

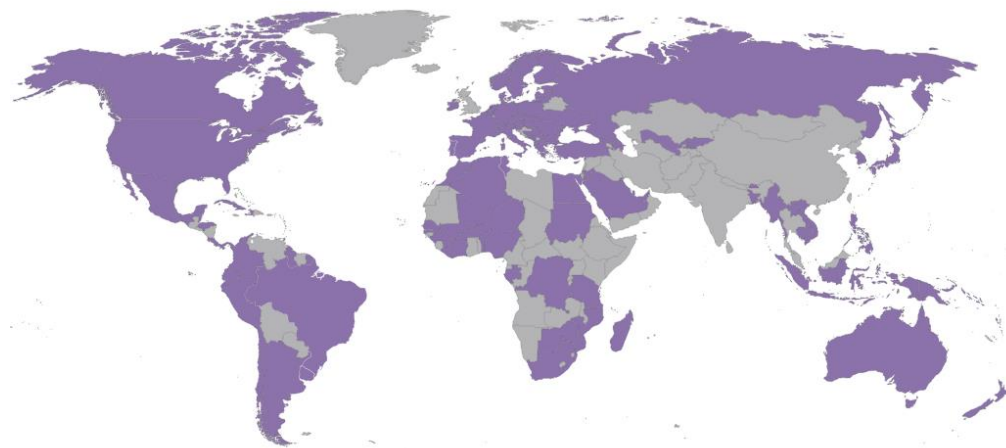
*Special Event hosted by France at the Conference of State Parties on 17 December 2019: "From Theory to Practice: What do Anti-Corruption Authorities really look like?"*

## GLOBAL MAPPING OF ANTI-CORRUPTION AUTHORITIES

### CONTEXT

In June 2019, the French Anti-Corruption Agency (AFA), in partnership with the GRECO of the Council of Europe, the OECD, and the Network of Corruption Prevention Authorities launched a global mapping project of national authorities tasked with preventing and fighting corruption. For the first phase of the project, an online survey focusing on the missions and prerogatives of anti-corruption bodies was sent to contact points for corruption prevention worldwide and disseminated by regional platforms and networks.

### PARTICIPATION



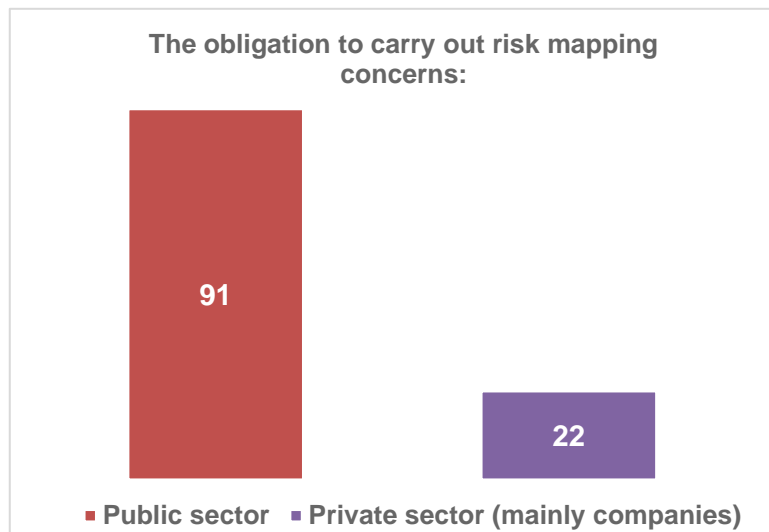
As of December 2019, **171 national authorities in 114 countries and territories** have participated in the project. All regions of the world are represented.

### FINDINGS

The preliminary results of the survey show that **63% of respondent organizations** (108 out of 171) are **authorized to conduct investigations** and/or criminal proceedings. These **investigations and criminal proceedings primarily concern natural persons**, but legal persons also fall within the scope of 79 national authorities. Furthermore, it can be noted that **less than half of the respondents** (48%) **have sanction mechanisms** and that these mechanisms are **mainly administrative** (in 56 authorities out of the 82 respondents with sanctioning powers). As a matter of fact, administrative sanctions seem to be a prevalent tool for enforcing compliance with anti-corruption requirements.

Moreover, it can be underlined that **89% of respondents are involved in designing** and implementing **national anti-corruption strategies**, in accordance with UNODC recommendations. Some organizations lead these processes (52%), whereas others provide inputs as contributors (58%). Few respondents (9 out of 171) indicated that there is no national anti-corruption strategy in their countries. Besides, 39% of respondents (or 66 out of 171) stated that their organizations are in charge of managing asset and/or interest declarations of senior public officials.

Regarding anti-corruption standards, **three quarters of respondents** said that having a **code of conduct is**



**mandatory** in their countries. This obligation is particularly **widespread in the public sector** (according to 125 authorities). Drafting a code of conduct is a legal requirement for companies in a small minority of countries. Likewise, even though **56% of respondents** pointed out that **carrying out risk mapping is an obligation** in their countries, only 22 authorities specified that this obligation was applicable to companies. In general, national public authorities do not seem actively involved in promoting integrity in the private sector.

As for international cooperation, the **vast majority of anti-corruption authorities** (165 out of 171) declared that they **expect more exchange of best practices between peers**. In addition, a significant number of respondents (118 out of 171) expressed their interest in **developing the exchange of operational information**.



In the comment section of the survey, some authorities mentioned that they would like to benefit from technical assistance, conduct joint research projects, enhance synergies, and encourage the adoption and effective implementation of **common global standards**.

## NEXT STEPS

The AFA and its partners will carry out an **in-depth analysis of the data provided** to better understand how countries implement their obligation to set up preventive authorities under Article 6 of the UNCAC. This could be helpful for identifying gaps and challenges; highlighting needs for improvement and technical assistance; and facilitating practical cooperation between national counterparts. Finally, based on the up-to-date contact information shared by respondents, an **international directory of anti-corruption authorities could be developed**. For further information about this initiative, please contact the French Anti-Corruption Agency (AFA) at [international@afa.gouv.fr](mailto:international@afa.gouv.fr)