

## ANNEX STANDARD FORMAT FOR PRESENTATION OF INFORMATION ON BEST PRACTICES

**1) Institution: The name of the institution that is implementing the best practice:**

The best practice is implemented by the Anti-Corruption Unit (ACU) in concert with the National Library of Haiti (NLH).

**2) Title: The name of the best practice, the topic it covers, and the subject of the Convention to which it is related:**

This best practice consists in establishing a documentation center at the National Library of Haiti (NLH) on the basis of a partnership agreement concluded between the two institutions. The objective here is to sensitize the population, in particular the student population and researchers about the harmful consequences of the phenomenon of corruption in the country. To this end, the ACDC will apply to make all documentary resources (printed and digital) relating to the fight against corruption accessible to the public

**3) Description of the best practice: Include a brief description and summary of the best practice, as well as the reason why it should be considered a best practice, expressly referring to its sustainability:**

The ACDC will provide the public with a database covering the areas of the fight against corruption consisting of:

- ✓ Studies, reports and dissertations,
- ✓ Activity reports and assessments of Haitian control institutions,
- ✓ Specialized journals,
- ✓ Specialized works, practical manuals,
- ✓ Thematic press kits,
- ✓ All the publications published by the ACU since its creation.

Apart from the physical consultation of documents, a digital station will be available for online research. This station will also provide access to a range of national and international digital documents dedicated to the fight against corruption. The ACDC will welcome civil servants and public agents, professionals, academics, researchers and teachers. It may also remotely process requests for information made by email, telephone or post.

**4) Reasons/Importance: Reasons for pursuing best practice should be given. A description should be made of the situation in place before the adoption of the best practice and identification of the problem or problems it is to address:**

The ACDC will meet a crucial need for documentation in the field of corruption. Students in legal sciences, criminology and sociology (...) carrying out their final thesis in the field of corruption are often confronted with a lack of information and available data. Hence the reluctance of many of them to engage in research work related to “*the fight against corruption*”. From this point of view, the ACDC will contribute to developing among young students the keenness to undertake research into the fight against corruption. It will also contribute to strengthening various initiatives taken by the ACU in terms of raising awareness of the misdeeds of corruption, in particular the regular holding of training sessions, the organization of essay competitions for students in the final class, as well as the publication of the specialized journal "Transparency" dedicated to the fight against corruption.

**5) Approach: What was the proposed design and methodology for applying the best practice? What was considered in its design and methodology? Were other countries' experience taken into account? Was a model law taken into account?**

To set up the ACDC, the ACU relied on the legal prerogatives conferred on it in the decree of September 8, 2004 establishing its creation, including paragraph 4 of article 7 which confers on it the task of «educate the population on the dangers of corruption and the need to fight it and mobilize public support for this purpose”. Most of the central institutions of our various countries working in the field of corruption have almost the identical function. This gives them the opportunity to engage in an approach similar to Haiti's. For logistical reasons, the ACU associated the National Library of Haiti (NLH) in this process. But, to the extent that an institution has the appropriate framework and logistical space, it may choose to house the anti-corruption documentation center in its own premises. It should also be added that the initiative to create the ACDC is part of the national effort to implement the Inter-American Convention against Corruption, in particular Article III relating to preventive measures. Moreover, the 5th paragraph of the Convention places particular emphasis on the importance of raising awareness among our populations of the existence and seriousness of corruption as well as the need to strengthen the participation of civil society in the prevention of corruption and the fight against this scourge.

**6) Implementation: How is the best practice being implemented? What were the human and financial resources needed for its implementation?**

The best practice was implemented based on a protocol signed between the national library and the ACU. The Anti-Corruption Documentation Center (ACDC) is housed at the (NLH), which ensures its daily management. The recruitment process for ACDC staff members is organized jointly by the ACU and the NLH. However, the people recruited will be civil servants of the ACU made available to the NLH. In addition, the Public Relations Department of the ACU acts as a focal point between the ACU and the NLH in order to facilitate exchanges for the proper

functioning of the Center and the joint organization of various popularization and promotional activities. .

