Democracy and Governance

Contact Us:

Sharon Van Pelt
Practice Director
202.524.7616
svanpelt@chemonics.com

Susan Kemp
Practice Manager
202.465.3675
skemp@chemonics.com

Bertrand Mpigabahizi
Practice Associate
202.955.7509
bmpigabahizi@chemonics.com

Anti-Corruption

Our approach to preventing corruption, which spans all our programming, involves supporting educational efforts, government transparency, public reforms, and national anti-corruption strategies. To carry out these activities, we partner with government, civil society, media outlets, and international organizations. By analyzing political contexts to understand capacity, structural gaps, and political will, Chemonics can design anti-corruption projects that address demand and supply needs and strengthen political will in order to combat corruption.

The programs described below illustrate our experience and expertise in combatting corruption in democracy and governance programs.

Project Examples

Tanzania Capacity Development for Partners of Accountability (Pamoja Twajenga)

The Pamoja Twajenga ("Together We Build") program works with selected civil society organizations (CSOs) and Tanzanian government Institutions of Accountability to engage in sustainable, issue-based dialogue. In this way, citizens — including youth, women, and disenfranchised populations — are empowered to hold their governments accountable, increasing responsiveness and making public resource management and decision-making more transparent. For example, the Public Procurement Regulatory Authority held issue-based dialogues with 28 regional CSOs to educate the public on the authority's mandate to police and strengthen the procurement system. The discussion revealed that the current lack of citizen engagement was the direct result of minimal local awareness. To combat this, Pamoja Twajenga has worked with the Public Procurement Regulatory Authority to develop a grassroots monitoring guide to help citizens more effectively monitor the use of public resources, increase transparency, and curb corruption in public procurement.

Ukraine Fair, Accountable, Independent, and Responsible Judiciary Program (FAIR)

The FAIR program supports legislative, regulatory, and institutional reform of judicial institutions to create a more accountable and independent justice sector. The project promotes reforms to the legislative and regulatory framework that comply with European and international norms. It also helps key judicial institutions adopt more objective, transparent, and standardized procedures. The FAIR program has a large education and awareness component that works to improve the skills of judges and court staff and ensure that members of civil society have the knowledge and opportunities to engage with the judiciary. The project has promoted 11 legislative amendments to enhance judicial independence, provided programming to 46 CSOs, and had engaged 12,790 citizens in monitoring and oversight of court performance as of March 2016.

CHEMONICS

Millennium Challenge Corporation Albania Threshold Phase II Program (MCCA II)

MCCA II and its predecessor, the Millennium Challenge Albania Threshold Agreement project, partnered with the Albanian government to reduce corruption by reforming public procurement, tax administration, and business registration. Project staff developed an e-government portal, e-Albania, through which the public can file taxes, register businesses, and submit proposals for public procurement tenders. Through the portal, interested bidders can download these documents from the Internet anonymously and at no cost. This process has reduced opportunities for public officials to demand bribes. The second phase of the project expanded e-services to business licensing, urban planning and special permits, and administrative courts.

Indonesia Control of Corruption Project (ICCP)

ICCP's goal was to help the Indonesian government put systems and practices in place to combat corruption in the executive and judicial branches and to help the country qualify for Millennium Challenge Corporation compact status. As a result of the project's efforts, the Supreme Court posts its decisions online. In addition, to better equip the country's Financial Intelligence Unit to combat money laundering and financial crimes, the project team partnered with the government to lead a campaign about using branding to differentiate registered money changers from illegal ones, enabling consumers to know where to change money legally. A series of workshops called "Know Your Customer," designed to complement the campaign, trained money changers to identify suspicious transactions and report them to a bank.

Kazakhstan Judicial Assistance Project (KJAP)

The main objective of KJAP was to introduce video court recording to increase judicial transparency around case records, thereby promoting accountability and reducing opportunities for corruption. The project piloted the technology in the Bostandyk District Court in Almaty, using cameras and microphones to provide a verbatim case record. This pilot case laid the groundwork for findings that unrecorded cases are twice as likely to be appealed as recorded cases and that participants in recorded cases are less likely to file complaints regarding protocol. Furthermore, judges and lawyers are better prepared and act more appropriately when they know trials will be recorded, and participants are more confident of impartiality in the proceedings. During the project's final two years, program staff installed video recording systems in 39 additional courts across Kazakhstan to strengthen transparency and curb corruption.