



Regional Bureau for Arab States Anti-Corruption and Integrity In the Arab Countries Project

The **Anti-Corruption and Integrity in the Arab Countries (ACIAC) Project** draws on the outcomes of extensive regional consultations and seeks to respond to the increasing demand on anti-corruption cooperation in the Arab region. Its overall aim is to provide Arab stakeholders with the requisite tools to work on reducing corruption risks and adopt better standards and practices in this field. The UNDP Regional Bureau for Arab States will implement this four-year project (2011-2014) with the support of strategic partnerships at the national, regional and international levels. ACIAC comprises **four main components** that are designed to jointly contribute to the empowerment of beneficiaries in terms of developing, implementing and monitoring anti-corruption policies and programmes in a more effective and inclusive manner.

Anti-corruption and integrity assessments: ACIAC will improve the ability of Arab governmental and non-governmental practitioners to design and use assessments, with a view to reinforcing their countries' participation in the UNCAC Review Mechanism and helping inform national anti-corruption policies and strategies benefiting from the information that is generated by those assessments.

Implementation of the UNCAC: ACIAC will work with the Arab Anti-Corruption and Integrity Network (ACINET) to support knowledge networking, capacity development and policy dialogue to enhance the Arab stakeholders' capacity to identify and implement specific UNCAC provisions according to each country's needs and priorities.

Integrity in sectors that deliver basic services such as education, healthcare, water and energy: ACIAC will focus on developing specialized knowledge on sectoral corruption risks and possible remedies, and supporting constructive dialogue among stakeholders to help mainstream integrity standards and practices in related sectoral governance processes.

Anti-corruption in crisis-affected countries: ACIAC will work to raise awareness on the state of corruption in those countries, its particularities and potential responses through fostering an active regional dialogue among stakeholders based on a series of desk studies and field surveys, with a view to providing the main building blocks for the development of follow-up initiatives at the country level.

For more information, please visit our website at www.undp-pogar.org/anticorruption.

For your comments and inquiries, please contact anti-corruption@undp-pogar.org.



Regional Bureau for Arab States Anti-Corruption and Integrity In the Arab Countries Project

The UNDP Regional Bureau for Arab States supported a series of preparatory activities in 2007-2010 that informed the development of ACIAC and prepared for its launch as a unique regional initiative in the area of anti-corruption in the Arab region. Key results achieved so far include:

Establishing and supporting the Arab Anti-Corruption and Integrity Network (ACINET) that became, in a very short period of time, an inclusive Arab-owned regional platform for knowledge-networking, capacity development and policy dialogue in the area of anti-corruption.

Mainstreaming the UNCAC into the regional governance policy dialogue by working with Arab countries to create space for anti-corruption discussions; encouraging the ratification of the UNCAC, which became a rallying point for more than 16 Arab countries in 2010; and supporting regional specialized dialogues that produced a number of recommendations, which were later implemented in at least 8 Arab countries.

Enhancing the use of the UNCAC Self Assessment Checklist for experts from 14 Arab governments, through supporting the establishment and training of the Arab Governmental Expert Group (AGEG) on UNCAC Self Assessments, which played an important role in developing country reports about UNCAC compliance in a number of Arab countries, and is currently internationally-recognized as a good practice in this field.

Building knowledge on various anti-corruption themes including the UNCAC, corruption prevention mechanisms, witness and whistleblower protection, anti-corruption assessments, integrity and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and others. As of the end of December 2009, the total number of beneficiaries was 780 participants from 20 Arab countries, including ministers, heads of anti-corruption agencies and financial and administrative bodies, judges, prosecutors, parliamentarians and other officials, in addition to representatives from civil society and the media.

- End -