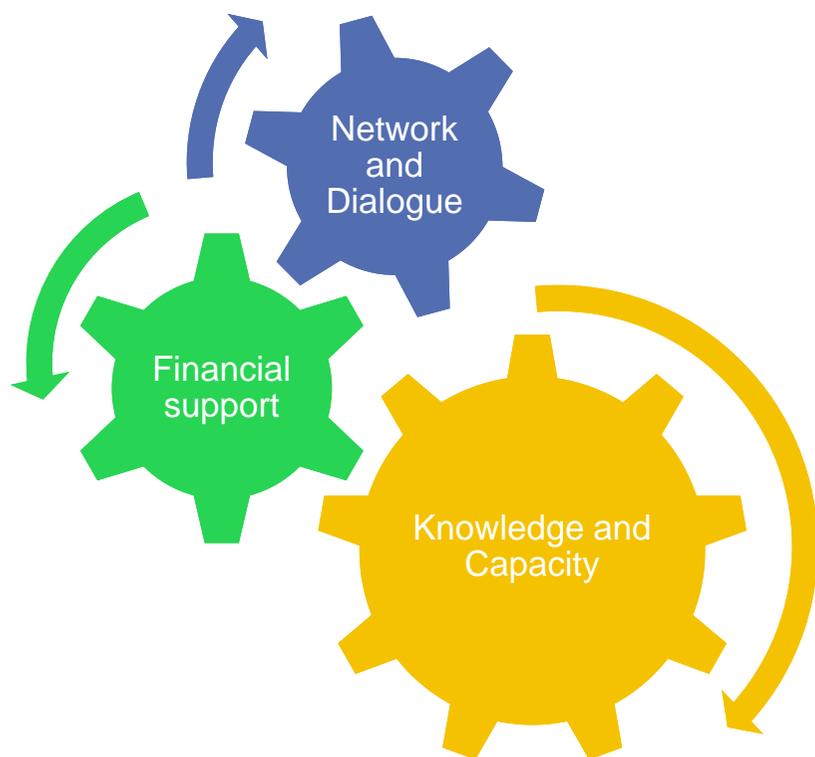
→ **Role & responsibility that need support**

RESPONSE: UNODC PROJECT LOOKING – GLOU 68

Toward a Strategic Engagement with Civil Society on Anti-Corruption

- 2005: UNCAC entered into force and its **Article 13** recognizes and provides a role for civil society in combating corruption, by calling on governments to increase transparency and participation in government decision-making and improve public access to information
- 2010: adoption of the review mechanism
- 2011: start of the **first cycle**: the need to train government focal points is identified
- Initial funding from DFID to organize first UNCAC workshop for CSOs as a joint initiative between UNODC and UNCAC Coalition (IACA, February 2011)
- Since then, a series of workshops supported by DFID, ADA, AusAID, Norway and Switzerland were held aiming to:
 - ➔ **Inform** and **train** CSOs on the UNCAC review mechanism
 - ➔ Improve the **dialogue** between Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and Member States including facilitate their **effective participation** in the UNCAC implementation

ACHIEVEMENTS



In 2013, the independent evaluation recognized that “UNODC training programmes were successful in empowering CSOs to participate, alongside governments, in the UNCAC review process”

- 10 **Workshops** on UNCAC organized jointly with the UNCAC Coalition and in 2013, following the recommendations of the independent mid-term evaluation, a multi-stakeholder approach where CSOs are trained alongside with governments, private sector and academia was adopted
- NGO **Briefing Sessions**, **Side events** and **facilitation of the participation** of NGOs to UNCAC-related intergovernmental meetings
- 26 Grants through the **Grants Scheme Initiative**



