

## World Federation of Engineering Organisations (WFEO) Anti-Corruption Workshop



ACRID 2017



Web site: [www.acridconference.org](http://www.acridconference.org).

Dear WFEO Member,

This a conference announcement as well as a call for attendance of the forthcoming conference to WFEO members:

EAI International Conference for Research, Innovation and Development for Africa,

JUNE 20–21, 2017 | VICTORIA FALLS, ZIMBABWE.

The conference has already attracted participants from Africa, Europe and the United States and will be held on 20 and 21 June 2017 at the Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. Victoria Falls is one of the 7 wonders of the world. All presented papers will be published by Springer and submitted for indexing in Scopus, Google Scholar and Elsevier. The Paper submission deadline was March 15, 2017, but posters will be open after this date.

A World Federation of Engineering Organisations (WFEO) workshop on Engineering Ethics and the ISO Anti-bribery Management System Standard, ISO 37001. The workshop will be run by the WFEO Anti-corruption Committee which is hosted by Zimbabwe.

### Concept Note:

#### 1.1 About WFEO

The World Federation of Engineering Organizations is an international, non-governmental organization representing the engineering profession worldwide. Founded in 1968 by a group of regional engineering organizations, under the auspices of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organizations (UNESCO) in Paris, the World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO) brings together national engineering organizations from over 90 nations and represents some 20 million engineers from around the world.

WFEO encourages all its national and international members to contribute to global efforts to establish a sustainable, equitable and peaceful world by providing an international perspective and enabling mechanisms:

- To provide information and leadership to the engineering profession on issues of concern to the public or the profession.
- To serve society and to be recognized, by national and international organizations and the public, as a respected and valuable source of advice and guidance on the policies, interests

and concerns that relate engineering and technology to the human and natural environment.

- To make information on engineering available to the countries of the world and to facilitate communication between its member nations.
- To foster peace, socioeconomic security and sustainable development among all countries of the world, through the proper application of technology.
- To facilitate relationships between governments, business and people by adding an engineering dimension to discussions on policies and investment.

## **1.2 Workshop overview**

Anti-corruption strategies and models that are applicable to Sub-Saharan African Countries are important to combat corruption that is generally acknowledged to be a universal problem in developing and developed worlds. Corruption involving bribery, deception and/or dishonesty in order to gain personal or corporate profit will be discussed. Professional Engineering Associations should come up with impeccable code of ethics, and rules of conduct for its members in order to combat corruption in the sector.

A pilot study of case studies (Zimbabwe and Zambian Infrastructure Anti-corruption index) of corruption practices found in the construction sector will be analyzed and grouped in three broad areas of corruption within the public sector, corruption in the interaction between public and private sector (procurement) corruption between public sector and consumers (petty corruption). A framework and scope for analyzing corruption in construction projects was developed. This framework was premised on preventing corruption via a stakeholder engagement approach and crafting strategies across the whole project life cycle.

The impacts and costs of corruption will be discussed during the workshop. Corruption is one of the greatest obstacles to the development of safe and adequate infrastructure. Project funds are diverted to corrupt officials, funders, contractors, consultants, suppliers and agents. The total loss and impact to corruption is difficult to quantify. Indicators of the human, economic and project cost losses will be addressed in detail. The harmful effects of corruption are severe on the poor in the developing world like Africa who are in most cases hardest hit by economic decline, are most reliant on the provision of public services, and are least capable of paying the extra costs associated with bribery, fraud, and the misappropriation of economic privileges.

Consequently, tackling corruption in the construction sector requires the elaboration of a comprehensive strategy that involves efforts from all stakeholders, including public sector, private companies and consumers. Some of the most effective anti-corruption strategies as proposed by stakeholders are to increase political accountability, strengthen civil society participation, create a competitive private sector, improve public sector management as well as put in place institutional restraints on power.

## **1.3 Workshop Highlights:**

### **1.3.1 Report back on a baseline infrastructure anti-corruption survey in Zambia and Zimbabwe**

The World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO) Committee on Anti-Corruption (CAC) is conducting a baseline infrastructure anti-corruption survey in Zambia and Zimbabwe. Preliminary feedback about the findings will be discussed at this workshop.

The aim of this baseline survey is to create future periodic anti-corruption index reports as well give anti-corruption recommendations for Governments, Corporates, Civil Society and the Federation of African Engineering Organisations (FAEO), and their regional Professional Engineering Institutions (PEIs).

Special credit is due to our Survey team at WFEO, the Global Infrastructure Anti-corruption Centre (UK), Engineers Against Poverty and the Engineering Council of Zimbabwe for carrying out this study as part of the Africa Catalyst Pilot Project- Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) Infrastructure Anticorruption Survey: Towards a Feasibility Study for a Corruption Index in Construction and Engineering- The Case of Zambia and Zimbabwe.

### **1.3.1.1 Background of the Anti-corruption Index for Zambia and Zimbabwe Pilot Studies:**

The construction sector plays a vital role in supporting social and economic development. Yet it is consistently ranked - in both the developed and developing world - as one of the most corrupt areas of economic activity. The costs of corruption in public-sector construction projects extend far beyond increased contract prices. Corruption can hinder a nation's social and economic development at grass-roots level by undermining the rule of law and hindering the growth of strong and accountable institutions on which sustained economic growth depends. Corruption can result in unnecessary, unsuitable, defective or dangerous projects and projects which are often subject to severe delays. WFEO and FAEO through this project can greatly increase the ability of stakeholders to reduce corruption by exposing corrupt practices and offering information on how to reduce corruption.

### **1.3.1.2 The need for the Project:**

The compelling need for this project in SSA is to equip stakeholders in infrastructure development (through WFEO) with the tools to detect, deter, and develop anti-corruption tools to reduce corruption so as to channel development funds and aid into its rightful use.

The aim of the Project is to advance knowledge on how corruption can be curbed in SSA and elsewhere through achieving zero tolerance to corruption, hence increasing the rate of development for SSA.

The objectives of the project are:

- to conduct an extensive survey on monitoring corruption and quality of governance that documents the diversity of contemporary governance landscapes, regulatory frames and anti-corruption strategies in the SSA countries selected i.e. (Zambia and Zimbabwe).
- Document the findings especially the impact and cost of corruption through a variety of case studies across the selected SSA countries.
- establish the feasibility of a preliminary/prototype panel data-set of indicators (Construction Anti-corruption Index) allowing the tracing of corruption levels over time by country and region through identifying new indicators documented in the project with established, perception-based ones.

## **1.3.2 Introduction to ISO 37001 Anti-bribery Standard**

ISO 37001 specifies a series of requirements which the organisation must implement in a reasonable and proportionate manner.

In summary, they include:

- Implement an anti-bribery policy and programme.
- Communicate the policy and programme to all relevant personnel and business associates (joint venture partners, sub-contractors, suppliers, consultants etc.)
- Appoint compliance manager (full time or part time) to oversee programme.

