

Denmark Lesotho Network – Anticorruption Policy

DLN does not accept or offer any kind of corruption or bribery.

Denmark Lesotho Network (DLN) protects its integrity and opposes all kinds of corruption and bribery. We have zero tolerance towards corruption and will react to all substantiated suspicions of irregularities in the management of assets (funds, equipment, belongings) from donors or DLNs account. The policy applies internally in DLN and for all partners and other recipients of support through DLN.

Definition of Corruption

Corruption is defined as ‘misuse of entrusted power for own gain’. The definition comprises both high level corruption involving large amounts as well as smaller amounts at lower administrative level. However small gifts such as food, drink and items worth less than 500 DKK are not considered corruption.

Corruption can appear in many forms, including the following:

- Conflicts of interests
- Bribery
- Blackmail
- Fraud
- Embezzlement
- Gifts
- Nepotism and Favoritism

Background to the Policy

Corruption is antisocial and a significant hindrance to achieving positive outcomes of development work. Corruption undermines trust in society’s institutions and ruins support for development cooperation. DLN holds that corruption and bribery is incompatible with good governance and detrimental to development activities.

Risk

Corruption can compromise DLN’s integrity and reputation. An impaired reputation can lead to loss of support opportunities and will have financial consequences. Moreover, DLN is obliged to act as a good role model for partners in Lesotho. The consequences of corruption can be serious and eventually reduce or even be counterproductive to development. It can negatively influence economic growth, improvement of living conditions, social equality, etc. An impaired image can also make it difficult to attract and retain members of the association.

Implementation

All members, voluntary project workers and partners are expected to know and abide by DLN's Anti-corruption policy. DLN enters into contractual obligation with partners in the understanding that all legislation and DLN's anti-corruption policy will be respected.

Reporting

If someone in DLN experience or observe incidents in our association that obviously violates our policy, such incidents must be reported. They can be reported to any member of the Board at all times, anonymously if wanted.

Reporting of corruption in DLN's partner organizations or in connection with project work can be done to a member of the project group or directly to DLN's Board. This can be done with known sender or anonymously.

The organization email: dln@lumela.dk

The direct email of the committee members can be found here: <http://lumela.dk/> under 'WHO WE ARE' and 'VIEW THE DLN COMMITTEE'.

Consequences

DLN will react to all substantiated suspicions of irregularities in the management of DLN or donor funds.

DLN is obliged to react if we receive information that could indicate fraud, misuse of funds or other kinds of corruption or irregularities. The aim is to limit or avoid irregularities completely. If irregularities nonetheless occur we will endeavor to limit the consequences and ensure that effective measures commensurate to the scope of the matter are taken.

The entire DLN Board will jointly decide what consequences reported/revealed irregularities should have.

A Board member can be excluded if found guilty of corruption. All contracts with partners can be cancelled if corruption or other irregularities have taken place.

The DLN Board is obliged to inform donors if incidents lead to closing of the cooperation with a partner, or if a Board member is excluded.

The below Ministry of Foreign Affairs Anti-corruption clause must be included and apply in all agreements or contracts that DLN may enter with partners:

"No offer, payment, consideration or benefit of any kind, which could be regarded as an illegal or corrupt practice, shall be made - neither directly nor indirectly - as an inducement or reward in relation to tendering, award of the contract, or execution of the contract. Any such practice will be grounds for the immediate cancellation of this contract and for such additional action, civil and/or criminal, as may be appropriate. At the discretion of the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, a further consequence of any such practice can be the definite exclusion from any tendering for projects, funded by the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs."

Adopted by the DLN Board at its meeting November 17th 2020.

To be reviewed no later than Nov. 17th 2025