How do we measure corruption?

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Performance Measurement & the WCO

Strengthening performance measurement culture among WCO Members, e.g.:

- Working Group on Performance Measurement (WGPM)
- Performance Measurement Mechanism (PMM).
Why We Measure Corruption & Integrity

Measurement remains critical in order to:

• reveal the **nature**, **scope** and **impact** of corruption
• develop effective anti-corruption **responses**

The collection and analysis/utilization quantifiable data on performance provides **accountability** and **credibility** and can motivate stakeholders to take necessary action to combat corruption.
The Challenges of Measuring Corruption

• “The fact that corruption takes various forms – ranging from embezzlement, fraud, nepotism, bribery, extortion and money laundering – makes it impossible to capture corrupt practices in a single indicator.” Assessing the effectiveness or impact of anti-corruption initiatives is hard “due to the non-linear and complex environment that enables corruption.”

  - UNDP

• “Corruption is macro-relevant for many countries, but is often hidden, making measurement of it—and its effects—inherently difficult”

  - IMF
The Challenges of Measuring Corruption

**Most common ways to measure integrity:**

- Number of corrupt acts (e.g. SDG 16.5 indicators)
- Perceptions of corruption (e.g. Corruption perception Index)

**Pitfalls:**

- How to define integrity and what constitutes corruption (scientific / subjective)
- Perverse indicators (also an issue in enforcement)
- Oversimplification (causality and attribution problems, missing key factors of the Revised Arusha Declaration)
- Comparative analysis (comparing apples and oranges).
Overcoming the Challenges

- Use multiple sources of information to create a robust evidence base
- Combine several different methods of measurement

→ hybrid approaches
Existing Tools at the WCO

• WCO’s Customs Capacity Building Diagnostic Framework – section on Good Governance

• Quantitative activity, performance, control, and risk indicators for Performance Measurement Contracts

• Integrity Development Guide (IDG) Self-Assessment
Other Tools

• Other Benchmarking tools:
  o Time-Release Study (TRS)

• Other collaborations:
  o International Survey on Revenue / Customs Administrations (ISORA/ISOCA)
WCO A-CIP use of the Hybrid Approach

Increase capacity to collect and analyze/utilize data on performance to support the fight against corruption and promotion of integrity.

- Output/Implementation vs. Outcome/Impact
  - interventions and activities versus behavioural changes as a result of interventions
- Static vs. Dynamic
  - review static integrity systems, e.g. policy frameworks, etc versus dynamic environmental and contextual drivers.
- Micro vs. Macro
  - review of individual versus aggregate data or trends, e.g. Big Data.
- Experience vs. Perception
  - specific individual experiences or knowledge versus opinions.
WCO A-CIP use of the Hybrid Approach

**Mostly Qualitative Assessments:**
- Using the WCO Integrity Development Guide
- Facilitated assessments and scoping missions
- Evidence-based document and material review

**Mostly Quantitative Analysis:**
- Customs Integrity Perception Survey (CIPS)
WCO A-CIP Programme
Customs Integrity Perception Survey

Step 1 - Develop methodological guidelines
Guidelines based on RAD aimed at measuring impact of TACB interventions under A-CIP (baseline).

Step 2 - Conduct the survey in partner countries
Survey conducted by EY in A-CIP partner countries Mobile Survey Stations (MSS) to collect data.

Step 3 – Analyse data
Review results Raw data retained by partner countries.

Step 4 – Consolidate action plans
Incorporate results into project plans and key performance indicators (KPIs).

Step 5 – Second survey
Conduct second survey in A-CIP countries to compare with baseline data collected.

YOUR OPINION MATTERS!

As part of its Anti-Corruption and Integrity Promotion Programme, the World Customs Organization needs your contribution.

Where: Online (www.wcoomd.org)
When: 2023
Who: Customs officials & private stakeholders
Thank you

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