

ANTI-CORRUPTION RESEARCH NEWS

KNOWLEDGE FOR TRANSPARENCY- LINKING ANTI-CORRUPTION RESEARCH AND PRACTICE

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ACRN: MOBILISING GLOBAL KNOWLEDGE AGAINST CORRUPTION

Welcome to the second issue of Anti-Corruption Research News. Here you will find the latest, most important insights and activities in anti-corruption research, synthesised for scholars, policy-makers and anti-corruption practitioners. This newsletter is part of the Anti-Corruption Research Network (ACRN), a new initiative by Transparency International to build a knowledge community and information service for anti-corruption research. The ACRN online platform is expected to be launched as soon as possible in 2010.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

All who are interested in anti-corruption research can participate and join ACRN. For more information, please write to Farzana Nawaz at: fnawaz@transparency.org.

SPOTLIGHT: GENDER AND CORRUPTION

BY FARZANA NAWAZ, TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL

Gender and corruption is a surprisingly recent issue in anti-corruption scholarship. The first wave of research into the gendered dimensions of corruption focused on whether women are more or less corruptible than men, and whether the promotion of women in public life can be an effective anti-corruption strategy. A second line of enquiry examined the impact of corruption on women as a group, building on the growing evidence that corruption has a disproportionate impact on vulnerable groups in society. Both of these strands of research have already generated a wealth of policy-relevant insights that advance our understanding of the interplay between corruption and gender.

Are Women Less Corrupt than Men?

Several early, mainly econometric contributions to this discussion claimed that there is indeed a link between higher representation of women in government and lower levels of corruption. An influential study of 150 countries in Europe, Africa and Asia by the World Bank, for example, came to the conclusion that women are more trustworthy and less prone to corruption, a finding later corroborated by additional research from the World Bank.²

However, the concept that women inherently possess greater integrity has been challenged. Anne Marie Goetz argues that this idea fails to account for the ways in which gender relations may

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limit women's opportunities to engage in corruption, particularly when corruption functions through all-male networks and forums from which women are excluded.³

It has also been argued that liberal democratic institutions which provide more effective checks on corruption are also 'fairer systems' that promote gender equality. Therefore, they provide a better explanation for the co-existence of higher female representation and less corruption.⁴

Regardless of whether a causal relationship can be established between greater presence of women in public life and lower levels of corruption, a number of interesting differences in attitudes and behaviour with regard to corruption have been empirically confirmed. Transparency International's Global Corruption Barometer, an annual survey of more than 60,000 households in 60+ countries has consistently found that women are less likely than men to pay bribes.⁵ These results reinforce findings by Swamy et al. who analysed gender differences in attitudes about the acceptability of different forms of corruption. The authors found that women are less involved in bribery, and are less likely to condone bribe taking, leading to the conclusion that there is a worldwide "gender difference in tolerance for corruption".⁶

Some scholars have suggested that women and men relate to corruption differently due to differences in risk-taking behaviour. It is hypothesised that women's particular role in society, which entrusts them with the care of children and elders in the family, makes them more averse to risk. Therefore, in professional settings

they are less likely to engage in corruption for fear of being caught and losing their jobs.⁷ Laboratory corruption experiments confirmed this hypothesis, finding that women tend to react more strongly to the risk of detection.⁸

Research Reveals Gendered Differences in Impact of Corruption

According to a 2008 report by UNIFEM, women are more vulnerable to the impact of corruption than men. This is particularly true of corruption in public service delivery. As women form a larger proportion of the poor and take primary responsibility for child care, they are more reliant on freely provided public services. As a result, corruption in public service delivery has a disproportionate impact on women.⁹

Let's take the health sector, for example. Women have differentiated and greater needs for health services - they are exposed to greater health challenges in their reproductive years, including risks of more frequent and potentially more dangerous interventions than men, and need special care during pregnancy and delivery. Studies conducted in Bangalore, South India, indicated that one out of two women in maternity hospitals had to pay extra money for a physician to be present at birth. After childbirth, the research found that a staggering 70% of patients were asked to pay to see their own babies.¹⁰

Corruption can also have gender-specific manifestations. For example, women and girls are often subjected to sexual extortion in lieu of bribes to get access to schooling or for good grades. A study in Botswana found that 67% of girls reported sexual harassment by teachers. This has grave

"Empirical studies have found that women are less likely than men to pay bribes or condone bribe taking."

