



TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL
INTEGRITY, INDEPENDENCE AND
ACCOUNTABILITY IN JUDICIARY
Programme powered by TI Romania

Programme for Integrity, Independence and Accountability in Judiciary

Chapters' experience

TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL ROMÂNIA

Transparency International is a global movement with one vision: a world in which government, business, civil society and the daily lives of people are free of corruption. Through more than 100 chapters worldwide and an international secretariat in Berlin, we are leading the fight against corruption to turn this vision into reality.

Programme for Integrity, Independence and Accountability in Judiciary (IIAJ) is a Global Thematic Network Initiative of Transparency International, led by Transparency International Romania on behalf of the movement.

We aim that independent and accountable judiciaries around the world, committed to integrity, ensure the effective and impartial interpretation and application of anti-corruption laws and standards.

To achieve this, we will work with a diverse spectrum of judicial actors and stakeholders, and mobilize people to collectively calling for an empowered yet accountable judiciary, as a key prerequisite for reducing impunity for corruption.

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OUR WORK ON JUDICIARY

What's at stake?

Either comprising only judges, or both judges, prosecutors and other officials, judiciary is perceived in most of the countries as the last remedy to inequalities, human rights violations and abuses against the most vulnerable.

But when judicial independence hides political interests or corruption, it ruins people's lives and undermines democracy and rule of law.

To ensure a fair adjudication of each and every case, judiciary has to be independent, accountable and act with integrity.

What we're doing about it

WE ENCOURAGE PEOPLE AND PRACTITIONERS TO DEMAND INDEPENDENCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY OF THE JUDICIARY

We have identified 40 international documents setting over 110 standards and requirements for an independent, accountable and acting with integrity judiciary, and compiled them into a comprehensive document. We published the practical guide in August 2015 to serve as a reference framework to judicial officials and decision makers for consolidating integrity, where require. National civil society and international partners can equally use them as benchmarks against which to keep judiciaries accountable.

WE ENGAGE JUSTICES INTO MAKING NEW EVIDENCE AND PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS AVAILABLE

We have identified two typologies in judiciary's failures to ensure justice for all. Those generated by systemic vulnerabilities that allow corruption to affect judiciary itself, and legal and practical gaps or loopholes that hinder the normal flow of corruption cases through prosecution and adjudication, leaving the afflicted with no answer.

To enhance knowledge, national research is undertaken to engage practitioners into identifying specific causes and formulate appropriate redress from inside the system. We look towards peer to peer engagement to enhance trust in judiciary and improve its performance.

WE INFLUENCE POLICY

Build on the existing and newly available knowledge we work together with our international, regional and national partners to scale up on the governments' and donors' agenda the importance of independent and accountable judiciaries to safeguard human rights, rule of law and democracy, and to curb corruption.

Who's involved

- The TI Integrity, Independence and Accountability of the Judiciary Initiative (TI Judiciary Initiative) is led, on behalf of the movement, by TI Romania who has played over the last 15 years a “constructively critical” role by pointing out weaknesses as well as pro-actively identifying potential solutions and developing instruments to help remedy the judicial vulnerabilities at national and regional level.
- The Initiative works with the TI-Secretariat, a network of 10 core chapters from all the regions and an advisory board of reputable TI and non-TI international experts to advocate for an independent and free of corruption judiciary, through new partnerships and new tools made available.
- We work with TI Chapters and other international partners and build of the existing initiatives, such as the Grand Corruption Campaign of TI; the IBA Judicial Integrity Initiative, the Judicial Integrity Group or the Anticorruption Programme of UNDP, the Rule of Law Unit of OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights or the International Commission of Jurists to make judicial corruption a business case for practitioners, citizens and decision makers
- We provide timely and tailored answers to judiciary-related queries from Transparency International's movement as well as our international partners.
- We work with judicial officials, encouraging them to stand for the integrity of the judiciary and to demand for a change of attitude and practice from within the system
- We work with civil society, anti-corruption and human rights defenders, think-tanks and grass roots organizations to make public scrutiny of the judiciary accessible to citizens and local communities.

