



“IPS 204: "Corruption: from the weakness of statistics towards a more comprehensive measurement of this phenomenon."

Lessons Learned and Next Steps in the Statistical Agenda on Corruption Measurement

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Abstract:

After almost a decade of the first National Survey of Quality and Government Impact (ENCIG) —first collected in 2011 and every two years since then—, which sought to fill an evident gap of statistical information in Mexico regarding the quality of public services and procedures, INEGI has consolidated this exercise as a best practice to measure corruption. Later, in 2016, INEGI implemented the National Survey on Regulatory Quality and Government Impact on Enterprises (ENCRIGE), which is foreseen to be published again this 2021, and complemented the ENCIG landscape by providing statistics on governance and corruption from the business' perspective. Both exercises regularly feed SDG indicators 16.5.1 and 16.5.2 —the proportion of persons/businesses that had at least one contact with a public official and that paid a bribe to a public official or were asked for a bribe by those public officials during the previous 12 months— of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. These surveys also have been key in developing robust international methodological guidelines, such as UNODC's Manual on Corruption Surveys, published in 2018, aimed to provide countries technical standards for developing and implementing sample surveys to measure the prevalence of bribery at national level, as well as other relevant information on corruption. So far, the efforts of the statistical community have prospered, but there is still a long way to go. The statistical agenda for measuring corruption will have to focus on measuring forms of corruption other than bribery (without neglecting statistical projects such as ENCIG and ENCRIGE). INEGI's vision also considers taking advantage of the timely data that comes from the administrative records of the law enforcement institutions and administrative bodies with their respective mechanisms for mitigating corruption on its different manifestations.

Keywords:

Corruption; Justice; Governance; Bribery; Surveys; SDG indicators