



4th International Collective Action Conference

Basel, Switzerland

The marketplace of ideas for Collective Action
Breakout sessions

30 June 2022, 15:15 – 16:45

The gender dimensions of corruption: Experiences from the public and private sector

Objectives:

This breakout session seeks to explore the correlation between gender and corruption and understand how the private sector is concerned. It will be an opportunity for different actors in the economic system to share experiences in addressing the topic and to develop recommendations for Collective Action in this field.

Facilitator:



Susanne Friedrich,
Alliance for Integrity

Introduction:



Suhaas Ema,
UNODC

Discussants:



Jorge Bermudez,
Comptroller General
of the Republic of Chile



Princess Chifiero,
UNODC



Kevin Pöll Garduño,
Alliance for Integrity

Background:

Gender relations influence and structure cultures and societies: gender commonly shapes divisions of labour, control over resources and decision-making in almost all spheres of daily life. Corruption affects men and women differently and disproportionately impacts marginalized groups, women and girls.

According to UNODC's "*The Time is Now: Addressing the Gender Dimensions of Corruption*", while the correlation between a better gender equality in politics and economy and lower levels of corruption appears to have become more generally accepted, the underlying mechanisms of this correlation are less well understood. [Recent studies](#) have outlined how gender dynamics interplay with accountability and transparency in public and private institutions. For example, [several studies](#) have found that countries with higher participation of women in politics and the formal economy show lower levels of corruption.

Different actors around the globe have recognized these connections and are committed to empowering women to reduce corruption and promote integrity to overcome gender inequalities. Businesses can contribute to tackling both dimensions by empowering female decision makers and by creating conditions that allow women to address corruption, for instance, through compliance systems with a gender equality-lens. Addressing these issues in cooperation with other companies, civil society and the public sector through collective action creates transparency and offers opportunities to achieve better results more quickly. While there is still a strong need for gathering data and raising awareness, concrete experiences on how to promote integrity by empowering women in the economic system are already in place.