Understanding and Assessing Corruption in Developing Countries

Additional Information

As results of the extensive discussions and exchanges with experts, the seminar allowed for:
- Identifying the main areas of possible interventions for implementing anti-corruption strategies and policies;
- Better understanding of socio-anthropologic contexts in analysing corruption in given local settings;
- Acquiring further knowledge on corruption/anti-corruption issues and to learn how to use the resources and services offered by specialised anti-corruption institutions;
- better designing anti-corruption related projects and better mainstreaming anti-corruption issues into the various sectors covered by EC development assistance.

This seminar was articulated around six modules:
- The first one "What is corruption?" aimed to discuss the causes and consequences of corruption, as well as its most current forms and stressed the importance of considering the socio-anthropological context in which corruption occurs.
- The second module highlighted the main EU anti-corruption policies.
- The third module "Assessing corruption" stressed how to make use of existing corruption assessment tools for policy dialogue and projects/programmes design.
- The fourth module enabled the participants to get a better understanding of international conventions contributing to fight corruption.
- The fifth module "Supporting third countries in their efforts to fight corruption" provided an overview of the OECD Anti-Corruption Task Team mandate, structure and activities. Two sessions were organised on the EU action plan for Forest Law enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) and on the Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative (EITI).
- The sixth module "Fighting corruption in third countries" highlighted and discussed how to better mainstream anti-corruption measures in EC development cooperation programmes in the fields of NSA support, justice reform, civil service, public administration and customs reform, public finance management reform, and anti-money laundering.

This seminar was an important milestone to develop the concept paper on the EC support to anti-corruption in developing countries which aims to review concepts and experiences and to provide

guidance for future interventions. The feedbacks received during this seminar and the consultation of interested colleagues that will take place in the coming months on the draft concept paper will enable AIDCO/E4 to develop a useful tool for supporting delegations in better mainstreaming anti-corruption measures in EC programmes.

The concept paper will mainly focus on better mainstreaming anti-corruption in the whole range of EC governance programmes (justice, parliament, NSA, media, civil service and public administration reforms) and public finance management support programmes (with a specific focus on strengthening Supreme Audit Institutions and the procurement chain).

This seminar and the concept paper will constitute the basis for the preparation of a training module on mainstreaming anti-corruption measures in EC development cooperation that will be integrated into EuropeAid regular ADM training programmes.

Seminar documents and presentation are available on the EuropeAid Intranet : http://www.cc.cec/dgintranet/europeaid/activities/thematic/e4/public_admin_reform_decentralisation/workshop_anti_corruption_en.htm