



Anti-Corruption Initiative for Asia-Pacific

# Safeguarding Integrity in the COVID-19 Response and Recovery

28 July 2020 2:00 p.m.–3:15 p.m. (Manila Time)

*iACT to fight corruption!*





Anti-Corruption Initiative for Asia-Pacific

# Safeguarding Integrity in the COVID-19 Response and Recovery

28 July 2020 2:00 p.m.–3:15 p.m. (Manila Time)

delivered by:

**Jeroen Michels**

Policy Analyst

Directorate for Public Governance – OECD

**Paul Whittaker**

Anti-Corruption Analyst, Anti-Corruption Division

Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs – OECD

***iACT** to fight corruption!*





Anti-Corruption Initiative for Asia-Pacific

# Safeguarding Integrity in the COVID-19 Response and Recovery

## Program

---

### Introduction

*Lili Gutierrez, ADB*

---

### Welcome Remarks

*John Versantvoort, Head of OAI, ADB*

---

### Public Integrity and Policy Measures for an Effective COVID-19 Response and Recovery

*Jeroen Michels and Paul Whittaker, OECD*

---

### Summary and Recommendations

*Cholpon Mambetova, ADB*

---

### Q&A and Conclusion

*Lili Gutierrez, ADB*

---

**iACT** to fight corruption!





Anti-Corruption Initiative for Asia-Pacific

## Safeguarding Integrity in the COVID-19 Response and Recovery

# Welcome Remarks

John Versantvoort

Head, Office of Anticorruption and Integrity

*iACT to fight corruption!*





Anti-Corruption Initiative for Asia-Pacific

## Safeguarding Integrity in the COVID-19 Response and Recovery

# ADB's Response to COVID-19

*iACT to fight corruption!*





Anti-Corruption Initiative for Asia-Pacific

## Safeguarding Integrity in the COVID-19 Response and Recovery



**Jeroen Michels**

Policy Analyst  
Directorate for Public  
Governance – OECD

*iACT to fight corruption!*





Anti-Corruption Initiative for Asia-Pacific

## Safeguarding Integrity in the COVID-19 Response and Recovery



**Paul Whittaker**

Anti-Corruption Analyst, Anti-  
Corruption Division

Directorate for Financial and  
Enterprise Affairs – OECD

*iACT to fight corruption!*





# Public Integrity for an Effective COVID-19 Response and Recovery

Jeroen Michels

Policy Analyst

Directorate for Public Governance – OECD



Anti-Corruption Initiative for Asia-Pacific

*iACT to fight corruption!*



# 1. Integrity challenges in public procurement



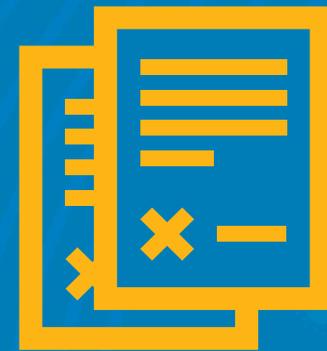
## Integrity challenges



Urgent needs for goods and services



Global competition, reverse bargaining power, volatile prices



Management of ongoing public contracts



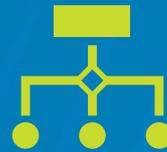
# 1. Integrity challenges in public procurement



## Short term responses



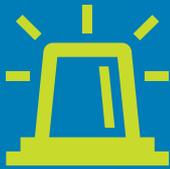
Documentation



Framework agreements



- Central price and supplier tracking system
- Audit and oversight



Guidelines on emergency procurement



Openness of information



# 1. Integrity challenges in public procurement

## Long term responses



- Emergency procurement legislation



- E-procurement



- Remote access by auditors to records



- Trained public officials



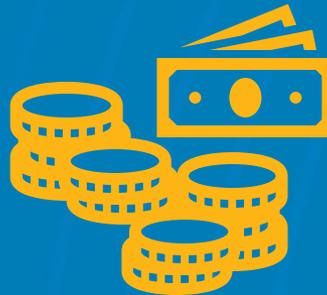
## 2. Accountability, control and oversight of the economic stimulus packages



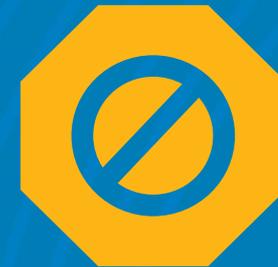
### Integrity challenges



Undue influence and lobbying



Spending pressure, lower controls, high risks

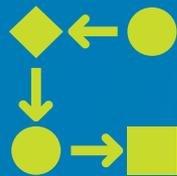


Disruptions in accountability and oversight



## 2. Accountability, control and oversight of the economic stimulus packages

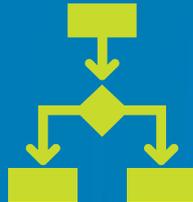
### Short term responses



Ethical framework for decision making in times of crisis



Awareness raising on lobbying regulations



Document decision making process



Specialised oversight bodies



## 2. Accountability, control and oversight of the economic stimulus packages



### Long term responses



- Framework for interactions with private sector representatives, lobbying



- Conflict of interest frameworks



- Procedures for urgent decision making



- Resources for SAIs and internal audit functions



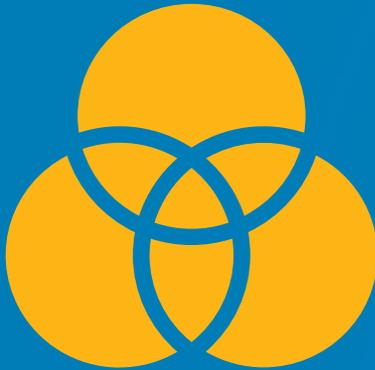
- E-governance for implementation and oversight



