

China and Thailand join the ADB/OECD Anti-Corruption Initiative for Asia-Pacific

The ADB/OECD Anti-Corruption Initiative for Asia-Pacific welcomed the People's Republic of China and Thailand as its 24th and 25th members. Their membership follows the commitment made by the highest authorities in China and Thailand to implement the Initiative's Anti-Corruption Action Plan, to undergo regular progress review and to play a stronger role in the fight against corruption in the Asia-Pacific region and worldwide. With the membership of China and Thailand, the Initiative now covers more than half of the world's population. ■■■ [Read the press release](#)

Expert meeting on curbing corruption in tsunami relief operations held in Jakarta

To ensure that the tsunami aid funds are appropriately managed and benefit the people affected by the tragedy, the ADB/OECD Anti-Corruption Initiative together with Transparency International and the Indonesian government hosted a two-day international expert meeting on graft prevention in post-disaster and reconstruction efforts in Jakarta on April 7 and 8, 2005. Over 80 experts from governments, civil society and the private sector from the six countries most affected by the tsunami - India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Maldives, Sri Lanka, Thailand - and representatives from 18 OECD donor countries and international organizations attended the meeting. Building on the findings of this meeting, the organizers will work jointly on the development of operational guidelines for managing corruption in humanitarian relief and reconstruction. ■■■ [More information and documentation](#)

Sixteen countries receive training on meeting international anti-corruption standards

In response to the growing interest of Asia-Pacific countries in becoming party to the UN Convention against Corruption, the ADB/OECD Anti-Corruption Initiative conducted its 3rd training seminar on measures to meet international standards for prevention and sanctioning of corruption. Experts and policymakers from 16 countries from the Asia-Pacific region gathered on 14-17 February 2005 in Islamabad. The seminar was hosted by the government of Pakistan and co-organized with the UN Office on Drugs and Crime. ■■■ [More information and documentation](#)

6th Steering Group Meeting reviews Asia-Pacific countries' progress in implementing the Action Plan with regards to curbing corruption in public procurement

In the course of its 6th meeting, the ADB/OECD Anti-Corruption Initiative's Steering Group reviewed the existing legal and institutional framework for curbing corruption in public procurement in 12 of its member countries. Once completed, the review of all 25 member countries will lead to a consolidated report that addresses both cross-regional and country-specific issues and provides a blueprint for future action. The meeting, hosted by the Government Inspectorate of Vietnam on 19-21 April in Hanoi, provided an opportunity to take stock of member countries' recent and planned anti-corruption reforms under the Action Plan, and to discuss the role of the Initiative's Secretariat and Advisory Group in supporting these efforts. ■■■ [More information on the meeting](#)

Proceedings of the 4th regional ADB/OECD Anti-Corruption Conference

The proceedings of the 4th regional ADB/OECD Anti-Corruption Conference for Asia-Pacific in December 2003 in Kuala Lumpur are available for download and in print. The publication assembles contributions from regional and international practitioners exchanged in the framework of the Conference's capacity-building workshops. It addresses issues such as national anti-corruption strategies, management of conflict of interest, corruption prevention in public procurement, corporate ethics, whistleblower protection, forensic accounting and mutual legal assistance. ■■■ [Download the publication](#)



Opening session of the ADB/OECD Initiative's 6th Steering Group meeting in Hanoi, Vietnam, on 19-21 April 2005

news and reforms in Asia-Pacific

- [Malaysian Institute for Integrity conducts "World Ethics and Integrity Forum" on 28/29 April 2005](#)
- [Fiji's Public Service Commission sets up special unit to investigate reports of corruption and plans national anti-corruption agency](#)

recent publications and documents

- [Controlling Corruption in Asia and the Pacific Proceedings of the 4th regional ADB/OECD Anti-Corruption Conference, ADB/OECD, 2005](#)

key documents

- [Anti-Corruption Policies in Asia and the Pacific](#)
- [Anti-Corruption Action Plan for Asia and the Pacific](#)

upcoming events

- [Sixth Global Forum on Reinventing Government: 24-27 May 2005 \(Seoul, Korea\)](#)
- [IV Global Forum on Fighting Corruption VI: 7-10 June 2005 \(Brasilia, Brazil\)](#)
- [Annual meeting of the Asia-Pacific Group on Money Laundering \(APGML\): 11-15 July 2005 \(Cairns, Australia\)](#)

This newsletter is edited by the [Asian Development Bank \(ADB\)/Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development \(OECD\) Anti-Corruption Initiative for Asia-Pacific](#) (<http://www1.oecd.org/daf/asiacom>).

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