

WWF-Norway Fraud Report, 2018

In 2018 the WWF Network continued the work with prevention of fraud and corruption, ensuring both that leaders emphasise zero tolerance, and also in confirming a continued awareness among all staff. This work is firmly rooted in the longstanding Code of Conduct of the WWF Network.

During 2018 the issue of sexual harassment has arisen very strongly within development aid organisations, and WWF-Norway already has this issue clearly included in our Code of Ethics, and also undertook a reminder for all staff on this topic.

Fraud and corruption are serious topics in WWF. The negative consequences are extensive and usually affect the people WWF cooperate with and their natural resources. Economic crime of this type also entails misuse of resources set aside for conservation work. WWF-Norway is committed to transparency, and in line with our Code of Ethics, this annual report details the cases involving either WWF-Norway directly, or funds that WWF-Norway has provided, either from the Norwegian government or funds raised from the public.

In the case below, the investigations identified areas for improvement in WWF's and/or partners internal controls and accounting procedures, and these have been or are currently being implemented. Since WWF operate with natural resource management issues in countries where corruption is often commonplace, WWF will continue to develop its anti-corruption systems and practices.

The 2018 report details the cases that were dealt with during the year.

Cases concluded in 2018 – fraud detected

Not applicable.

Cases concluded in 2018 – fraud/corruption not detected

In late 2017 allegations were made by a whistleblower that a staff member in the WWF DRC Country Office was abusing their position in relation to their work with CSO partners, for personal gain. Following a thorough investigation, no evidence was found of fraud or corruption, though some areas for improvements were identified for internal controls and procedures.

Investigations ongoing at end 2018 – conclusions pending

No cases pending at end 2018.