

Survey on the effectiveness of Anticorruption Authorities

Background Information

1. Please enter country name in the space below

Costa Rica

2. The name of the agency

Attorney's Office of Public Ethics

3. The date of establishment

2004

4. Contact Information

Solicitor of Public Ethics

5. Webpage

gilbertca@pgr.go.cr

Legal Environment

6. What are the main anticorruption laws of your country?

Ratificación de la Convención Interamericana contra la Corrupción, law number 7670.
Creación de la Fiscalía Penal de Hacienda y de la función Pública, Law number 8221.
Creación de la Procuraduría de la Ética Pública, Law number 8242.
Ley contra la Corrupción y el Enriquecimiento Ilícito en la Función Pública, law number 8422.
Ratificación de la Convención de las Naciones Unidas contra la Corrupción, law number 8557.
Ley contra la Delincuencia Organizada, Law number 8754.
Código Penal, Law number 4573.

7. Does your government have a single or primary anticorruption strategy?

Is in the National Plan of Development.

8. Does your country have freedom of information legislation?

Yes No

9. Does your country have conflict of interest legislation?

Yes No

10. Does your country have a financial disclosure system to help prevent conflicts of interest?

Yes No

Institutional Environment

11. What are the main functions and operations of your agency? Please check all that apply

Research Prevention Investigation Prosecution Forensic Accounting Policy

12. Is there one agency in charge of coordinating AC efforts across agencies?

Yes No

If Yes, Please specify: _____

13. Does your agency have the ability to share information or data with

(a) Other agencies within your government, and

Yes No

(b) Government partners from other countries?

Yes No

14. Please enter current size of permanent staff in the space below

15

15. Number of prosecutors (if applicable)

5

16. Number of investigators (if applicable)

7

17. Number of cases handled annually (if applicable)

On 2011 were proceeded 140 administrative investigations, 1119 judicial processes.

18. Please enter the name of other agencies with similar functions.

Doesnt exist another agency

19. Does your agency have a system to monitor performance of staff?

Yes No

20. Are the human resource management, i.e. recruitment, promotion, termination built on the emphasis of staff integrity and professionalism?

Yes No

21. Who appoints the head of your agency?

Dirección General de Servicio Civil

22. Who has the authority to remove the head of the ACA?

The Justice Minister. However, the head of the ACA has stability in the appointment. He could be fired in case of proven professional misconduct, after a due procedure.

23. Is there any term limit for the head of the ACA?

Yes No

If Yes, Please specify:

24. Is the agency subject to judicial review?

- Yes No

25. Is the agency subject to expenditure reviews?

- Yes No

26. Does your agency publish an annual report of activities?

- Yes No

27. Does your agency measure performance?

- Yes No

If yes, against what indicators?

- Number of investigations conducted
- Number of investigations concluded
- Ratio of number of investigations/staff
- Percentage of total budget allocated to outreach activities and communication
- Other, please specify

28. Does your agency keep a comprehensive skill list of its staff?

- Yes No

29. Is the staff provided with regular training and refresher training to ensure that their skills are up-to-date?

- Yes No

30. Are employees protected by law from recrimination or other negative consequences when reporting corruption (i.e. whistle-blowing)?

- Yes No

31. Does your agency have a communication strategy?

- Yes No

32. Does your agency have a comprehensive corporate plan?

- Yes No

33. Is there a strategy in formulating partnership with outside agencies in fighting corruption?

- Yes No

34. Is there strategy in dealing with media?

- Yes No

Resource Mobilization

35. Does your agency have budgetary autonomy?

- Yes No

36. What is the annual budget of your agency?

General Attorney's Office of The Republic Annual budget is: ₡7.561.863.000 colones. The Public Ethics Area haven't individual annual budget.

37. Is the annual budget determined by (Please choose the answer/s that best fits your agency)

<input type="radio"/>	Number of staff
<input type="radio"/>	Number of investigations
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Budget is constitutionally mandated
<input type="radio"/>	Other, please specify

38. How much does it roughly cost to (please enter the dollar amount per stated activity)

\$	File a case	\$	Manage a paper case	\$	Analyze a case
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Is difficult to individualize the cost for activity because the Public Ethics Area doesn't possess an independent budget, we depend on the granted budget to the General Attorney's office of the Republic.

39. Any Donor Involvement?

- Yes No

40. Does your agency use a computerized system to handle cases?

- Yes No

Social Environment

41. Does your agency offer a mechanism for citizens to report anonymously complaints or offer information on corrupt activities?

- Yes No

42. Does your agency or government provide a hotline to report corruption?

- Yes No

43. Does your agency produce regular public reports of its activities?

- Yes No