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IMPACT – SHORT-TERM RESULTS

WORKSHOPS

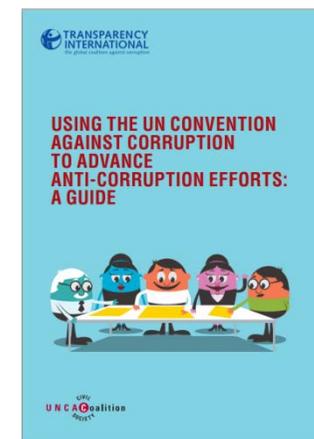
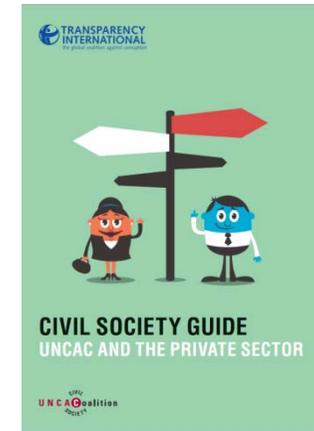
- 248 CSOs from 96 countries have been equipped with the substantive expertise in UNCAC provisions, informed about the methodology for country reviews and empowered with capacities to reproduce the training at the national/regional level and to contribute to anti-corruption efforts
- Entry points created (dialogue, multiplier effect), voices of CSOs heard, positive interaction between CSOs and State Parties experienced from both sides (break barriers, build confidence)

RECENT EVENTS & CONFERENCES

- Sessions of COSP and NGO Briefings
- NGO briefing sessions on the margins of the Implementation Review Group (IRG) to UNCAC
- Side events on “Addressing the Links between Corruption and Organised Crime” (UNTOC/COP 7) and Ancillary meeting on “Breaking the Chain between Corruption and Organized Crime in the Post-2015 Development Agenda” (13th Crime Congress)

GRANTS

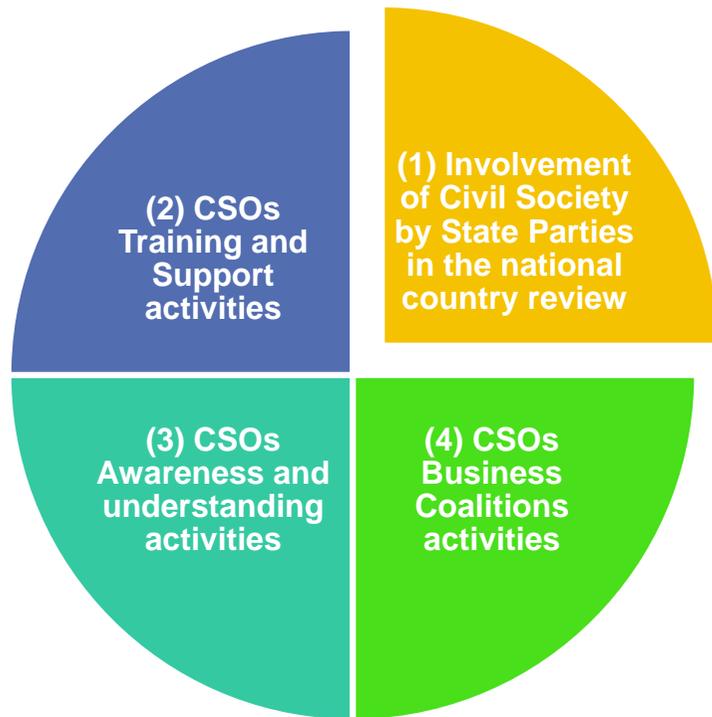
- 26 CSOs Projects in 16 African countries supported with grants of up to USD 5000 each to encourage initiatives involving the private sector, in particular SMEs, in the monitoring an implementation of the UNCAC



