



Anti-Corruption Commission



Concept Note

A Predictive Model of Corruption in the Maldives: Behavioral Indicators and Ethical Perspective

1. Background

The first anti-corruption agency in the Maldives was established as a department within the President's Office in 1991, following a presidential decree. Named as the Anti-Corruption Board, it gained legal recognition through the ratification of the 94th amendment 1/91 to the Official Matters Act 3/68 during the fifth meeting of the first session of the People's Majlis in 1991.

Though the initial focus of the Board was corruption investigation, the Board's scope was expanded in 1995 following a request made via letter (number 64/94/1/C-123, dated 7 August 1994) to the President's Office, which mandated the Board to engage in preventive measures.

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) of the Maldives came into being with the enactment of Article 199(a) of the Constitution on the 16th of October 2008. The Commission came with the entrusted responsibilities to combat, prevent, and prohibit corruption and its related crimes.

The new Constitution of the Maldives (2008) stipulated that the country should have an impartial commission with a dedicated function to eliminate and combat corruption from all functions of the state, mandating the establishment of the Anti-Corruption Commission. In accordance with this legal requirement, the Anti-Corruption Commission Act (13/2008) was ratified, detailing the functionalities and mandate of the Commission. Initially, with the enactment of the Prevention and Prohibition of Corruption Act (2/2000) in the August of 2000, criminalized corruption, and its offenses; however, with the enactment of Law No. 9/2014 (Penal Code of the Maldives), which codified most of the penal laws of the Maldives, and the Fourth Amendment (2021) to the Penal Code corruption offenses were incorporated into this Act.

The United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC), which the Maldivian government has signed and endorsed, emphasizes all States Parties to conduct evaluations, studies and research relating to the types, causes, effects, and costs of corruption in their respective countries, with a view to developing, with the participation of competent authorities and society, strategies and action plans to combat corruption (Article 60).

Introduction

In alignment to mandate of the Commission and the international commitments, the 5-year Strategic Action Plan (SAP) of the Commission includes the responsibility of conducting annual surveys/research focused on specific thematic areas related to corruption under Strategy 1 (Conduct research and systemic risks and corruption trends) detailed in Objective 1 (conduct empirical research on corruption risks and effectiveness of measures taken to fight corruption) of *Priority Area 2: Proactive Prevention*.

Hence, the Commission recognizes the necessity of undertaking the nation's first-ever scientific study aimed at providing an initial understanding of the behavioral indicators related to corruption and the ethical perspectives surrounding it. Moreover, this study will also provide an empirical understanding of the reasons behind the actions of perpetrators of corruption. By conducting in-depth interviews, surveys, and behavioral analyses, it is intended to uncover the nuanced motivations and decision-making processes that drive individuals to engage in corrupt practices.

This pioneering initiative not only reflects our commitment to fulfilling the mandates outlined in the SAP but also signifies a significant step towards advancing our understanding of corruption dynamics in the Maldives.

By elucidating the motivations behind the actions of individuals engaged in corrupt practices, this study holds the potential to disclose invaluable insights that can contribute to evidence-based policies and interventions aimed at curbing corruption.

Objective

The objective of this study is:

- a. To develop a scientific prediction on the behavioral indicators of corruption,
- b. To develop a scientific prediction of the ethical perspective of Maldivians towards corruption.
- c. To understand the reason behind the actions of perpetrators

This insight will empower the Commission to develop targeted programs and awareness initiatives designed to shape public attitudes and behaviors regarding corruption effectively.

2. Responsibilities and the Scope of Work

The Consultant selected for this project will develop a proposal with the following subheadings:

a. Introduction:

Include an introduction to the work of the Commission, the problem the paper is going to address and the need for the research and a theoretical or conceptual construct to the paper.

b. Methodology:

Explain in detail the methodology (the independent variables, dependent variables, scale of measurement and the tests to use respectively), research questions, sample population, data collection procedure, and the data analysis strategy, methods to ensure validity and reliability of the data, and ethical procedures and consideration. The methodology shall be developed with the consultation of the Commission's Research Team.

c. Research Instrument:

Develop the research instrument designed specifically to address the objectives of this research. The research instrument shall be developed with the consultation of the Commission's Research Team.

