

For the first time in history, most people live under freely elected governments. That translates into greater cooperation in international trade, protection of human rights and the fight against terror. Respect for the rule of law must be a vital component of a united vision of a better world.

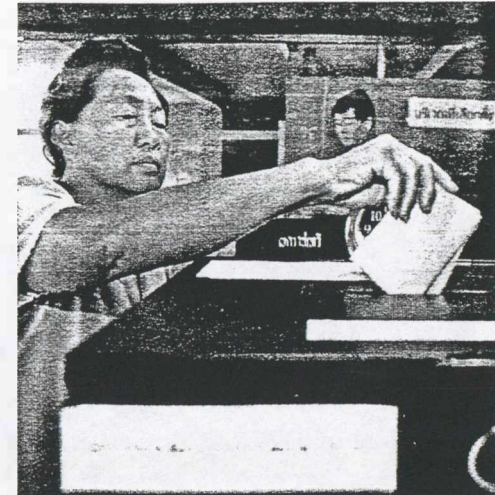
Even in cases where newly democratic governments recognize the value of good governance, they often lack the capacity to implement it. Studies have shown that wealthier countries have less reported corruption and better functioning governments than poorer countries.\*

Policy initiatives—whether designed to defeat terrorism, improve education, healthcare and the environment, or alleviate poverty—will be less likely to succeed in poorer countries with weak governance structures vulnerable to corruption. Introducing greater transparency and accountability and promoting the eradication of corrupt practices at all levels of government are also essential for attracting increased foreign direct investment. Before equitable economic growth can be achieved, capacity must be developed so that effective governance mechanisms are firmly in place. Ample foreign aid will be needed to bolster their ongoing capacity-building efforts and institutional reform.

In many countries, illegal payments to ensure the introduction of particular rules and regulations, or the

**ENHANCING GOVERNANCE:  
BUILDING CAPACITY,  
TRANSPARENCY,  
AND INTEGRITY**

*More than ever, the international community needs an effective framework that governs the behavior of nations that play an increasingly important role in ensuring our collective security, managing international trade, and upholding human rights.*



avoidance of existing ones, are common. The key is to find a way to eliminate outdated laws and regulations and keep those necessary to control pollution and protecting worker health and safety; to ensure that they are administered in ways that minimize corruption; and to increase administrative capacity in developing nations. A major obstacle to strengthening governance is the difficulty of overcoming entrenched interests; however, the good news is that many countries have placed good governance at the forefront of their agendas.

\* Bert. Brecht: „Erst kommt das Fressen, dann kommt die Moral... Dreigroschenoper.“