SII-UNGC's Third Funding Round
Strengthening Transparency, Ethics, Accountability, and Value-based Healthcare in India
UN GCNI's Pioneering Contributions to Advancing Sustainable Healthcare
October -December 2024

Corruption erodes governance, public trust, and equitable development. The Global Symposium on Combating Corruption convened stakeholders to promote transparency, accountability, and integrity across sectors. It aimed to foster collaboration and actionable solutions for a corruption-free society.

Corruption remains a significant obstacle to achieving equitable development and fostering public trust in governance systems. Its pervasive impact affects every sector, undermining democratic institutions, economic progress, and social equity. Recognizing the importance of transparency, accountability, and integrity in regulated and Business Sectors, UN Global Compact Network India (UN GCNI) organized various relevant and meaningful conferences in association with various renowned business associations, healthcare organizations, NGOs and Law experts from October 2024 to December 2024.

These initiatives sought to address corruption and governance challenges across the public and private sectors, academia, and healthcare. By fostering multi-stakeholder engagement, the conferences emphasized the collective responsibility of governments, industries, Academia, and civil society in combating corruption and promoting ethical practices across the sectors.

2nd edition of the Responsible Business Conduct (RBC) in healthcare
The journey toward transparency, accountability, and ethical healthcare practices

On 14th November 2024, the UN Global Compact Network India (UN GCNI) organized the second edition of the Webinar on Responsible Business Conduct for Healthcare titled "Implementing Responsible Business Conduct in Healthcare Practices- Tools and Strategies for Promoting Transparency and Accountability in Healthcare," in collaboration with PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI) and Ethosphere,

This webinar featured thought leaders from the government, corporate, patient organizations, and the healthcare ecosystem, creating a collaborative forum for innovative solutions and insights into advancing responsible governance in healthcare. Over 150 participants from across the sectors attended the webinar and benefitted from the experts' insights and knowledge on Responsible Business Conduct for Healthcare.

Key Discussion Areas:

- IT-enabled Governance Tools for enhanced healthcare transparency
- Strategies for Transparency in healthcare processes
- Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) and their role in Responsible Business Conduct
- Monitoring and Evaluation of Responsible Business Initiatives

Key takeaways:

- ❖ The importance of ethical practices for ensuring patient trust and healthcare integrity.
- ❖ Strategies for aligning healthcare operations with transparency, accountability, and sustainability goals.

❖ Insights into addressing healthcare legal, compliance, and patient safety challenges.

This webinar underscored the need for collective action in embedding responsible business conduct within healthcare organizations to drive positive, lasting change.

Academic Session on Promoting Collective Action (Goal 16)

Advancing Integrity: Collective Action for Good Governance, Transparency, and Accountability Across Sectors "Together, we're building a future rooted in trust and transparency"

Corruption poses significant challenges to sustainable development and governance. Academic institutions can play a pivotal role in combating corruption by fostering integrity, transparency, and accountability through education, research, and collaboration/Collective Action across sectors.

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 16 underscores the importance of promoting peace, justice, and strong institutions, advocating for transparent, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels. Aligned with UNGC Principle 10 (Anti-Corruption), the UN Global Compact Network India (UN GCNI) organized an event titled Academic Session on Promoting Collective Action (SDG 16) on 29th November 2024 in association with PHD Chambers of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI) at PHD House, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh/India.

This academic session explored collective action as a robust approach to address corruption and governance challenges across diverse sectors—particularly Business, Healthcare, Education, public service, and civil society. Corruption often compromises the integrity, efficiency, and trust in these sectors, creating a need for concerted efforts towards transparency, ethics, and accountability.
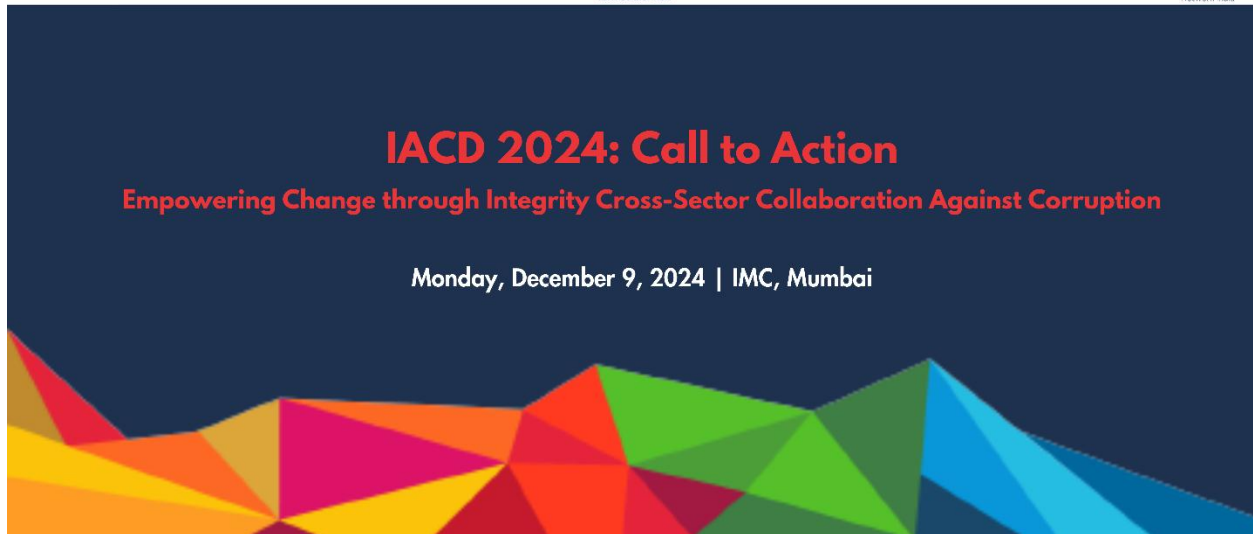
The session brought together leaders from academia, business, healthcare, NGOs, and media to advance Sustainable Development Goal 16 – fostering peace, justice, and strong institutions.