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consequences - 11 % of the girls surveyed seriously considered dropping out of school due to harassment and 10 % consented to sexual relations for fear of reprisals.¹¹

Women also form a larger portion of refugees in post-conflict countries or in cases of natural disaster. According to UNFPA, women and children form 75 to 80% of refugees and displaced populations. Since aid workers are often men, this creates ample opportunities for abuse of entrusted power and many cases have been documented around the world of sexual exploitation of displaced women at the hands of male aid workers.¹²

Tackling the Gendered Effects of Corruption: The Research Agenda

The state of research on gender and corruption clearly indicates: the gendered dimensions of corruption are complex issues. Understanding the role of women in corruption or assessing its impact needs to be examined with close attention to the socio-economic and cultural norms that shape how women live their lives.

Lack of such understanding can lead to policy interventions that are too narrowly construed, as was the case with efforts in the early 2000s to promote women in anti-corruption agencies as they were thought to be less corrupt.¹³ While participation of

women in anti-corruption initiatives is an important goal it should not be seen as a panacea. Policy interventions need to take into account the particular circumstances of women in these societies and the barriers to real decision-making power, both in its gender and broader institutional-political dimensions.

Stronger linkages need to be made between existing scholarship on gender, development and anti-corruption. A large and growing body of research already exists that examines gender equity and women's participation in governance. However, corruption is often neglected as a barrier to achieving these goals. At the same time, anti-corruption research needs to more explicitly recognise and mainstream gender as a serious obstacle in the fight against corruption.

There is currently a great need for more gender disaggregated corruption data, both to better understand how corruption affects women and the role they can play in combating it. In addition, measurements of corruption may also need to expand their scope of analysis to include sexual exploitation, which is a specific form of corruption that only women experience. Only with the help of such comprehensive and in-depth research can we hope to eliminate the barriers corruption imposes on gender equity, and ultimately, on development.

“There is currently a great need for gender disaggregated corruption data to not only fully understand how corruption affects women but to also determine the role women can play in combating corruption.”

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2. David Dollar et al, *Are Women Really the Fairer Sex? Corruption and Women in Government*, World Bank Working Paper Series No. 4 (1999); Swamy et al, *Gender and Corruption*, IRIS Centre Working Paper No. 232 (1999).
3. Anne-Marie Goetz, *Political Cleaners: How Women are the New Anti-Corruption Force. Does the Evidence Wash?* (2004) Available online at: <http://www.u4.no/document/showdoc.cfm?id=124>; Vivi Alatas et al, Gender, Culture, and Corruption: Insights from an Experimental Analysis, *Southern Economic Journal*, Vol. 75, No. 3 (2009).
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6. Swamy et al, *Supra*
7. Waly Wane, *Informal Payments and Moonlighting in Tajikistan's Health Sector*, World Bank Policy Research Working Paper Series, No. 4555 (2008).
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9. UNIFEM, *Who Answers to Women? Gender and Accountability*, Progress of the World's Women Report 2008 / 2009
10. Gita Sen and Piroka Ostin, *Unequal, Unfair, Ineffective and Inefficient: Gender Inequity in Health: Why it exists and how we can change it*, Report of the WHO Commission on Social Determinants of Health (2007); U4 Expert Answer: Gender and Corruption, online at: <http://www.u4.no/helpdesk/helpdesk/queries/query98.cfm>
11. U4, *Corruption in the Education Sector: Common forms of corruption*, U4 Resource Centre, online at: <http://www.u4.no/themes/education/educationcommonforms.cfm>
12. UNFPA, *Protecting Women in Emergency Situations*, UNFPA, online at: <http://www.unfpa.org/gender/emergency.htm>
13. Dollar et al, *Supra*; *Haitian Women Fight against Corruption*, USAID Press Release, online at: http://www.usaid.gov/ht/docs/successstories/gjd/senator_beauzile.pdf

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HIGHLIGHTS IN ANTI-CORRUPTION RESEARCH
MEASURING CORRUPTION
Bertelsmann Transformation Index (BTI) 2010

The persistence of mass poverty and political marginalization in many countries is the central observation of this year's BTI, which ranks 128 countries on political and economic management against 17 criteria. Detailed country reports provide valuable context to the ranking.

