



Meeting on Gender Dimensions of Corruption:

Views from Lebanon

Beirut, Lebanon, 27 July 2022

Draft Programme



Overview

Corruption exacerbates gender inequalities and prevents women from gaining access to their civil, political, social, and economic rights. This has a detrimental impact on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). With over a decade of experience supporting the implementation of anti-corruption and integrity reforms in the Arab states region, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is working to tackle a dual development challenge. On the one hand, women's voices are underrepresented in public affairs and policymaking. On the other hand, while corruption affects everyone, women tend to be more severely affected by certain forms of corruption and are disproportionately impacted in many sectors including healthcare, education and doing business.

The UNDP Regional Hub for Arab States is organizing a meeting entitled "Gender Dimensions of Corruption: Views from Lebanon" to be held on 27 July 2022 in Beirut, Lebanon. With the aim of informing possible actions to enhance anti-corruption reforms with a gender perspective, the meeting will bring together Lebanese women in different political, government and economic positions to engage in discussions on the complex interrelation of corruption and gender. UNDP will present a background issues paper and participants will engage in sharing testimonies and explore the influence of different economic, social, and political realities on gender differences in perceptions and experiences of different forms of corruption.

This meeting is part of an ongoing partnership with the Government of Canada in the framework of UNDP's regional project on Anti-Corruption and Integrity in the Arab Countries (ACIAC). UNDP will draw on the conclusions of this meeting to support women and other stakeholders to closely examine and better tackle the gender dimensions of corruption and promote gender-sensitive approaches to anti-corruption and integrity reforms.

The languages used will be Arabic and English with simultaneous interpretation available. Documents and other materials from the national meeting will be posted on our website: www.undp-aciac.org.

Agenda

Wednesday, 27 July 2022

09:00 – 09:30 Opening Session

Introductory Remarks

- Arkan El Seblani, Regional Chief Technical Advisor, Anti-Corruption and Integrity, UNDP Regional Hub for the Arab States

Insights from the Second Meeting of the Regional Alliance of Women Against Corruption

- Rosy Sader, Judge, Court of Accounts

09:30 – 10:30 Session 1: Strengthening governance through anti-corruption and gender equality

Objective: This session will examine current understandings of the nexus between corruption and gender. The importance of the matter in the Arab region will be discussed on the basis of an issues paper illustrating the specific concerns in relation to anti-corruption and gender equality in Arab countries as well as preliminary observations that emerged during a regional meeting on both integrity as well as gender non-discrimination as core pillars of the political, economic and social structures in the region.

Moderator: Sarah Dix, Senior Specialist, Anti-Corruption and Integrity, UNDP Regional Hub for the Arab States

Presentation of Issues Paper

- Nicola Ehlermann, Senior Anti-Corruption and Gender Advisor, UNDP Regional Hub for the Arab States

10:30 – 11:00 Break

11:00 – 13:00 Session 2: Views on the relation to the fight against corruption and gender equality in Lebanon, Part 1

Objective: This session will address the first two of four areas of women's empowerment to identify to what extent women and how are impacted by corruption. Each part of this session will be addressed by an expert who will

provide interlocutory remarks on the issues at stake. In each part, participants will engage in a round-table discussion, sharing experiences as well as views on good practices to reinforce anti-corruption and gender equality efforts in Lebanon.

Moderator: Nicola Ehlermann, Senior Anti-Corruption and Gender Advisor, UNDP Regional Hub for the Arab States

How Corruption Impacts Women’s Effective Engagement in Public Service

- Nisrine Machmouchi, President of the Civil Service Board, Lebanon

Women’s Access to Social Services including the Judiciary and How Corruption impacts Women’s Effective Engagement

- Manar Zaiter, Legal and Human Rights Expert

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch

14:00 – 16:00 Session 2: Views on the relation to the fight against corruption and gender equality in Lebanon, Part 2

Objective: This session will address the next two of four areas of women’s empowerment to identify to what extent women and how are impacted by corruption. Each part of this session will be addressed by an expert who will provide interlocutory remarks on the issues at stake. In each part, participants will engage in a round-table discussion, sharing experiences as well as views on good practices to reinforce anti-corruption and gender equality efforts in Lebanon.

Moderator: Nicola Ehlermann, Senior Anti-Corruption and Gender Advisor, UNDP Regional Hub for the Arab States

How Corruption Impacts Women’s Effective Engagement in Politics

- Inaya Ezzeddine, Member of Parliament, Head of Committee on Woman and Child, Lebanon

How Corruption Impacts Women’s Effective Engagement in Business

- Asmahan El Zein, Advisor to the Board of Lebanese League for Women in Business.

16:00 – 16:30 Closing and Way Forward

- Arkan El Seblani, Regional Chief Technical Advisor, Anti-Corruption and Integrity, UNDP Regional Hub for the Arab States