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IMPACT – MID-TERM RESULTS



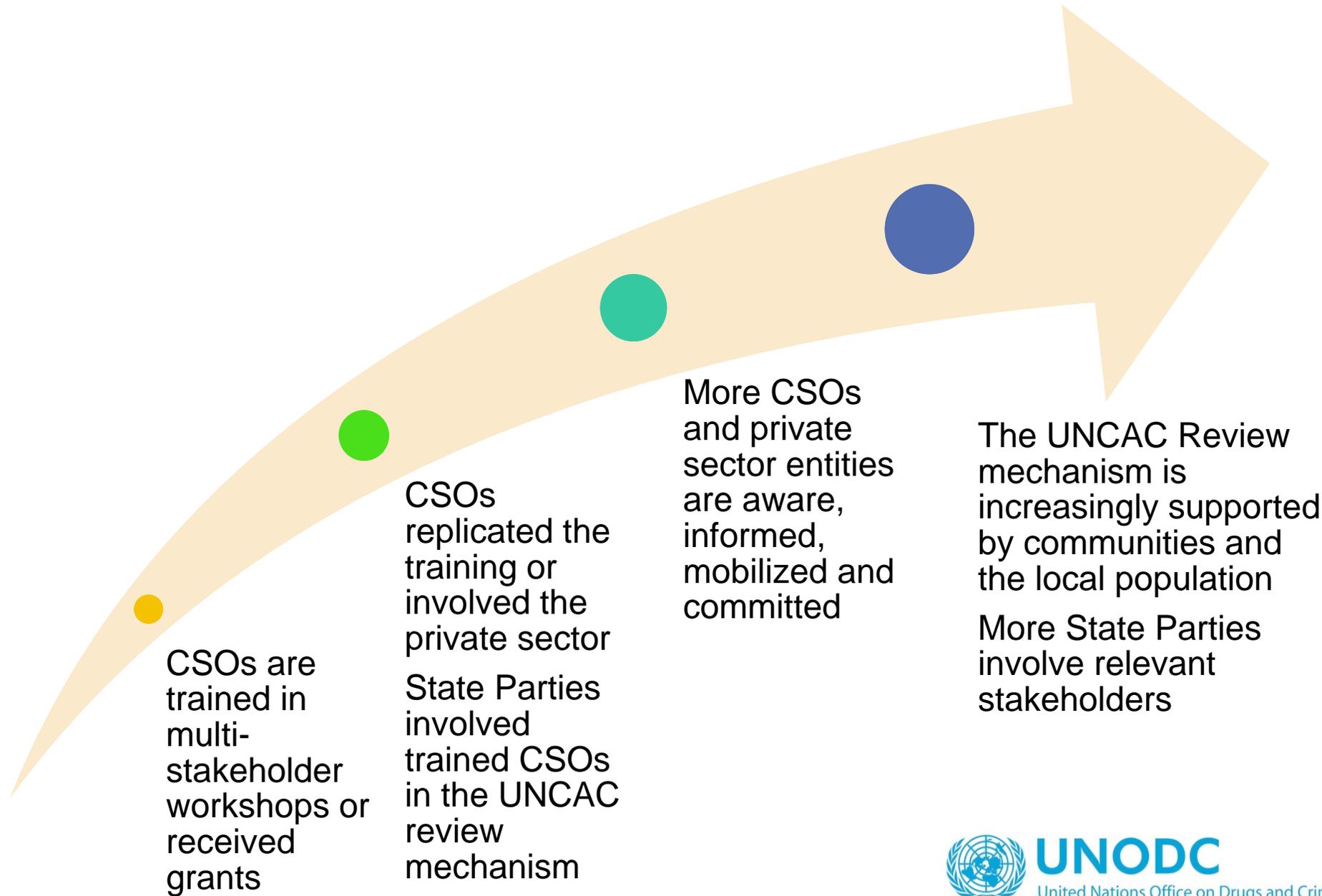
(1) Some 85% of States Parties have involved civil society in the national country review.

(2) Trained CSOs have replicated the training and grantees have shared their knowledge with other CSOs and SMEs on the UNCAC, and how to engage in its implementation and monitoring while strengthening their capacity to implement anti-corruption programmes;

