Programmatic Responses to Corruption

August 21-22, 2024

Virtual Platform: Zoom

Participants will receive instructions regarding access closer to the dates of the program.

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE (INL)
JUSTRAC Training-Anti-Corruption: Programmatic Responses to Corruption

Course Objectives

Over a decade since the Open Government Partnership was formed to promote more inclusive, transparent, and participatory governments around the world, the challenge of corruption has only grown in importance. Globally, every nation, every population confronts increasingly novel and seemingly intractable issues as technology-fueled disinformation, nation state malignant influence operations, and criminal enterprises enable corruption to spread and evolve. The rise of authoritarianism has roots in the corrosive impact of corruption on democracy and the rule of law. In short, the need for renewed, effective measures to combat corruption is more salient than ever.

The Biden Administration agreed, memorializing the importance of effectively combatting corruption into the National Strategy on Countering Corruption. The Strategy prioritizes modernization of the US government architecture to combat corruption, more effective collection and use of data, and improved coordination across the proverbial board.

Justice sector actors are on the front lines of countering and combatting corruption, through prosecution, administrative regulation, and prevention. At the same time, the justice sector is not immune to corruption's pernicious influence. And, in a system that depends on public legitimacy, the justice sector is particularly affected by the destructive impact of corruption. It is thus particularly important for justice sector experts and reform managers to possess, and continue to deepen, an in-depth, nuanced understanding of the entrenched, resilient, and systemic nature of corruption in society.

Building upon the analytical foundation provided in the JUSTRAC Training "Understanding and Analyzing Corruption," participants in this two-day training will expand their knowledge of anti-corruption efforts beyond traditional approaches. Participants will apply these tools in a group setting drawing from hypothetical scenarios that will illustrate the challenges outlined during the training. At the end of the training, participants will leave with a nuanced and sophisticated understanding of programmatic responses to corruption as well as templates for all tools used throughout the training to apply to their own country of focus.

DAY ONE: HOLISTIC THINKING AND MAPPING

Morning Session, February 21, 2024

8:45AM – 9:00AM   **LOGIN AND TECHNOLOGY CHECK**

Participants will be able to sign on to the platform a little early and, if necessary, receive help or a brief introduction to the platform to mitigate any technology issues.

9:00AM – 10:00AM   **WELCOME AND REVIEW**

Greg Gisvold, *Senior Fellow, Rule of Law Collaborative, University of South Carolina*
Karen Hall, *Deputy Director, Rule of Law Collaborative, University of South Carolina*

During this opening session, participants will be introduced to top line findings from the "Understanding and Analyzing Corruption" training. They will review definitions, typologies, and delineations of corruption. They will discuss the resistance of corruption to reform and learn about some notable consequences of corruption.

Learning objectives

- Participants will learn about corruption's impact resilience to reform efforts.

Resources

- Asynchronous Learning Module "Anti-Corruption: Defining, Understanding, and Identifying Corruption"

10:00AM – 10:15AM   **BREAK**

10:15AM – 11:45AM   **AUTHORITARIANISM, CORRUPTION, AND DEMOCRATIC BACKSLIDING**

Atif Choudhury, *Program Officer, Rule of Law Collaborative, University of South Carolina*

In this session, the discussion of resilience will continue, with a focus on data and case studies laying out the relationship between authoritarian and corruption-prone systems. Geopolitical ramifications on corruption, state capture, diminishing spaces for anti-corruption civil society actors, and a number of other policy challenges will be discussed, and participants will be asked to apply their work from the previous session to the issue of corruption shoring up the power of autocrats and aspiring autocrats in democratically backsliding regimes.

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Learning objectives

- Participants will be able to identify how corruption bolsters authoritarianism and enables democratic backsliding.

