Online Training Workshop on

Transparency, Accountability and Ethics in Public Institutions
with a focus on Public Procurement

Jointly organized by the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), Kenya School of Government (KSG) and the Kenya Institute of Supplies Management (KISM)

Wednesday, 24 and Thursday, 25 March 2021

16:00 – 18:00 PM (EAT, Nairobi Time)
9:00 – 11:00 AM (EDT, New York Time)

Via Microsoft Teams

"Corruption is the ultimate betrayal of public trust"
Secretary-General António Guterres[1]

1. Background

The United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), through its Division for Public Institutions and Digital Government (DPIDG), the Kenya School of Government (KSG)[2] and the Kenya Institute of Supplies Management (KISM)[3] are co-organizing an online training workshop on piloting a Toolkit on Transparency, Accountability and Ethics in Public Institutions ("the Toolkit"), developed by UN DESA/DPIDG. Selected modules from the Toolkit will be covered during an online training workshop.

The Toolkit is part of UN DESA/DPIDG's Curriculum on Governance for Implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) ("the Curriculum"). The Curriculum is a comprehensive set of training-of-trainers capacity development toolkits, which contain ready-to-use training material on key governance dimensions needed to advance the implementation of the SDGs. By facilitating training of trainers, the Curriculum can help equip public servants with the knowledge and capacities to effectively implement the SDGs. The Curriculum's training material can be used to run face-to-face and online training workshops at national and local government levels.

The Curriculum is composed of a number of toolkits. They have been developed in a holistic way and are complementary. They are structured around modules that include readings, self-assessments, situation analysis, application of theories learned to concrete issues and challenges,

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[1] United Nations (October 15, 2020). Corruption is the ultimate betrayal of public trust. Statement by UN Secretary-General António Guterres on corruption in the context of COVID-19. Retrieved from https://www.un.org/en/coronavirus/statement-corruption-context-covid-19 (last accessed on January 22, 2020).
[2] KSG is a State Corporation in Kenya established to offer management training, research, consultancy, and advisory services to the public sector. See also https://ksg.ac.ke/.
[3] KISM is a national body for professionals in the practice of procurement and supplies management in Kenya.

priority setting exercises, cooperative and experiential learning through case studies, action planning and other activities that can assist countries in advancing governance transformation for sustainable development.

The Curriculum is designed and implemented through the engagement of governments and schools of public administration. The Curriculum is planned to be launched in 2021 and will be made available on the UN Public Administration Network portal (www.unpan.un.org).

2. Thematic focus

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development cannot be realized without transparent, accountable and ethical public institutions. Goal 16 of the 2030 Agenda highlights the need to substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms (Target 16.5). The Principles of Effective Governance for Sustainable Development[4], developed by the Committee of Experts on Public Administration (CEPA) and adopted by the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) in 2018, also emphasize the need for accountability, integrity, transparency and independent oversight (Table 1):

Table 1: Excerpt from Principles of Effective Governance for Sustainable Development

Principle		Commonly used strategies
Accountability		
Integrity	To serve in the public interest, civil servants are to discharge their official duties honestly, fairly and in a manner consistent with soundness of moral principle	• Promotion of anti-corruption policies, practices and bodies • Codes of conduct for public officials • Competitive public procurement • Elimination of bribery and trading in influence • Conflict of interest policies • Whistle-blower protection • Provision of adequate remuneration and equitable pay scales for public servants
Transparency	To ensure accountability and enable public scrutiny, institutions are to be open and candid in the execution of their functions and promote access to information, subject only to the specific and limited exceptions as are provided by law	• Proactive disclosure of information • Budget transparency • Open government data • Registries of beneficial ownership • Lobby registries
Independent oversight	To retain trust in government, oversight agencies are to act according to strictly professional considerations and apart from and unaffected by others	• Promotion of the independence of regulatory agencies • Arrangements for review of administrative decisions by courts or other bodies • Independent audit • Respect for legality

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[4] United Nations Economic and Social Council (2018). Principles of effective governance for sustainable development. Official Records, 2018. Supplement No. 24. E/2018/44-E/C.16/2018/8, para. 31. Retrieved from https://publicadministration.un.org/Portals/1/Images/CEPA/Principles_of_effective_governance_english.pdf (last accessed on January 22, 2021).

