In August, law enforcement officials from across the 21 Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) member economies descended on the tropical island of Cebu, in the Philippines, to participate in the second meeting of the Anti-Corruption Authorities and Law Enforcement Agencies Network (ACT-NET). The ACT-NET initiative was established by APEC’s 2014 Beijing Declaration on Fighting Corruption, in which member economies pledged, among other things, to eliminate corruption through enhanced cooperation in extradition, judicial assistance, and more flexible legal processes to recover illicit proceeds of corruption and other financial crime within the APEC economies.

**ANTI-CORRUPTION EFFORTS IN THE ASIA PACIFIC**

*Will ACT-NET Live Up To Its Expectations as A Vehicle For Real Change?*

Written by Michael D. Mann, David M. Rody, and Lei Li // Art by Marc Aspinall
The cooperative effort, a first for APEC, has been spearheaded by China, Indonesia, and the United States, and endorsed by China’s President Xi Jinping. While China’s ACT-NEF’s ambition is to promote greater international, regional, and bilateral anti-corruption enforcement, per si.

Co-Chairman of one of the largest property developers in the world, were sentenced to prison terms for corruption. The FCPA’s enforcement has been controversial, with 155 separate cases with an 85 percent conviction rate in 2014.

India, like China, has also played an aggressive crackdown on corruption, but it looks like its former President, Narenda Modi has paid a price, as he is under investigation for alleged receipt of kickbacks in India. He has also placed a considerable focus on ‘black money’ referring to funds hidden in offshore tax havens by corrupt officials, politicians and business leaders. Even when a holder of a same conduct (once in such jurisdiction), but also must carefully consider the impact that one government may choose to prosecute and enter into a parallel local prosecutions of corruption within their jurisdictional scope. While the conflict of jurisdiction that have reached multi-million dollar amounts.

The FCPA’s impact has been particularly strong in the Asia Pacific region, where it is in the middle of a shake-up of the anti-corruption landscape. China, Japan, and South Korea are now requiring local companies to comply with FCPA standards. Anti-corruption efforts are gaining traction in the Asia Pacific region, with some of the poorest countries also setting an example of anti-corruption crackdown.

The next ACT-NET meeting will be held in Peru in 2017, where the United States and its aggressive enforcement of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA) will continue to be a major focus. The FCPA’s enforcement has been controversial, with 155 separate cases with an 85 percent conviction rate in 2014.

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