Session Title: Enlisting Business Education to combat corruption
Date & Time: 7 November 18:00-20:00
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Experts:

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Martin Kreutner, Chair and Executive Secretary, International anti-Corruption Academy
Olajobi Makinwa, Director, Tenth Principle Against Corruption, UN Global Compact

Moderated by: Ron Berenbeim
Session coordinated by: Ron Berenbeim

Main issues raised in kick off remarks. What’s the focus of the session?

- In the early days of ethics teaching all had to be created as there were not very many specialists
- There are still not very many faculty in the pipeline and we need more
- Regardless of the country, whether it is in the developing world or not, it is necessary to prepare and to involve different sectors in developing ethics curriculum
- Some may say ethics cannot be taught. It’s an unresolved question. But regardless, it is desirable. If the most fiercely competitive activities such as sports have rules why should business not have them.
What initiatives have been showcased? Briefly describe the Game Changing Strategies

- Pilot ethics programmes in business education in Tanzania and Bangalore under the UN PRME
- Initiative to change culture of tolerance to corruption in Palestine through university courses and materials on good governance, transparency and anti-corruption.
- The establishment of an international Anti-Corruption Academy and in particular, the establishment of a Masters programme in Austria.
- An initiative in Morocco aiming at educating secondary students about corruption and attempting to address also the problems of lack of transparency and poor governance in the education system in Morocco.
- The rationale behind the creation and support by the UNGC of the UN Principles for Responsible Management Education
There are different approaches for business education to combat corruption: curriculum can be embedded or taught as a separate topic.

Highlights: What are the main outcomes of this session? What’s next?

Some of the main conclusions of the discussions are that:

It is difficult in certain environments to introduce anti-corruption education because students, faculty and educational institutions may resist if it’s done thoughtfully.

Introducing anti-corruption curriculum in business schools is itself similar to a change management exercise.

Matching needs with the appropriate educational tools is a challenge.

It is important to educate but it is important not to raise expectations too quickly. Time is needed.

We must work on integrating anti-corruption education into the broader fight against corruption.

Business education must put emphasis on preparing students for corruption in the real world.
What are the recommendations, follow-up Actions (200 words narrative form)?

Some of the main recommendations were generally were that we should not give in to sceptics who claim that anti-corruption education cannot have an impact on corruption or help shape business leaders. We should look at the successes that have been achieved in the fight against corruption.

Anti-corruption education at all levels is necessary to help create citizens and business people who will then act with integrity and corruption.

Early anti-corruption education is particularly necessary in environments where there is tolerance for corruption and nepotistic business practices.

Business education should prepare students to face corruption in the real world not simply as a theoretical concept.

For business education to be successful, we will need more experts and faculty to teach anti-corruption in business schools and at all levels of the educational system.

The engagement of other sectors through multidisciplinary approach will be the most important ingredient of the ultimate success of business education.

What should be done to create opportunities for scaling up the proven solutions discussed in the session? What and by whom?
There should be more sharing on experiences of business and other types of anti-corruption education.

There should be more pilots on the introduction of anti-corruption curriculum in business education.

By 2013, a number of pilots under PRME will be completed. Conclusions should be drawn and analysed to inform other similar projects.

Based on findings of the current pilots, the UN PRME initiative could play a leading role in helping scale efforts to develop business education more widely.
Give anti-corruption education a chance. Give it time to take root before assessing its success.

Anti-corruption education should be done at all levels.

Refuse to accept criticisms of those who say the a-c movement is not succeeding. We must look at some of our success and see the glass half-full. Human rights took 200 years to evolve, anti-corruption is only 20 years old!

With respect to anti-corruption, we have lived through successive decades of criminalisation, prevention and it is now the decade of education.
Rapporteur’s name and date submitted

Susan Cote-Freeman, 6 November 2012, 21:30

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