

African Youth Anti-Corruption 2030 Vision

We, the young people of Africa play a key role in ensuring the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. The world has less than 7 years left to achieve them. Corruption hinders greatly the achievement of these fundamental global goals.

We are not only not speared but rather suffering the most from the consequences of corruption. Corruption directly robs us of our future, by diverting money that should be dedicated to investing in our education, our well-being and provision of safe, public spaces where we can mature and develop healthily.

By 2030, young Africans are expected to make up 42 percent of the world's youth and account for 75 percent of those under age 35 in Africa. We, the African youth face unique challenges, different from the challenges faced by youth elsewhere. Corruption exacerbates existing problems, funnelling away the financial resources allocated to sustainable development, increasing distrust of young people in government, creating the economic, political and social idleness that hinders the development of solutions.

Countering corruption is not the responsibility of governments and law enforcement alone. It is more and more recognised that there needs to be a whole-of-society approach, not only through law enforcement but through actions that can bring about a lasting behavioural change. We can be dynamic promoters of a culture of integrity and rejection of corruption.

The Political Declaration, adopted at the Special session of the General Assembly against corruption in June 2021, places anti-corruption education and training at the core of a holistic and multidisciplinary approach to promote transparency, accountability, integrity and a culture of rejection of corruption as a basis for preventing and countering corruption. It recognizes the role that we, as young people, play as agents of change in creating an atmosphere of non-tolerance towards corruption at all levels of society.

Following the Pre-UNCAC CoSP regional dialogue for Africa, organised by UNODC's GRACE Initiative on efforts to advance the anti-corruption agenda for CSOs, youth and academia, 17 young leaders from various countries in Africa gathered in Kenya for a dedicated Youth Event entitled "UNCAC belongs to YOUth: African Youth 2030 Vision on Anti-Corruption" to discuss their own African Youth Anti-Corruption Vision to be achieved by 2030.

We have identified five top priorities that are exacerbated by corruption in Africa. We want you, world leaders, policy makers, educators and the civil society more broadly to work with us young people to ensure that our African Youth Anti-Corruption Vision is achieved by 2030.

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Top priority 1: Unemployment

- By 2030, no youth should be subjected to opportunity for pay. Priority access and favors will be reduced to the minimum when seeking for employment.
- By 2030, recruitment and procurement processes in public and private sectors are transparent, fair and have outlined accountability processes.
- By 2030, there should be a favorable economic and financial environment for youth enterprises. Bribery in business will no longer be an issue.

Top priority 2: Education

- By 2030, governments shall have done reforms in the education sector to ensure that ethics and integrity classes are taught from a young age on and mainstreamed throughout the education system.
- By 2030, no one will exchange sex or other bribes to get good grades in school.
- By 2030, institutions of learning shall enforce strict adherence to the code of conduct to ensure that bribe is eliminated in the institutions.
- By 2030, governments shall strengthen education institutions in their countries to deal with irregularities in the education sector that breed corruption.

Top priority 3: Weak Governance

- By 2030, we the youth of Africa want corruption to be defined as a Crime against Humanity for all UNCAC State parties.
- We want to see youth represented in leadership and their active participation in governance.
- People who show integrity will feel supported and protected both in the public and private sector.
- We will have strong and independent institutions to implement and enforce laws.
- We will have public officials with integrity, and we will feel protected and supported by them.
- All African Youth will have access to digital platforms providing access to information that will aid in the fight against corruption.

Top priority 4: Crime and Violence

- By 2030, we will have strong institutions that will hold everyone accountable for their crimes, the anti-corruption laws will actually be a form of deterrence and there will be no more impunity.
- By 2030, we are looking forward to equal distribution of resources to reduce the poverty that pushes people over the edge and produce the tendencies of committing crimes, such as corruption.
- In 2030, more youth voices will join the fight against corruption.

Top priority 5: health

- By 2030, corruption will no longer prevent any young African from accessing free, quality healthcare resources with regard to sexual reproductive health, medicine, therapy, and vaccines.
- By 2030, no young African should be a victim of drug abuse due to issues such as misinformation, forceful use, peer pressure, etc. By ridding the corruption connected to misinformation of various drugs in promoting the use of these drugs and lack of transparency, promoting the use of these drugs.
- Public sector officials will stop engaging in corruption aiding the trafficking and procurement of drugs.

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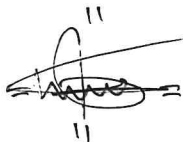
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