<http://www.bertelsmann-transformation-index.de/en/>.

Doing Business 2010

More countries than ever are cutting red tape and reforming their business regulations, finds the World Bank's [Doing Business 2010](#) analysis, the largest comparative annual assessment of business regulations around the world. Regulatory reforms are up a significant 20% from last year according to the analysis that looks at business regulations and their enforcement across 183 economies.

<http://www.doingbusiness.org/>

Corruption Perceptions Index 2009

The vast majority of the 180 countries included in the 2009 index score below five on a scale from 0 (perceived to be highly corrupt) to 10 (perceived to have low levels of corruption). The CPI measures the perceived levels of public sector corruption in a given country. As a composite index that draws on 13 different expert and business surveys the CPI bases its ranking on a uniquely broad empirical basis for a bird's eye's view of corruption.

<http://www.transparency.org/>

Ibrahim Index of African Governance 2009 / Index of African Governance 2009

Both indices focus on Africa and seek to rank the quality of governance across the continent by combining existing indices with some supplementary in-country research. The publication of two indices was the result of disagreement over ownership and the inclusion of some datasets between the foundation which initiated the project and the US-based researchers who first compiled the index.

<http://www.moibrahimfoundation.org/>

<http://www.worldpeacefoundation.org>

Coming soon: Africa Education Watch (AEW)

The AEW provides the first regional overview of accountability and transparency challenges in delivering primary education in seven African countries (Ghana, Madagascar, Morocco, Niger, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Uganda). The report draws on in-depth national assessments of the situation based on desk-studies, user surveys and service provider interviews.

http://www.transparency.org/regional_pages/africa_middle_east/current_projects

Transparency in Political Finance in Bangladesh

Complementing established assessment methodologies with innovative field experiments this research initiative takes a close and very practical look at the standards and practices governing transparency and accountability in party and campaign financing systems in Bangladesh. Findings highlight poor performance in bookkeeping, reporting, reliability of reporting, public disclosure, and related sanctions.

<http://www.ti-bangladesh.org/>

Assessing Local Integrity

With its local integrity initiative, Global Integrity seeks to meet the growing demand for actionable data on governance and anti-corruption safeguards at the sub-national level. Reports are already available for Argentina, Ecuador, Peru and Liberia. <http://local.globalintegrity.org/>

State of local Government in South Africa

South African municipalities have a "poor" ability to accurately plan and spend their budgets, according to a recently published report from the South African Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs. This detailed account of accountability challenges in local administrations is derived from nine provincial assessments conducted across the country in 2009.

<http://www.info.gov.za/view/DownloadFileAction?id=110100>



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***Africa Education Watch
Launch***
*23-25 February, Addis
Ababa*

*Africa Education Watch
provides the first regional
overview of accountability
and transparency in
primary education
management in seven
African countries.*

<http://www.transparency.org>

HIGHLIGHTS IN ANTI-CORRUPTION RESEARCH

“Social and political groups closest to the elites in their societies tend to see less corruption than people close to the bottom.”

(Sören Holmberg)

“Firms that are larger, older, exporting, government-owned (...) have more political influence, perceive corruption to be less of a problem and pay bribes less often; influence increases sales and government subsidies, and in general makes the firm have a more positive view of the government.”