The discussions spotlighted key themes like transparency, ethical leadership, and accountability, addressing corruption challenges through innovation, collaboration, and collective action.
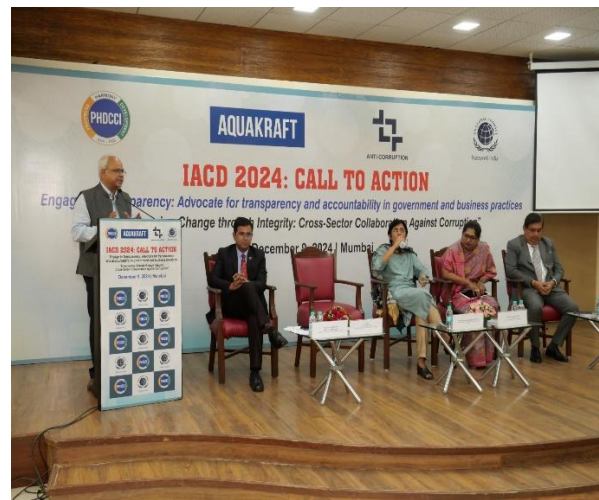
International Anti-Corruption Day 2024: Call to Action

Engage in Transparency: Advocate for transparency and accountability in government and business practices.

International Anti-Corruption Day (IACD), observed annually on December 9, is a global call to action against corruption, urging all sectors of society to embrace transparency, ethics, and accountability. This year, UN Global Compact Network India (UN GCNI) aims to deepen its focus on reducing corruption across key sectors: healthcare, micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSME), academia, and business. This observance aligns with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16.5, which aims to eliminate corruption in all forms and sectors.

Corruption impacts every facet of society and disproportionately affects essential services and vulnerable industries. The healthcare sector is compromised when resources meant for public welfare are misappropriated; MSMEs, the backbone of many economies, suffer when corruption raises the cost of doing business. As a builder of future leaders, Academia must maintain integrity to foster a culture of ethics. Lastly, business ethics drive sustainability and trust, which are fundamental for growth. The 2024 observance seeks to unite stakeholders from these sectors to discuss and implement actionable solutions for a transparent, corruption-free society.

Dr. Pradnya Saravade (Rtd. IPS), Independent Director and Former Director General of Police (Maharashtra), the Chief Guest for the event, said, Corruption is not merely an issue of individual malfeasance but a systemic challenge that demands multi-stakeholder collaboration. Governments, businesses, civil society, academic institutions, and individuals all have roles to play in creating a culture of integrity.

Key Discussion Areas:

- ❖ Insight Forum: Fostering Ethics and Transparency in Healthcare and MSMEs
- ❖ Leadership Roundtable: Global and Regional Perspectives on Anti-Corruption
- ❖ Fireside Chat: Cultural Shift for a Corruption-Free Society Collaborative Pathways: Public-Private Partnerships for Integrity

Key Highlights

- ❖ Inspiring keynote addresses by governance and ethics leaders
- ❖ Engaging in panel discussions and fireside chats
- ❖ Strategic focus on transparency and ethical governance in healthcare, MSMEs, academia, and business
- ❖ Networking with changemakers and experts

Achieving Universal Health Coverage requires collaboration across sectors including health, finance, education, and social welfare. This session focused on how multi-sectoral partnerships can foster innovations, support healthcare infrastructure, and improve access for underserved populations.

UN Global Compact Network India (UN GCNI) and Voice of Healthcare (VOH) have jointly observed the Universal Health Coverage Day (UHC 2024) and organized a webinar themed "Multi-Sectoral Partnerships for Achieving Universal Health Coverage Sectoral Partnerships for Achieving Universal Health Coverage" on 12th December 2024 which helped understand why collective action of multi-stakeholders is required to make India's healthcare system transparent, ethical and affordable to the people. Over 1000 audiences attended the webinar through diverse social media platforms.

