CORRUPTION AND ECONOMIC CRIME BRANCH | March 2023

THE TIME IS NOW

ADDRESSING THE GENDER DIMENSIONS OF CORRUPTION

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Content:

I - What is the Connection between Gender Inequality and Corruption?

II - What is the impact of gender on corruption and corruption on gender?

III - International Frameworks

IV - National policy responses to international commitments

V - Case studies
   Ghana - Indonesia - Brazil
Diversity disrupts established, collusive networks, which are pre-dominantly male, and tend to benefit men more than women.
Gender and Corruption in the Public Sector

Gender equality and anti-corruption policies can be mutually reinforcing

• Switzerland: any company that does business with the government must ensure equal pay.
  • Equal pay audits finding noncompliance can result in contracts being terminated.

• Kenya:
  • 2013 presidential directive reserves 30% of government procurement opportunities for companies owned by women, youth, and disabled people.
Gender and Corruption in the Private Sector

A more gender equal top-management improves opportunities for women and boosts the financial performance of a company, including through increased transparency.

2014 Credit Suisse study of 3000+ companies

E.g. the Spanish procurement law incorporates gender equality requirements.

The interactive nature of policies between the private and public sectors.

The CS Gender 3000: Women in Senior Management
Building Resilience by
Addressing the Gender Dimensions of Corruption

- Improve diversity and inclusiveness and break ‘networks’ to reduce corruption.
- Gender-sensitive whistleblower reporting and protection mechanisms create a safer environment for women to report corruption.
- Gender audits of the application of policies to assess their impact overall and on women.
- Lack of data and primary research on the interplay between gender, accountability, transparency and power structures.
Conclusion:

- An inclusive society is a less corrupt society.
- Gender equality and anti-corruption policies are mutually reinforcing.
- National context matters.
- Civil society has an important role to play.
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