



Network India

**CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR GOVERNANCE, ETHICS AND TRANSPARENCY (CEGET)**  
[Promoting Corporate, Urban, Environmental and Health Governance]

## UN GCNI BULLETIN – NOVEMBER 2021

**Vigilance Awareness Week**  
**(October 26 to November 1, 2021)**

The poster features a background of a grid of white lines on a light blue surface, creating a perspective effect. At the top, there are logos for German cooperation, giz, Alliance for Integrity, PTI, and UN Global Compact Network India. The main text reads: 'INDEPENDENT INDIA@75 : SELF-RELIANCE WITH INTEGRITY' and 'OBSERVING VIGILANCE AWARENESS WEEK, 2021'. Below this, the event title 'Panel Discussion Start-Ups & Industry : Business Integrity & Acceleration' is displayed. The date and time are 'Date: November 01, 2021' and 'Time: 16:00 to 17:00 hrs (IST)'. The online platform is 'Online: CISCO Webex'. The poster lists a Moderator, Shayesta Kibriya, and four Speakers: Executive Director of UN Global Compact Networks India, Dr. Jatinder Singh, Shantanu Mitra, and another speaker whose name is partially obscured.

Start-up and business both are an integral part of redefining the Indian economy and self-reliance, therefore they are contributing positively to improving the business integrity through collective action with a focus on good governance and compliance management.

With its favorable demography, open economic environment and culture of entrepreneurialism, India is highly conducive to entrepreneurial activity. However, India's start-up economy has not reached to full maturity, and many start-ups die in their infancy, yet we can see a spurt of growth in the number of start-ups and they are setting

an example to improve the Indian economy with support and collaboration with established industries. While the start-ups and industry are already playing a crucial role in self-reliance for India, they are yet to achieve their full potential. Global Compact Network India, closely working with start-ups and industry sectors, has realized that there is an initial lack of focus on integrity and compliance, which has become one of the bottlenecks for their sustainability and growth.

Therefore, standing committed to the fight against corruption and enhancing transparency and integrity across sectors, Global Compact Network India (GCNI), Alliance for Integrity (AfIN), and Partners for Transparency Foundation India (PTFI) continuing its awareness drive for the observance of Vigilance Awareness Week 2021, started from October 26, 2021, hosted a panel discussion on **“Start-ups & Industry: Integrity and Business Acceleration”** on November 1, 2021 aligned with the theme of Vigilance Awareness Week **“Independent India @75 Self Reliance with Integrity”**.

The panel discussion focused on the role and need of integrity in accelerating business and ensuring sustainability of start-ups and industry. The expert speakers quoted that industry and start-ups complement each other in order to their business development and also building mentoring relationship with established companies/industry which can help both industry and start-ups in mutual success as well as it can drive India toward an ever-more dynamic future. Besides this, the experts had also shared their views and manifold prospective of working with start-ups and industry and advised both the sectors to promote integrity and compliance management.

Apart from this, Global Compact Network India had disseminated Anti-Corruption Collective Action (ACCA) playbook of UNGC. Anti-Corruption Collective Action Playbook was developed as part of the UN Global Compact multi-year project “Scaling up Anti-Corruption Collective Action within Global Compact Local Networks” and was launched on 17 June 2021 at the UN Global Compact Leaders’ Summit. It provides guidance on fighting corruption for companies and other stakeholders from civil society organizations and the public sector. Through a six-step approach, the playbook enables companies to make a clear diagnosis of their local corruption landscape, identify and engage stakeholders and apply the Collective Action methodology to address identified corruption challenges and to mitigate potential business risks. While private sector efforts have traditionally focused on developing and implementing internal anti-corruption compliance programs as a response to international and national legal and regulatory standards and frameworks, Collective Action can complement existing regulation or fill a void when regulation is non-existent or not enforced.

Around 200 participants from across the sectors attended the panel discussion and got benefitted with the insights, best practices and experience shared by the expert speakers to combat corruption through integrity and compliance in business.