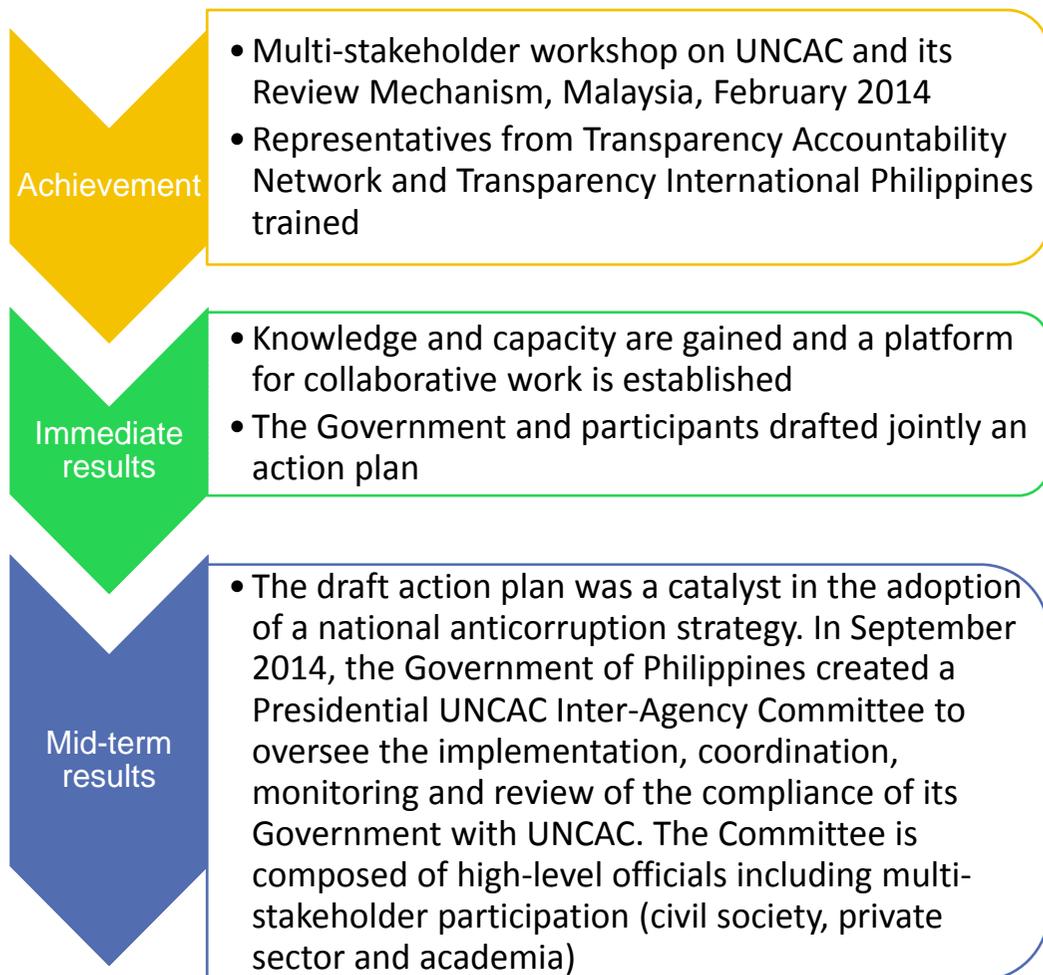
(3) Trained CSOs have published studies and guidance documents with policy or strategy recommendations; organized multi-stakeholder roundtables and fora; Grantees have conducted advocacy campaign involving the media and SMEs referring to or using UNODC advocacy materials;

(4) Trained CSOs and grantees have started the creation of alliance of like-minded leaders from the civil society community or private sector; They have supported network of NGOs and private stakeholders to foster collective action, information and best practices sharing.

