

FIX THE GAME

A YOUTH ANTI-CORRUPTION TOOLKIT



WWW.CORRUPTIONWATCH.ORG.ZA

Aim of the toolkit

The aim of this Youth and Corruption Toolkit is to empower young people to actively participate in the fight against corruption. The toolkit provides resources, information, and strategies to help young individuals understand, identify, and combat corruption in their communities. It also aims to raise awareness about the detrimental effects of corruption on society and to inspire young people to act and become agents of change.

Definition of corruption

We define corruption as the abuse of entrusted power or resources, by anyone, for private gain. The culprit may be an elected politician, civil servant, journalist, administrator of a school, or anyone in authority. Corruption occurs in both the public and private sectors.

Chapter 2 of South Africa's Prevention and Combating of Corrupt Activities Act defines corruption as any person who, directly or indirectly, accepts or agrees to accept for himself or herself or for any other person any gratification as an inducement to do or not to do anything or as a reward for having done or not having done anything.

According to Transparency International, corruption erodes trust, weakens democracy, hampers economic development, and further exacerbates inequality, poverty, social division, and the environmental crisis. We will shortly discuss the effect of corruption on South African youth. Corruption takes many forms, affecting young and old alike. Some types of corruption are encountered every day, while others happen in specific circumstances. They include:

- **Bribery:** This is when a person is asked or offers to pay an amount of money to fast-track service delivery or obtain favours that he/she would otherwise would not be entitled to or would have to wait for. Bribes are offered to obtain higher marks at schools, get admission to university, or to obtain a job. Another form of bribery involving young people is paying to get a driver's licence.



- **Sexual corruption:** This happens when a person, often a young woman, is asked to give sexual favours to obtain a job, get a promotion at work, or obtain better marks or grades in schools or university. Sexual corruption can happen in different ways, such as pressuring people to share intimate multimedia content or taking advantage of intimate material shared privately with consent, by using it as a weapon. It may result in severe emotional, psychological, and financial repercussions for victims, and is deemed a significant criminal offense. This act of corruption is mainly perpetuated by someone with authority.
- **Misappropriation of resources:** This includes the improper use of resources (including school vehicles and equipment) that a person or people have been entrusted with. In some instances, the resources are stolen.
- **Procurement irregularities:** This occurs when an agency, government department, or school governing body (SGB) awards a tender to a company without following proper procurement processes. The flouting of procurement processes may involve no advertising, random and inexplicable dismissal of competitive bidders, or preferential treatment, among others. In some instances, the people responsible for awarding the tender are connected to the bidding company and they benefit financially. In schools, this type of corrupt activity is sometimes found in the procurement for a service provider that will run the feeding scheme programme.
- **Employment irregularities:** This refers to any dishonest or unethical practices related to the hiring, promotion, or management of employees within a company. Corruption in employment practices may include individuals taking or giving bribes to get a job, giving a job to a friend or family member even though he or she may not be qualified for the job, people in power offering a job in return for sexual favours, and receiving of financial gifts or rewards for hiring or promoting certain individuals in an organisation.

Corruption can have significant negative effects on youth in several ways:

- **Limited access to quality education:** Corruption can divert funds that are meant for education, resulting in inadequate resources, poorly trained teachers, and crumbling infrastructure. This limits the opportunities for youth to receive a quality education and acquire the skills necessary for their future.
- **Unfair employment practices:** Corruption can lead to a lack of transparency and favouritism in hiring processes. Youth who are qualified and deserving may face difficulties in finding employment or advancing their careers if they do not engage in corrupt practices such as bribery or nepotism.
- **Limited economic opportunities:** Corruption can hinder economic growth and create an environment where youth struggle to find viable job opportunities. This can lead to unemployment or underemployment, leaving youth vulnerable to poverty and despair.
- **Lack of trust and values:** Corruption undermines the integrity of public institutions and erodes society's trust in these institutions. Growing up in an environment where corruption is prevalent can lead to a cynical attitude among youth, where they may view corruption as the norm and be less inclined to uphold ethical values.



- **Poor service delivery:** Corruption diverts public resources away from essential services such as healthcare, infrastructure, and social welfare programs. As a result, youth may experience limited access to healthcare facilities, along with deteriorating infrastructure and inadequate social support systems, negatively impacting their overall well-being and development.