Our approach

Corruption undermines justice and ruins lives in many parts of the world. However, we believe that engaging a diverse spectrum of actors – judicial practitioners, decision makers, international donors, civil society, the business community and regular citizens – to demand an independent and honest judiciary, we can break this vicious circle.

To build functioning judiciaries that can effectively limit the devastating impact of corruption a change of attitude and practice is needed. To achieve a sense of achievability and urgency:

- **We make new evidence and solutions available** by facilitating the mapping, analysing and reporting of systemic failures that compromise the integrity, independence and accountability of the judiciary. This enhanced knowledge and new evidence will enable the proposal and adoption of concrete solutions that strengthen the integrity, independence and accountability of the judiciary.
- **We encourage donors and other international stakeholders'** to allocate financial and technical aid to justice sector reforms.
- **We support national governments, policy makers, key stakeholders within the judicial sector and relevant oversight agencies** to adopt, monitor and enforce anti-corruption laws, standards and procedures

- **We “translating” findings** that can at first appear technical and complicated – **making them accessible** to the public and a wider range of stakeholders.
- **We mobilize civil society organizations** such as TI in representing their society’s interest by both acting as a watchdog and engaging as a ‘critical friend’.
- **We provide citizens** with the adequate channels to hold the judiciary accountable for delivering justice and for sanctioning the corrupt.

Timeline and results

- August 2015: Launch of the Enhancing Judiciary’s Ability Corruption – a practical guide: <https://www.transparency.org.ro/JudiciaryRaport.pdf>
- 4th September 2015: participation to the Expert Meeting on Promoting Integrity in the Criminal Justice Chain organized by UNDP in Putrajaya Malaysia, and contributing to the report *A Transparent and Accountable Judiciary to Deliver Justice for All*: <http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/democratic-governance/a-transparent-and-accountable-judiciary-to-deliver-justice-for-a.html>
- 1st October 2015: participation to the Norway Grants Expert seminar, Norwegian Courts Administration, October 1st 2015
- 14 and 15 December 2015: *2015 Geneva Forum of Judges and Lawyers*, organized by the International Commission of Jurists: <http://www.icj.org/judicial-accountability-2015-geneva-forum-of-judges-lawyers/>
- 19-20 April 2016: participation to the Fighting the Hidden Tariff: Global Trade Without Corruption - New Horizons in Anti-Corruption: *A Policy Symposium in preparation for the London 2016 Anti-Corruption Summit* https://www.oecd.org/cleangovbiz/2016-Integrity-Forum_Agenda.pdf
- 20 April 2016: Meeting of the *OGP Anti-Corruption Working Group (ACWG)*: <http://www.opengovpartnership.org/workplan-1>
- May 2016: review of the *Judicial systems and Corruption* – a Typologies Report of the International Bar Association Judicial Integrity Initiative and Basel Institute on Governance: <http://www.ibanet.org/Document/Default.aspx?DocumentUid=f856e657-a4fc-4783-806e-6aac6895d37f>.
- 12-13 July 2016: participation to the Consultative Workshop *Civil Society’s Role in Strengthening Judicial Independence and Accountability*, organized by OSCE in Tbilisi; report to be launched

CHAPTERS' EXPERIENCE IN JUDICIARY RELATED PROJECTS

TI BOSNIA- HERZEGOVINA

Title of the project

Judiciary and Prosecution of Corruption

Scale of the project

national

Project webpage

<https://ti-bih.org/pravosude-i-procesuiranje-korupcije/?lang=en>

Project summary

Since 2010, Transparency International BiH has been implementing project activities aimed at monitoring the work of judiciary in Bosnia and Herzegovina. TI BiH monitors prosecution of criminal offences, that are classified as corruption offences according to applicable legal framework, criminal offences against an official or other responsible person.

TI BiH performs analysis and creates reports in which it presents statistical data on the work of judiciary and prosecutor's offices at all levels of the government in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The statistical data refer to the total number of treated criminal charges, conducted investigations and indictments, as well as court decisions in cases of corruption.

The value of undertaken activities lies in the fact that after expiration of certain period of time the treatment of the perpetrators and their criminal offences is observed, and in very precise, balanced and objective way it is pointed out to some problems which the competent judicial authorities have to face in order to improve their effectiveness in combating corruption offences.