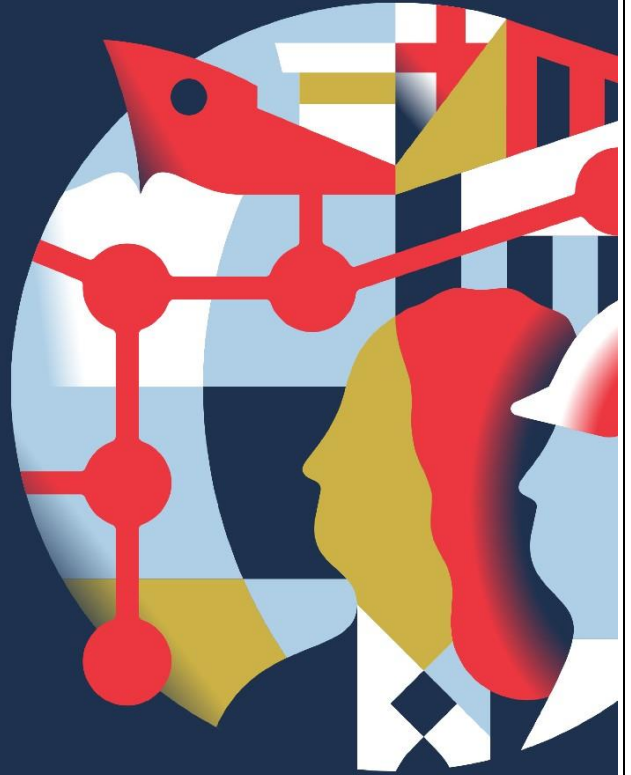
United Nations  
Global Compact

# UNITING AGAINST CORRUPTION

A PLAYBOOK ON  
ANTI-CORRUPTION  
COLLECTIVE ACTION

[DOWNLOAD THE PLAYBOOK](#)

#COLLECTIVEACTION



## Scaling up Anti-Corruption Collective Action within Global Compact Local Networks Strengthening ACCA Working Group

The Global Compact Network India (GCNI) is effectively serving as a Project Local Network (LN) for India under Anti-Corruption Collective Action Initiative ("Scaling-up Anti-Corruption Collective Action within Global Compact Local Networks") of UN Global Compact (UNGC) towards promoting public-private cooperation in fighting corruption.

Focusing on achieving project deliverables, GCNI conducted a meeting with Anti-Corruption Collective Action (ACCA) working Group on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021 wherein Dr. Somnath Singh, Programme Manager, GCNI shared the activities carried out in October-November 2021 like observance of Vigilance Awareness Week 2021 (26<sup>th</sup> October, 2021 to 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021), project review meeting with UNGC and the ongoing efforts put up in to the development of project roadmap emphasizing on promoting transparency and accountability in healthcare sector in India.

Further, a group discussion took place among the ACCA Working Group members wherein they had shared the status of the project roadmap including the challenges they are facing in the development of the project roadmap. Finally, the ACCA working group divided themselves into 2 groups (Core Group and Support Group) and ensured the preparation and submission of project roadmap report by the mid of December 2021.

Besides this, Dr. Somnath Singh gave out a brief overview of International Anti-Corruption Day (IACD)-2021 and shared about the activities that GCNI is going to conduct on the occasion of IACD-2021 e.g. Anti-Corruption Awareness Campaign from 1-9 December, 2021 and a Panel Discussion on “Reflections and Resolutions for the 2030 Agenda” aligned with the theme of IACD-2021 “**Your right, your role: Say no to Corruption**” and encouraged all the ACCA Working Group members to actively participate in both the activities.

Mr. Arya Dev, Programme Analyst, GCNI shared that the ACCA Working Group is not only helping GCNI in the implementation and achievement of project deliverables but also providing support in creating project visibility and expanding its reach to potential stakeholders across the sectors.

### Improving Early Access to Treatment by Rare Disease Patients through collective action



*Awareness --- Support---Treatment---Research*

In 2019, UN Member States adopted the historical Political Declaration on Universal Health Coverage including a commitment to strengthen efforts to address rare disease (RD), the first-time rare disease has been adopted by all 193 Member States. The wave of this policy action will in turn contributing to the achievement of the ambition to leave no one behind in the healthcare. In line of the above, the Government of India has launched the National Policy for Rare Diseases in March'21.

Rare diseases are lifelong disease or disorder with a prevalence of 1 or less, per 1000 population. Rare diseases consist of well over 6,000 conditions, often of genetic origin. RD affect an estimated 4% of the world's population, thus about 300 million people worldwide, which is on par with other major NCD (Non-Communicable Diseases).

Globally, rare diseases are responsible for 35% of deaths in the first year of life. These numbers are likely the same or more drastic in India. However, despite the serious

implications on child mortality, innovative ways to integrate rare diseases into the government's ambitious Ayushman Bharat are absent in the Policy.

Though India policy provide financial support of up to INR 20 lakhs for a one-time treatment and for the long-term treatment support - the Government created alternate funding mechanism through setting up a digital platform for voluntary individual and corporate donors to contribute to the treatment cost of patients of RD. However, the major challenge remains is the progressive support from CSR/PSU organizations as envisages in the Policy is limited. On the other hand, notified CoEs (government hospitals) has limited capabilities to conduct outreach interventions with CSR/PSU organizations seeking their support for person living with RD, particularly requiring lifelong treatment.

In order to promote National Program for Rare Diseases (NPRD) of Gol, with support from TAKEDA, GCNI launched a project "Improving Early Access to Treatment by Rare Disease Patients and Support to Government in the execution of India Rare Disease Policy 2021" on October 18. 2021.

With the mandate of supporting SDG 3.0 and UHC, GCNI aims to strengthen collective action and provide a platform for collaboration/partnership between various CoEs (government notified hospitals) and Corporates/CSRs and other stakeholders for improving early access to treatment of Rare Disease Patients. The GCNI will sensitize corporates especially CSRs and PSUs about person living with RD's social and health needs, and also encourage them to support patients diagnosed and untreated because of no/limited financial support as envisaged in the NPRD (National Policy for Rare Disease).

