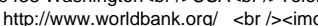




World Bank Group Integrity Report Calls for Sustained Global Interventions to Overcome Transnational Corruption Challenges

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This year's Integrity Annual Report highlights global benchmarks and underscores country leadership in stamping out the cancer of corruption. Successful anti-fraud and corruption interventions in the coming decade will need to rely on concerted international efforts, country leadership and a set of principles guiding solutions and initiatives—according to the Annual Report issued by the Integrity Vice Presidency. "World Bank Group support to country-led efforts is critical to turning the tide against corruption once and for all," said World Bank Group President Jim Yong Kim. "We will provide tools that transform ideas into action, diffuse knowledge across the globe on what works and why, and help countries adopt successful strategies. We will also help citizens hold their leaders accountable for making pledges to make governance more accountable." Since its establishment as part of an Integrity Office in 1999, the Integrity function at the World Bank Group has evolved into an Integrity Vice Presidency (INT) whose mandate is to prevent, deter and investigate fraud and corruption in bank-financed operations. As part of its strategic update, INT is looking into ways to spread its impact more effectively across regions while incorporating prevention and compliance as critical elements of its response to clients. "Our focus is on identifying alternative solutions to persistent anti-corruption challenges that can sustain collective action by our development partners and clients," said World Bank Group Integrity Vice President Leonard McCarthy. During this fiscal year, INT's investigative results led to sanctioning of 71 firms and individuals for misconduct including corruption, collusion, fraud and/or coercive practices. As of the end of this fiscal year, the Integrity Compliance Office was actively engaged with 13 multinational companies. Preventive tools that were developed include the use of checklists for procurement staff to assist them in reviewing bids as well as changing project delivery models to allow for more diligent community oversight. INT is also investing in technology and data-driven solutions to help identify and stop fraud and corruption through reverse engineering of some of its cases. Engaging with members of the World Bank Group's International Corruption Hunters Alliance, a series of webinars was delivered this fiscal year to strengthen the capacity of heads of anti-corruption agencies, public prosecutors and attorneys general in financial crime detection and whistleblower protection. The third meeting of the Alliance is scheduled to be held by the end of 2014 at the World Bank Group Headquarters. The World Bank
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