

# 6<sup>th</sup> Regional Integrity Week – Alliance for Integrity

## Business-to-business conversation: How does business integrity support development?

#IntegridadyODS #

26/10/2021 14h GMT-5

### Summary

Conversation between some of our most important associated companies in the South American region, where they give us first-hand accounts of their experiences and comments on the development of policies aimed at developing business integrity strategies and how these have favoured the development of the organisation as a whole..

This is a constant cycle of search and experimentation with factors within organisations that include such simple and relevant aspects as trust, congruence, co-responsibility, joint efforts, collective actions, and incessant work with stakeholders to achieve the objectives of business integrity.

### Main challenges

- The constant between "corruption and development" is a factor to be taken into account at both macro and micro levels. The latter being a thermometer to determine the level of development of an organisation, and vice versa..
- Awareness of the social commitment of organisations is a challenge for business development and sustainability in where ethics plays an important role.
- Engaging people in our organisations, and in our supply chains, in the standards of conduct we want to see among our leaders and employees at all levels is a challenge that always takes time to execute..
- The development of programmes, materials, techniques and tools that enable companies to deploy their anti-corruption strategy at all levels of the organisation in a language that is easy for everyone to understand and use.
- The lack of knowledge, within the organisations, by our collaborators of the basic processes for dealing with cases of corruption makes it harder to eradicate it.

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#### Best practices shared

- The development of procedures and standards for good practice within our organisations, in line with best practices and international standards such as ISO26000, will allow us to have the best reference point.
- The important thing is not the result but how we do it, things have to be done in an ethical and transparent way through policies in simple languages so that staff can integrate them into their daily lives through appropriate support to make it mainstream in the organisation.
- Networking with companies and organisations that want to do things in the right way creates a better atmosphere that leads to better resources.

#### Future recommendations

- One of the first steps towards sustainability is the establishment of policies aimed at building trust with our main stakeholders..
- Using support networks, reaching out to experts from other types of industries, fostering interaction with think tanks, attending academic events are important to maintain a 360° view of our integrity programmes.
- The application of standards such as ISO26000, and the good corporate governance practices are reputational capital enhancers for organisations.
- Customised design of ethics and risk analysis programmes to build on pillars of values aligned with our business objectives.
- Organisational culture is created through top-down and bottom-up interaction.
- It is important not to leave out the supply chain in the policies developed inside our organisation in order to guarantee the exercise of the policies in all the processes of the organisation.
- Develop an explicitly written normative context to ensure that the culture of integrity is a value that is lived and is part of the day-to-day life of the organisation; and that it is lived independent of the role of the employee, and the size of the organisation.