The project aims to provide Tangible support for COEs in improved continuum of care for patients seeking treatment.

To take this health initiative forward, GCNI, in the month of November, 2021, had conducted consultative meetings with the Nodal Officers of Centre of Excellence for Rare Disease, Mumbai and Centre of Excellence for Rare Disease, Kolkata including National Health Mission (NHM) and shared the concept and the objectives of the initiative to support rare disease patients through active engagement of CSRs and PSUs.

With this health system strengthening initiative, GCNI is not only contributing to improving Early Access to Treatment by Rare Disease patients but also helping Government in health sector strengthening in India.

## Upcoming Initiatives

### Observance of International Anti-Corruption Day-2021



The theme for the International Anti-Corruption Day 2021 is: **“Your right, your role: Say no to Corruption.”** Reeling under the impact of Covid-19, when the efforts to achieve Sustainable Development Goals have suffered a major blow, it is important that the rights and responsibilities of every individual stakeholder in tackling corruption, is highlighted - including Public & Private Sectors, Law enforcement agencies, Civil society organizations, Academia, Media and Youth as well.

UN GCNI observes the International Anti-Corruption Day (IACD) every year to promote the cause of collective action in preventing corruption and the theme of IACD-2021 is ideally suited for GCNI mandates. We all must unite in this hour of crisis and share responsibilities to promote resilience and integrity at all levels of society. The leaders from business, national and subnational governments, apart from representatives and voices from other pillars of our democratic country, have a major role to play in strengthening measure and policies to bring about a culture of integrity across the sectors.

This year’s campaign for International Anti-Corruption Day highlights key dimensions of the fight against corruption in the areas of: **Business, Education, Gender, Sports, Health and Technology including international cooperation**, as a cross-cutting item. We must ensure that we have representation from each of these areas so that we lend an ear to their challenges and endeavor to find innovative solutions collectively.

GCNI, on the occasion of the observance of the International Anti-Corruption Day 2021, is conducting following two major events...

### **1. Anti-Corruption Awareness Campaign: Voice of Leaders Against Corruption**

Anti-Corruption Awareness Campaign from December 1, 2021 to December 9, 2021. GCNI will launch/release the video statements /quotes /messages focusing on Fights Against Corruption, collected from the business leaders and Anti-Corruption experts from across the sectors in India, on its social media platforms and deliver a message to combat corruption through collective action.

This beyond a long week campaign will help in increasing awareness against corruption across the sectors, improving understanding on the role of different sectors in the Fight Against Corruption” and strengthening ownership for the cause of corruption and its eradication through collective action.

### **2. Fireside Chat: Corruption and Our Role: Reflections and Resolutions for the 2030 Agenda”** aligned with the theme of IACD-2021 **“Your right, your role: Say no to Corruption”**.

GCNI is conducting a panel discussion on December 9, 2021 wherein the experts from the most affected areas (**Business, Education, Gender, Sports, Health and Technology**) will discuss their roles in promoting anti-corruption as individuals, organizations and moreover collectively as a society and nation. In the discussion with experts, various measures to prevent corruption and promote collective action around it, we as a responsible citizen, will also learn about the ways to involve youth in the fight against corruption as they are considered the future of the nation who will carry the agenda of SDGs on their shoulders in the third decade of this century.

**Please click on the link below to register:**

**<https://www.globalcompact.in/event/international-anti-corruption-day-2021>**

## 16<sup>th</sup> National Convention: Target 2030



As the local arm of United Nations Global Compact (UNGC), Global Compact Network India (GCNI) has been acting as a country level platform in providing a robust platform for Indian businesses, academic institutions and civil society organizations to join hands for strengthening responsible business practices. We and our members remain fully committed to the '10 Principles of UNGC in the areas of Human Rights, Labour, Environment and Anti-corruption and the 17 'Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)' adopted in September 2015, by all 195 Member States of the United Nations including India in order to end extreme poverty, fight inequality and injustice, and protect our planet.

Recognizing above, we are holding **16th National Convention** on the theme of '**Target 2030: Assess, Act, Accelerate**' on **15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> December 2021**. The theme of the convention puts emphasis on the act towards achieving SDGs. Businesses need to speed up their on-ground actions as well as measure those actions to make a real impact of SDGs on businesses and society and create economic value for the nation.

### **A Message from, Executive Director, GCNI**

Through the GCNI National Convention, we aim to bring together a highly evolved group of Industry professionals, Policy Makers, Civil Society Organizations, Academia and UN aligned bodies to discuss and debate on identifying key social and environmental challenges within and outside their organizations, designing innovative solutions to address them and becoming SDG pioneers.

**Please click on the link below to register for the event:**

<https://globalcompact.in/16th-national-convention/>