3. Conflict of Interest declaration

Any party submitting to the tender must make a formal (written) Declaration of Conflict of Interest in the event of any such existence. This involves having a close relative or a close associate working in the Anti-Corruption Commission.

4. Validity of the tender

All tenders submitted must have a minimum validity of 60 (sixty) days.

5. Deliverables

The deliverable of this tender will be:

- a. Inception Report detailing the workplan for the project.
- b. Proposal for the research "A Predictive Model of Corruption in the Maldives: Behavioral Indicators and Ethical Perspective" with an introduction, detailed methodology and a research instrument.

6. Time Span

Two months from the contract signed date. Expected date of commencement: May 2024.

7. Institutional Arrangements

The Consultant is to work along with the research team of the Commission. The research team of the Commission will provide technical feedback on developing the research instrument and will monitor the development of the proposal.

8. Expertise

The Consultant can be either an individual or consultancy firm. In case of a team, the team must be led by an individual with the following qualification and experiences.

- Postgraduate degree in social sciences (including planning, development, law, policy, anti-corruption, criminology, or in any other related field)
- Minimum five years of experience in quantitative research
- Consultant must have the following competencies.
 - ❖ Must be result-oriented, a team player, and exhibiting high level of integrity.
 - ❖ Must have strong coordination and communication skills.
 - ❖ Excellent verbal and written communication skills in English, and Dhivehi and must be able to prepare high quality documents in English and Dhivehi

9. Intellectual Property

The Consultant shall not use any intellectual property of the Commission including, but not limited to, Commission's official logo, or any other logo, Name of the Commission, at any time without the prior approval of the Commission. The final deliverables will become a product of the Anti-Corruption Commission.

10. Payment

Payment will be made in terms of Maldivian Rufiyaa (MVR), based on the completion of the project as agreed with the Commission by a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with the assigned party.

11. Time Span

The duration of the Consultancy is 02 (two) months from the contract signing date.

12. Eligible Applicants

This call for proposal is open only to local individuals or firms. Proposals submitted by firms will be assessed based on the profile of the teams' key personnel as an individual applicant.

13. Application Process

Interested and qualified applicants should submit their applications (in English) on the Bid Opening meeting at Anti-Corruption Commission's' Conference Hall on **29th April 2024, 10:00** with the following documents.

- Cover Letter
- Detailed Curriculum Vitae(s)
- Portfolio
- Reference Letter(s) (from similar consultancies undertaken)
- Technical Proposal (submit in separately sealed and closed envelope)
- Tax clearance report (for firms) (within last 3 months)
- GST registration certificate copy (for those required to pay GST)
- Business registration certificate copy (for firms)

** The page numbers and total number of pages should be indicated on each page of the proposal.

14. Evaluation Criteria

Technical Evaluation	50%
Financial Evaluation	50%
Total	100%

Technical Evaluation 50%	
Experience	30%
Qualification	10 %
Interview	10%

Criteria for Evaluation			
#	Adequacy and the competence of key personnel proposed for the Project	Points	Score
Section 1. TECHNICAL EVALUATION 50%			
To qualify the candidate, must obtain a minimum of 50% out of the total allocated to this section.			
1	Experience 30%		
This section will be assessed based on submitted documents that indicate experience.			
2.1	Anti-corruption work experience (5 %) - No. of experience letters. Nationwide research undertaken (5%) - No. of Nationwide research undertaken No. of Research undertaken (5%) - No. of research undertaken Marks will be given based on the valid submission of references.	15%	
2.2	Experience quantitative research (10%) - No. of quantitative research Experience in working with government and other stakeholder organizations (5%) - No. of reference letters No. of reference letters above 20 will be given full marks. The number of references below will be calculated proportionately.	15%	
3	Qualification 10%		
This section will be assessed based on academic qualifications			
	Relevant Postgraduate degree (10 %)	10%	
4	Interview 10%		
This section will be assessed based on the interview.			
Section 2. FINANCIAL EVALUATION			
2.1	Financial Proposal 50%		
This section will be assessed based on the Financial Proposal submitted by the Candidate.			
2.3.1	Consultancy Fee/Cost	50%	
	TOTAL	100%	