Combating Corruption In Public Financial Management

Type: Course  
Location: Web Based  
Date: 7 Feb 2011 to 11 Mar 2011  
Duration of event: 5 Weeks  
Programme Area: Public Finance and Trade  
Specific Target Audience: No  
Website: http://www.unitar.org/pft/elearning  
Price: $400.00  
Event Focal Point Email: pft-elearning@unitar.org

BACKGROUND

Corruption is today recognised as one of the world’s greatest challenges. Corruption undermines political, social and economic stability and no country, whether rich or poor, is today immune from corruption. Corruption undermines sustainable development, impedes economic growth, threatens good governance and has a devastating effect on the democratic process. Corruption in the public sector undermines people’s confidence in public institutions, increases the cost of public transactions and hampers the efficiency of public services. In public finances, corruption reduces tax revenues and makes public expenditure revenues ineffective for promoting economic development and achieving social objectives. All this makes it imperative for the public sector to take appropriate measures and adopt effective strategies to prevent and combat corruption within the public administration and increase transparency. Corruption has today become a global problem affecting all countries and therefore it requires a global response. Various initiatives have therefore been taken at both international and national level to help countries effectively fight corruption.

This UNITAR e-learning course aims to provide participants information and understanding of the concept of corruption, its causes, its consequences and the various measures to combat corruption in public administration and financial management. The course will discuss the susceptibility of public finances to corruption practices and analyse the role of good integrity frameworks and sound public financial management systems in preventing and combating corruption. A successful completion of this course will enable participants to identify and analyse corruption threats, to design and apply strategies and initiatives for preventing and combating corruption, and to overcome the obstacles in effective implementation of international and regional instruments to regulate norms and principles of professional standards. The course is designed especially for government officials and public institutions, but is also open to the general public who want to understand various anti-corruption measures and strategies.
LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the end of the course, participants should be able to:

- Distinguish the various types of corruption and how they cause havoc to a nation’s economy;
- Identify areas of public finance that are most susceptible to corruption;
- Use reasonable judgment to detect the existence of corruption and determine its gravity;
- Explain the role of sound financial management policies and practices in curbing corruption;
- Construct a clear picture of the relationship between integrity and corruption; and
- Propose sound anti-corruption measures that may be integrated into existing ones.

CONTENT AND STRUCTURE

The course consists of the following modules:

- Module I – Introduction to the Concept of Corruption
- Module II – Corruption in Public Financial Management
- Module III – Measures to Combat Corruption in Public Financial Management
- Module IV – Integrity Management Systems: A Measure to Combat Corruption
- Module V – Corruption and Money Laundering

METHODOLOGY

In order to ensure the best possible outreach, the course will be delivered through e-learning. Through a multiple-instructional setting, the goal is to achieve the learning objectives by means of learning technologies that match personal learning styles and by the inclusion of non-linear learning that aims at the development of just-in-time skills of adult learners. At the same time, in order to allow participants maximum flexibility of scheduling, the learning will be conducted in an asynchronous manner. Using a state-of-the-art training architecture, UNITAR will combine self-learning with assessments and online discussions. The pedagogy - adapted specifically to professionals in full-time work - will help train participants through various experiences: absorb (read); do (activity); interact (socialize); reflect (relate to one’s own reality).

TARGETED AUDIENCE

This course is designed to enhance the knowledge and skills of government officials and administration to successfully adopt and implement sound public financial management practices and principles, minimise the risk of misuse of public offices and prevent corruption. This course is an intermediate level course for which the target audience are government officials, parliamentarians, staff of law enforcement agencies, senior and middle managers, policymakers, project managers, strategy officers who are responsible for continued improvement and transparency, as well as anti-corruption advisers. The course will be highly interactive in which all registered participants will share their extensive and diversified experiences dealing with anti-corruption issues through UNITAR’s e-learning portal.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

A certificate of completion will be issued by UNITAR to all participants who complete the course-related assignments and assessments successfully.