



sassa

SOUTH AFRICAN SOCIAL SECURITY AGENCY

YOUR RIGHT
**say NO to
corruption**
YOUR ROLE

INTERNATIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION DAY

— 9 DECEMBER 2021 —

[*paying the right social grant, to the right person,
at the right time and place. NJALO!*]

#SASSACARES
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social development
Department:
Social Development
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



International Anti-Corruption Day is commemorated annually on 9 December in recognition of the United Nations Convention against Corruption which was signed in Mexico in 2003.

In South Africa the fight against corruption is one of the major priorities of government. Corruption in both the private and public sector has a detrimental effect on government's effort to deliver effective services to the people.

Corruption affects all areas of society. Preventing corruption unlocks progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals, helps protect our planet, creates jobs, achieves gender equality, and secures wider access to essential services such as healthcare and education.

While it is everyone's right to benefit from strong anti-corruption efforts, misconduct and wrongdoing is stealing away valuable resources at a time when they are most needed to respond to and recover from the COVID-19 crisis.

The 2021 International Anti-Corruption Day seeks to highlight the rights and responsibilities of everyone - including States, Government officials, civil servants, law enforcement officers, media representatives, the private sector, civil society, academia and you-in tackling corruption

It is not only countries that need to unite and face this global problem with shared responsibility, every single person - young and old - has a role to play to prevent and counter corruption, in order to promote resilience and integrity at all levels of society.

To achieve this, policies, systems and measures need to be in place for people to be able to speak up and say no to corruption. The United Nations Convention against Corruption emphasizes the responsibility of Governments to put in place effective whistle-blower protection to

ensure that persons who speak up are protected from retaliation. These measures contribute to effective, accountable and transparent institutions towards a culture of integrity and fairness.

To protect your rights, you need to be aware of the role you play and responsibilities you have in the fight against corruption. Speak up, “say *#NoToCorruption*”.

KEY AREAS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION

EDUCATION AND YOUTH

Corruption steals from young people and affects their ability to live in safe, just, and inclusive societies.

The world’s 1.8 billion young people have a major stake in countering corruption, as their future depends on access to equal opportunity and a level playing field. Young people have the right to demand accountability from leaders. They also play a key role in promoting integrity and can be powerful agents of change by developing innovative and impactful solutions within their communities, with support from decision makers.

SPORT AND CORRUPTION

Corruption and crime threaten the positive contribution of sport in the cultural, educational, social and economic spheres.

Governments, sport organizations and athletes need to commit to tackling corruption and crime in and through sport to overcome the

impact the COVID-19 crisis has had on sport and ensure it remains a force for development and peace.

To save sport from corruption and crime it is critical that athletes are able to come forward and report approaches from match-fixers, and sport leadership act upon reports of wrongdoing.

GENDER DIMENSIONS OF CORRUPTION

Corruption impacts women and men differently, results in the exclusion of women in decision-making roles, and perpetuates negative social stereotypes, limited economic power and educational opportunities. There is evidence of the disproportionate impact of corruption on women during public health crises, including during the COVID-19 pandemic and its effect on the provision of education and healthcare. Gender-sensitive whistle-blower reporting and protection systems and a victim-centred approach are of particular importance for women as the lack of protection, fear of reprisals and the level of confidentiality can negatively impact the decision to report corruption.

SASSA is among the hardest government entities hit by corruption. In Gauteng a suspect was arrested on 11 November 2021 in Yeoville for allegation of operating an illegal SASSA office. A Joint SASSA-SAPS search and seizure operation led to confiscation of amongst other documents SASSA branded documents.

Four SASSA Eastern Cape officials accused of capturing and approving lump sum payments of beneficiaries, using false bank accounts appeared in the Port Elizabeth Specialized Commercial Crime Court on 15 November 2021. All payments were subsequently

recalled and stopped before they could go through the bank accounts. The Agency would have suffered a total loss of just over R5.9M

Eighteen social grant beneficiaries in Mpumalanga were convicted and sentenced to a fine of R20 000.00, or 12 months imprisonment of which is whole suspended for period of 5 years. The accused received fraudulent disability grants assisted by the 8 employees, who will appear at the Nelspruit Specialised Commercial Crime Court on 19 January 2022. The prejudice suffered by the Agency amounts to R220 785.00.

Fraud and Corruption Reporting Channels

- National Anti-Corruption Hotline: 0800 701 701 or 0800601011
- Email: Integrity@publicservicecorruptionhotline.org.za
- Website: www.publicservicecorruptionhotline.org.za
- Free Fax: 0800 204 96
- SMS 397 72

