



11 May 2020

Report Launch: Understanding the Private Sector's Approach to Anti-Corruption

The National Business Initiative (NBI) is excited to announce the launch, on 11 May 2020, of our **Benchmark Report: Understanding the Private Sector's Approach to Anti-Corruption**.

Why is it important to have a benchmark report on the anti-corruption measures taken by the private sector in South Africa? In the words of famous management consultant, Peter Drucker: "We can't manage what we can't measure." This report creates a baseline, allowing an assessment of both the current *status quo* as well as future progress.

The NBI's Social Transformation work on anti-corruption supports the overarching strategy of achieving socio-economic transformation and social cohesion on a large scale.

This work is a crucial step in addressing corruption in the private sector, a Presidential Jobs Summit commitment implemented under the Ethical Leadership and Anti-corruption Capacity Building Programme.

The key mandate of this programme is to address corruption and unethical behavior within corporate South Africa by developing a comprehensive, open source online training platform.

The Ethical Leadership and Anti-Corruption Capacity Building Programme has two key objectives:

- **Addressing the organisational and behavioral aspects which drive ethics and anti-corruption**
- **Gaining a thorough understanding of what tools currently exists, in order to design the most impactful training platform**

The NBI developed a benchmarking tool to assess companies based on their anti-corruption practices. This crucial study is the first to use the benchmarking tool to evaluate the anti-corruption practices of the 50 largest companies listed on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE). This tool is a fundamental asset for future analyses of company anti-corruption practices.

A key finding from the report was that 36 of the 50 largest JSE-listed companies reported having an anti-corruption programme in place. The study also reveals that companies have taken note of the grand challenge of corruption and its negative impacts. However, 40 companies had been mentioned in unethical scandals in the past 5 years.

This study provides a useful benchmark of where companies are in addressing corruption, but more than this, it highlights the need to move beyond compliance towards a private sector that understands its integral role in broader society.

The full report is available on the NBI's website – click [here](#) to view.

For more information on the NBI's Ethical Leadership and Anti-Corruption Capacity Building Programme, please contact:

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The National Business Initiative (NBI) is an independent and voluntary coalition of South African and multinational businesses launched in 1995 by the then President, Nelson Mandela

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