Active citizenry

Being an active citizen means rejecting mediocrity and corruption, and fighting for the rights that are guaranteed in the Constitution. There are various ways of doing this. For instance:

- **Speak up:** Young people should partner with their community members, schoolmates, and civil society organisations to bring perpetrators of corruption to account. Young people should be responsible for creating spaces for vibrant engagement on corruption. They also must understand that they have a role to play in actively speak out against corruption in schools and communities.

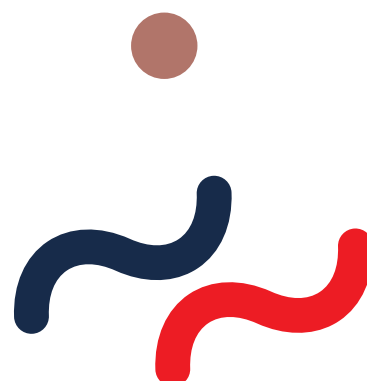
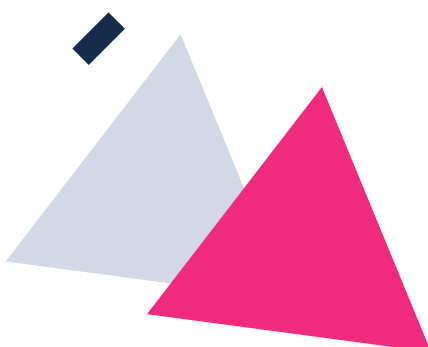
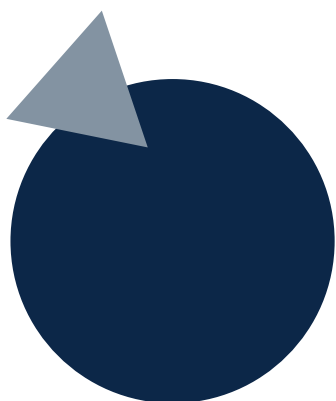


- **Get involved in anti-corruption spaces:** Young people need to get more involved in spaces that can help the fight against corruption. The involvement of young people prepares them to be leaders in the fight against corruption.
- **Awareness and education:** Youth can spread knowledge about the negative impacts of corruption through initiatives like social media campaigns, workshops, and school events. By sharing knowledge about how corruption affects society with peers, they can motivate others to get involved.
- **Zero tolerance:** Youth can encourage a culture of zero tolerance towards corruption. They must refrain from participating in corrupt activities, whether in educational institutions, employment opportunities, or everyday situations. By calling out wrongdoing, showcasing honesty, and promoting moral conduct, they can serve as a role model for others.
- **Encourage whistle-blowing:** Encourage young people to blow the whistle on corruption. They can do this by using official State institutions such as the Public Protector and the anti-corruption unit in the South African Police Service, or turn to civil society organisations. Remember, whistle-blowing is a brave act that comes with risk, so make sure that you receive adequate advice before blowing the whistle on any wrongdoing.
- **Social media and digital activism:** Youth can use social media platforms to raise awareness about corruption issues, share information, and mobilise others to act. Digital activism can amplify youth voices and reach a wider audience. Youth can use platforms like Tik-Tok, Instagram, Facebook, and X to spread anti-corruption messaging.

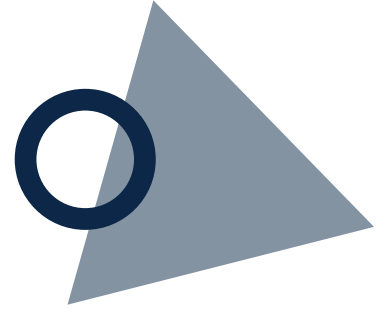


Organisations youth can participate in

| Organisation | About the organisation |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Harambee | The Harambee Youth Employment Accelerator is a not-for-profit social enterprise that works with partners to find solutions for the challenge of youth unemployment. |
| National Youth Development Agency | The NYDA is a South African-based agency established primarily to address challenges faced by the nation's youth. It was established by the National Youth Development Agency Act, to be a single, unitary structure addressing youth development issues at national, provincial, and local government level. The NYDA should be seen within the broad context of South Africa's development dynamics. |
| National Youth Coalition | This youth-led coalition promotes the development of ethical and transformative young leaders who strive to ensure that all youth living in South Africa are empowered and supported in the attainment of their constitutional and human rights |
| SAB Foundation | The SAB Foundation provides a continuous journey of support for entrepreneurs and social innovators, with the aim of creating and building sustainable businesses that support job creation, help address social issues and build communities. |
| Yes4Youth | Yes4Youth works with leading businesses in various sectors to provide 12-month quality work experiences for unemployed young people, helping them to become the future managers, skilled professionals, and entrepreneurs who will drive the economy forward |