Corruption undermines in many different ways governments' ability to provide effective, inclusive and accountable services, particularly to the vulnerable groups. It has a negative impact on government's ability to serve the public interest and erodes people's trust in public institutions. For instance, in a survey of 35,777 people to commemorate the United Nation's 75th Anniversary, 68 percent stated that things about government corruption will not get better by 2045.[5] It also results in loss of resources, which are essential to address the needs of those left behind. Curbing corruption could deliver an additional $1 trillion in tax revenues annually across the world, or 1,25 percent of global gross domestic product.[6] This loss has negative impacts on peace, stability, security, the rule of law, gender equality, the environment and human rights, and is thus detrimental to the achievement of the SDGs. In particular, the devastating consequences of corruption bear on the poor, marginalized and vulnerable people, and some types of corruption, including petty corruption, can disadvantage women disproportionately.

Furthermore, corruption can be even more damaging in times of crisis, such as the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, when speedy emergency responses may lead to the loosening of oversight and control mechanisms to provide essential lifelines to people and firms.

The United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2018-2022 for Kenya, developed in collaboration with the Government of Kenya, also identifies transformational governance, including the strengthening of transparency and accountability, as a major development priority.[7]

UN DESA is committed to supporting Member States in developing their capacities to curb corruption, including through capacity development activities.

Against this backdrop, the Toolkit approaches integrity and effective anti-corruption in public institutions as the results of three interlinking factors:
1. **Transparency** of government, which enables people and civil society to hold governments to account,
2. **Accountability**, which can be enhanced by strengthening oversight institutions and involving stakeholders in decision-making, and
3. **Transforming mindsets** of public servants to adopt ethical standards, who as change agents play an enabling role in integrity transformations, upholding effective governance and anti-corruption measures in support of sustainable development.

When completing a full 5-day training based on the Toolkit, learners will:
• Be able to map capacity gaps and opportunities;
• Be able to map and engage with key stakeholders in defining an ethics and integrity strategy;
• Be able to understand concepts, and practical mechanisms for integrity and anti-corruption, focusing on international frameworks and standards, laws and institutions at the national level, organizational tools and processes, as well as behavioral insights to translate formal rules into desired behaviors.

3. Objectives

The purpose of the pilot testing is to assess the toolkit material along the following dimensions:

[5] United Nations (September 2020). The Future We Want. The United Nations We Need. Update on the Work of the Office on the Commemoration of the UN's 75th Anniversary, p. 67. Retrieved from https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/un75report_september_final_english.pdf (last accessed on January 29, 2021).
[6] International Monetary Fund (April 2019). Fiscal Monitor: Curbing Corruption. Chapter 2 (pp. 39-66), p. 43. Retrieved from https://www.imf.org/-/media/Files/Publications/fiscal-monitor/2019/April/English/ch2.ashx (last accessed on December 8, 2020).
[7] United Nations (2018). Kenya United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF 2018-2022). Retrieved from https://kenya.un.org/sites/default/files/2019-09/UNITED%20NATIONS%20DEVELOPMENT%20ASSISTANCE%20FRAMEWORK%20%28UNDAF%29%20B5%20web.pdf (last accessed on January 25, 2021).

- **Coherence:** How well (or not) the toolkit material works together as a whole;
- **Usability:** How easy (or not) it is for facilitators and participants to work with the toolkit material virtually and / or in-person;
- **Relevance:** How relevant the toolkit material is with regard to specific capacity development needs of participants;
- **Effectiveness**: Facilitation of the toolkit material should have a lasting learning effect on participants through an engaging and interactive format. After the piloting, participants should be in the position to know more about transparency, accountability and ethics in public institutions, and what and how to do in practice to achieve them;
- **Efficiency:** How long it approximately takes to facilitate the toolkit material and convey key messages; and
- **Adaptability:** How the existing toolkit material can be tailored to specific needs such as the national, regional or local context (for example in Kenya).

Lessons learned from the pilot testing will be reflected in the final version of the Toolkit.

4. Structure

Two modules of the Toolkit will be pilot tested during the online training workshop. The workshop will consist of a mix of presentation elements (e.g. for the presentation of definitions, concepts, practical examples and introductions to activities) and activity elements that engage participants and open space for discussion and exchange.

