Technical Assistance the Malaysian Experience: Bridging the Gender Gap: Gender Mainstreaming and Women Empowerment as a Game Changer in Anti-Corruption Initiatives

Intersessional meeting of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption

5-8 September 2022
Corruption affects women and men disproportionately.

Women are particularly affected by corruption,
- As primary care taker of the family, expose more
- Being women – sexual extortion (sextortion as corruption in which sex, not money, is the currency of the bribe)
- Unlikely to report – feel shame, fear of consequences, lack of specific report mechanism (the case of Harvey Weinstein)

Women are restricted in their opportunities for corrupt behavior in patronage networks. As women are less likely than men to behave opportunistically, bringing more women into government and business can fight corruption better.
In 2019 to 2020, Malaysia initiated a Project under APEC and the objectives are:

- To build capacity among APEC members on the gendered impact of corruption and innovative actions being taken to address and prevent corruption;
- Identify the linkages between gender and corruption
- Case study on gender mainstreaming to be used as a strategy to fight corruption
- To develop and publish policy recommendations with good practices in the region
THE METHODOLOGY

Stocktaking survey
- 17 respondents: Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Hong Kong China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Philippines, Russia, Singapore, Thailand, United States and Vietnam

Plenary Sessions
- International perspective of gender mainstreaming and women empowerment
- Women empowerment in the law enforcement, public and private sector
- Implementation of gender mainstreaming policies and practices by policy makers and practitioners

Syndicate Discussion
- By plenary sessions participants and speakers

8 Key Policy Recommendations on Gender Mainstreaming and Women Empowerment to Fight Corruption

Does your economy have gender mainstreaming perspective in any anti-corruption law/policies/initiatives?

Does your economy have anti-corruption laws/subsidiary legislation/rules/regulations which explicitly address sextortion?

Does your economy’s criminal justice system in relation to corruption and related offences take into account a gender responsive perspective or approach in the dispensation of justice?

Does your economy adopt gender responsive budgeting?

Does your Ministry/Agency/Body have officers trained on gender sensitivity?

Does your Ministry/Agency/Body collect sex-disaggregated data (SDD) gender statistics of complainant/victim/accused resulting from the various form of corruption for analysis?
SURVEY RESULTS

On sextortion

- Yes: 23.52%
- No: 76.47%

Collection of sex disaggregated data

- Yes: 41.18%
- No: 52.94%
- No answer: 5.88%

Gender sensitive training

- Yes: 64.71%
- No: 23.53%
- No answer: 11.76%

Women’s representation in decision making position

- Yes: 35.29%
- No: 64.70%
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<th><strong>8 KEY POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS</strong></th>
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<td>Introduce gender mainstreaming principles in their anti-corruption policies, plans, programmes and activities</td>
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<td>To review anti-corruption legislation or regulation as they relate to sex as the currency of a bribe</td>
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<td>To establish partnerships or collaborate with women organisations in preventing and fighting corruption</td>
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<td>To consider that existing and new complaint mechanism to report corruption are gender-sensitive</td>
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<td>To collect Sex Disaggregated Data (SDD) for strategizing anti-corruption and related policies and plans</td>
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<td>To pursue policies on promoting women’s participation in decision-making positions in public and private sectors, in support of research that correlates gender diversity with reduced corruption.</td>
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<td>To consider training anti-corruption officers, as applicable, on gender responsiveness and gender sensitivity</td>
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<td>To consider Gender Responsive Budgeting as a potential means of promoting gender equality in anti-corruption initiatives.</td>
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Political Declaration of UNGASS

69. We will *improve* our understanding of the linkages between gender and corruption, including the ways in which corruption can affect women and men differently, and we will continue to promote *gender equality* and the *empowerment of women*, including by *mainstreaming* it in relevant legislation, policy development, research, projects and programmes, as appropriate and in accordance with the fundamental principles of domestic law.
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THANK YOU