SCENARIOS



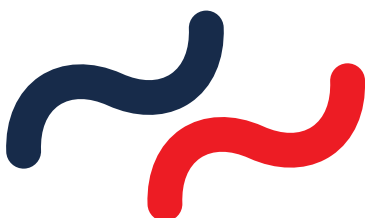
- **Bribery:** Ndaba is an unemployed graduate. He has not been working ever since completing his studies at the University of Johannesburg five years ago. Ndaba finally gets a job and one of the requirements is that he must have a driver's licence. Although he does not have a driver's licence, he is expected to show it to his new employer on his first day at work.

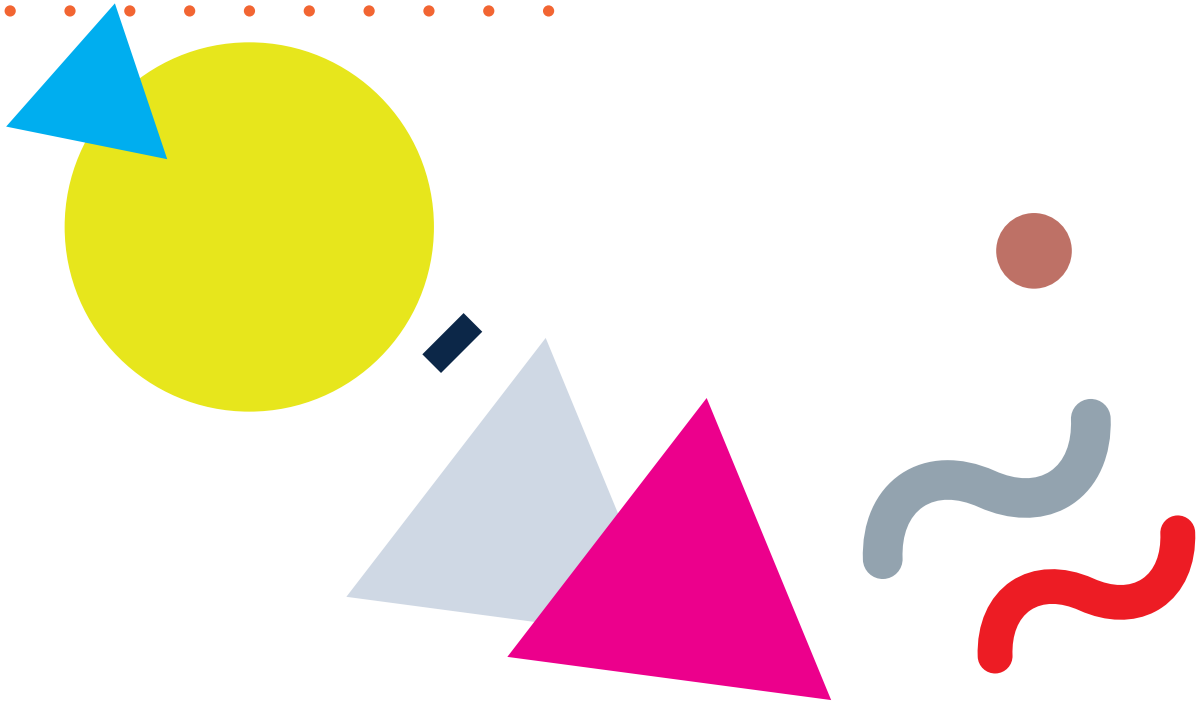
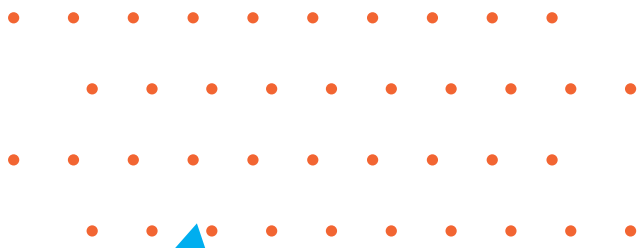
Ndaba meets someone from the licensing department, who offers to help him obtain the license in a day for a fee of R5 000.

