

# Anti-Bribery Standards, Systems and Strategies for Optimising Engineering Projects Delivery

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Anti-bribery standards, systems and strategies for optimising engineering projects delivery are the best way to deal with corruption in the built environment.

Professional engineering bodies should come up with impeccable code of ethics, and rules of conduct for its members. Organisations are now beginning to look for independent verification that their clients, partners, and supply chain have implemented anti-corruption systems. A framework and scope for analyzing corruption in construction projects was developed. This framework was premised on preventing corruption via a stakeholder engagement approach and crafting strategies across the whole project lifecycle. Corruption is one of the greatest obstacles to the development of safe and adequate infrastructure. Project funds are diverted to corrupt officials, funders, contractors, consultants, suppliers and agents.

The total loss and impact to corruption is difficult to quantify. Corruption imposes great human, economic and project cost losses to the public. The harmful effects of corruption are most severe on the poor in the developing world like who are in most cases hardest hit by economic decline, are most reliant on the provision of public services, and are least capable of paying the extra costs associated with bribery, fraud, and the misappropriation of economic privileges. Consequently, tackling corruption in the construction sector requires the elaboration of a comprehensive strategy that involves efforts from all stakeholders, including public sector, private companies and consumers. Some of the most effective anti-corruption strategies as proposed by stakeholders were to increase political accountability, strengthen civil society participation, create a competitive private sector, improve public sector management as well as put in place institutional restraints on power. The WFEO national members are therefore, urged to support the ISO37001 as a requirements standard so as to effectively minimise corruption.

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