Strengthening Institutions of Governance and Service Delivery to Entrench Transparency and Accountability

On the eve of Kenya’s March 2013 elections, popular Kenyan performers deliver a message to Mombasa youth on the importance of electing leaders with integrity who will serve them with loyalty and uphold the mandates of the new constitution.

Funding Level:
US $643,558

Duration:
October 2011 – October 2014

Activity Goal:
- Advance the implementation of anti-corruption reform and increase participation in the anti-corruption agenda

Activity Accomplishments:
- Conducted an audit of the implementation of Independent Review of Elections Commission Report, also known as the Kriegler Commission Report
  - The audit found that most of the commission’s recommendations had been implemented - including constitutional, legal and policy interventions
- Supported a more effective policy and legal framework resulting in the investigation of a number of corruption cases and recovery of public resources
  - Members of Parliament are constitutionally required to pay taxes and cannot exempt themselves from this responsibility. Some are paying tax while others are yet to pay.
- Enabled leadership and integrity to become a primary agenda in the governance sector

ACTIVITY OVERVIEW

Strengthening Institutions of Governance and Service Delivery to Entrench Transparency and Accountability advances the implementation of anti-corruption reforms enumerated by the new Kenyan Constitution. The activity increases participation of anti-corruption stakeholders in Kenya by promoting policy advocacy, research and documentation, and networking among like-minded organizations and state institutions.

ACTIVITY AREAS

The activity conducts research, including institutional systems and practices audits, and systematic monitoring of the performance of key institutions. Central to the activity’s research work is an annual East African Bribery Index, which documents citizens’ experiences with corruption. Research findings are widely disseminated through stakeholder organizations, the mass media, and social media.

The activity supports coalitions of organizations with knowledge and skills training workshops, targeted advocacy forums, information exchange, technical debate forums, public advocacy and public awareness raising forums. Through structured, issue-based networking and collaboration with other actors, the activity facilitates advocacy for social and legal change.

The activity facilitates increased citizen involvement in community-level integrity monitoring. This improves the responsiveness of public policy processes and public service delivery institutions, such as water, education, health and sanitation sectors.

ACTIVITY IMPACT

USAID-supported Transparency International Kenya is encouraging Kenyans to partner with the government to reduce corruption, with the understanding that it takes two parties to continue the practice of bribes. To gauge the current status of corruption in Kenya, Transparency International recently released its East Africa Bribery Index 2013. The index ranked five indicators: likelihood, prevalence, average size of bribe, share of national bribe, and perceived impact for 10 different public sectors, including: police, city and local councils, land
Key Partners:  

Activity Location:  
Nationwide

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services, judiciary, education and more.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Bribery aggregate (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>26.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Burundi</td>
<td>18.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>12.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>7.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Rwanda</td>
<td>4.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comparison by likelihood - East Africa

Of the 2,245 Kenyan respondents, 36% said they have paid bribes to speed up service and 26% said they have paid bribes because it was the only way to access service. Respondents said they entered into bribery discussion most often with registry and licensing services, but that they actually paid more bribes to the police. The index also revealed some promising statistics, such as the below graph that highlights the likelihood of paying a bribe in East Africa. Kenya ranks 4th among its East African neighbors, meaning one is less likely to pay a bribe in Kenya than in Uganda, Burundi and Tanzania.

USAID contributes to an anti-corruption ethos in Kenya by strengthening legislation and developing tools such as the East Africa Bribery Index.

Public participation is essential to advancing the anti-corruption agenda in Kenya.