Access to the recording of the webinar

FB - https://lnkd.in/gRxxWQyk
LinkedIn - https://lnkd.in/g9XA7rhV
Youtube - https://lnkd.in/gpZ3iirx

Dr. Somnath Singh said the success of UHC depends on our collective commitment to innovation, inclusivity, and collaboration. , as we engage in this critical dialogue, let us explore actionable strategies to harness the power of multi-sectoral partnerships for building a robust and resilient healthcare ecosystem.

Global Symposium on Combating Corruption and Promoting Good Governance: Challenges & Solutions
"Champion integrity, transparency, and accountability across sectors"

The UN Global Compact Network India (UN GCNI) and National Law University, Delhi (NLUD) jointly organized the event titled "Global Symposium on Combating Corruption and Promoting Good Governance: Challenges & Solutions" in association with PHDCCI, PSI India and Shikhar Organizations on December 19-20, 2024 at NLUD in Delhi.

This landmark event brought together leaders from the Healthcare, Academia, Industry, and Government sectors. The symposium addressed critical themes such as ethical leadership, digital transparency, judicial integrity, and collective action against corruption. Thought-provoking discussions underscored the importance of collaborative efforts in fostering good governance and combating corruption globally.

The launch of the UN GCNI Publication 'The Evaluation of Health Systems in India: Decoding the Impact on Health Governance, Transparency, and Infrastructure' was the unique feature and attraction of the symposium. Dr. Somnath Singh highlighted the importance of the publication and the need for the collective action (collaborative efforts) of both the government and business sectors in achieving the goals of a corruption-free nation.

The Global Symposium on Combating Corruption and Promoting Good Governance brought together a distinguished group of leaders from governance, academia, healthcare, and the private sector. Held on December 19–20, 2024, at National Law University, Delhi, the event featured an illustrious lineup of speakers, including Dr. S.Y. Quraishi, Former Chief Election Commissioner of India; Dr. Jatinder Singh, Deputy Secretary General, PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI); Ashok Kumar Pavadia, Former Additional Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat, Government of India; Dr. K. Madan Gupta, Former Director, National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD); Dharam Jain, Former Joint Director, Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI); Prof. Hartmut Aden, Professor of Public Law at the Berlin School of Economics and Law, Germany; Aman Hingorani, Advocate and Mediator, Supreme Court of India; Om Vyas, Former Principal Director, Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA); Gen. Anil Verma, Head of the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR); Vipul Mudgal, Director of Common Cause India; Navneet Rajan, Former Chief Information Commissioner of India; Dr. Li Bin Fabian, Visiting Scholar at Harvard Kennedy School; Dr. J.S. Mann, Former President, Indian Society for Legal Philosophy; and Dr. Somnath Singh, Deputy Director, UN Global Compact Network India (UN GCNI). Together, this distinguished group enriched the event with diverse perspectives on combating corruption and promoting good governance.

DECLARATION:

After the symposium, UN GCNI and NLUD came up with a declaration. The declaration, adopted underscores a unified vision to tackle corruption and reinforce transparency, accountability, and integrity across India's sociopolitical and economic systems.

Acknowledgments:

The declaration begins by recognizing critical issues and opportunities:

1. Corruption's Impact: Acknowledging that corruption significantly threatens India's democratic institutions, economic growth, and social equity.

2. The Need for Strong Systems: Emphasizing the importance of robust, transparent, and accountable systems that prioritize integrity and public trust across all sectors.

3. Role of Education and Technology: Highlighting the critical role of education, advocacy, and innovative technologies in fostering ethical governance and active citizen participation.

Proclamations:

The declaration makes the following proclamations:

1. Governance Principles: Integrity, accountability, and transparency must form the foundation of governance to ensure equitable development and social justice in India.

2. Shared Responsibility: Combating corruption requires collective engagement from governments, industries, academia, and civil society.

3. Resilient Frameworks: Establishing a robust framework rooted in legal, institutional, and technological reforms is essential for building public trust and creating systems resistant to corruption.

RESOLUTIONS

The declaration outlines eight resolutions to address corruption and promote good governance:

1. Strengthen legal and institutional frameworks to deter corruption.
2. Promote ethical leadership in governance and professional practices.
3. Safeguard whistleblowers and ensure support for victims of corruption.
4. Leverage technology to enhance transparency and accountability.
5. Empower citizens through education and encourage proactive engagement.
6. Foster collaboration among governments, industries, academia, and civil society.
7. Integrate ethics and integrity into educational curricula and professional training.
8. Promote cultural and social transformation to establish a corruption-resistant society.

This declaration signifies hope and unity in the fight against corruption, paving the way for a brighter and more equitable future for India. It reflects a collective determination to create a society where transparency and accountability are central to governance, fostering trust and equity among all citizens.

The adoption of this declaration marks a significant milestone in the ongoing efforts to address corruption. The National Symposium concluded with a shared resolve to implement these resolutions and drive impactful change at every level of governance. Organizers pledged to sustain the momentum through follow-up initiatives, ensuring that the outcomes of this symposium translate into tangible reforms and actions.

This declaration signifies hope and unity in the fight against corruption, paving the way for a brighter and more equitable future for India.