



ATPS ANTI-CORRUPTION POLICY

2020

This Anti-Corruption Policy outlines the principles, strategies, and mechanisms that ATPS will employ to prevent, detect, and address corruption in all its forms.



ATPS ANTI-CORRUPTION POLICY 2020

African Technology Policy Studies Network (ATPS)

The Chancery, 8th Floor, Valley Road
P. O. Box 10081-00100, Nairobi, Kenya
Email: executivedirector@atpsnet.org
Phone No: +254-202714092

Date: January, 2020

Introduction and Rationale

The African Technology Policy Studies Network (ATPS) is a trans-disciplinary network of researchers, policymakers, private sector actors, and civil society committed to the generation, dissemination, and application of science, technology, and innovation (STI) for African development, environmental sustainability, and global inclusion. Corruption undermines these objectives by eroding trust, wasting resources, and impeding progress. Therefore, ATPS is dedicated to upholding the highest standards of integrity, accountability, and transparency to ensure that its operations and initiatives are free from corrupt practices. This Anti-Corruption Policy outlines the principles, strategies, and mechanisms that ATPS will employ to prevent, detect, and address corruption in all its forms.

Definition of Key Terms

- **Corruption:** The abuse of entrusted power for private gain. It includes practices such as bribery, embezzlement, fraud, and nepotism.
- **Bribery:** Offering, giving, receiving, or soliciting anything of value to influence the actions of an official or other person in a position of trust.
- **Embezzlement:** Theft or misappropriation of funds or property entrusted to one's care.
- **Fraud:** Wrongful or criminal deception intended to result in financial or personal gain.
- **Nepotism:** Favoritism granted to relatives or friends, especially in job appointments.
- **Whistleblowing:** Reporting suspected wrongdoing, typically by an employee, to expose unethical or illegal conduct within an organization.
- **Conflict of Interest:** A situation in which a person or organization has competing interests or loyalties that could corrupt their decision-making.

Goals and Objectives

Goals

1. **Promote Integrity and Accountability:** Foster a culture of integrity and accountability within ATPS to prevent corruption.
2. **Enhance Transparency:** Ensure transparency in all operations, transactions, and decision-making processes.
3. **Strengthen Anti-Corruption Measures:** Implement robust policies and procedures to detect, prevent, and address corruption.
4. **Build Stakeholder Trust:** Maintain the trust and confidence of stakeholders through ethical conduct and anti-corruption practices.

Objectives

1. **Establish Clear Anti-Corruption Guidelines:** Develop and disseminate comprehensive guidelines to prevent corrupt practices.
2. **Train and Educate Staff:** Provide regular training and education to employees on anti-corruption policies and practices.
3. **Implement Effective Monitoring:** Develop and maintain effective monitoring and auditing mechanisms to detect and address corruption.
4. **Encourage Reporting and Whistleblowing:** Create a safe and confidential environment for

reporting suspected corruption without fear of retaliation.

5. **Enforce Disciplinary Actions:** Apply strict disciplinary measures against individuals involved in corrupt activities.
6. **Collaborate with Stakeholders:** Work collaboratively with partners, donors, and stakeholders to uphold anti-corruption standards.

Policy Framework

Anti-Corruption Guidelines

- **Code of Conduct:** All ATPS staff, partners, and stakeholders must adhere to the ATPS Code of Conduct, which outlines expected behaviors and prohibits corruption.
- **Conflict of Interest Disclosure:** Staff must disclose any potential conflicts of interest in a timely manner.
- **Gift and Hospitality Policy:** Establish clear guidelines for accepting and giving gifts and hospitality to prevent bribery and undue influence.
- **Procurement Procedures:** Implement transparent and competitive procurement procedures to minimize the risk of corruption in the acquisition of goods and services.
- **Financial Management:** Enforce strict financial controls, including regular audits and financial reporting, to ensure accountability and transparency.

Training and Education

- **Regular Training:** Conduct mandatory anti-corruption training for all employees, covering topics such as ethical behavior, conflict of interest, and reporting mechanisms.
- **Awareness Campaigns:** Implement awareness campaigns to educate stakeholders about the importance of anti-corruption measures and their role in maintaining integrity.
- **Resource Materials:** Provide access to resource materials, guidelines, and tools to support staff in identifying and preventing corruption.

Monitoring and Auditing

- **Internal Audits:** Perform regular internal audits to review compliance with anti-corruption policies and identify areas for improvement.
- **External Audits:** Engage external auditors to conduct independent reviews of ATPS operations and financial management.
- **Performance Indicators:** Develop and track performance indicators related to anti-corruption efforts to measure effectiveness and impact.

Reporting and Whistleblowing

- **Reporting Mechanisms:** Establish confidential and secure channels for reporting suspected corruption, including a whistleblower hotline and online reporting platform.
- **Whistleblower Protection:** Ensure that whistleblowers are protected from retaliation and that their reports are thoroughly investigated.
- **Investigation Procedures:** Develop clear procedures for investigating reports of corruption, ensuring fairness and impartiality.

Disciplinary Actions

- **Zero Tolerance Policy:** Enforce a zero-tolerance policy for corruption, with clear consequences for violations.
- **Disciplinary Measures:** Apply appropriate disciplinary measures, including termination of employment and legal action, for individuals found guilty of corruption.
- **Public Disclosure:** Publicly disclose actions taken against individuals involved in corrupt activities to maintain transparency and deter future misconduct.

Collaboration and Partnerships

- **Stakeholder Engagement:** Engage with stakeholders, including donors, partners, and beneficiaries, to promote shared anti-corruption objectives and practices.
- **Information Sharing:** Share information and best practices on anti-corruption measures with stakeholders to foster a collaborative approach.
- **Joint Initiatives:** Participate in joint initiatives and coalitions aimed at combating corruption at local, national, and international levels.

Implementation Strategy

- **Leadership Commitment:** Ensure commitment from ATPS leadership to uphold and enforce the Anti-Corruption Policy.
- **Resource Allocation:** Allocate necessary resources, including funding and personnel, to support anti-corruption initiatives.
- **Policy Integration:** Integrate anti-corruption measures into all aspects of ATPS operations and decision-making processes.
- **Continuous Improvement:** Regularly review and update the policy to reflect evolving best practices and emerging threats.

Monitoring and Evaluation of the Policy

ATPS is committed to monitoring and evaluating the implementation and effectiveness of this Anti-Corruption Policy. Regular reviews, feedback mechanisms, and performance evaluations will be conducted to ensure that anti-corruption measures are upheld and continuously improved.

Scope of Application

This policy applies to all ATPS staff, partners, and stakeholders involved in ATPS operations and activities. Compliance with this policy is mandatory, and any breaches will be addressed promptly and decisively.

Conclusion

The ATPS Anti-Corruption Policy underscores our commitment to maintaining the highest standards of integrity, transparency, and accountability. By fostering a culture of ethical behavior, implementing robust anti-corruption measures, and engaging collaboratively with stakeholders, ATPS aims to create an environment that is free from corruption and conducive to sustainable development and innovation.



African Technology Policy Studies Network
(ATPS)

Contact Executive Director:
executivedirector@atpsnet.org
8th Floor Chancery Building,
Valley Road

P. O. Box 10081-00100, Nairobi
Tel: +254 (020) 2714092
www.atpsnet.org

 **Address**

P.O Box 10081 - 00100, Nairobi, Kenya

 **Telephone**

[+254 020 2714092](tel:+2540202714092)

 **Website**

<https://atpsnet.org/>