## 3. Increased risks of integrity violations in public organisations



### Integrity challenges



Combination of financial pressure, opportunity, and rationalisation



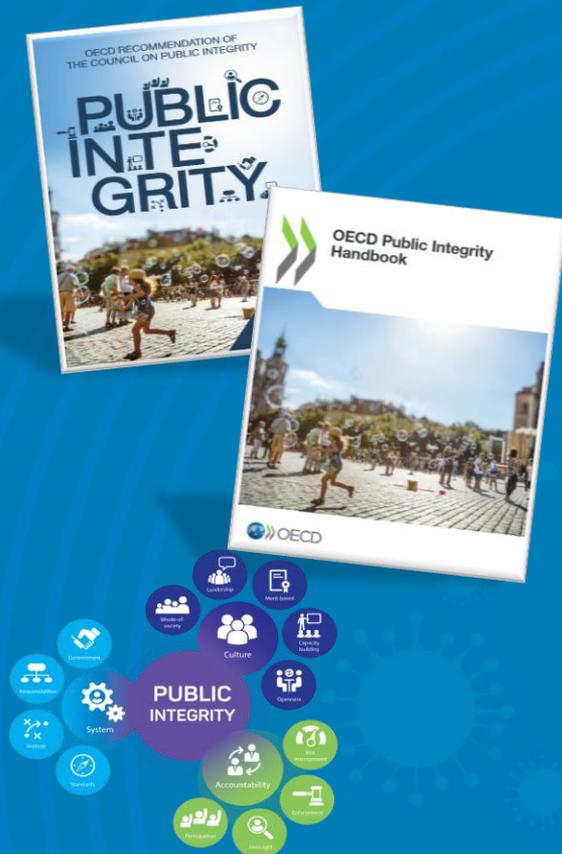
### Responses

- Risk management, control and audit processes
- Organisational integrity
- Digitalisation
- Financial aid programmes



## Further reading and guidance:

- Public Integrity for an Effective COVID-19 Response and Recovery
  - <http://www.oecd.org/coronavirus/policy-responses/public-integrity-for-an-effective-covid-19-response-and-recovery-a5c35d8c/#section-d1e93>
- COVID -19: Competition and emergency procurement
  - <https://www.oecd.org/competition/COVID-19-competition-and-emergency-procurement.pdf>
- OECD Recommendation for Public Integrity
- OECD Public Integrity Handbook
  - <http://www.oecd.org/corruption-integrity/reports/oecd-public-integrity-handbook-ac8ed8e8-en.html>





# Policy Measures to Avoid Corruption and Bribery in the COVID-19 Response and Recovery

Paul Whittaker

Anti-Corruption Analyst, Anti-Corruption Division  
Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs – OECD



# Five policy measures to avoid corruption and bribery in the COVID-19 response and recovery



1. Respect the rule of law, international anti-corruption standards, and anti-bribery obligations.
2. Address immediate risks in emergency procurement.
3. Accountability and control of the economic recovery measures.
4. Business ethics, internal controls, and compliance.
5. Enforcement of corruption and bribery cases.



# Policy 1: Respect the rule of law, international anti-corruption standards and anti-bribery obligations



- Compliance with the relevant instruments as important as ever in the current crisis:

- OECD Anti-Bribery Convention and related 2009 Recommendation
- OECD Recommendation on Public Integrity
- 2016 Recommendation for Development Co-operation Actors on Managing the Risk of Corruption



- Investigations and prosecutions should not be influenced by national economic interests, potential effect on relations with another State or the identity of those involved



## Policy 4: Business ethics, internal controls and compliance



- Private sector actors, including small businesses, should ensure that good governance and internal controls are maintained
- Use of business intermediaries needs to be carefully considered
- Heightened dangers through illicit trade, including counterfeit pharmaceutical products and wildlife trafficking



## Policy 5: Enforcement of corruption and bribery cases



- Monitor known risks areas and identify emerging ones
- Whistleblowers are critical and must be protected
- Reports of misconduct must be taken seriously and investigated
- Adequate resources for investigative agencies should be protected to permit effective detection, investigation and prosecution



## Further reading and guidance:

- Policy measures to avoid corruption and bribery in the COVID-19 response and recovery
  - <http://www.oecd.org/coronavirus/policy-responses/policy-measures-to-avoid-corruption-and-bribery-in-the-covid-19-response-and-recovery-225abff3/>
- WGB public statement
  - <https://www.oecd.org/corruption/the-global-response-to-the-coronavirus-pandemic-must-not-be-undermined-by-bribery.htm>
- OECD Anti-Corruption and Integrity Hub
  - <https://www.oecd.org/corruption-integrity/>





Anti-Corruption Initiative for Asia-Pacific

## Safeguarding Integrity in the COVID-19 Response and Recovery

# Summary and Recommendations

**Cholpon Mambetova**

Senior Integrity Specialist  
Office of Anticorruption and Integrity, ADB

*iACT to fight corruption*





Anti-Corruption Initiative for Asia-Pacific

## Safeguarding Integrity in the COVID-19 Response and Recovery

# Q&A

*iACT to fight corruption*





Anti-Corruption Initiative for Asia-Pacific

## Safeguarding Integrity in the COVID-19 Response and Recovery

# Thank you!

*iACT to fight corruption*