(Morten Bennedsen, Sven E. Feldmann, David Dreyer Lassen)

UNDERSTANDING CORRUPTION

Perceptions of Corruption in Mass Publics

Sören Holmberg, 2009

Do ordinary citizens and elites have similar perceptions of corruption in a given country? Drawing on and comparing data from several mass surveys this study arrives at a conclusion with interesting implications both for research and policy design: socially and politically weaker groups tend to perceive corruption to be more prevalent than more prosperous and influential groups.

http://www.qog.pol.gu.se/working_papers/2009_24_Holmberg.pdf

Strong Firms Lobby, Weak Firms Bribe

Morten Bennedsen, Sven E. Feldmann, David Dreyer Lassen, November 2009

Using business survey data to analyze firm-level determinants and effects of political influence and bribe paying, this paper finds that strong, established firms tend to focus their influence on shaping laws and regulations in their favour, whereas weaker firms are more prone to use bribery to circumvent rules and regulations.

http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=1503028

Corruption in Emerging Countries: A Matter of Isomorphism

Bertrand Venard, 2009

Peer behavior influences the readiness to bribe, highlighting the importance of mutual trust and collective action for rooting out corruption. This study provides clear evidence for this claim that is often posited, but rarely backed up with data. Interviews with top executives from firms in emerging countries confirm that a company is more likely to resort to corruption, if its competitors already adopt corrupt practices.

<http://www.management-aims.com/PapersMgmt/121Venard.html>

The Correlates of Corruption in India: Analysis and Evidence from the States

Nicholas Charron, 2009

What explains the substantial variance of corruption levels perceived by citizens across Indian states? This paper examines a number of hypotheses and finds that the level of development – measured both in economic and educational terms – as well as the level of fiscal decentralisation are significantly correlated with lower levels of corruption. In contrast, other potential factors such as income inequality, religious fractionalization or the level of media exposure turn out to be statistically insignificant.

http://www.qog.pol.gu.se/working_papers/2009_11_Charron.pdf

FIGHTING CORRUPTION

Disclosure by Politicians

Simeon Djankov, Rafael La Porta, Florencio Lopez-de-Silanes, Andrei Shleifer, September 2009

The authors have compiled a uniquely comprehensive collection of data on financial disclosure and conflict of interest rules and practices by members of parliament in 175 countries. Their analysis suggests that narrow internal disclosure to parliament is of limited effectiveness. Only public disclosure turns out to be positively related to government quality, including lower levels of corruption.

<http://www.economics.harvard.edu/faculty/shleifer/paper>

The Pursuit of Integrity in Customs: Experiences from Sub-Saharan Africa

Odd-Helge Fjeldstad, 2009

Customs services have long been viewed as particularly vulnerable to corruption. This study takes a closer look at the root causes for this. It finds that in many customs administrations, patronage networks based on kinship and community run deep and outflank formal rules. Based on these insights it is argued that integrity reforms need to pay more attention to local political economy, the incentives of key players and the role of informal institutions.

<http://www.cmi.no/publications/publication/?3473=the-pursuit-of-integrity-in-customs>

ANTI-CORRUPTION RESEARCH NEWS

HIGHLIGHTS IN ANTI-CORRUPTION RESEARCH

Self-regulation and Regulation in Lobbying

OECD, 2009

The vast majority of European lobbyists acknowledge that more transparency is required for their industry, but differ on how to achieve this. This is one of the many insightful findings from this report that is built around a series of attitudinal surveys with lobbyists. Providing the most comprehensive picture to date of how the industry in Europe views regulation and efforts in self-regulation the authors also provide recommendations on how to link these two modes of raising integrity most productively.

http://www.publicgovernanceforum.org/downloads/documents/Lobbying_regulation.pdf

Contextualizing Conceptions of Corruption: Challenges for the International Anti-Corruption Campaign

Malte Gephart, December 2009

A series of recent critics contested the underlying concepts and theoretical assumptions of the global anti-corruption community, questioning the legitimacy of the anti-corruption norm, the difficulty of defining and measuring corruption, etc. This literature review organises and discusses critical commentary on the theoretical assumptions, methodology and legitimacy of the anti-corruption movement, providing food for thought that could help strengthen and improve the efficacy of theory.

http://repec.giga-hamburg.de/pdf/giga_09_wp115_gephart.pdf



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CURRICULUM OF THE MONTH

PREVENTING CORRUPTION IN HEALTH PROGRAMS

Boston University, School of Public Health

This course is designed to provide students with skills for assessing vulnerabilities to corruption in the health sector. It aims to build the confidence, knowledge and skills needed to become an effective advocate for anti-corruption strategies and health system reforms that promote accountability and transparency.

