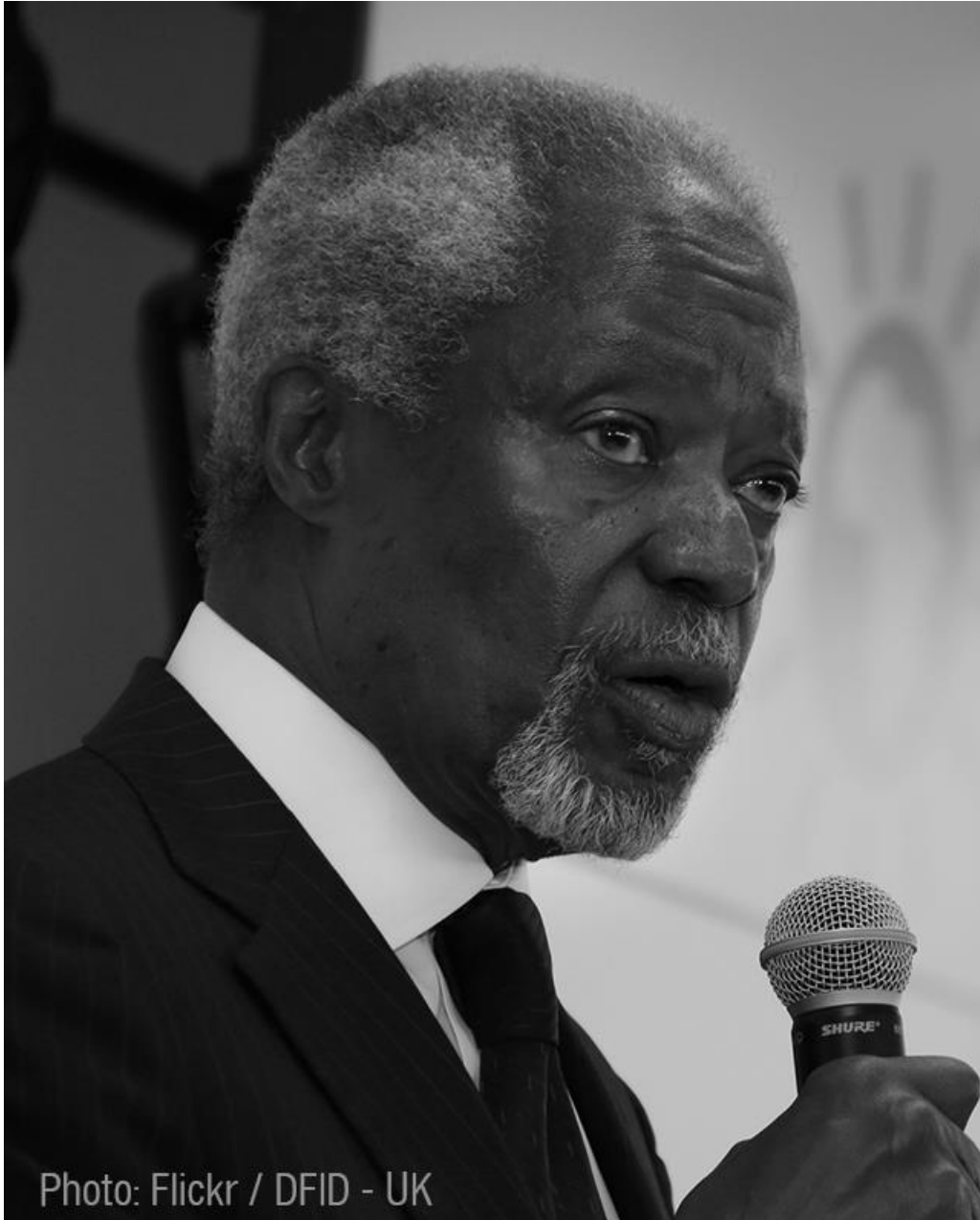


# Transparency



Prof.Dr.Aung Tun Thet  
9/2020



“ IF CORRUPTION IS A  
DISEASE, **TRANSPARENCY**  
IS ESSENTIAL PART OF  
ITS TREATMENT.

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Kofi Annan,  
Former UN Secretary General &  
Nobel Peace Prize laureate.



