

## **HKIAAC Two Years of Global Impact-Advancing Anti-Corruption Training Across the World**

ICAC. Drives. Collaboration? Strengthening. Corporate. Integrity. and. Compliance. Across. Global. Economies



The Hong Kong Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) is using the second anniversary of the Hong Kong International Academy Against Corruption (HKIAAC) to signal a clear vision: to establish Hong Kong as a global hub for anti-corruption training, knowledge exchange and standards-setting, with a focus on Belt and Road jurisdictions.

### *HKIAAC Marks Two Years of Global Impact*

In February 2026, HKIAAC, an academy established by ICAC, announced the launch of Nexus, a technology-enabled learning centre designed to support advanced training and exchanges on its second anniversary. Designated by the Central People's Government as the authority to assist other Convention signatories in building capacity to combat corruption, the Academy over its first two years of operation organised 43 international anti-corruption training programmes for over 5,000 participants from more than 90 jurisdictions such as Romania, Indonesia and Timor-Leste, and others from the Belt and Road and ASEAN economies. ICAC Commissioner Woo Ying-ming stated that HKIAAC would shift from one-to-one country programmes to regional, continent-wide cohorts to scale up impact and enhance peer learning.

### *Training and Capacity Building Across Belt and Road*

HKIAAC runs tailored programmes for both international and local audiences, including overseas anti-corruption agencies (ACAs), Hong Kong public bodies and the private sector. Its international courses focus on professional skills for ACAs, covering investigation techniques, use of technology, institutional design and corruption-prevention frameworks. Locally, the Academy delivered 22 specialised training programmes for tertiary education institutions, national sports associations and senior corporate

executives, including Mainland enterprises operating in Hong Kong. Programmes for management staff of tertiary institutions aimed to strengthen integrity in admissions, governance and resource allocation across 40 local colleges and universities. Integrity leadership training for national sports associations has focused on governance, selection processes and funding oversight in the sports sector. Dedicated courses for corporate senior executives have concentrated on building stronger integrity and compliance cultures in Mainland-related corporates with a Hong Kong footprint.

#### *Knowledge Exchange and Global Partnerships*

HKIAAC's global role is reinforced by a web of partnerships with multilateral bodies, academic institutions and other training academies. The Academy is deepening collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), including work on the use of artificial intelligence and other technologies in complex corruption investigations. One flagship joint initiative is "Integrity Behind Bars: Guide on Corruption Risk Management in Prison Systems", which is being developed to address integrity risks in correctional institutions worldwide. Other collaborations include the joint development in 2023 by ICAC, UNODC and the International Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities of a "Policy Guide for National Anti-Corruption Authorities on Meaningful Youth Engagement", which provides practical guidance for agencies worldwide on involving young people in anti-corruption work.

In parallel, HKIAAC collaborates with leading Mainland and local universities, including Tsinghua University and Peking University, on research and training relating to corporate anti-corruption policy and systems in the securities and banking sectors. It also works with the International Anti-Corruption Academy in Austria and the Hong Kong International Legal Talents Training Academy under the Department of Justice to co-develop programmes and share best practices. These partnerships allow Hong Kong's risk-based prevention and corporate compliance methodologies to be tested, refined and benchmarked against international experience.

#### *IAACA: Hong Kong as a Coordination Hub*

Hong Kong's global positioning is further enhanced by ICAC's role in hosting the Secretariat of the International Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities (IAACA). IAACA, established in 2006, is an independent and non-political organisation dedicated to promoting the implementation of the UN Convention against Corruption and supporting anti-corruption authorities worldwide. ICAC Commissioner Mr Danny Woo serves as IAACA President, and ICAC provides the Secretariat, which is responsible for steering strategy, supporting IAACA's Executive Committee and organising regional and international training activities.

Through IAACA, Hong Kong sits at the centre of a growing network of anti-corruption agencies across Asia, Africa, Europe, the Middle East and the Americas. IAACA-led initiatives linked to ICAC's work have included adoption of the "Hong Kong Declaration on Strengthening International Cooperation in Preventing and Fighting Corruption" at the Association's 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, active participation in the G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group and the launch of thematic webinar series and capacity-building programmes for member agencies. The Secretariat also maintains close contact with member organisations and global partners and uses digital channels to disseminate guidance and best practices.

#### *Significance for Hong Kong and Belt and Road Economies*

As an international financial hub, a robust integrity infrastructure and exportable anti-corruption expertise support investor confidence and provide a differentiating factor against competing jurisdictions. Hong Kong's central role in IAACA and its partnerships give it a voice in global conversations on public procurement, law enforcement cooperation and corporate governance standards, which in turn influence the operating environment for governments, regulators and businesses in the region.

### *What This Means in Practice*

Drawing upon its profound anti-corruption experience and common law heritage, Hong Kong's emerging position as a global centre for anti-corruption training and cooperation is likely to raise the bar for corporate integrity, particularly in the context of strengthened international standards and more interconnected enforcement networks across Belt and Road economies.

This may be a timely opportunity for boards, audit committees and senior management of companies across jurisdictions to reassess their anti-corruption posture. Three areas may be particularly relevant: whether the group's exposure is adequately understood, whether governance is keeping pace with global trends and the evolving expectations, and how robust its systems are for cross-border scrutiny. Strategy and footprint considerations include identifying which developed or emerging markets the group operates in through subsidiaries, joint ventures, agents or distributors, and assessing the nature and extent of engagement with local enforcement bodies that are increasingly connected via international anti-corruption networks.

To support effective governance and oversight, the board of each corporation and its audit committee may consider receiving regular briefings on relevant anti-corruption trends and developments to better align with international market expectations and best practices having regard to prevailing market practice. Anti-corruption and third-party due diligence policies, whistleblowing arrangements and related systems may also be reviewed and updated to align with the international norms and standards.

Source:

[https://www.icac.org.hk/en/p/press/index\\_id\\_2252.html](https://www.icac.org.hk/en/p/press/index_id_2252.html)

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