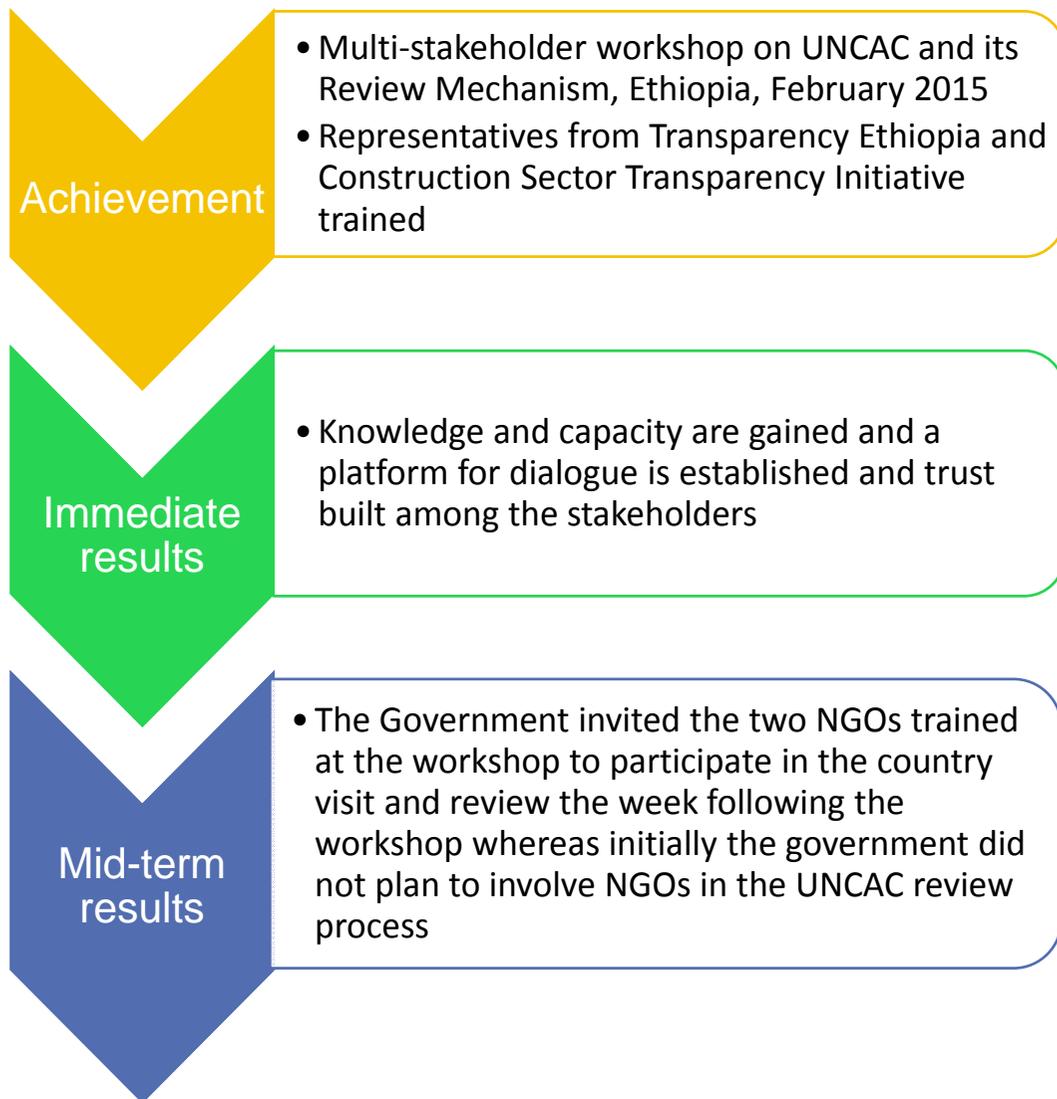
IMPACTS – LONG-TERM RESULTS



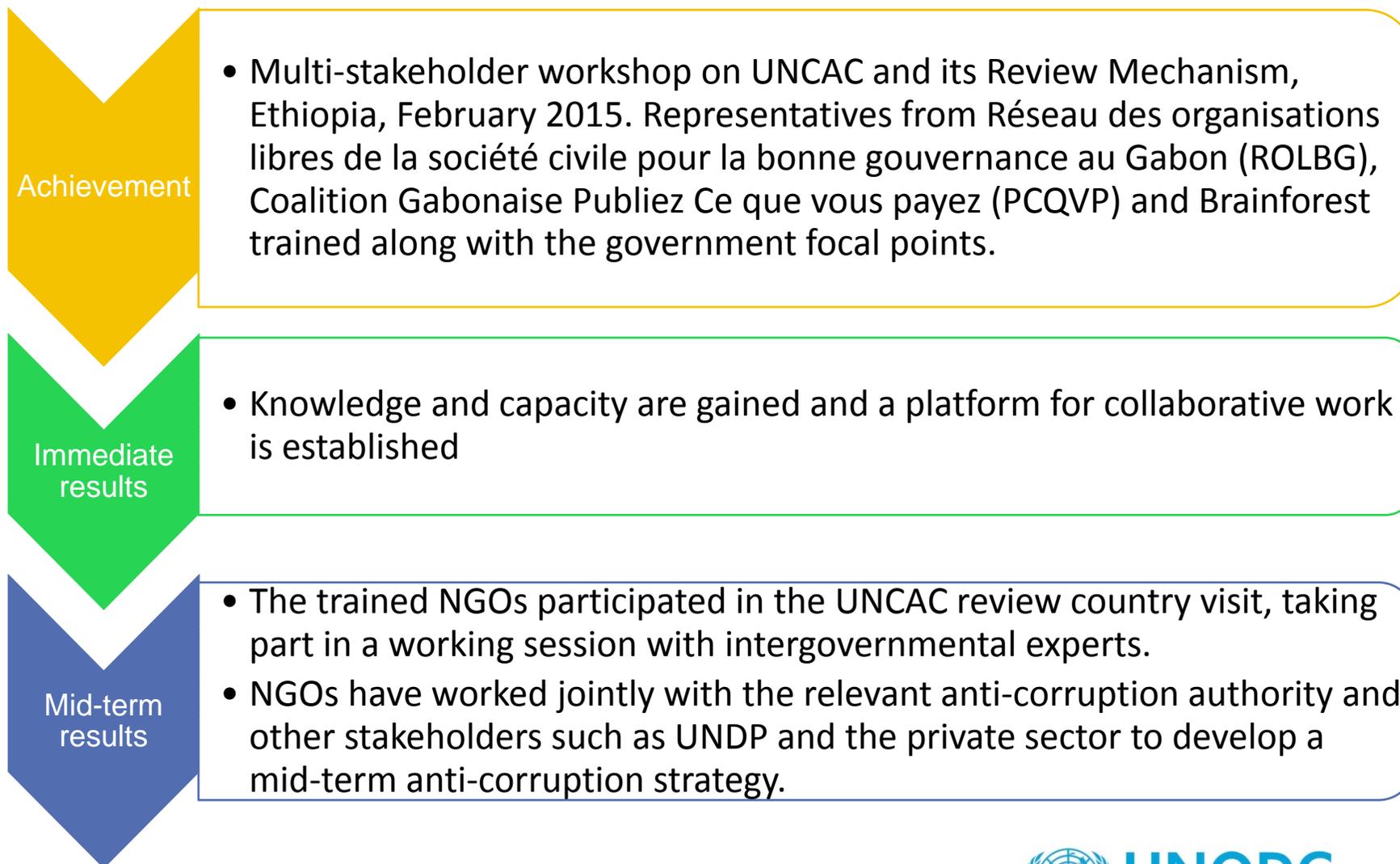
MAKING A DIFFERENCE: GOOD PRACTICES



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MAKING A DIFFERENCE: GOOD PRACTICES



Project Objective

- Facilitate inclusive UNCAC review mechanism by focusing on UNCAC self-assessment report and the identification of gaps. **I WATCH Tunisia** was instrumental in facilitating the dialogue between the Government and the private sector.

Target group

- SMEs and students

Project results

- I WATCH facilitated the inclusion of private sector recommendations in the self-assessment report as well as contributed to the opening up of Government to the private sector in the review process.
- Conducted ethics trainings in different business schools in order to raise the awareness of business students ;
- Round-tables bringing together all stakeholders involved in the review mechanism, esp. private sector;
- Identification of bribery in the private sector as a gap in the Government self-assessment report;
- Media attention around the UNCAC review mechanism ;
- Creation of a local coalition for the UNCAC

MAKING A DIFFERENCE: GOOD PRACTICES



Project Objective

- **The Ghana Anti-Corruption Coalition (GACC)** addressed the problem of corruption in the private sector by actively contributing to advocacy efforts against, and education on, corruption pertaining to SMEs in their efforts to follow and comply with UNCAC and national laws and regulations

