

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

The Australian Agency for International Development and Transparency International

May 2012

Introduction

1. The Australian Government's aid policy, released in 2011, makes effective governance one of five strategic goals of the aid program and emphasises the importance of tackling corruption to improve governance. Corruption undermines efforts to lift people out of poverty. It diverts funds from services and undermines investor confidence, which is critical for creating jobs. The Australian Government is committed to working with its partners to support efforts to tackle corruption, improve transparency and accountability, and advance human rights.
2. Transparency International's Strategy 2015 identifies 6 strategic priorities for the Transparency International (TI) movement: increased empowerment of people to take action against corruption; improved implementation of anti-corruption programs in leading institutions; more effective enforcement of laws and standards and reduced impunity for corrupt acts; higher levels of integrity, especially youth and those in leadership positions; strengthened ability for the TI movement to work together; and enhance its responsiveness, presence, performance and impact.
3. TI has been a key partner to the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) in shaping the international anti-corruption agenda since 2004.
4. In May 2009, AusAID and TI agreed on a strategic partnership to fight against corruption in the Asia Pacific region.
5. In line with the Asia Pacific Partnership Framework, in March 2011, AusAID committed \$7.2 million to TI Asia Pacific over 3 years (2011-14). This funding enables TI Asia Pacific to build and strengthen its regional Asia Pacific network. A further \$1 million in funding was also provided to support the *Citizen Engagement Against Corruption* program in South Asia.

Purpose

6. The purpose of this agreement is to broaden the cooperation between AusAID and TI to a global scale, and strengthen both AusAID's and TI's effectiveness in fighting corruption.

Shared Strategic Goals

7. AusAID and TI will work together to:
 - a. Identify common objectives and opportunities for cooperation;
 - b. Increase exchange of knowledge and expertise on anti-corruption issues;

- c. Strengthen the capacity of civil society to engage as key anti-corruption stakeholders and support their participation in anti-corruption forums;
- d. Engage people to increase demand for greater transparency and accountability, particularly youth and young leaders;
- e. Help build awareness of anti-corruption efforts based on solid research and evidence of the costs of corruption;
- f. Change the drivers and incentives that encourage corruption by creating a stronger demand for transparency and good governance;
- g. Develop frameworks to analyse and monitor corruption and tools to help combat it;
- h. Develop ways of measuring the effectiveness of anti-corruption programs;
- i. Tackle new and emerging corruption issues; and
- j. Support specific sectors of common interest in the fight against corruption.

Skills, Attributes and Strengths

- 8. AusAID and TI are committed to reducing corruption and bring different skills, attributes and strengths to the Partnership.
- 9. AusAID's strengths lie in:
 - a. The provision of development policy advice drawing on a deep knowledge and understanding of developing countries;
 - b. Management of Australian development cooperation programs focused on achieving growth, stability and effective governance;
 - c. Knowledge of the social, economic and political context in developing countries;
 - d. Well-established networks and relationships with partner governments and other key partners, including membership of international initiatives and organisations; and
 - e. A strong focus on aid effectiveness and development outcomes.
- 10. TI's strengths lie in:
 - a. Its reputation as a leader in the global fight against corruption, and its influence on the international anti-corruption agenda through participation in key international, regional and national forums;
 - b. The breadth of TI networks with over 100 independent TI Chapters throughout the world and links to numerous civil society organisations;
 - c. Expertise in the diagnostics of corruption and the development of anti-corruption approaches and solutions;
 - d. Ability to improve access to justice for victims of corruption and monitor trends in corruption incidence; and
 - e. Expertise in raising awareness and advocating for reform.

Partnership Principles

11. The partnership will be governed by the following principles:
 - a. The relationship will be one of equal partnership;
 - b. The partnership will be underpinned by mutual respect and cooperation;
 - c. AusAID and TI will consult and collaborate on issues of shared interest, respecting the other's decision-making processes and confidentiality requirements; and,
 - d. AusAID and TI will consider, in good faith, requests for support or cooperation.

Coordination Arrangements

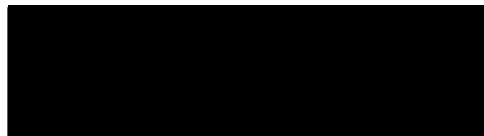
12. The Strategic Partnership will be maintained by the Assistant Director General of AusAID's Governance and Social Development Branch and the Group Director for TI's Network, Chapters and Programs.
13. Dialogue and collaboration will continue between officers responsible for program management as needed.
14. AusAID and TI will hold regular high level meetings to review progress and arrangements under the partnership, discuss ways for achieving shared strategic goals and set priorities for cooperation.
15. Dialogue at senior and operational levels will identify opportunities for broader cooperation, including the deepening of staff links through exchanges or collaborative work processes.

Other

16. The *Partnership Framework in Anti-Corruption between AusAID and Transparency International Asia Pacific Department December 2008* will cease to have effect on commencement of this Strategic Partnership Agreement.
17. The partnership will be for a period of 5 years unless terminated by written notice by either party.
18. Nothing in this agreement prevents either party from establishing relationships with other groups.



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International Development



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Transparency International

Date 24 May 2012

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