The Toolkit consists of 18 modules. The two modules piloted during the workshop are the module on **Essentials of ethics and public integrity** and on **Transparent public procurement**.

In the module on the **Essentials of ethics and public integrity,** participants will learn among other things:
- What are the roles and responsibilities of public servants and where they might conflict;
- What integrity challenges such as ethical dilemmas public servants can face and what options exist to behave in critical situations;
- How the core concepts of ethics, integrity and accountability are interlinked and work as a system;
- How to reflect on the personal values that are important to you and to set up your personal integrity plan.

In the module on **Transparent public procurement**, participants will learn among other things:
- What are the corruption risks in public procurement;
- What are the consequences of corruption in public procurement;
- What are international standards and recommendations for transparent public procurement;
- Which tools can be used for transparent public procurement.

During the training, participants will gain knowledge of key issues related to transparency, accountability and ethics in public institutions, discuss specific topics in small groups, exchange information on practical examples and lessons learned from other countries with a view to see if and how international good practices can inspire similar action at the national level and engage in discussing a teaching case study on the COVID-19 pandemic. Participants will be able to provide comments and feedback on the Toolkit which will be taken into consideration when finalizing the Toolkit.

5. Format

The workshop will be conducted in a fully virtual format via Microsoft Teams. A link to join the meeting will be shared with participants once available. The workshop will be conducted in English. Workshop materials will be made available online at www.publicadministration.un.org.

6. Target audience

The workshop will target about 40-50 public procurement practitioners working at national, regional or local level in Kenya that will primarily be mobilized through the Kenya Institute of Supplies Management. In addition, speakers from UN DESA, the UN Resident Coordinator Office Kenya, the UN Ethics Office, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, UN Committee of Experts on Public Administration (CEPA), KSG, Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission[8], KISM and potentially others will participate (see provisional agenda below). Gender parity in the target audience is desirable.

7. Selected reading materials

United Nations Economic and Social Council (2018). Principles of effective governance for sustainable development. Official Records, 2018. Supplement No. 24. E/2018/44-E/C.16/2018/8, para. 31. Retrieved from https://publicadministration.un.org/Portals/1/Images/CEPA/Principles_of_effective_governance_english.pdf (last accessed on January 22, 2021).

UN Ethics Office (2020). Leadership Dialogue. Acknowledging Dignity through Civility: How can I communicate for a more harmonious workplace? Leader's Guide and Materials. Retrieved from https://www.un.org/en/ethics/assets/pdfs/Leaders%20Guide%202020.pdf (last accessed on December 7, 2020).

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (2017). Corruption in Public Procurement. The case of infrastructure in Africa. Retrieved from https://repository.uneca.org/ds2/stream/?#/documents/0a480c95-2d7f-5588-b93f-c7653e688118/page/1 (last accessed on January 25, 2021).

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) (October 16, 2020). G20 Good Practices Compendium on Combating Corruption in the Response to COVID-19, pp. 23-35. Retrieved from https://www.unodc.org/pdf/corruption/G20_Compendium_COVID-19_FINAL.pdf (last accessed on January 25, 2021).

Lewis, C. W. & Gilman, S. C. (2012). The Ethics Challenge in Public Service: A Problem-Solving Guide. 2nd edition. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.

OECD (2020). Public Integrity Handbook. OECD Publishing: Paris. Accessible at https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/ac8ed8e8-en/index.html?itemId=/content/publication/ac8ed8e8-en (last accessed on June 17, 2020).

United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (2020). Institutions and governance for accelerating sustainable public procurement. Report of the virtual expert group meeting convened by the CEPA working group on sustainable public procurement on 24 November 2020. Retrieved from https://publicadministration.un.org/Portals/1/Report%20CEPA%20EGM%20on%20SPP%202024%20Nov%202020%20FINAL.pdf (last accessed on March 16, 2021).

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[8] See also https://eacc.go.ke/default/.

United Nations (October 15, 2020). Corruption is the ultimate betrayal of public trust. Statement by UN Secretary-General António Guterres on corruption in the context of COVID-19. Retrieved from https://www.un.org/en/coronavirus/statement-corruption-context-covid-19 (last accessed on January 22, 2021).

