

■ **Report on MLA, extradition and recovery of proceeds of corruption in Asia-Pacific now available**

The first ever comprehensive report on mutual legal assistance, extradition and recovery of proceeds of corruption in Asia-Pacific is now available. Outcome of the Initiative's 2nd thematic review, it provides information on requirements for requesting and granting mutual legal assistance among Asian and Pacific countries and with Parties to the OECD Anti-Bribery Convention. It also identifies ways to strengthen legal cooperation in the fight against corruption in 27 Asian and Pacific countries. A full-text database of legislation and treaties that govern MLA and extradition in Asia-Pacific complements the report. ■■■ [download the report](#) ■■■ [access the full text database](#)

■ **Technical seminars to make international anti-corruption standards operational concluded**

With the growing number of Asian and Pacific countries ratifying the UN Convention against Corruption, demand for assistance in making these international anti-corruption standards operational grows. The ADB/OECD Anti-Corruption Initiative is ideally positioned to provide this assistance and to encourage policy reform and cooperation. It delivered, in the second half of 2007, three regional seminars on key areas of the UNCAC: management of conflict of interest (8-9 August), asset recovery and mutual legal assistance (5-7 September) and, on 5-7 November, on fighting bribery in public procurement. All three seminars were hosted by the Indonesian Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK). Proceedings of the three gatherings will be available soon.

■ **Australia, Germany, Japan and Korea pledge support to the Initiative**

To provide assistance to its members, the Initiative depends on donor countries' support. Australia, Japan, and Germany pledged financial support to implement the Initiative's work plan in 2007-2008. In addition, Korea has seconded an anti-corruption expert to the Initiative's Secretariat for six months.

■ **Initiative and OECD-donors strengthen their cooperation**

The Governance Network of the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC GOVNET) coordinates policies of donors that assist in the fight against corruption. In November 2007, it joined the ADB/OECD Initiative's Advisory Group to further harmonize donor support with Asia-Pacific countries' reform efforts.

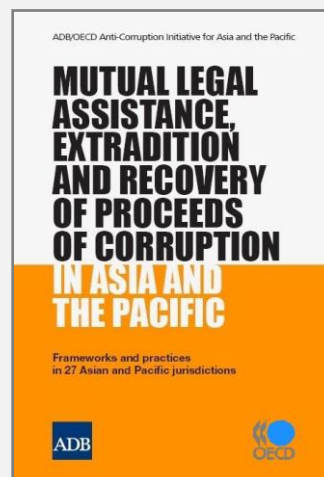
■ **OECD Working Group on Bribery consults public on review of OECD anti-bribery instruments**

The Working Group on Bribery conducts a review of the OECD anti-bribery instruments to assess their effectiveness and to determine what steps might need to be taken to strengthen them. As part of the review, the Group is gathering views and insights from the public on issues that have arisen in the ten years since these instruments' adoption. The outcome of this consultation will flow into the Working Group on Bribery's review. The public is invited to provide comments by 31 March 2008. ■■■ [Partake in the consultation process](#)

recent publications

January 2008:

Final report on the Thematic Review on Mutual Legal Assistance, Extradition and Recovery of Proceeds of Corruption



regional seminars to make international anti-corruption standards operational



Participants of the 7th Regional Seminar on fighting bribery in public procurement at the meeting venue on 5 November 2007

- 5th Regional Seminar on detecting, avoiding and managing conflict of interest
- 6th Regional Seminar on asset recovery and mutual legal assistance
- 7th Regional Seminar on fighting bribery in public procurement

anti-corruption news in Asia Pacific

- ADB provides USD150 million for Bangladesh's battle against corruption
- ADB assists Nepal in combating corruption by strengthening the capacity of concerned government institutions
- Mongolia's Anti-Corruption agency being vested with investigative powers