Target group

- National Board of Small Scale Industries

Project results

- Conducted a study on the extent of conformity of anti-corruption policies and laws of **Ghana** to the provisions of the articles of UNCAC & used it to make inputs in the UNCAC review process;
- Generated a report on SME regulations in relation to UNCAC using the UNCAC assessment checklist;
- Educated SMEs regarding their role in the fight against corruption & the review process : SMEs agreed to form a network for collective action.

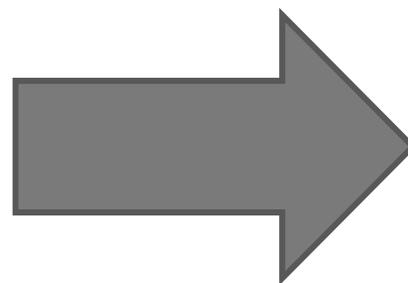
THE WAY FORWARD



Strengthen **CSOs' engagement** in the follow-up of the recommendations from the **First Cycle**.

In the **Second Cycle** - with the Prevention Chapter under review - a larger number of CSOs and businesses has to be exposed to UNCAC to increase their knowledge and capacity to combat corruption.

Broaden the target groups, diversify the areas of expertise of CSO to mainstream anti-corruption efforts and activities within their programmes and contribute to the success of the SDGs and the fight against corruption and transnational organized crime.



Your support is needed to sustain the project



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Thank you for your attention!

CORRUPTION
Your **NO** counts