

**Annex I****Guidance Note****Guidance note for States parties and signatories on sharing information and experiences on:**

- **the participation of society in the prevention of and fight against corruption;**
- **the negative effects of corruption on women and youth; and,**
- **the role played by women and youth in preventing and combating corruption.**

In its resolution 10/1, entitled “Atlanta 2023: promoting integrity, accountability and transparency in the fight against corruption”, the Conference reiterated that:

“the active participation of society is integral to complementing States’ efforts in the prevention of and the fight against corruption and promoting transparency, integrity and accountability”,

and urged States parties to:

“put in place and effectively implement policies and practices, within their means and in accordance with the fundamental principles of their domestic laws, that allow individuals and groups outside the public sector, such as civil society, non-governmental and community-based organizations, the private sector, academia and media, to be able to contribute in this regard also thereby promoting accountability, including through the full and effective implementation of article 13 of the Convention”.

The resolution also emphasized the importance of engaging young people in the prevention of and fight against corruption.

Corruption affects all members of society – women and men, boys and girls - in different ways. It often results in the exclusion of vulnerable groups from decision-making processes and access to basic public services, reproducing negative stereotypes and limiting economic power and educational opportunities.

In its resolution 10/3, entitled “Follow-up to the Marrakech declaration on the prevention of corruption”, the Conference requested the Working Group to consider including, as a topic for discussion at its fifteenth meeting *“the negative effects of corruption on women and youth and the role played by women and youth in preventing and combating corruption”*.

The secretariat has prepared the attached questionnaire as guidance on information sought on the above topics. Should sufficient information be received, a report will be prepared in view of facilitating the discussion at the fifteenth Working Group on Prevention to be held from 28 August to 6 September 2024. Unless otherwise indicated in the submissions, the input will be published online and may be used for the development of knowledge products. The information sought includes descriptions of good practices and challenges faced in adopting and/or implementing these measures. The submission of supporting documentation, if any, is encouraged, including but not limited to legislation, regulations, reports, policy documents and evaluations.

Participation of society in preventing and fighting corruption, inclusive decision-making processes; role of non-governmental stakeholders, journalists and media

1. Has your country promoted the participation of society, including non-governmental stakeholders, journalists and the media, in anti-corruption activities, programmes and initiatives, including in relation to anti-corruption strategies? If yes, please specify how.

Australia recognises the importance of anti-corruption measures and collaborates across various sectors to maintain transparency and integrity in its public institutions. Australia has a strong record of global, regional, and domestic action to prevent and expose corrupt activity.

The National Anti-Corruption Commission enhances integrity in the Commonwealth public sector by deterring, detecting and preventing corrupt conduct involving Commonwealth public officials. It does this through education, monitoring, investigation, reporting and referral.

2. Has your country identified any barriers to the participation of society in the prevention of and fight against corruption? If yes, have any programmes been designed and implemented to address such barriers?

Australia is a federation comprising six States and two Territories. The Australian Constitution specifies those areas in which the Commonwealth has the power to legislate and leaves the remainder to the States. The effect of these constitutional arrangements means there are differences in applicable laws and policies concerning institutional public integrity approaches or systems across Australia, including those concerning Australian Anti-Corruption Commissions. As result, it is important to put in place co-operative mechanisms – such as the Commissioner bi-annual meetings – to maximise the sharing of information and build a shared understanding of approaches that may work across Australia



The negative effects of corruption on youth and the role played by youth in preventing and combating corruption. For each reply, we would be grateful for hyperlinks to relevant supporting documentation or websites, or any other supporting documents.

While the official definition of youth provided by the United Nations refers to persons between the ages of 15 and 24 years (and indeed, all United Nations statistics on youth are based on this definition), the United Nations recognizes that “the operational definition and nuances of the term ‘youth’ vary from country to country”¹ as it relates to sociocultural, institutional, economic and political factors, and adapts to the countries where it operates.² UNODC uses the age range of 15 to 30 when referring to engaging young people outside the UN as partners and leaders in their shared objective to prevent and counter corruption. In line with this flexible definition of youth, we encourage Member States to decide which definition they would like to refer to and specify it in their answers to the questionnaire.

1. Does your country collect data disaggregated by age on the experience of young people as victims of corruption? Please provide the findings of any studies you may have carried out on the impact of corruption on young people. An example could be the impact of corruption on access to economic opportunities for businesses owned by young people.

The Australian National Anti-Corruption Commission (NACC) has been in operation for eleven months and has not collected data in this field to date.

