

AVRDC – The World Vegetable Center

Anti-Fraud Policy

What constitutes fraud?

Fraud is used to describe such acts as deception, bribery, forgery, extortion, corruption, theft, conspiracy, embezzlement, misappropriation, false representation, and concealment of material facts. For practical purposes fraud covers the use of deception with the intention of obtaining a financial advantage or making a material misstatement in financial statements, receipts, documents, etc.

Fraud may occur within or outside an institution and may be perpetrated by staff, consultants, suppliers, contractors, or development partners, individually or in collusion with others.

Staff responsibility

As stated in the Code of Ethics in the Human Resources Manual, all AVRDC staff members are required to act with honesty and integrity, pay due regard to the appropriate use of the Center's resources, adhere to professional standards of ethics in dealing with donors, partners, vendors, suppliers, contractors, etc., and not to accept gifts or favors or give the same to others to gain or receive favors.

AVRDC Management accepts responsibility

To ensure the adequacy of policies, systems and controls for the prevention and dealing with fraud, dishonesty, gross negligence and similar activities, and strengthen operating procedures if required.

To ensure that internal controls such as internal audit, peer reviews, etc. are regularly being carried out and remedial actions are taken on submission of negative reports.

To keep concerned partners, donors and stakeholders informed if their funds/projects/activities are involved/ affected due to fraudulent or dishonest or illegal activities.

Initiate appropriate disciplinary and/or legal action against those involved in fraudulent, dishonest, illegal or grossly negligent activities, and recover losses if any, to the Center.