



## **UNODC-UNAFEI Study Visit for the National Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine (NABU) and the Specialized Anti-Corruption Prosecutor's Office (SAPO)**

### **1. Duration and Participants**

- From 17 February to 20 February 2026
- 25 participants (20 from NABU, 5 from SAPO)

### **2. Overview of the Visit**

This study visit was conducted as part of the Ukraine-focused technical assistance project organized by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Headquarters (Vienna). Its objectives were:

- a. to strengthen the capacity of NABU and SAPO to conduct effective financial investigations (including tracing, identifying, and recovering the flow of funds related to bribery, criminal proceeds, money laundering, and other illicit assets), and
- b. to foster mutual understanding and trust among UNODC, NABU, SAPO, and UNAFEI, thereby building a network for continuous future information exchange and cooperation.

Through lectures delivered by experts, participants were provided with knowledge on Japan's systems for effective financial investigations as well as investigative techniques. The visit also offered an opportunity to reflect on the underpinning foundation supporting these practices—namely, the “culture of lawfulness”. In addition, NABU and SAPO delivered presentations on their own legal systems and practices, followed by an exchange of views.

### **3. Lectures and presentations**

#### **(1) Lectures**

The following speakers each delivered lectures and answered questions from the participants:

- “Anti-Money Laundering Measures”  
Shintaro Watanabe, Managing Director, Head of AML Department, Financial Crimes Office for Japan, MUFG Bank, Ltd.
- “Investigation and Prosecution of Money Laundering Cases Involving Crypto Assets XMR”  
Keiichi TOKUTAKE, Public Prosecutor, Tokyo District Public Prosecutor's Office
- “Implementing Act on Punishment of Organized Crimes and Control of Proceeds of Crime in Bribery Cases”  
Yasuhiro TANIWAKI, 2nd Investigative Section, Criminal Affairs Bureau, National Police Agency
- “Countermeasures against Proceeds of Crime in Japan”

Shinichi TACHI, First Organized Crime Division, Organized Crime Department, Criminal Affairs Bureau, National Police Agency

- “Current situation of money laundering cases”  
Masaki HIRAMOTO, Anti-money Laundering Unit, Second Organized Crime Division, Organized Crime Department, Criminal Affairs Bureau, National Police Agency
- “Fostering a Culture of Lawfulness in the Fight against Corruption”  
Naoki SUGANO, Deputy Director, UNAFEI
- “Japan’s Anti-Corruption Policies”  
Jun YAMAZAKI, Professor, UNAFEI
- “Overview of UNAFEI”  
Katsutomo OTONARI, Professor, UNAFEI

(2) Presentations from NABU and SAPO

a. NABU

“Eradicate and Prevent”

- Andrii Harkusha  
Head of the Digital Forensic Laboratory Detective Unit, National Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine (NABU)
- Anastasiia Kolotyła  
Deputy Head of the International Legal Department, National Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine (NABU)

b. SAPO

“2015-2025: Insights and Solutions”

- Vitalii Kravets  
Head, the Third Unit of the Division for Procedural Guidance, Public Prosecution, and Court Representation Specialized Anti-Corruption Prosecutor’s Office (SAPO)

**4. Feedback from the participants**

Most of the participants provided positive feedback on the training, stating that the content was highly informative and insightful, and that they hoped to apply what they had learned to their future work. On the other hand, due to time constraints and because the number of questions directed to each lecturer was very high, we sometimes had to limit the number of questions. As a result, some participants expressed a desire for more time to ask questions. We appreciate these constructive comments and intend to make use of them in planning future training programmes.

**5. Comments from the Programming Officer**

Strengthening anti-corruption measures has been a long-standing and urgent challenge for Ukraine. It is also critically important for its recovery and reconstruction following Russia’s aggression. Among various anti-corruption efforts, enhancing

investigative capacity is particularly essential, as it is one of the most effective means to combat corruption. In particular, financial investigation is an indispensable tool for proving corruption and misconduct, and it underpins transparency and accountability. However, actual investigations are never straightforward. Criminals try every possible method to prevent investigative authorities from discovering their illicit proceeds. With the development of advanced technologies and the emergence of crypto assets, methods for storing, concealing, transferring, and laundering criminal proceeds have become increasingly sophisticated, making them even more difficult for investigators to trace. To counter these challenges, investigative authorities must continuously update their investigative methods and make the best use of the new technologies. This training programme was therefore designed and conducted with these evolving challenges in mind.

This visit was also an occasion to recall that, even though investigative techniques continue to evolve, the fundamental principle underlying investigations remains unchanged: carrying out each investigative step lawfully, meticulously and without compromise. One participant's comment was particularly impressive in this regard — "I realized that great results can be achieved if we make the same precise and accurate investigative efforts as in Japan".

Furthermore, in combating corruption and striving for its eradication, fostering a culture of lawfulness is just as important as developing systems, laws and practices. Governments establish and organize legal frameworks, institutions and implementation bodies; anti-corruption agencies, police and prosecutors enforce these laws; fair and consistent law enforcement fosters public trust in legal institutions; and as a result, citizens become more willing to raise their voice against corruption. Through this cycle of interaction, trust in laws and institutions is strengthened, and social norms that reject corruption are gradually built. Although this is not something that can be achieved overnight, it is hoped that the visit prompted the participants to reflect once again on their missions and responsibility and renewed their commitment to achieving this goal.

Ukraine continues to face extremely difficult circumstances. The programming officer would like to express his sincere respect to all participants for their tireless efforts in carrying out their daily duties to eradicate corruption despite such difficult circumstances. He would also like to take this opportunity to reiterate his gratitude to all the participants for taking part in this visit under such difficult conditions. It is his sincere hope that the insights gained through this visit will contribute to strengthening anti-corruption measures in Ukraine. UNAFEI will continue to support Ukraine in close cooperation with UNODC, building on the synergy between our organizations.