TI CZECH REPUBLIC

Title of the project

<https://www.transparency.cz/co-delame/temata/nezavisle-a-duveryhodne-statni-zastupitel>

Scale of the project

national

Project webpage

<https://www.transparency.cz/co-delame/temata/nezavisle-a-duveryhodne-statni-zastupitel>

Project summary

The situation around the prosecutor's office is most excessive, we are entering a crucial phase of what form will the new law on public prosecution,

Whether to include a guarantee of independent, unbiased and responsible position while the prosecutor. In the past, we have witnessed the fact that sophisticated corruption was not investigated at all, or the investigation came to nothing. Prosecutors need a new law on the prosecution to be less dependent on political power and thus more capable of dealing with cases of serious corruption and organized crime.

Objectives:

Our goal is quality Prosecution Act, which will contain:

- Defining the conditions for intervening in specific things (rules for granting and refusing instructions).
- Creation of a specialized unit to fight corruption and serious economic crime
- Clear personnel policies, which include the definition of the rules for filling positions of senior prosecutors (including the Supreme Public Prosecutor) at a predetermined term and establish rules for their dismissal during the tenure
- Legislative developments surrounding the Act on the State Attorney's Office will continue to monitor closely.

TI GEORGIA

Title of the project

Court Monitoring Report

Scale of the project

national

Project webpage

http://www.transparency.ge/sites/default/files/post_attachments/Court%20Monitoring%20Repor%20%20ENG.pdf

Project summary

Project summary: This is TI Georgia's second report on administrative court hearings. This report includes court monitoring data from administrative proceedings in the first instance courts in Tbilisi, Batumi, Gori, Telavi and Khelvachauri. A total of 282 hearings in 142 cases were observed. Observations from hearings in cases that commanded high public interest are discussed separately from the more routine cases monitored by TI Georgia.

TI Georgia monitored the court administration and judges across a number of specific criteria, including: reasonable time and punctuality of the hearings, protection of the right to a public hearing, due regard to the procedural handling of the hearing, use of inquisitorial principle, and the observance of equality of arms.

TI Georgia did not attempt to determine the merits of the administrative cases monitored, nor did it review the case files. Therefore, we are not in the position to judge the fairness or legality of the decisions made by the judges. Yet the extremely high success rate of state parties in administrative court cases raises concern that judges might be biased in favor of the state when rendering final decisions.

Objectives

- TI Georgia's court monitoring project aims to facilitate the transparency, efficiency and accessibility of Georgia's justice system in the area of administrative law.
- The cases for monitoring were selected according to the official schedule published on the web-pages of the relevant courts, with the exception of KDC which did not have an official web-page.

Our monitors also randomly attended hearings when the clerks announced the start of hearings in the corridors of the court buildings, or when the size of the crowd outside a courtroom and the presence of journalists indicated that there was a high-profile case under discussion; these were also cases broadly discussed throughout media. In order to collect information on the scheduled cases,

TI Georgia's monitors were also in regular contact with the assistants of judges, bailiffs, court administrative staff, the parties and their representatives. Collecting information from diverse sources was particularly useful given the fact that the hearings of most of the high-profile cases monitored were not published on the official schedule of courts.

TI Georgia believes that the unusually high success rate of the state party in administrative cases may impede the development of Georgia's judicial system in general, and the application of the essential principle of adversary trial and party equality in particular. Also, this report has identified flaws in the court system, such as that judges tended to differentiate between ordinary and high-profile cases by favoring the government and limiting citizens' right to a public hearing in cases of significant public interest.

TI KYRGYZSTAN

Title of the project

Assessment of corruption in the judicial system of Kyrgyzstan

Scale of the project

national

Project webpage

<http://en.transparency.kg/dejatelnost-centra/proekty/zavershennyye-proekty.html>

Project summary

As part of the program to strengthen the judicial system in Kyrgyzstan, USAID and the IDLO, it was decided to conduct a study of the current state of corruption in the judicial system of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Objectives

- Assessment of the extent of corruption in the judicial system;
- Definition and analysis of the causes and systemic factors leading to corruption in the system of the CD proceedings;
- Making recommendations for the prevention of corruption in the courts and reduce its level and proposals on the main provisions of the draft Guidelines on judicial ethics and professional responsibility.