# TRANSPARENCY

- **Information** about **decision-making process** made **publicly available**
- **Verified** in terms of **rules** and **identities** of **decision makers**
- Increase probability of **detection** of **corruption**

# TRANSPARENCY

- Allow **detection** (and **reduce** likelihood of **corrupt behaviour**)
- Lower **information barrier**
- Allow for **scrutiny** and **monitoring**
- Deter **corruption** by increasing chances of **getting caught**

# TRANSPARENCY

- **Asia Development Bank (ADB) and Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)**
- Vital to cultivate **public trust** in government
- **Deter, prevent and detect *corruption* effectively**



# TRANSPARENCY

- Facilitate **public involvement**
- **Increasing opportunities** for citizens to **influence government spending, policies and decision-making**
- **Most important policy** tool against **corruption**



# POWER OF PUBLIC EYE



- **Greater temptations** to which exercise of **political power** exposed
- More necessary to give those who **possess it** most **powerful reasons** for **resisting them**
- No reason more **constant** and **universal** than **superintendence** of public



# TRANSPARENCY



- Right of public to **know** about **governmental processes** and **actions**
- **Norm of anti-corruption** and **human rights law**

# UNCAC

- Transparency key for **fighting corruption**
- **Article 10:** State Party “..... enhance *transparency in public administration, including organization, functioning and decision-making processes....*”

# UNCAC

- **Governments**

- 1) *Establishing procedures by which citizens obtain **information** about public administration*
- 2) *Simplifying **public access** to authorities*
- 3) ***Publishing** information, including on risks of corruption in the public administration*

# UNCAC

- **Article 13 (1) (b)**
- States parties promote **active participation** of citizens and civil society organizations in fight against corruption,
- through measures that ensure **public access** to information

# UNCAC

- **Freedom of information**
- Citizens' right to **request** and **receive** information from governments and other public entities

# UNCAC

- Access to **information laws** important for **combating corruption**
- *“Individuals and groups to **protect their rights**”*
- *“Guard against **abuses, mismanagement and corruption**”*
- Keep **citizens informed** about actions and decisions of governments

# E-GOVERNMENT AND OPEN DATA

- *Proactive* **publishing** of information by government
- *Simplifying* **administrative procedures** additional ways of promoting **transparency**
- **Go beyond** traditional access to information practices



# **E-GOVERNMENT AND OPEN DATA**



- **Open Data Charter**
- **Open Government Partnership**
- **Open Data for Development (OD4D)**



# E-GOVERNMENT AND OPEN DATA

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- Initiatives **encourage** governments to provide public with **open** and **accessible** data on **government** and **political processes**
- **Operationalized** through **e-government** systems



# E-GOVERNMENT AND OPEN DATA

- **Internet** provide public services and information
- **Simplifying and increasing *public* access to administrative procedures**

# E-GOVERNMENT AND OPEN DATA

- Endorse principle citizens have **direct access** to **information** - *public budgets and way governments spend taxpayers' money, public service provision and electoral competition and results, etc.*
- **Citizens, journalists, academics and supervisory agencies** screen for **corrupt or suspicious behaviour**



# E-GOVERNMENT AND OPEN DATA

- Facilitate **detection** of malfeasance and bureaucratic inefficiency
- Deter **illicit practices** that transpire in secret



# E-GOVERNMENT AND OPEN DATA



- Access to **information laws**
- **Proactive** sharing of data by public institutions
- Facilitate **detection** of corruption

# E-GOVERNMENT AND OPEN DATA

- Public officials **declare** assets and interests
- Promote **transparency**
- **Pro-actively** identify **conflicts of interest**
- Facilitate **detection of corruption**
- Followed by **administrative investigation**

# E-GOVERNMENT AND OPEN DATA

- Making information **easily available** on:
- **Tendering processes** and **public spending**
- Encourage journalists and researchers to **scrutinize data** in sectors **vulnerable to corruption**



# TRANSPARENCY

- Critical for **exposing** and **discouraging** corruption
- **Alone** *not enough* to reduce **corruption** *sustainably*



# TRANSPARENCY

- Information **reach** and **received** by public
- Public **act upon** obtaining information to affect behaviour of **corrupt agents**



# TRANSPARENCY

- **Reporting** to relevant authorities
- **Punishing** corrupt politicians by not voting for them in next elections



# TRANSPARENCY

- Reforms **focusing on increasing transparency**
- **Accompanied** by measures for strengthening **people's capacity** to act upon **available information**



**SPEAK UP AGAINST  
CORRUPTION**

# Transparency



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10/5/2020