

UNITED NATIONS TO OFFER HAVEN FOR EDUCATED YOUTH

Coffee shops to serve up a shot of anti-corruption

NANCHANOK WONGSAMUTH

» In a move likely to stir controversy, anti-corruption coffee shops are to be opened at universities nationwide to perk students' awareness about graft.

Khon Kaen and Ubon Ratchathani uni-

versity in Thailand to have a coffee shop to tackle corruption problems.

"The cafes will cater to an active community in which [students] try to tackle the real enemy of Thai society, which is corruption," Mr Stevens said. "The future of Thailand should be won by educated youth who are

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, said treating corruption as an individual moral failure that can be corrected by education fails to grasp the true nature of corruption as abuse of power.

"As the main working mechanism of the patronage culture, corruption is not a

cultural practices alone, you act cynic," Mr Saxer said.

True Coffee will provide initial investment for the design, construction, fitting and equipment of the cafes. It will register the cafes as branches of the chain and provide know-how and management support



UNDP university survey reveals integrity gap among Thai students

Submitted by editor2 on Mon, 08/12/2014 - 16:22



Bangkok Post

THE NEWSPAPER YOU CAN TRUST

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2014 +

Bangkok Post | TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2014

Students unfazed by graft, survey finds

Most would pay bribes to get their way

ARIANE KUPFERMAN-SUTTHAVONG

Thai university students understand what corruption is, but are likely to resort to

believe it is normal to use personal connections to achieve their goals and 68.1% of them would pay a bribe to get ahead.

The study was carried out between September and October among 1,255 students from UNDP-partner universities, including Khon Kaen and Ubon Ratchathani.

Erin Gallegos, the author of the survey and a Peace Corps fellow at the College of Local Administration, Khon Kaen Univer-

sity, said that the survey was conducted on International Anti-Corruption Day.

"If students see in place systems that punish corruption and unethical behaviour and reward integrity, they will be more likely to follow them," she said.

When the students were asked why they did not report bribes or solicitation for bribes, 26.8% said they would do nothing because they believed no action would be taken against the offenders. Another

26.8% said they would cooperate if no reprisals could be guaranteed.

Ms Gallegos said she believes students are more likely to be influenced by anti-corruption and integrity-promoting measures at their universities than at the national level.

"Of course, the political conversation will affect students and give them ideas,

information on procedures, while 13.7% of them would pay a bribe to get ahead.

"This will need to go beyond simple moral education — the difference between right and wrong — and really convince students that it is their social responsibility to stand up against corruption," she said.

Khwanpadh Sukkhi-Dhamakit, a UNDP programme analyst, said Thai citizens must first understand they are a part of the corruption problem before the gov-







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