Title of the project

Judicial system monitoring project

Scale of the project

national

Project webpage

<http://en.transparency.kg/dejatelnost-centra/proekty/zavershennyye-proekty.html>

Project summary

Purpose of the project: holding of free and democratic elections in the Kyrgyz Republic by ensuring fair legal proceedings in the defense of the violated electoral rights of citizens, as well as raising public awareness of violations and abuses taking place in the court proceedings.

TI LATVIA

Title of the project

Supervision of law enforcement bodies and reinforcement of the rule of law

Scale of the project

national

Project webpage

<http://delna.lv/en/fields-of-action/supervision-and-reinforcement-of-the-rule-of-law/>

Project summary

Delna has organised initiatives aimed at raising the capacity of law enforcement bodies; implemented supervisory and preventive measures, as well as other indicators corresponding to the goals of specific projects.

At present, Delna has the highest level of competence and experience in observing and evaluating the work of the Corruption Prevention and Combating Bureau (KNAB). In future, Delna's competence must also be strengthened in other realms of law enforcement. The quality and speed of investigations, pressing of charges and conducting of trials are vital to reducing impunity. Therefore, it is in this area that Delna must develop its knowledge, attract public attention and bring about the necessary improvements.

Objectives

Delna's realm of activity encompasses the following goals:

- To improve the quality of criminal investigations, particularly within investigative bodies;
- To ensure that the Prosecutor's Office and courts explain their decisions to society under the legislative framework;
- To achieve closer collaboration with the Ministry of the Interior in reducing corruption within the system of home affairs;
- To improve supervision of money laundering and anti-terrorism, and legislative regulation thereof;
- To improve the work of the courts and to lobby for the accountability of judges for ensuring open courts free of corruption, concurrently respecting the rights and interests of the parties to the proceedings;
- To achieve the publication on the Internet of all court rulings that have been announced in open trials;
- To achieve publication of the names of defendants found guilty after court rulings that have come into force in regard to all published court rulings for criminal proceedings that have been announced in open trials.

Activities

- To support the renewal of the effective work of the KNAB under the leadership of a capable director.
- To prepare a proposal for the future development of the KNAB.
- To support the KNAB's anti-corruption initiatives.
- To educate the public about the vital importance of the work of a useful and effective KNAB to the reinforcement of national security.

TI PALESTINE

Title of the project

Enhancing the effectiveness and independent of the judiciary authority

Scale of the project

national

Project webpage

<https://www.aman-palestine.org/en/projects/535.html>

Project summary

This program is aimed at advocating and consolidating the values of integrity, transparency and accountability in the Palestinian public labor sectors in order to build a national culture of anti-corruption and a system for national integrity.

The project is based on AMAN's conviction of the importance of judicial independence, which is guaranteed by article 97 in the Basic Law as well as articles 75 and 76 which define the relationship between the executive and judicial authorities.

Objectives: Consolidate the principles of the rule of law and judicial independence in accordance with articles 97 and 98 of the Palestinian Basic Law.

On 5 May 2010, AMAN held a workshop for 4th year university (senior) law students at the An-Najah University. The workshop was attended by 22 students and dealt with the code of conduct-blog related to the judiciary, and legislation and mechanisms of combating corruption. The students and the university administration lauded the role of the AMAN coalition in raising the awareness of the Palestinian public about the importance of getting involved in combating corruption, cooperating with civil and academic organizations and joining efforts in order to reach the goal of a society without corruption.

Title of the project

Enhancing Integrity, Transparency and Accountability in the Palestinian Society

Scale of the project

national

Project webpage

<https://www.aman-palestine.org/en/main-program/about-main-program>

Project summary

Based on findings of many of AMAN's research and assessment studies and opinion polls conducted related to corruption in Palestine, as well as the dynamic external and internal environments, the needs of all stakeholders, lessons learnt and challenges present,

AMAN developed its strategic plan (2013-2015). The core program heavily draws from this strategy and is in alignment with the national anti-corruption plan, and that of the international community specifically those with agenda's of promoting good governance, rule of law, anti-corruption and concepts of integrity, transparency and accountability.