TEXTBOOKS AND COURSE READER

- Klitgaard, Robert, Ronald Maclean-Abaroa, H. Lindsey Parris. *Corrupt Cities: A Practical Guide to Cure and Prevention*. 2000.
- Achebe, Chinua. *No Longer at Ease*. 1994
- Di Tella and Savedoff. *Diagnosis Corruption: Fraud in Latin America's Public Hospitals*. 2001

Some sample modules and examples of recommended readings are as follows:

Corruption in the Health Sector

- Transparency International, *Global Corruption Report on Corruption and Health*, 2006

Costs of Corruption, Assessing Vulnerabilities

- Taryn Vian, *Corruption and the Consequences for Public Health*, 2006

Fraud Detection and Pharmaceuticals Corruption

- Moynihan R, *Who pays for the Pizza? Redefining the Relationships between Doctors and Drug Companies*, 2003

Fraud Detection and Pharmaceuticals Corruption

- Gray-Molina, George, Ernesto Perez de Rada and Ernesto Yáñez, *Does Voice Matter? Participation and Controlling Corruption in Bolivian Hospitals*, 2001

Informal Payments

- Barber S, Bonnet F, Bekedam H, *Formalizing informal payments to control hospital out-of-pocket expenditures in Cambodia*, 2004

Corruption in Financial Systems

- Eichler, Rena, Auxila, Paul and Pollack, John. *Output Based Health Care: Paying for Performance in Haiti*. 2001.

For more details on the course syllabus, please see:

<http://www.bu.edu/actforhealth/actforhealth04/PreventingCorruptioninHealthSyllabus.pdf>

“The financial services sector in the United States, for example, spent \$3.4 billion on lobbying the federal government from 1998 through 2008, seeking largely to deregulate the financial industry to their advantage. In 2007 alone, the financial services sector employed a legion of 2,996 lobbyists to ply the industry’s interests on Capitol Hill.”
(OECD, *Self-regulation and regulation in Lobbying*)

RESEARCH PROJECTS & MARKETPLACE

To advertise anti-corruption research jobs, events, courses and funding opportunities in ACRN's online platform and Newsletter, please contact Farzana Nawaz at: fnawaz@transparency.org

Coming Soon: ACRN's interactive online platform

ACRN is built around an interactive online platform which will be launched at the beginning of March.

As an interactive tool, it will allow users to pull resources together, showcase research and findings and connect with other experts around the globe. ACRN members will also have privileged access to jobs, events, courses and funding opportunities.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

Climate Change and the Governance of carbon trading Projects in Southern Africa.

This Institute of Security Studies exploratory research project seeks to understand and address the complexities of carbon trading as it impacts on Africa. The project's main output will be a report focusing on case studies of carbon trading projects in Africa.

http://www.ipocafrika.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=59&Itemid=73

Varieties of Governance: Effective Public Service Delivery

This Global Development Network Global Research Project (GRP) explores the links between governance and effective public service delivery - the availability, quality and distribution of services in the areas of education, water and transport infrastructure. The project explores the role of formal and informal institutions, and the impact of decentralisation, specialized agencies, private sector and community participation, at both country and sector levels in effective public service delivery in up to 15 developing countries.

http://www.gdnet.org/cms.php?id=grp_details&grp_id=3

National Integrity System Assessments in the European Union

In 2010-11 Transparency International will conduct in-depth evaluations of the governance systems in 23 EU member states. These evaluations will provide the basis for targeted advocacy and policy reform initiatives at country and EU level seeking to address major transparency, accountability and integrity gaps. The assessments will examine the thirteen main integrity 'pillars' of each country's governance system in terms of their resources, internal governance mechanisms and their overall contribution to the system of integrity.

www.transparency.org/nis.

