



Independent Joint Anti-Corruption
Monitoring & Evaluation Committee

BACKGROUND

MEC Identifies Concerning Practices and Procedures that lead to Corruption in Important Public Services

MEC released reports identifying significant vulnerabilities to corruption in various sectors of government

- Vulnerability to corruption assessments (VCAs) review Government services to identify vulnerabilities to corruption. Strategies are developed to mitigate these risks and prevent corruption.
- VCAs are developed by analyzing the legal framework for providing government services and the actual practices of those responsible for service delivery.
- The method includes interviews and focus groups with civil servants, end-users and technical experts.

MEC conducted VCA's in 5 areas over a 1-year period

- MEC conducted an assessment of:
 1. The Ministry of Refugee and Repatriate's administration of **land distribution to returnees and displaced people**, who are in need of a piece of land on which to build their homes;
 2. The Ministry of Labour's **pension process for retirees** in order to improve and speed up the working process and protect the process from corruption;
 3. The Civil Service Commission's **appointment process** to explore complaints regarding a lack of transparency, nepotism and lack of merit based appointments;
 4. The Ministry of Higher Education's **process for issuing education certificates** (diplomas and degrees); and
 5. The higher education **examination administration**.

The 5 VCA reports identify practices and procedures that lead to corruption and corruptive practices

- The results of the assessments showed, among other things, the weakness of the legal framework and lack of enforcement of relevant legislation in the processes reviewed.
- A lack of transparency and auditing, and too many bureaucratic steps for one public service have also been identified as vulnerable points.
- Payment of bribes, process delays, forgery and nepotisms are the most common forms of corruption reported in the assessments.



**Independent Joint Anti-Corruption
Monitoring & Evaluation Committee**

MEC conducted workshops with each relevant institution following the completion of the VCAs to share its findings

- VCA workshops were organized for each institution, giving the participants the opportunity to ask questions about the VCAs and to better understand their role in the implementation of the recommendations.
- The workshops were well-attended and well-received by the relevant institutions and stakeholders.

All relevant institutions have accepted the results of the assessment and formally agreed to implement an action plan to address the issues identified in the reports

- At the conclusion of each workshop institutions developed an action plan to implement MEC's recommendations.
- MEC will continue to engage with responsible institutions to support and monitor the implementation of the action plan.

MEC was established to independently monitor national and international efforts to fight corruption in Afghanistan

- MEC develops anti-corruption recommendations and benchmarks, which are monitored to ensure that they are effectively implemented.
- MEC monitors and evaluates national and international anti-corruption efforts.
- MEC is comprised of three national and three international senior anti-corruption experts.
- MEC reports to the public, Parliament, the President and the international community every six months.

**For more information contact the Independent Joint Anti-Corruption Monitoring and Evaluation Committee +93 (0) 798 750 527 contact@mec.af www.mec.af
Photos of the Committee available for download: www.flickr.com/photos/mec123/**