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THE TIME IS NOW

ADDRESSING THE GENDER DIMENSIONS OF CORRUPTION

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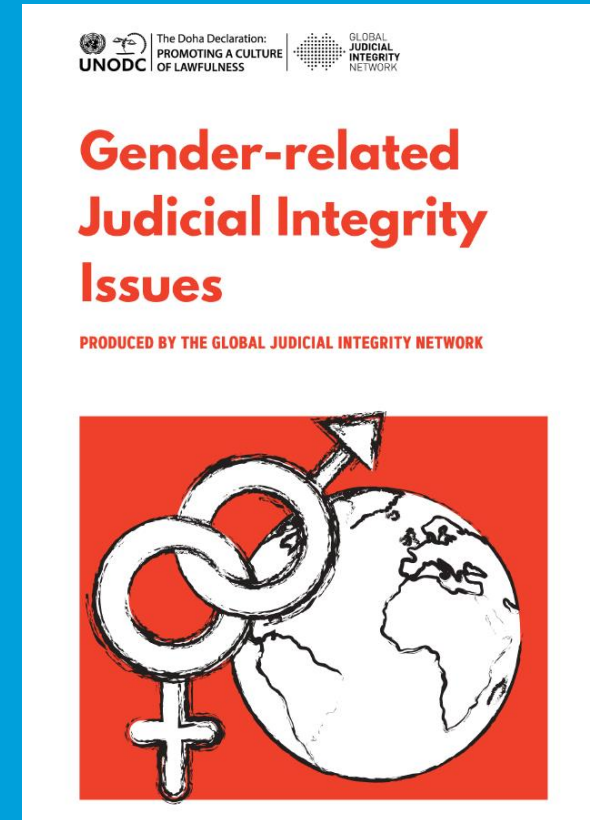
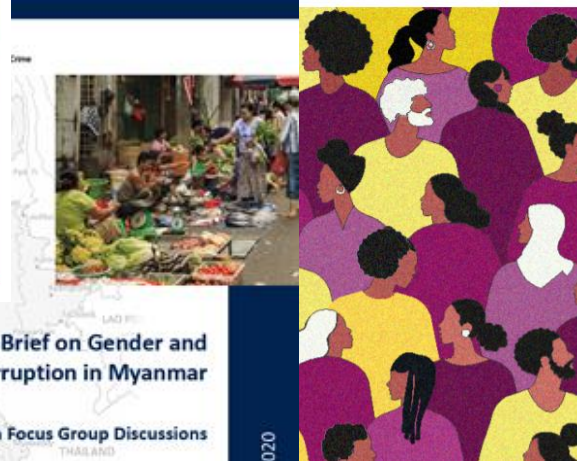
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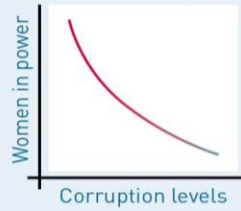
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UNODC Knowledge Products

Gender and Corruption



A correlation may exist:



It may exist because:

Corruption reduces women's opportunities

Women in power reduce corruption

The reason for this may be:

Women's inequality is deepened by more negative impacts of corruption on those with less power, and also by intrinsically gendered forms of corruption, such as demands for sexual favours as the bribery currency.

To improve opportunities for career advancement, women in power cut corrupt practices orchestrated by collusive, male-dominated networks.

Women observe public officers in corrupt systems broadly treating people with less power in a biased manner. They also anticipate being held to higher ethical standards than men. Consequently, women assume that they would face unfair treatment if they were to seek more power, and so are put off trying.

Women in power avoid corruption because they face stronger incentives than men for clean management. They are often socialised to be risk averse, and may face additional social sanctioning for ethical transgressions.

Male-dominated networks that conduct corrupt activities and control access to power discriminate against women, keeping them out by various means such as the use of masculine norms to cement trust relationships.

To substantively represent women's interests, women in power improve delivery of public goods and services in "women's interests" policy domains, which requires cutting corruption in those sectors.

For policymaking, this implies:

Where gender inequalities exist, cutting corruption may help reduce them

Where gender inequalities exist, women's substantive empowerment may cut corruption

Diversity disrupts established, collusive networks, which are pre-dominantly male, and tend to benefit men more than women.



Public procurement = public + private sector

*Gender equality and anti-corruption policies
can be mutually reinforcing*

- Public procurement represents 5-25% of GDP.
- Switzerland: any company that does business with the government must ensure equal pay.
- Kenya: 2013 presidential directive reserves 30% of government procurement opportunities for companies owned by women, youth, and disabled people.

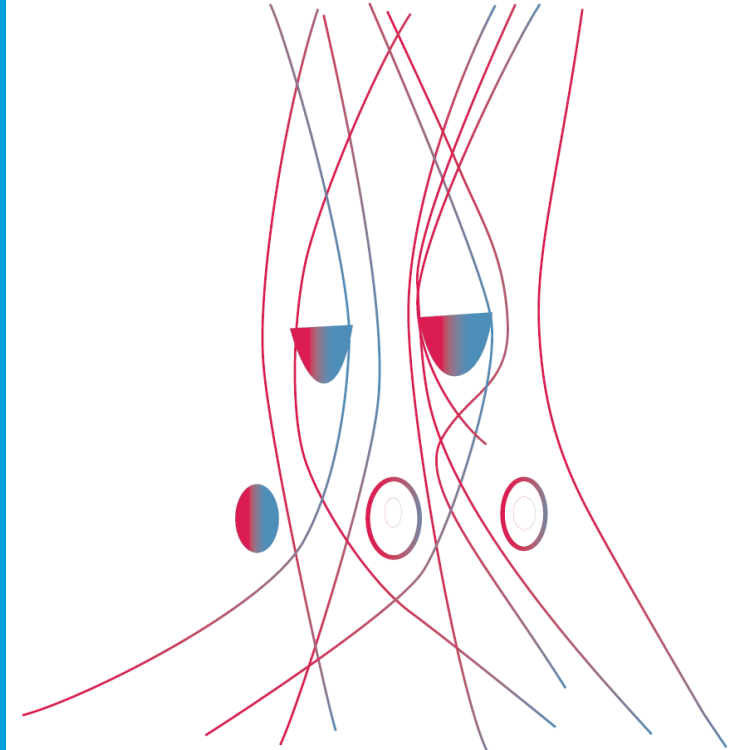




Conclusion:

- ✓ *An inclusive society is a less corrupt society.*
- ✓ *Gender equality and anti-corruption policies are mutually reinforcing.*
- ✓ *National context matters.*





UNODC Gender & Corruption

<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/gender/gender-and-corruption.html>

<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/corruption/publications.html>

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