United Nations (2018). Kenya United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF 2018-2022). Retrieved from https://kenya.un.org/sites/default/files/2019-09/UNITED%20NATIONS%20DEVELOPMENT%20ASSISTANCE%20FRAMEWORK%20%28UNDAF%29%20B5%20web.pdf (last accessed on January 25, 2021).

United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (2011). UNCITRAL Model Law on Public Procurement. Retrieved from https://uncitral.un.org/en/texts/procurement/modellaw/public_procurement (last accessed on April 7, 2020).

8. Contacts

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- **Markus Johannes Zock**, Associate Expert, Governance and Public Administration, UN DESA/DPIDG, markus.zock@un.org.

KSG:
- **Prisca Oluoch**, Director, Director of Linkages, Collaborations & Partnerships, KSG, prisca.oluoch@ksg.ac.ke;
- **Timothy Kisinga**, ICT Officer and Technical Focal Point, KSG, timothy.kisinga@ksg.ac.ke.

9. Provisional agenda

Day 1 – Essentials of ethics and public integrity
(Wednesday, 24 March 2021, 16:00 – 18:00 PM (Nairobi time))

Facilitator: Ms. Anni Haataja, Governance and Public Administration Officer, UN DESA

Time	Item
16:00 – 16:15 pm	**Welcome remarks:** • Mr. Stephen Jackson, UN Resident Coordinator in Kenya • Prof. Ludeki Chweya, Director-General, Kenya School of Government
16:15 – 16:30 pm	**Presentation of the Curriculum on Governance for the SDGs:** • Ms. Adriana Alberti, Chief, Programme Management and Capacity Development and Unit, UN DESA
16:30 – 17:00 pm	**Facilitation of material on "Essentials of ethics and public integrity" from the toolkit on "Transparency, Accountability and Ethics in Public Institutions":** • Mr. Markus Zock, Associate Expert, Governance and Public Administration, UN DESA & Ms. Anni Haataja, Governance and Public Administration Officer, UN DESA *Ca. 16:45 – 17:00 pm: Opening of breakout rooms*
17:00 – 17:10 pm	**Active break**
17:10 – 17:25 pm	**Ethics in Practice – the role of the UN Ethics Office:** • Ms. Sarah Leber, Legal Officer, UN Ethics Office
17:25 – 17:40 pm	**Presentation on the country context in Kenya:** • Mr. Kenneth Matiba, Senior Investigation Officer (Procurement Specialist), Kenya Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission
17:40 – 18:00 pm	**Q&A with speakers and wrap-up**

Day 2 – Transparent public procurement
(Thursday, 25 March 2021, 16:00 – 18:00 PM (Nairobi time))

Facilitator: Mr. Markus Zock, Associate Expert, Governance and Public Administration, UN DESA

Time	Item
16:00 – 16:30 pm	**Facilitation of material on "Transparent public procurement" from the toolkit on "Transparency, Accountability and Ethics in Public Institutions":** • Ms. Anni Haataja, Governance and Public Administration Officer, UN DESA & Mr. Markus Zock, Associate Expert, Governance and Public Administration, UN DESA *Ca. 16:15 – 16:30 pm: Opening of breakout rooms*
16:30 – 16:45 pm	**Good practices on public procurement from Africa:** • Mr. Allan Mukungu, Economic Governance and Public Finance Section, Macroeconmic and Governance Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
16:45 – 17:00 pm	**Integrity in Public Procurement: Towards Sound Governance and Economic Recovery:** • Ms. Lamia Moubayed Bissat, Director, Institut des finances Basil Fuleihan, Ministry of Finance, Lebanon and Member of the UN Committee of the Experts on Public Administration (CEPA)
17:00 – 17:10 pm	**Active break**
17:10 – 17:25 pm	**Green public procurement:** • Ms. Sylvia C. Kurgat, Head of Supply Chain-Kenya at Equity Group Holdings PLC
17:25 – 17:50 pm	**Q&A with speakers**
17:50 – 18:00 pm	**Closing remarks:**

	• Mr. James Kaloki, CEO, Kenya Institute of Supplies Management • Mr. John Karani, Council Chair, Kenya Institute of Supplies Management • Ms. Adriana Alberti, Chief, Programme Management and Capacity Development and Unit, UN DESA

Note: Both days will include a variety of interactive activities, including in small breakout groups as well as assignments to be completed before the training and in between Day 1 and Day 2. Annotated Agenda will be shared before the meeting.