



# Summit for Democracy Financial Transparency and Integrity (FTI) Cohort

The increasingly transnational nature of corruption threatens national security, economic prosperity, sustainable development, and democratic resilience. In response to this challenge, the Financial Transparency and Integrity (FTI) Democracy Cohort was established to bolster joint efforts aimed at preventing the exploitation of the global financial system by actors seeking to divert, move, and launder the proceeds of their corruption.

Originating from the first Summit for Democracy in December 2021, the FTI Cohort is a multi-stakeholder platform co-led by the U.S. government, the Brookings Institution, and the Open Government Partnership. This cohort unites changemakers representing governments, civil society groups, multilateral and intergovernmental organizations, and businesses to catalyze the implementation of relevant anti-corruption commitments and facilitate peer support and information exchange. The FTI Cohort also strives to reinforce existing multilateral and multi-stakeholder initiatives to prevent and counter corruption, such as the UN Convention Against Corruption, the Financial Action Task Force, and other mechanisms.

During the Year of Action between the first and second Summits for Democracy, the FTI Cohort convened three thematic “spotlight” meetings focused on topics that were identified by cohort participants as priorities in the global effort to prevent corruption and incentivize integrity, which is critical to democratic resilience: bolstering the effective use of beneficial ownership information, improving transparency in public procurement, and addressing the misuse of professional services providers and other intermediaries who serve as gatekeepers to the financial system.

Following the first spotlight meeting, the FTI Cohort developed guidance on the creation and effective use of beneficial ownership registries (or alternative mechanisms) based on insights that were shared by participants during an open discussion. Similar knowledge products will be released for the other spotlight meetings.

To mobilize more ambitious progress, the FTI Cohort released a **Pledge and Call to Action** at the second Summit for Democracy in March 2023. The document affirms participants’ shared commitment to this important agenda and calls on others to meaningfully advance financial transparency and integrity reforms as essential to strengthening democracy and countering transnational corruption.

The FTI Cohort will continue to evolve as a dynamic platform for cross-sectoral collaboration and strategic discussions to advance collective action among a diverse range of partners. It welcomes new participants from governments, civil society, and other entities—including from the private sector—that are interested in galvanizing collective action to prevent corruption and promote financial transparency and integrity.

If you would like to answer the FTI Cohort's Call to Action and join future cohort engagements, please contact one of the cohort points of contact, including: Andrew Lohsen ([fti@usaid.gov](mailto:fti@usaid.gov)), Danielle Angel ([AngelDI@state.gov](mailto:AngelDI@state.gov)), Robin Lewis ([rlewis@brookings.edu](mailto:rlewis@brookings.edu)), and Aidan Harris ([aidan.harris@opengovpartnership.org](mailto:aidan.harris@opengovpartnership.org)).