Resources

- *Dhinak Dhinak Dhin Ta Da - by Beygairat Brigade.* YouTube (May 12, 2013). https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FOT31Qf6I6U
- *Rang De Basanti (2007) and BSF aircraft crash.* YouTube (Dec. 23, 2015). https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mWK-vaNoEYE&t=300s
- *Syriana -The oil business.* YouTube (Aug. 22, 2010). https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AwQKhvweL2A
- اهداء الى *NARCY* للفنان *"Bigger Than Baghdad"* البشير شو الجمهورية | اغنية | مظاهرات العراق . YouTube (Nov. 15, 2019). https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LRsDYPwLl1s

11:45AM – 1:00PM   LUNCH

Afternoon Session, February 21, 2024

1:00PM – 2:30PM   CORRUPTION AS A SYSTEM SPOILER

Karen Hall, *Deputy Director, Rule of Law Collaborative, University of South Carolina*

In this session, participants will be introduced to the "context map" tool of understanding justice systems. After learning about constructing context maps in a particular environment, participants will be led through an exercise to diagnose opportunities for corruption at each decision point. A discussion will follow focusing on the systemic nature of corruption, and the necessity of expansive conceptions of and responses to the problem of corruption.

Learning objectives

- Participants will develop a more nuanced and sophisticated understanding of the spoiling effect corruption has on the rule of law.

Resources

- Asynchronous Learning Module, "Country Analysis: Things to Remember to Build a Context Map"
- Practical Exercise 1

2:30PM – 2:45PM   BREAK

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2:45PM – 3:55PM   **COALITIONS, CIVIC ACTION, AND CORRUPTION**

Abby Natividad, *Program Officer, Rule of Law Collaborative, University of South Carolina*

In this session, participants will be presented with theoretical models to explain the relationship between citizens at a variety of levels and entrenched corruption. Participants will be asked to apply a theoretical model to their country of focus to determine control of corruption. The model will provide a springboard for discussion of the problem of diffused victimization.

Learning objectives

- Participants will understand the theoretical underpinnings of the relationship between citizen engagement and corruption.

Resources

- Practical Exercise 2

3:55PM – 4:00PM   **Q&A AND WRAP UP**

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DAY TWO: ACTIONS, REACTIONS, AND APPLICATIONS

Morning Session, February 22, 2024

9:00AM – 9:05AM   **WELCOME**

9:05AM – 10:30AM   **HOLISTIC RESPONSES TO THE THREAT OF CORRUPTION**

Greg Gisvold, *Senior Fellow, Rule of Law Collaborative, University of South Carolina*
This session will explore responses to corruption that go beyond traditional rule of law programming, including safeguarding programs against corruption, strengthening deterrence mechanisms, tying into global mechanisms to fight corruption, developing cross-sectoral plans, etc. The focus of this session will be on conceiving of corruption broadly and thinking creatively about strategic and tactical goals.

Learning objectives

- Participants will expand their knowledge of anti-corruption efforts to encompass system-oriented responses to corruption.

Resources

- Asynchronous Learning Module, "Country Analysis: Applying Systems Thinking"

10:30AM – 11:00AM   **BREAK**

11:00AM – 12:00PM   **ACCOUNTABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISMS**

Greg Gisvold, *Senior Fellow, Rule of Law Collaborative, University of South Carolina*

This session aims to deconstruct "accountability," often a primary, yet elusive, desired outcome of anticorruption efforts. The session will cover definitions and perspectives on accountability. Participants will discuss accountability as an institutional feature and as a cultural perspective and consider different means of pursuing it as a programming objective.

Learning objectives

- Participants will be able to distinguish aspects of accountability as an anticorruption programming objective.

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Resources

- Practical Exercise 3

12:00PM – 1:30PM   LUNCH

Afternoon Session, February 22, 2024

1:30PM – 3:00PM   APPLICATION OF TOOLS

Karen Hall, *Deputy Director, Rule of Law Collaborative, University of South Carolina*

In this final session, participants will be presented with a hypothetical country suffering from systemic corruption. Participants will practice using tools provided throughout the training to craft programmatic responses. They will be asked to work in groups to use the tools learned during the training to develop intervention objectives, identify stakeholder partners, and construct strategic next steps. These groups will be facilitated by subject matter experts from the Rule of Law Collaborative and will use a toolkit designed by ROLC to memorialize participant work. Participants will be provided with templates for the tools used during training.

Learning objectives

- Participants will learn to apply lessons learned during the core training to a real-world situation.

Resources

- Practical Exercise 4

3:00PM – 3:30PM   Q&A AND WRAP UP

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