

Third Annual Reports: Web Updates

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The Business Action against Corruption is jointly setting up 10 Public-Private consultative working structures to implement nationally defined strategies especially 'improving public services, business climate, and standards of leadership behaviour'. The BAAC project is a business-led public private initiative aimed at tackling corruption and supporting growth and improved services for 200 million citizens. Each of the national programmes sets up consultative working structures to implement nationally defined strategies. The project is also working with African continental institutions to develop a benchmarking tool for combating corruption.

Some of the main achievements in previous years are:

- Interventions at state level in Nigeria through the creation of an independent public feedback mechanism helped develop a set of reporting templates for the Public Complaints Commission by BAAC Nigeria which it has adopted and its formations across the 36 states in Nigeria are beginning to put the required information together.
- In Malawi under a difficult political environment BAAC has become a success example where there has been a 400 % increase in number of companies signing up as fee paying members. Business Symposium was organized in January 2010 which unpacked the National Anti-Corruption Strategy and explained the implications of the strategy. It reinforced the commitment by Malawi's business community to combat corruption.
- In Botswana, a stakeholder meeting to review the draft code of conduct dealing with disclosure of interest in Botswana for both the public and private sector was held on 16th February 2010 in Gaborone, Botswana.
- 10 District Committees have been established throughout Lesotho. The district committees shall be responsible for implementation of BAAC programme at district level. These committees are in the process of developing interventions that will be applied at district level aimed at promoting public –private partnerships and fighting corruption within the private sector.
- The Benchmarking project is being driven by the BAAC and the Commonwealth Business Council (CBC) in conjunction with key official African institutions and will be part of the AU Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption. This tool will not be for the purpose of generating scorecards for measuring or rating countries against each other, but will provide a broadly based assessment measure that is able to identify gaps and measure progress in terms of combating corruption and tracking a country's progress overtime.

In the ongoing year In Nigeria a National Strategy to combat corruption will be finalized and meetings with Opinion leaders will be organized. Media collaboration on the Public feedback mechanism will be undertaken. Baseline surveys will be completed for Botswana and Tanzania. Consultations are underway to review legislation to get revised to ensure that all private sector companies sign onto the codes as a pre-requisite for bidding for any government contract or

tender. These consultations are underway between Ministry of Trade and Commerce; the Public Procurement and Asset Disposal Board and BOCCIM.

For further information on this programme including annual reports and the mid-term review please visit, www.baacafrika.org. For further information on CBC, please visit www.cbcglobal.org.