INTRODUCTION

The Corruption Assessment Report 2014 follows the model of the Anti-Corruption Action Plan – *Clean Future* – published in 1998, and assesses the progress of anti-corruption in the country by exploring the relationship between government anti-corruption policies, the institutional setup of governance and the levels of corruption victimization of the population and the business sector. The rationale behind such approach is that the governance institutional design determines the legitimate rules for all society sectors. Corruption is a violation of these rules aiming at private benefit and is often described as particularistic governance favouring private interests, as opposed to universalistic governance in favour of the public interest. It occurs when established rules are dysfunctional (i.e. prescribe behaviour that contradicts the legitimate structure of interests of various stakeholders in society), or when public officials deliberately violate institutional norms, laws, etc. in order to benefit and/or ensure privileges for others.

Corruption Assessment Methodology

The Corruption Assessment Report focuses on three principle areas:

1. The **results** from the operation of the governance regime and the adopted set of anti-corruption policies. The principle method used to assess results is to measure the dynamics of administrative corruption prevalence among the general population (18+) and the business sector.
2. The specific **anti-corruption policies** of the government. These policies address corruption related violations from the legal-institutional setup of governance and are aimed at safeguarding and enforcing the compliance with established governance mechanisms.
3. The legal and institutional structure of the governance regime from the point of view of its potential to counter corruption and/or generate corruption.