RESEARCH MARKET PLACE

Jobs and Consultancies

- The **Institute of Security Studies** seeks to appoint a **Deputy Research Director** to be based at the ISS head office in Pretoria to lead the development, management and oversight of the Institutional ISS Research Strategy.
<http://www.iss.co.za/>
- **UNOPS** seeks a **UNREDD Governance Assessments Programme Officer** to be based in Oslo for a project on measurement and assessment of democratic governance in the forestry sector.
http://216.197.119.113/jobman/publish/article_63633.shtml
- **Management Systems International (MSI)** is looking for a **Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist** for its Responsive Governance Project in Yemen.
http://216.197.119.113/jobman/publish/article_62919.shtml

Fellowships

- **Research on Poverty Alleviation (REPOA)** is seeking **Senior Visiting Research Fellows** to design, coordinate and undertake research, covering both theoretical, empirical and policy issues.
<http://www.repoa.or.tz/content/blogcategory/3/11/>
- The **Revenue Watch Institute** and NORAD's **Oil for Development Programme** are calling for applicants for a year long **Capacity Advancement Fellowship in Extractives**.
<http://www.revenuwatch.org/>
- The **Revenue Watch Institute** and NORAD's **Oil for Development Programme** are calling for applicants for an 8 week **RWI Petrad Fellowship** that includes a course on *Petroleum Policy and Natural resource Management*.
<http://www.revenuwatch.org/>

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RESEARCH MARKETPLACE

RESEARCH MARKET PLACE

Calls for Papers

- Call for papers for the **International Conference on Anti-Corruption, Good Governance and Human Rights**, which is due to take place in Paris, France, on 28-30 June.
www.waset.org/conferences/2010/paris/agghr/
- Call for Papers for the **Annual Meeting of the International Political Science Association (IPSA)** on Political Finance and Political Corruption to be held in Ljubljana, Slovenia, on 16-18 July 2010.
<http://www.ipsa.org/site/content/view/908/44/lang,en/>
- Call for Papers for the **Balkans and Middle East Countries 2nd International Conference on Auditing and Accounting History**, which will take place in Istanbul, Turkey, on 15-18 September 2010.
www.mufad.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=607&Itemid=128
- Call for Workshop proposals for the **14th International Anti-Corruption Conference**, which will be held on 10-13 November, in Bangkok, Thailand. The call for workshop proposals will open from 15 February to 31 March 2010. www.14iacc.org

Internships

- **Transparency International (TI)** Secretariat in Berlin is seeking an intern for its Advocacy and Legal Advice Centre (ALAC) programme. This internship is suitable for candidates with a strong interest and ideally experience in journalistic writing/reporting. Application closing date is 28 Feb 2010.
<http://www.transparency.org>

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **2010 International Conference on Good Governance and Human Rights**, (CGGHR 2010), Singapore, 26 – 29 February 2010
CGGHR 2010 will bring together top researchers from Asian Pacific areas, North America, Europe and around the world to exchange research results and address open issues in all aspects of Good Governance and Human Rights.
<http://www.iacsit.org/cgghr/cfp.html>
- **Political Institutions and Governance in the 21st Century**, Georgia State University, Atlanta, 4 March 2010. The conference will bring together graduate students to promote exchange both within and across sub-fields of political science.
http://www.apsanet.org/content_68093.cfm?navID=603
- **III Biannual Meeting of Ancorage-net: Protecting Aid Funds in Unstable Governance Environments: Towards an Integrated Strategy**, University of Lisbon, 18-19 May 2010. This conference is organised by Ancorage-net, a research network for anti-corruption agencies.
<http://ancorage-net.org/index.jsp?page=events>
- **International Conference on Anti-Corruption, Good Governance and Human Rights, (AGGHR 2010)**, Paris, 28-30 June 2010
AGGHR 2010 brings together academic scientists, leading engineers, industry researchers and scholar students to exchange and share their experiences and research results about all aspects of Anti-Corruption, Good Governance and Human Rights.
<http://www.rai-see.org/>


**RESTORING TRUST:
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TRANSPARENCY**

The 14th IACC will take place on 10-13 November 2010, in Bangkok, Thailand.

For more information please visit www.14iacc.org