

# Workshop Session 5: On Good Governance and Integrity

## Accountability and Good Governance – Responding to Recent Challenges



*“Macro perspectives on integrity as part of good governance”*  
- by John Versantvoort, Head, Office of Anticorruption and Integrity (OAI), ADB



January Sanchez  
Principal Integrity Specialist, OAI



Chiawen Kiew, Advisor, OAI



**Rapporteur**  
Gambhir Bhatta  
Consultant (International Policy and Research Specialist), SD3-PSMG, ADB

*The views expressed in this presentation are the views of the author/s and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Asian Development Bank, or its Board of Governors, or the governments they represent. ADB does not guarantee the accuracy of the data included in this presentation and accepts no responsibility for any consequence of their use. The countries listed in this presentation do not imply any view on ADB's part as to sovereignty or independent status or necessarily conform to ADB's terminology.*

**ADB**

**Emerging Macroeconomic and Governance Challenges and Opportunities**

Workshop | 20–23 April 2026 | Manila, Philippines

**How comfortable are you to talk about fraud and corruption?**

- a. Very comfortable**
- b. Somewhat comfortable**
- c. Somewhat uncomfortable**
- d. Very uncomfortable**



Scan the QR Code  
Go to [menti.com](https://menti.com) and  
enter code 8963 7643

**ADB**

**Emerging Macroeconomic and Governance Challenges and Opportunities**

Workshop | 20–23 April 2026 | Manila, Philippines

**How comfortable are you to report about fraud and corruption?**

- a. Very comfortable**
- b. Somewhat comfortable**
- c. Somewhat uncomfortable**
- d. Very uncomfortable**



Scan the QR Code  
Go to [menti.com](https://menti.com) and  
enter code 8963 7643

**ADB**

**Emerging Macroeconomic and Governance Challenges and Opportunities**

Workshop | 20–23 April 2026 | Manila, Philippines

# Outline

- Regional Trends
- Integrity Challenges
- Innovations
- Questions/Discussion



# Why Integrity Matters

- Corruption **diverts funds** from roads, schools, and protection for vulnerable
- It **undermines trust** in institutions and slows development progress
- **Cross-border** in nature
- Economic cost is **significant**:
  - \$1.26 trillion lost annually to bribery, theft, and tax evasion (WEF)
  - \$1 trillion in potential recovered global tax revenues if corruption is curbed (IMF)



# Regional Integrity Trends and Drivers

---

**Higher fraud and corruption risk** with lagging risk-management capacity  
*(FCAS, SIDS, disaster-prone DMCs)*

---

**Tension between integrity controls and urgency of development needs**  
*(climate adaptation, crisis and emergency response)*

---

**Rising citizen and stakeholder demand for accountability and transparency**  
*(enabled by technology; reflected in protests and social pressure)*



Government budgets are increasingly stretched as commitments increase, but income decreases (**downward spiral**)



Governance weaknesses are **systemically embedded** into cultural norms and existing systems



**Lagging adoption** in the use of **technology** to support integrity (Cf. AI and Blockchain increasing challenges)

# Regional integrity expectations have shifted



## Stakeholder demand is rising

- Accountability
- Transparency
- Trust



## DMCs seek stronger integrity support

- Governance as a *development priority*



## External pressures are intensifying

- Sanctions
- Fragility
- Public protest

---

## Technology is changing fraud and corruption modalities

---



**Blockchain & Virtual Assets**



**Advanced Technology (AI)**



**Cross-Border Illicit Activity**

# New challenges and Opportunities to strengthen integrity systems

# Innovations



**Reporting Channels**



**Civil Society Monitoring**



**Collective Action**



**E-Procurement**



**Use of Blockchain**

# Upstream risks



# What helps to address upstream risks



Conflict of Interest



Distorted Incentives



Political & Electoral Capture



Centralized Discretion

- Mandatory disclosure policies enacted and enforced
- Technology leveraged to record, escalate, and monitor disclosures
- Full, timely disclosure of national planning and budget documents
- Civil society involvement in budget design and monitoring
- A culture of integrity fostered through active, visible leadership and commitment
- Accountability mechanisms from the planning to execution stage and with adequate resourcing
- A balanced decision-making structures and processes
- Strengthened anticorruption frameworks

# Questions/Discussion



What are your challenges?



What are some things that have worked in your context?



Has your country adopted or is considering adopting any of these measures?

# Questions/Discussion



If you could change one system, incentive, or practice tomorrow to reduce corruption risks in your country/institution, what would it be—and how would you go about the change?



What kind of integrity support from ADB is most useful to you: preventive tools, diagnostics, hands-on training, or peer learning?

# Questions/Discussion



If you could change one system, incentive, or practice tomorrow to reduce corruption risks in your country/institution, what would it be—and how would you go about the change?



What kind of integrity support from ADB is most useful to you: preventive tools, diagnostics, hands-on training, or peer learning?