Prior to the commencement of the NACC, the Australian Institute of Criminology (AIC) surveyed a large sample of online Australians (n=11,304), including young people, about their perceptions of corruption and legitimacy among public officials. [Community perceptions of corruption by public officials](#)

The AIC is Australia’s national research and knowledge centre on crime and justice, compiling trend data and disseminating research and policy advice. The AIC informs crime and justice policy and practice in Australia by undertaking, funding and disseminating policy-relevant research of national significance, by generating a crime and justice evidence base, and by establishing a national knowledge centre.

The AIC is part of the [Attorney-General's](#) Portfolio and accountable to the [Attorney-General](#).

¹ United Nations, “Global Issues: Youth”, <https://www.un.org/en/global-issues/youth>.

² General Assembly resolution 36/81; and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Meaningfully engaging with youth (Paris, 2019).



2. Does your country have education for young people on integrity, ethics and anti-corruption at the primary, secondary, tertiary or informal level? If yes, please describe and provide any supporting documents.

The Australian Government Curriculum sets the expectations for what all young Australians should be taught, regardless of where they live in Australia, and it includes an ethical understanding component for students from foundation level through to level 10 [Australian Curriculum - Ethical Understanding](#)

Accordingly, ethics curriculums exist across varying levels within the six Australian states and two territories.

An example is Primary Ethics, which was established in the State of New South Wales (NSW) to give school children the space to explore ethical dilemmas. Primary Ethics is an independent not-for-profit organisation and the sole approved provider of ethics classes to NSW public schools. Ethics classes have been implemented in over 500 schools in NSW and Primary Ethics has established itself as a highly effective education provider [Primary Ethics](#).

A further example is the state of Victoria which has an Ethical capability curriculum, based on the Australian curriculum, which is taught to students from foundation level through to level 10 [VCAA Curriculum F-10](#)

3. How does your country meaningfully include young people in the development, implementation and monitoring of anti-corruption efforts, including in relation to national anti-corruption strategies?

The Australian Federal Government, and State and Territory governments support various peak bodies representing young people.

The Australia Youth Affairs Coalition (AYAC) is the national peak body for young people aged 12–25 and the sector that supports them. AYAC advocates for all young people to ensure they are included and represented in all public dialogue and policy. AYAC is supported and partially funded by the Australian Government [AYAC](#)

At a state level, an example is the Youth Affairs Council Victoria (YACVic), which is the peak body and leading policy advocate for young people and the youth sector in Victoria and receives core funding from the Victorian Government's Office for Youth [YACVic](#).

The negative effects of corruption on women and the role played by women in preventing and combating corruption

Making the world safer from drugs, crime and terrorism



1. Have any studies (quantitative or qualitative) been undertaken or has information been gathered in view of discerning the negative effects of corruption on women in your country? If available, please provide the findings of any such studies or information collection efforts.

The Australian National Anti-Corruption Commission (NACC) has been in operation for eleven months and has not collected data in this field to date.

Prior to the commencement of the NACC, the Australian Institute of Criminology surveyed a large sample of online Australians (n=11,304), including women, about their perceptions of corruption and legitimacy among public officials. [Community perceptions of corruption by public officials](#)

Characteristics of the survey respondents were included that 49.0 percent were female and one example of the findings was that female respondents recorded significantly higher ratings of perceived corruption than male respondents for both politicians and government institutions.

The AIC is Australia's national research and knowledge centre on crime and justice, compiling trend data and disseminating research and policy advice. The AIC informs crime and justice policy and practice in Australia by undertaking, funding and disseminating policy-relevant research of national significance, by generating a crime and justice evidence base, and by establishing a national knowledge centre.

The Australian Institute of Criminology (AIC) is part of the [Attorney-General's](#) Portfolio and accountable to the [Attorney-General](#).

2. Has your country promoted the role of women in preventing and combating corruption? Has this included efforts to promote the meaningful participation and engagement of, and cooperation with, women's and community-based organizations that support women in the policy development, planning, implementation and monitoring of your anti-corruption programmes? Please enclose any supporting documentation or hyperlinks, if available.

The National Anti-Corruption Commission participates in the Women in Law Enforcement Strategy (WILES) program. The WILES program was established to "assist in identifying institutional barriers that faced women in law enforcement, so that government and management could address those issues". WILES is a cross-Commonwealth agency mentoring program that provides mentees with an opportunity to discuss and manage their career development.