Asia-Pacific Regional Meeting of the UNCAC Coalition
"Youth in Anti-Corruption"

Topic:
Anticorruption: Why Youth?

Prepare by: Meng Lyhor
Content:

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- Who are the Youth?
- Why Youth? Why Youth is important in combating Corruption?
- Challenges and Recommendations
Who are the Youth?

However, the United Nations without prejudice to any other definitions made by Member States defines ‘youth’ as those persons between the ages of 15 and 24 years.
Why Youth?

According to UNFPA, there are over 1.8 billion young people in the world today, 90% of whom live in developing countries, where they tend to make up a large proportion of the population. These numbers support the argument for the need to involve youth in the struggle for social change.
In addition to representing a significant part of the population, young people tend to be more exposed to bribery and therefore particularly vulnerable to corruption, as they are involved in almost every aspect of society – as students, pupils, workers, customers and citizens, (Transparency International 2009). In spite of this, youth can play a pivotal role in the fight against corruption. They tend to be more open to wide-scale socio-political transformation and have less interested in maintaining the status quo (Transparency International 2009). Young people are an important element for the success of a cultural change in attitudes and behaviour towards corruption and in the shaping of the values of tomorrow, since they represent the future of their countries.
Why Youth don't participate in Anti-Corruption?

For the 33 per cent of youths who said they would certainly not or would likely not report corruption, different reasons were given. Fear of a backlash was the most common one, with 30 per cent saying they feared having no protection. Another 25 per cent said they would not report corruption because reporting it would have no impact, while almost the same percentage (24 per cent) cited a lack of knowledge on reporting procedure as the main reason. Another 21 per cent said it was not their duty to report corruption. A low level of trust of the government and the absence of a Whistle Blower Protection Act may be one of the reasons that youths fear reporting corruption or being a witness in a corruption case. (Transparency International Cambodia, National Survey on Youth Perceptions of Corruption and Integrity in Cambodia)
Recommendation:
What should we do to get Youth to involve in Anti-Corruption?

- Legal Framework
- To Higher Education Institutions, the Private Sector, Civil Society Organisations, and Development Partners
- Integrity clubs and youth movement
- Raising the awareness
- Technology
"The next generation depends on us. Anti-Corruption starts with us."
Thank you!