- **Sexual corruption:** Refiloe is desperately seeking employment. She applies for a job at a reputable company and is invited for an interview with the hiring manager. During the interview the manager makes subtle hints about Refiloe's physical appearance and suggests that they could discuss the job offer in a more informal setting over dinner.

Feeling pressure to secure the job, Refiloe agrees to the dinner meeting. During the dinner, the manager starts making advances towards her and eventually suggests that they could engage in a relationship in exchange for the job.

- **Misappropriation of resources:** There is a tender out for allocating NFSAS allowances to university students. The Department of Education would ideally like a company that will ensure that students are paid the correct allowances in time. The department notes that the previous company entrusted with this responsibility had overpaid a student allowance by millions and this raised concerns nationwide. Company XYZ Consulting bid for the tender and won it. The company later went into financial distress and to rescue it, the management decided to use NSFAS funds without authorisation. Government had already paid XYZ Consulting an administrative fee.
- **Procurement irregularities:** John's parent is part of the committee for managing funds for school extracurricular activities. A vendor offers him/her a kickback to choose their company for supplying materials, even though another vendor offers better quality at a lower price. Anticipating some compensation, John's parent decides to remove quotations received from other bidders.
- **Employment irregularities:** Company ABX issues an advert for a job. Alex is the human resources manager of the company. One day, Alex's cousin Sarah reaches out, expressing interest in a job at the company. Sarah is unqualified for the position and has no relevant experience and skills that align with the company's needs. Twenty applications are submitted for the post, but Alex decides to recruit Sarah without following the correct procedure.





Reporting corruption

Why should youth report corruption? Because this:

- **Promotes accountability:** Young people must hold public officials and institutions responsible for their actions through reporting corruption. When youth condemn corruption, they send a strong message that unethical conduct will not be accepted and those responsible will face consequences.
- **Enhances democracy:** A strong mechanism for exposing corruption bolsters democratic systems through fostering openness, responsibility, and adherence to the law. It helps build trust between the government and its citizens, a necessary component of a working democracy.
- **Prevents future corruption:** Youth help prevent future corruption by reporting and advocating for accountability measures. The transparency and accountability measures established from youth reporting can act as a deterrent to corrupt actions.
- **Inspires others:** Young people who report on corruption can motivate others to take similar action. If people witness their peers actively fighting corruption, they are more inclined to participate as well, leading to a ripple effect that drives overall societal transformation.

How and where can you report corruption?

It is important that youth blow the whistle on corruption. Below are some institutions that the youth can report to:

Corruption Watch

Report an incident online on our website at www.corruptionwatch.org.za. The communication is secure and your information will be treated with utmost care and discretion.

Report via WhatsApp: 082 579 5220

Report via e-mail: info@corruptionwatch.org.za

Phone or fax us: (T) 011 242 3900 | (F) 011 403 2393

South African Police Service

Cases of corruption that involve criminal offences can be reported at any police station.

Crime Stop hotline – 08600 10111.