AMAN will continue throughout this phase building on partnerships, coalitions, think tanks, and empowering Palestinians to combat corruption. It will always build relationships that are based on mutual respect bringing down defensiveness of certain target groups and engaging them actively in the national efforts of promoting integrity, towards building a national integrity system and combating corruption.

Palestine is no exception to corruption for the enablers of that are many including the Israeli occupation, an internal division, poverty, incoming donor funds, unstable political and economic systems as well as underdeveloped judicial, and legislative systems. The Coalition for Accountability and Integrity (AMAN) agrees with many who have extensive experience in combating corruption, that such an effort must be a parallel process of bottom-up and top-down. Furthermore, AMAN believes in creating a large popular platform for supporting national efforts in promoting values of integrity and principles of transparency and systems of accountability (ITA); combating corruption and towards building a national integrity system. In turn all these efforts should increase the stability of the country and legitimacy of the reconstruction process, leading to increased social, economic, and political development of Palestinians and rationalization of government expenses.

Main Objective: This phase of AMAN's work (2013-2016) aims to contribute to the building of an effective national integrity system as a preventive strategy for combating corruption.

Specific Objectives:

- increasing the participation of Palestinian citizens and civil society organizations in national efforts to promote integrity and combating corruption.
- activating the role of the media in securing the topics of integrity and combating corruption on the agendas of relevant institutions.
- promoting a work environment for local council bodies that would to prevent proliferation of corruption and help expose it.
- promoting a work environment in public institutions that would prevent proliferation of corruption and help to expose it.
- improving AMAN's performance towards achieving its mission.

AMAN aims to continue its work in Phase V based on recommendations from AMAN's strategy review, past achievements, lessons learned from past phases all of which were implemented with funding from the Dutch, Norwegian and Luxembourg governments over the past years.

TI SLOVAKIA

Title of the project

Open Courts

Scale of the project

national

Project webpage

<http://www.transparency.sk/en/otvorene-sudy/>

Project summary

The ultimate goal is to make judiciary more accountable through people engagement, decrease politicization, impunity and increase trust in the judiciary. According to the latest Eurobarometer poll, only 29% of respondents trust Slovak judges (nothing unusual in many weaker democracies of the world). In fact, judges are far less accountable to the public than politicians or government employees, because for the former the power of FOI is often undermined by privacy and right to fair trial considerations.

To achieve this, TI Slovakia in cooperation with Pavol Zbell and Samuel Molnar will create a website Open Courts which will provide

a) improved access to judicial information;

We believe that the more people can identify individual judges' work (as opposed to often used "all judges are so corrupt..."), the better can the society differentiate between well- and badly performing judges. Moreover, the public will be able to understand judges' work better.

b) provide some rudimentary comparison of judicial performance of the individual courts and justices based on statistical analysis.

Improved access will be provided by advanced, speedy and up-to-date search in rulings and proceedings.

TI VENEZUELA

Title of the project

Suprema Injusticia

Scale of the project

national

Project webpage

<https://supremainjusticia.org/>

Project summary

Suprema Injusticia highlights the arguments and decisions of a growing number of judgments of the highest instance in Venezuelan justice, which violate – in various forms – fundamental rights, conventions signed and ratified by Venezuela, and the Constitution.

In Venezuela, the analysis of judgments and legal opinions of the judicial system shows increasing weakness of its independence and constitutional autonomy from a powerful National Executive Branch.

The judgments of the Supreme Court, dominated by ruling party interests, have taken a toll on Venezuelan democracy, undermining the rights of all citizens. Therefore, a group of civil society organisations decided to launch this digital project called “Supreme Injustice,” in order to draw attention to the deviations of the judiciary and promote a debate to help improve justice in Venezuela.

