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The United Nations Convention against Corruption
Safeguarding against Corruption
in Major Public Events

Introduction to the workshop

Welcome

- Official welcome (by organizers/sponsors)
- Introduction of facilitator(s)
- Let's meet each other



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What we will cover in this first session

➤ Corruption and major events

- A few comments about corruption and major events
- A few comments about corruption risk management
- Key aspects of the organization of a major event

➤ The workshop

- Objectives of the workshop
- Your expectations
- The structure of the workshop and what we will work with



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Objectives of the workshop

Equip participants with the concepts and tools they will require in order to:

- ✓ Identify their organization's vulnerability to corruption
- ✓ Assess the specific risks of corruption associated with the organization of a specific major event
- ✓ Use a risk assessment tool designed to assess an organization's readiness to prevent corruption
- ✓ Design effective measures to mitigate these risks



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WHAT DO YOU EXPECT TO LEARN FROM THIS WORKSHOP?

IS THERE SOMETHING IN PARTICULAR WHICH YOU EXPECT
TO SEE COVERED AND DISCUSS DURING THE WORKSHOP?



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Structure of the workshop

- Let us quickly review the structure of the workshop and what we will try to cover together.
- There are 19 sessions left after this one. Each one covers a specific lesson, with the exception of lesson 9 on the management of human resources which will spread over two sessions.
- Each lesson is covered in a different chapter of your Manual.



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Our tools

- ✓ UNODC's Handbook "The United Nations Convention against Corruption: A Strategy for Safeguarding against Corruption in Major Public Events "
- ✓ The Corruption Prevention Checklist at the end of the Handbook
- ✓ The Participant Manual
- ✓ The lexicon at the end of the Manual
- ✓ The text of UNCAC



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The risk of corruption and the organization of major events



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- Major public event = international sporting, cultural, commercial or high level event (*Can you think of some examples?*)
- The organization of a major public event introduces some significant risks of corruption and the nature of these risks must be understood.
- Some countries are better prepared to deal with the risk of corruption, but in all instances their corruption prevention mechanisms will be put to the test.
- The risk of corruption should be assessed and mitigated by carefully designed and implemented measures.



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- The organization of a major event involves the management of public funds and public property and cannot take place without the significant involvement and contribution of public officials, agencies and institutions.
- Throughout the planning process and even after, opportunities for corruption abound and can threaten the very success of the whole event.
- Understanding and addressing the risk of corruption in that particular context must be treated as a priority by all those involved in preparing for and managing a major event.



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UNCAC – The UN Convention against Corruption

- UNCAC provides a framework for the prevention of corruption.
- With 173 parties, UNCAC is the only universal, legally binding instrument aimed at preventing and criminalizing corruption.
- UNCAC will provide the basis for many of the strategies that will be discussed in this workshop.



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KEEP IN MIND THE BROAD DEFINITION OF “PUBLIC OFFICIALS” FOUND IN ARTICLE 2 OF UNCAC:

- i) any person holding a legislative, executive, administrative or judicial office of a State Party, whether appointed or elected, whether permanent or temporary, whether paid or unpaid, irrespective of that person’s seniority;
- (ii) any other person who performs a public function, including for a public agency or public enterprise, or provides a public service, as defined in the domestic law of the State Party and as applied in the pertinent area of law of that State Party;
- (iii) any other person defined as a “public official” in the domestic law of a State Party.



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A risk management approach

- A risk management approach is particularly well suited to prevent corruption in the organization of a major public event.
- A strategic risk management approach is needed to prevent corruption during the organization of a major event.
- The main elements of such a risk mitigation approach will be reviewed during the workshop.



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Foundation of a risk management approach

- A systematic assessment of the risk of corruption related to every major aspect of the organization of the event is essential to support such an approach.
- The assessment, used within UNCAC framework, provides the foundation for the development and implementation of an effective strategy to mitigate the risk of corruption.



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What are the key aspects of the organization of a major public event?



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Key aspects of the organization of a major event

- ✓ Governance, accountability and leadership
- ✓ Human resources, including the recruitment, selection, training and management of personnel
- ✓ Financial management
- ✓ Public procurement
- ✓ Development of major infrastructure and construction
- ✓ Security infrastructure and arrangements
- ✓ Private sector involvement
- ✓ Post-event activities



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Examples of other risks of corruption

- Risks of fraud and corruption (bribery, influence peddling, abuse of position) related to the application or bidding process for the right to hold the event.
- Risk of fraud and corruption related to match-fixing. Some countries are criminalizing match-fixing.



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😊 - Questions for discussion

- Why does a country or an organization typically undertake to hold a major event?
- There are many potential benefits associated with a major international event. Is it not true that corruption can effectively rob every one of these benefits and jeopardize the success of the events?