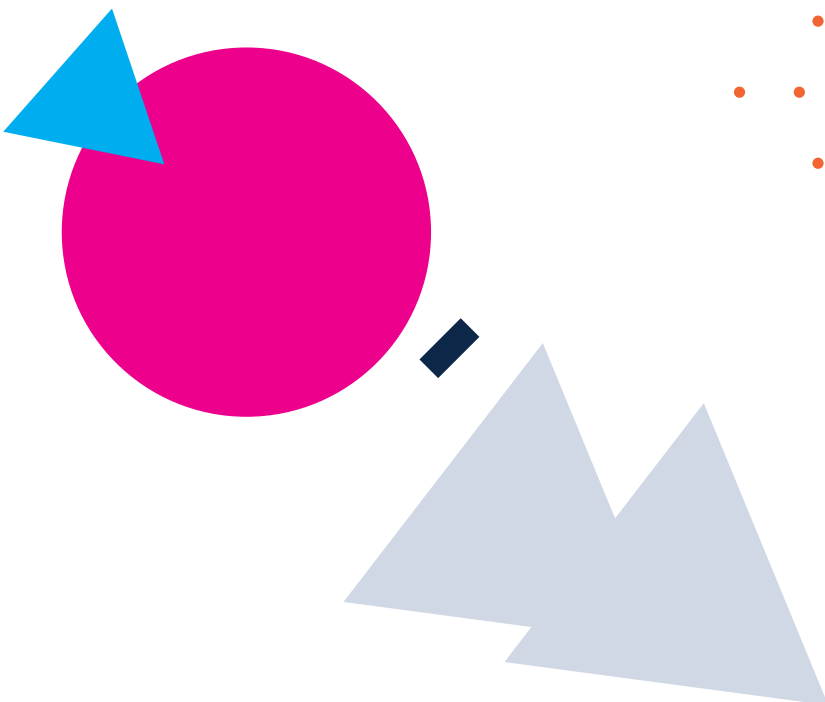
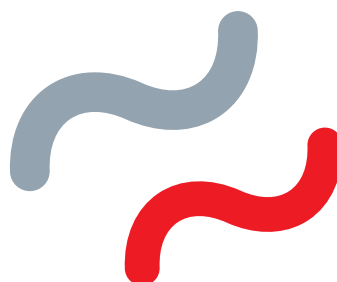
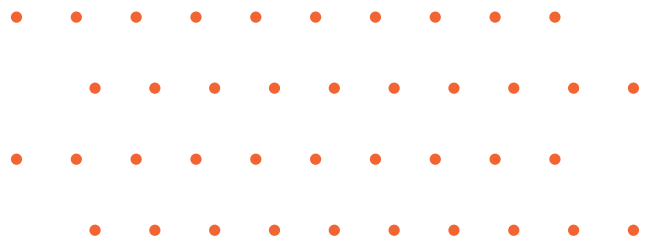
National Department of Education

The National Department of Education has a telephone hotline 0800 202 933 (toll free).

Office of the Public Protector

The Public Protector is an independent institution established under section 182 of the Constitution. It receives reports from any person who has a complaint of corruption that involves government departments, agencies, or officials who violate their ethical codes or codes of conduct.

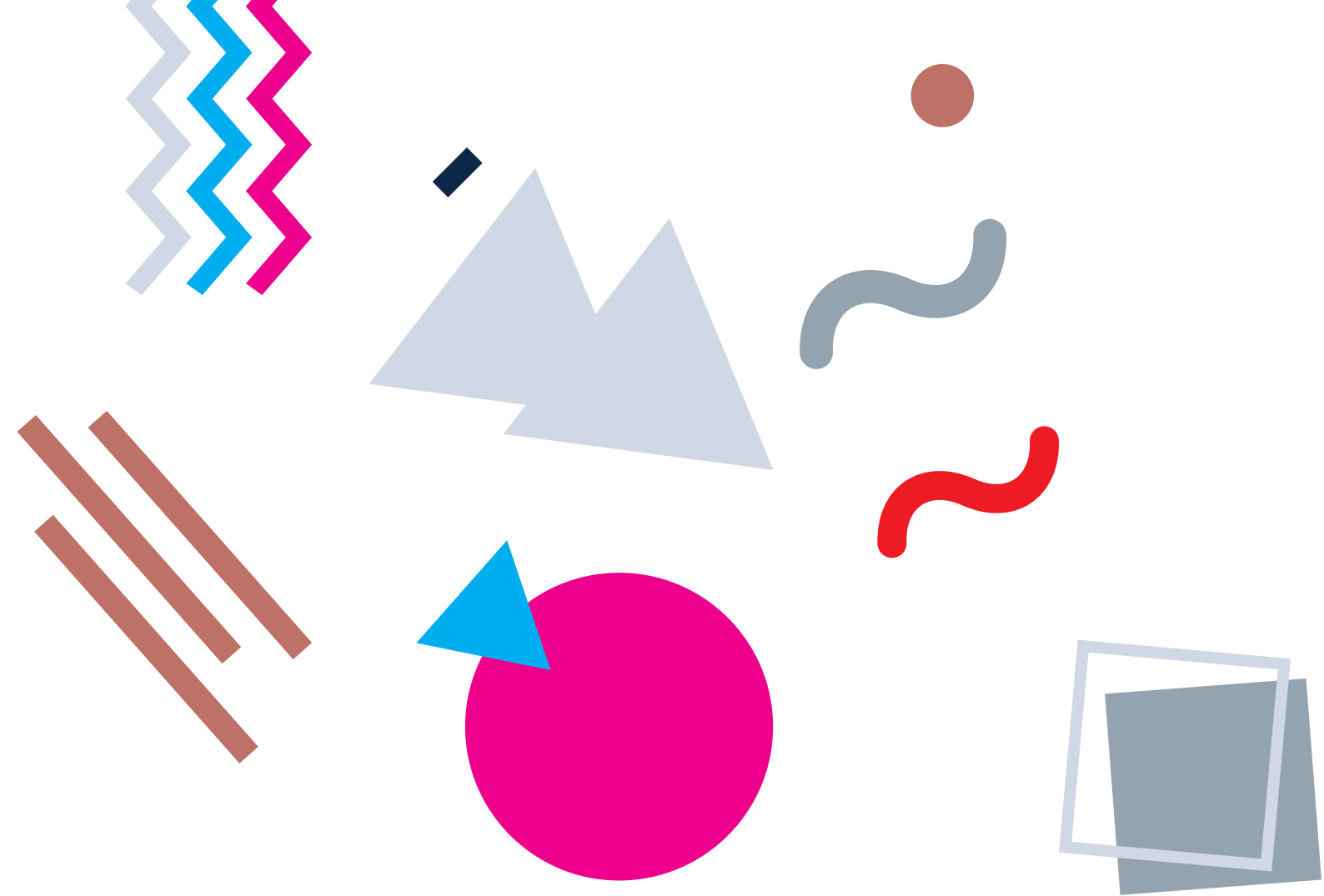
Tel: (012) 366 7000 / (012) 366 7112 / 069 470 7550



