

Controlling Corruption:

Towards an Integrated Strategy in Latin America

10th International Anti-Corruption Conference

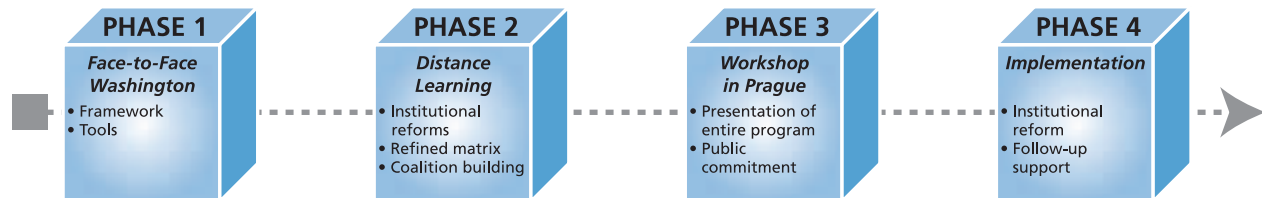
Prague, Czech Republic
October 8, 2001

Chairs

Daniel Kaufmann, Senior Manager, Anti-Corruption Program
María González de Asís, Manager, Anti-Corruption Program
Luis Moreno Ocampo, President Latin America and the Caribbean,
Transparency International

Coordinators

Jairo Acuña-Alfaro, Raul Monte, and Guillermina Kanonnikoff



Practical experience shows that in many Latin American countries, the costs of corruption and misgovernance are enormous. Meanwhile an efficient and transparent governance promotes growth and well-being. Indeed, government authorities, political leaders, civil society representatives and private sector leaders seldom have the opportunity to meet and joint efforts to analyze and deeply discuss the multiple dimensions and determinants that cultivate a strong and transparent governance* with no corruption.

There are three key elements to analyze corruption problems and improve governance at the national level. The first one refers to political leadership, including political will to curb corruption. The second element denotes the level of knowledge and information of the determinants and concrete actions against corruption, by different stakeholders. Last, but not least, collective action is important, in the sense that it has to be exercised through a transparent and participative process.

These three elements together, in a integral, transparent and participatory process gives way to governance improvements with less corruption.

Through this integrative logic this program has been able to respond to client-country demand for anti-corruption assistance and to provide innovative, action-oriented, non-lending activities illustrating a new way of doing business in which the client is in the driver's seat (*demand-driven*).

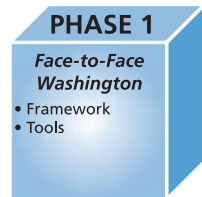
In this sense, WBI's governance and anticorruption strategy emphasizes: (i) going beyond public sector dysfunction (the "symptom") to assist countries in integrating institutional, regulatory and economic reforms (the "fundamentals"); (ii) implementing rigorous empirical diagnostics and analysis; (iii) bringing about collective action, through participation and broad based bottom up coalitions; (iv) building partnerships within countries, the World Bank Group, and other international or regional institutions; (v) moving beyond conventional training to knowledge dissemination, policy advice based on the latest research and operational findings, and participatory and consensus-building activities, and (vi) scaling up the impact of our activities, utilizing new tools for knowledge dissemination, innovating, and taking managed risks

Hence, WBI's Governance Program for Latin America, "Controlling Corruption: Towards an Integrated Strategy," uses a novel approach, putting together knowledge and practical experience. It takes into account national requirements in the fight against corruption and looks for consensus building processes to design public policies tailored to the country's specificities, striving for a better governance scheme. This program is two-fold; (i) provides concrete tools to design, improve and implement action programs to fight corruption and improve governance; and (ii) creates an environment in which participants from different segments of society can work together to review results of successful (and unsuccessful) practices and reforms.

* The governance concept must be understood as the traditions and institutions by which power and authority in a country are exercised for the common good. This includes (i) the process by which those in authority are selected, monitored and replaced, (ii) the capacity of the government to effectively manage its resources and implement sound policies, and (iii) the respect of citizens and the state for the institutions that govern economic and social interactions among them.

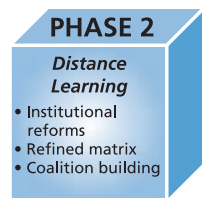
Selected participants from the government, civil society and NGOs, from the seven national country teams from Bolivia, Ecuador, Colombia, Honduras, Mexico, Paraguay and Peru will present the advances and success of their national anti-corruption programs.

The overall architecture of this program is divided into four inter-linked phases:



Phase One (face-to-face learning activity) convened in June 2001, for four days in Washington, brought together a diverse group of stakeholders representing the government (including Vice-Presidents, Cabinet Ministers), and civil society, from the seven countries. A

variety of instructional activities were used, including working groups, and interactive solutions to case studies. The country teams worked throughout the week on developing a preliminary matrix of anti-corruption plans or revising their existing plans and strategies.



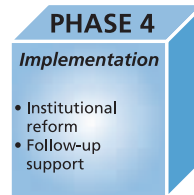
Phase Two (distance learning stage), from June to September 2001. Through WBI's video-conferencing technology and the web, specialized topics as rule of law; financial management; customs reform; civil service reform; the media; e-government, and

diagnostic tools, were covered. By the end of the second phase, the country teams further refined their governance/anti-corruption program matrixes and action plans for institutional reform.



Phase Three (presentation of country action programs) will have country teams present their strategies and action plans to curb corruption at the 10th International Anti-Corruption Conference in Prague, Czech Republic. For that purpose two workshops

have been organized to present and discuss the comprehensive action programs the seven Latin American countries have developed throughout the course. The workshops will be opened to a larger audience, giving an excellent opportunity to discuss (and commit to) national efforts in controlling corruption.



Finally, **Phase Four** encompasses the implementation stage and work with countries would be mostly the responsibility of the participants and their commitments with the outcomes of the program. In that sense, the World Bank is willing to continue

supporting countries where institutional reforms are implemented to improve governance and control corruption.

For more information, please contact

Maria González de Asis

+1-202-473-7950 • Fax +1-202-334-8350 • mgonzalezasis@worldbank.org

www.fightcorruption.org

WORLD BANK INSTITUTE

Promoting knowledge and learning for a better world