TI HONDURAS

Title of the project

Peace and Justice

Scale of the project

national

Project webpage

http://asjhonduras.com/cms/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=80&Itemid=85

Project summary

Extortion, robbery, rape, assault and murder at the hands of local gangs and others are the order of the day in Honduras. However, most of the victims of these crimes never report, being this a difficulty for the total compliance of the law in the country. Thoroughly investigate crimes, through a close relationship with victims and witnesses through legal strategies plans. Help the police successfully carry out the detention of offenders by working with trusted officials. The Peace and Justice Project has lawyers and investigators to be bridges between law enforcement and communities, compensating for deficiencies in the police and prosecutors' abilities, bearing in mind that crimes can be extensively corrected through legal means .

TI LITHUANIA

Title of the project

Atvirasteismas

Scale of the project

national

Project webpage

<http://www.transparency.lt/atvirasteismas/>

Project summary

Atvirasteismas.lt - is "Transparency International" Lithuanian Chapter (TI) initiative, in cooperation with the National Courts Administration. The aim is to help Lithuanian citizens easier to understand how to work in our cities and districts of courts and judges. Atvirasteismas.lt is one of the first initiatives of this kind in the world. A few years ago in Slovakia Transparency International Slovakia Division has developed a website (Lith. "Open courts"), which allows to see which court or judge examines one or the other case.

Using www.atvirasteismas.lt, visitors can examine and compare the courts and judges' workloads, the number of resolved cases, the duration of cases, work experience of the judges, annual budgets of the courts, and find contact and personal information of courts and judges they are interested in.

TI COLOMBIA

Title of the project

Election Visible

Scale of the project

national

Project webpage

<http://eleccionvisible.com/>

Project summary

ELECTION VISIBLE is a coalition of nine (9) civil society organizations, which was created in 2008 to follow up on the nomination and election processes of judges of the High Courts and other high dignitaries of justice, advocating:

- By incorporating the highest standards of transparency in these processes, taking into account the need for the administration of justice to be conducted by the best people bringing together outstanding human and professional qualities.
- Through processes of accompaniment and observation independent of the government, the Judicial Branch, political parties and private interests.

The coalition recognizes the importance of citizen participation and the media in the monitoring of these processes and that is why, through this portal and the releases that it periodically issues, it opens the spaces that the public requires to find out, to know, follow closely and pronounce on the processes, within the stages that concern each one of them.

TI HUNGARY

TI Hungary in 2012 organised a conference on integrity in cooperation with the State Prosecutor's office.

TI BANGLADESH

TI Bangladesh has used report cards to assess citizen satisfaction with court services, and has advocated for corruption complaints box to be present in the office of Supreme Court Registrar.

TI GUATEMALA

Following engagement by **TI Guatemala** (Acción Ciudadana), the Guatemalan Ministry of Justice pledged to create specific mechanisms for investigating corruption and introduced its first formal complaint procedure for citizens who experience abuses within the judiciary.

TI JAMAICA

TI Chapters in **Honduras** and **Jamaica** have conducted training with prosecutors on anticorruption legislation.

TI ZIMBABWE

In collaboration with the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ), **TI Zimbabwe** organized two workshops in 2013 that provided a space for discussion on best practices in the judicial system.

TI CHILE

A Judiciary Project in **Chile** supports the strengthening of transparency, accountability, and integrity in the Judiciary; in 2013, a consultancy project funded by the Institutional Development Fund (IDF) identified related gaps and made recommendations to the judiciary.

GLOBAL INITIATIVES WITHIN TI MOVEMENT

ADVOCACY AND LEGAL ADVICE CENTRES (ALAC)

Partners

TI ALBANIA, TI ARGENTINA, TI ARMENIA, TI AZERBAIJAN, BOSNIA&HERZIGOVINA, TI BULGARIA, TI CAMEROON, TI CROATIA, TI CZECH REPUBLIC, TI EL SAVADOR, TI ETHIOPIA, TI FIJI, TI GEORGIA, TI GHANA, TI GUATEMLA, TI HAITI, TI HONDURAS, TI HUNGARY, TI INDIA, TI ITALY, TI IRELAND, TI KENYA, TI KOSOVO, TI LATVIA, TI LEBANON, TI LIBERIA, TI MACEDONIA, TI MADAGASCAR, TI MAURITIUS, TI MOLDOVA, TI MONTENEGRO, TI MOROCCO, TI NEPAL, TI NICARAGUA, TI PAKISTAN, TI PALESTINE, TI PANAMA, TI PAPUA NEW GUINEA, TI ROMANIA, TI RUSSIA, TI RWANDA, TI SERBIA, TI SOLOMON ISLANDS, TI SRI LANKA, TI TURKEY, TI VANUATU, TI VENEZUELA, TI ZAMBIA, TI ZIMBABWE.

