

Anti-corruption

The U.S. G8/G20 Advocacy Alliance (Alliance) welcomes the G20's continued focus on global corruption and its commitment to closing the implementation and enforcement gap. The G20 Anti-Corruption Action Plan for 2013-2014 contains significant anti-corruption commitments; in order to assure corruption is meaningfully tackled, all G20 countries must fully implement the plan with urgency. The G20 Working Group on Corruption should lead by example, operating with the highest degree of transparency and providing opportunities for meaningful civil society participation.

Recommendations:

1. Implement and effectively enforce international anti-corruption conventions, including the [UN Convention Against Corruption \(UNCAC\)](#) and the [OECD Anti-Bribery Convention \(OECD Convention\)](#).

Consistent and vigorous enforcement by all countries is necessary to reduce bribery in international business and development. All G20 countries should strengthen implementation and enforcement of their foreign bribery laws. The Alliance is pleased that Russia acceded to the OECD Convention in 2012; however, many large economies in the G20 such as China, India and Indonesia are not yet parties to the OECD Convention.

- All G20 countries should be parties to the OECD Convention, become signatories and participate in the peer review process.
- All G20 countries should strengthen implementation and enforcement of their foreign bribery laws.
- Japan and Germany should ratify the UNCAC convention by the end of 2014 and participate in the peer review process.

2. Implement effective anti-money laundering actions and continue to support asset recovery initiatives.

The Alliance appreciates the G20's commitment to anti-money laundering actions and asset recovery initiatives. Corrupt officials must not be allowed to conceal and enjoy their illicit gains abroad. To this end, G20 countries should:

- Start immediately implementing the [denial of entry principles](#) endorsed at Los Cabos in 2012.
- Collect beneficial ownership information upon incorporation and make the information available in a public register to prevent criminal misuse of legal entities.

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- Increase enforcement of “Know Your Customer” policies to prevent financial institutions from becoming safe havens for the proceeds of corruption.
- Continue to engage with the World Bank/UNODC [Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative](#) and develop action plans for asset recovery and mechanisms to promote the transparent use of returned funds.

3. Adopt and implement global transparency standards in natural resource management.

An abundance of natural resources should contribute to growth and development, but all too often natural resources incentivize corruption and conflict. Transparency both by companies and governments will benefit countries and their populations.

- All G20 countries should adopt provisions similar to the [Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative \(EITI\)](#), the U.S. Dodd-Frank Act, (sec 1504), and EU Accounting and Transparency Directives.
- The G20 should require enhanced disclosure through country-by-country and project by project reporting on payments that extractive industry companies make to governments.
- The G20 should set a global standard on natural resource transparency which includes transparency by companies and open, competitive and transparent bidding processes, as well as budget and revenue transparency.

Mindful that the Anti-Corruption Action Plan 2013-2014 comes to a close this year, we also recommend that any successor to the current G20 Anti-Corruption Action Plan should include strong, tangible and actionable anti-corruption commitments. While this may mean reducing the number of commitments, it should facilitate implementation by ensuring that they are concrete, time-bound and realistic.

While the statement is not designed to be a consensus position of the contributors, it has been endorsed by InterAction’s leadership. The recommendations were developed by a Policy Team of the G8/G20 Advocacy Alliance, whose members are listed below.

Financial Transparency Coalition
Global Communities
Global Financial Integrity
Global Witness
Heinrich Boell Foundation-North America
InterAction

Oxfam America
Save the Children
Transparency International-USA
United Methodist Church General Board of Church and Society