Legislation affecting the youth

1. The National Youth Development Agency Act No.54 of 2008 intends:
 - to provide for the establishment of the National Youth Development Agency aimed at creating and promoting coordination in youth development matters.
 - to provide for the objects and functions of the Agency.
 - to provide for the manner in which it is to be managed and governed.
 - to provide for the regulation of its staff matters and financial affairs.
 - to provide for the administration of the fund referred to in the Demutualisation Levy Act, 1998 by the Agency under a new name.
 - to repeal the National Youth Commission Act, 1996, and
 - to provide for matters connected therewith.
2. The South African Schools Act 84 of 1996 intends:
 - to provide for a uniform system for the organisation, governance, and funding of schools.
 - to amend and repeal certain laws relating to schools.
 - to provide for matters connected therewith.
3. The Skills Development Act 97 of 1998 intends:
 - to provide an institutional framework to devise and implement national, sector and workplace strategies to develop and improve the skills of the South African work force.
 - to integrate those strategies within the National Qualifications Framework contemplated in the South African Qualifications Authority Act, 1995.
 - to provide for learnerships that lead to recognised occupational qualifications.
 - to provide for the financing of skills development by means of a levy-grant scheme and a National Skills Fund.
 - to provide for and regulate employment services, and
 - to provide for matters connected therewith.
4. The Prevention and Combating of Corrupt Activities Act 12 of 2004 intends:
 - to provide for the strengthening of measures to prevent and combat corruption and corrupt activities.
 - to provide for the offence of corruption and offences relating to corrupt activities.
 - to provide for investigative measures in respect of corruption and related corrupt activities.
 - to provide for the establishment and endorsement of a Register in order to place certain restrictions on persons and enterprises convicted of corrupt activities relating to tenders and contracts.
 - to place a duty on certain persons holding a position of authority to report certain corrupt transactions.
 - to provide for extraterritorial jurisdiction in respect of the offence of corruption and offences relating to corrupt activities, and
 - to provide for matters connected therewith.





TAKE THE PLEDGE AGAINST CORRUPTION

I pledge to uphold integrity and ethics in all aspects of my life. I will act with honesty and fairness. I will always strive to do what is right, even when it is difficult. I will be transparent in my actions, and will hold myself accountable for my decisions and their consequences. I will work to promote these values in my community, and to stand up against corruption and injustice. Building a society based on integrity, ethics, transparency, and accountability requires the efforts of all of us, and I commit to doing my part to make it a reality.

Watch these videos for more help and information on how you, the youth, can fight corruption:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KE_Wo_FJr4
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FjZVgoBNdB8>



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