

Transparency International (TI) Sweden Framework for Corporate Supporters Forum

Join TI Sweden's Corporate Supporters Forum

- Participate in two half-day roundtables each year with specially invited key experts and practitioners
- Get expert advice from TI Sweden on your company's anti-corruption programme
- Get access and introductions to the global Transparency International network
- Receive anti-corruption information updates from Transparency International
- Demonstrate your public support for the mission and values of TI Sweden
- Permission to use TI Sweden's logotype in your external and internal corporate communication

Keep up-to-date with anti-corruption

An active participation in TI Sweden's Corporate Supporters Forum will clearly demonstrate – for all stakeholders as well as all employees - top level commitment to anti-corruption and business integrity. Here collaboration and collective action are key words. Many companies have found it most useful to collaborate with highly reputable knowledge-leaders in regards to the environment, human rights issues, as well as corruption in order to support and strengthen their own internal functions and gain access to tools and independent expertise.

- **Most anti-corruption programmes have weaknesses**
All anti-corruption programmes can be made more effective. Many anti-corruption initiatives are compliance-led, off-the-shelf procedures that do not genuinely and effectively contribute to an anti-bribery 'culture' at all levels of a company's operations. We also see that many programmes fail to give employees and suppliers needed tools to counter demands for bribery or other corrupt behaviour.

Transparency International carries out continuous research on anti-corruption, has established exchanges and co-operation with leading expert organisations around the world. We are impartial, objective and can guide members in the domain of relevant anti-corruption systems and tools.

- **Regulatory and external scrutiny have intensified**
Penalties and other costs for companies breaching regulations on bribery and corruption are increasing – both in terms of reputational damage, fines levied, management time as well as the possibility of detention or prosecution of individual company directors or employees. In addition to the Swedish legislation, there are also laws internationally that have a remit extending beyond their "home countries", including the UK Bribery Act and the US Foreign & Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA). There are greater expectations of 'clean businesses' placed on companies from external stakeholders – and greater scrutiny and information flow from civil society when a company engages in unethical conduct.

Transparency International closely follows the development of existing and new regulatory regimes and guidelines, a critical part of the overall discourse and impact of anti-corruption.

- **Corruption risk is increasing in many companies**

Sweden is home to many multinational companies, with revenue flows and deals that are as large in BRICS and other emerging market countries – where corruption levels are high – as in traditional markets. Extended and geographically-expanded supply chains, with more suppliers in markets that are high-risk for corruption increase corruption related risks.

Transparency International works with different counterparts to help members navigate the area of risk assessment and risk analysis. There are tools and guidance documents available and frequently updated, as well as specific events and seminars catering to this often critical aspect of anti-corruption addressed by most organisations.

TI Sweden's Corporate Supporters Forum

The Corporate Supporters Forum (CSF) is a group of large companies, convened by TI Sweden, that are dedicated to achieve corruption free operations and business dealings, and to promote high anti-corruption standards in the business sector. The CSF allows companies to have well-informed exchange of know-how discussions with other companies and experts in an informal setting, as well as access to Transparency International's expertise, events and networks.

- Participate in two half-day roundtables each year with specially invited key experts and practitioners to share good practice, stay up to date with the latest issues, and receive updates on legal and regulatory matters
- Get expert advice from TI Sweden on your company's anti-corruption programme and access to our specialists for support, document reviews, training etc.
- Get access and introduction to the worldwide Transparency International network - TI Sweden can facilitate introductions to the international network as and when needed
- Receive anti-corruption information updates from Transparency International including our specialist Private Sector team which produces a range of highly recognised tools such as the Business Principle for Countering Bribery and RESIST, a case-based toolkit for resisting demands for bribes
- Demonstrate your public support for the mission and values of TI Sweden– joining a network of major international companies openly committed to anti-corruption and business integrity. Through the CSF, companies also have the opportunity to comment on TI's own policy documents and strategic positions – and thereby contribute to the international debate and legislation on corruption.
- Permission to use TI Sweden's logotype in your external and internal corporate communication
- Membership to the Corporate Supporters Forum is reserved for large, primarily listed, companies with head office in Sweden or with a major regional head office in Sweden and with an international permanent presence outside Europe.

Become a member of TI Sweden's Corporate Supporters Forum

- The company apply to join by completing [TI's 20-point ABC checklist](#).
- A senior level discussion between the company and TI Sweden will establish whether there is a genuine alignment of interests and if there are some critical aspects of the ABC checklist that needs to be clarified
- The board of TI Sweden decide on accepting the company as a member of the Corporate Supporters Forum
- A letter is issued to the company by the Chair of TI Sweden inviting the company to join the CSF, and outlining the CSF Membership Principles
- The minimum annual membership fee is SEK 50.000. The fee is 50% for members joining after 1 July.
- Membership in the CSF does not include membership in TI Sweden.

Principles for exclusion of members in TI Sweden's Corporate Supporters Forum

In order to ensure the credibility, impartiality and brand of TI Sweden, companies - members of the Corporate Supporters Forum (CSF) - can be excluded if corruption is identified or suspected in the company in question. "Corruption" refers to TI Sweden's definition: "Corruption is the misuse of entrusted power for private gain". A decision of exclusion is based on an case-by-case assessment of the extent and specific circumstances.

- 1) TI Sweden keeps up-to-date with news relevant to CSF member companies and we also expect that any company becoming a member of TI Sweden's Corporate Supporters Forum will inform us in the event it is subject to suspicion of corruption in any form.
- 2) TI Sweden will, based on the information about suspected or detected corruption provided by the company, via media, whistleblowers or in the course of an investigation, contact the company for a dialogue on its current and planned actions. The membership will continue if TI Sweden in such a dialogue believes that the company has acted and will act in such a way that the membership will not harm TI Sweden and its brand.
- 3) If there is a reason for action by the company, TI Sweden expects the company to report, within an agreed timeframe, on an action plan signed by the management.
- 4) TI Sweden will follow up on the action plan in dialogue with the company in connection to annual renewal of membership.
- 5) A decision on exclusion is taken by TI Sweden's Board of Directors if it assess that a continued membership will have a serious impact on TI Sweden and its brand or adversely affect its work. Such a decision shall be communicated in writing to the company's CEO.
- 6) Exclusion of companies, is communicated to the public via TI Sweden's web and other communication channels.

Framework for Corporate Supporters Forum approved by the Board of TI Sweden on 22 November 2017.

The anti-corruption role played by Transparency International

Transparency International is the world's foremost anti-corruption organisation, perhaps best known to its annual Corruption Perception Index. Transparency International is credited with stimulating many major anti-corruption initiatives, including the UN Convention Against Corruption, the addition of the anti-corruption Principle to the UN Global Compact and the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative.

Founded in 1993, with an international secretariat in Berlin and over ninety chapters worldwide, Transparency International has played an important role in keeping corruption on the agenda of governments and companies. Global reach, local knowledge.

We work closely with all sectors of society, including companies, to help understand corruption and to promote transparency, integrity and accountability.