Scale of the programme

global

Project webpage

<http://www.transparency.org/getinvolved/report/>

Project summary

Transparency International's Advocacy and Legal Advice Centres (ALACs) provide free and confidential legal advice to witnesses and victims of corruption.

Aim: Offering a simple, credible and viable mechanism for citizens to pursue their corruption-related complaints, ALACs empower citizens in the fight against corruption. ALACs also play a critical role identifying corruption hotspots that demand reform or official action.

Expected impact: Harnessing the powerful, real life data gathered by ALACs on the consequences and mechanisms of corruption, Transparency International chapters engage in strategic advocacy to bring about systemic change in public policy and practice.

NATIONAL INTEGRITY SYSTEMS

Partners

TI BANGLADESH, TI MALDIVES, TI NEPAL, TI PAKISTAN, TI SRI LANKA, TI BELGIUM, TI BULGARIA, TI CZECH REPUBLIC, TI DENMARK, TI ESTONIA, TI FINLAND, TI FRANCE, TI GERMANY, TI GREECE, TI HUNGARY, TI IRELAND, TI ITALY, TI LATVIA, TI LITHUANIA, TI NETHERLANDS, TI NORWAY, TI POLAND, TI PORTUGAL, TI ROMANIA, TI SLOVAKIA, TI SLOVENIA, TI SPAIN, TI SWEDEN, TI SWITZERLAND, TI UK.

Scale of the programme

Global

Project webpage

<http://www.transparency.org/whatwedo/nis/>

Project summary

The National Integrity System (NIS) comprises the principle governance institutions in a country that are responsible for the fight against corruption. When these governance institutions function properly, they constitute a healthy and robust National Integrity System, one that is effective in combating corruption as part of the larger struggle against abuse of power, malfeasance and misappropriation in all its forms. However, when these institutions are characterised by a lack of appropriate regulations and by unaccountable behaviour, corruption is likely to thrive, with negative ripple effects for the societal goals of equitable growth, sustainable development and social cohesion. Therefore, strengthening the NIS promotes better governance in a country, and, ultimately, contributes to a more just society overall.

Objectives

The NIS is based on a holistic approach to preventing corruption, since it looks at the entire range of relevant institutions and also focuses on the relationships among them. Thus, the NIS presupposes that a lack of integrity in a single institution would lead to serious flaws in the entire integrity system. As a consequence, the NIS assessment does not seek to offer an indepth evaluation of each pillar, but rather puts an emphasis on covering all relevant pillars and at assessing their inter-linkages.

Project activities

Project Planning

Familiarizing with NIS research process & outputs

Data Collection

Drafting NIS report

Scoring NIS Indicators

Convening NIS workshop

Publishing NIS country report

Transforming NIS recommendations into a strategic action plan

Project outcomes

Across the wider TI movement, this country-level anti-corruption work can promote an active and change-oriented culture that brings people together in a powerful coalition to end the devastating impact of corruption. As actions produce results, it would be highly useful to the wider TI movement if these action plans, experiences and outcomes are shared through the chapterzone and with TI-S.

Impact: Through the process of doing the NIS assessment, the national chapter has compiled strong and compelling evidence about corruption in the country. Making sure that high quality research and policy analysis are at the root of all actions and advocacy efforts can help make a decisive change for the better. By communicating well and persistently on the issues in the NIS assessment, and by being agile in the short-term and constant in the long-term, the national chapter can make a huge difference in bettering the quality of governance.



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**TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL
INTEGRITY, INDEPENDENCE AND
ACCOUNTABILITY IN JUDICIARY**

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