- 7) Outcome: What is the end result or expected end result of implementing the best practice? What are the benefits and/or success stories? Have they addressed the problems originally identified as necessitating a best practice to be implemented? What has been its impact?**

With the establishment of the ACDC, ACU expects an increase in scientific and academic research into corruption in the country. As mentioned above, the shortage of adequate and accessible documentation on corruption has long been one of the major obstacles encountered by researchers and student researchers interested in the topic of corruption. It is therefore still too early to assess the extent of the impact of the operation of the documentation center. But the first observations made at the library level show an increase in the number of readers visiting the ACDC. We will therefore have to wait for much more relevant statistical data. The ACU plans to increase publicity around the existence of the documentation center. For the moment, the ACDC only works at the NLH central office in Port-au-Prince. But, in the long term, the ACDC will be established in all the decentralized offices of the NLH distributed on the national territory.

- 8) Sustainability means that the best practice has been tested for a period of time that has made it possible to prove its usefulness and to ensure the continuity of its implementation. It is suggested that this time period be a year. <sup>2</sup> For example, practices that may generate a change in conduct of a person, population or institution.**

The protocol concluded between the ACU and the NLH entered into force since May 9, 2022. After a certain time (at least one year), it will therefore be necessary to proceed on the basis of the data collected to an evaluation of the degree of success and efficiency of the mode of operation of the ACDC. This evaluation will be based on figures concerning attendance at the ACDC and academic and other research work carried out in the field of corruption (dissertations, theses, scientific articles, conferences, etc.). However, it should be taken into account that the documentation center has so far only been located at the headquarters of the NLH in Port-au-Prince, as mentioned above.

- 9) Potential for technical cooperation: Can the best practice be adapted and used by other countries? Is it possible to provide technical assistance to other countries in**

**implementing the best practice? Provide the point of contact for the entity that can facilitate the technical assistance.**

ACU is willing to share with other interested Friendly States its experiences regarding the establishment of the ACDC. ACU's General Director, Mr. Hans Jacques Ludwig JOSEPH should be contacted on this matter.

**10) Follow-up: Who or what groups will monitor the practice's implementation? How will its implementation be monitored? Will there be a Follow-up Report?**

The ACU Public Relations Department acts as a focal point between the ACU and the NLH in order to facilitate exchanges for the proper functioning of the Center and the joint organization of various popularization and promotional activities. But, as mentioned above, the public officials assigned to the ACDC are civil servants of the ACU. Thus, the head of the ACDC department is required to submit a monthly report on the functioning of this entity.

**11) Lessons: What are some of the lessons learned in implementing the Best Practice? What are the challenges in implementing the best practice?**

The creation of the ACDC has highlighted the importance of inter-institutional cooperation in the fight against corruption. It is therefore sufficient to define clear and precise objectives and to fix the reciprocal responsibilities of each of the entities to enable them to work by mutual agreement within the framework of this fight. A priori, the NLH is not an entity directly concerned by corruption, but the cooperation framework defined by the memorandum of understanding signed with the ACU has enabled it to contribute its share to the awareness and awareness campaign on the evils of corruption.

In truth, the creation of the ACDC did not come about without difficulties. One of the major difficulties consisted and still consists in the mobilization of the human and financial resources necessary for the functioning of the ACDC. Note that the objective is to duplicate anti-corruption documentation centers (physical and digital) nationwide. This implies for both the ACU and the NLH substantial budgetary funds. Among other things, it is necessary to consider the possibility of expanding the premises of the various decentralized entities of the NLH called upon to house the ACDC in other regions of the country.

**12) Documentation: Where can further information be found regarding the best practice (e.g., Internet links)?**

Information regarding the best practice are available on ACU's website: <https://ulcc.gouv.ht>

**13) Contact: Who can be contacted for further information?**

For additional information relating to the CDAC, the Director General of ACU Me. Hans Jacques Ludwig JOSEPH should be contacted.