

Author's Note

The first version of this Source Book established the concept of the “national integrity system” in the vocabulary of anti-corruption activists throughout the world. In defining this framework, the Source Book advocates the need to adopt an holistic approach to any anti-corruption reform programme. It also recognises that every society, in whatever stage of development, has evolved a series of institutions and practices that collectively serve as its national integrity system. Few have been consciously developed as such – and most will be in need of repair. Country “Integrity System Audits” are now being developed by Transparency International to this end.

The ultimate goal of establishing a national integrity system is to make corruption a “high risk” and “low return” undertaking. The priority should be to minimise the possibilities for corruption occurring in the first place, but in ways that do not impose unwarranted costs or needless restrictions that might obstruct people from doing their jobs effectively. The quest for integrity ought not to render government dysfunctional.

The first section of the Source Book looks at the challenges and sets out the concept of the national integrity system, providing the framework within which the various approaches to salient issues are discussed.

The second section deals with the institutional “pillars” of the national integrity system, and examines them in terms of their roles and the necessary preconditions of independence and accessibility that enable them to discharge their functions effectively. The “pillars” are not limited to the official structures of the state. They include the media, the private sector and civil society. Any functioning integrity system must be rooted in the broad field of public attitudes and expectations. It has to be able to contend with the activities of the general public (both as a source condonation of corrupt practices, and as a giver of bribes).

The third section looks at the “tools” – the rules and practices which the “institutional pillars” need to have at their disposal. It discusses not only bureaucratic practices and the enforcement of laws, but also the need for more broadly based reforms. Each institutional “pillar” has critical requirements, and these are discussed in turn.

A fourth section gives a short overview of the lessons learned to date in the global fight against corruption. A fifth section provides a compilation of emerging “best practice”. This is too bulky to permit full text publication in paper form. Instead, it is being made available on the TI web site and on CD-ROM. The compilation is being added to continuously, as best practice continues to evolve.

In addition, a number of specialist studies have been prepared and these, too, are being made available in full on the web. They will be added to progressively as the project proceeds.

As the initiative is rapidly gaining ground, and the concept is being progressively redefined and

applied, this book deals with Transparency International's "Integrity Pact" only in general terms. Detailed briefings on this particular development are being given through the TI web site.

The book is being placed in full on the TI web site (<http://www.transparency.org>) where it will be kept under continuous review as a "living" electronic "book". Those wishing to keep abreast of developments should register with the TI web site so that they are advised by email when changes and additions are made.

The reaction to the first TI Source Book has been so positive, that the task of completely rewriting and further developing the original would have been an intimidating task but for the help received from a number of those active within the TI movement. These include (in no particular order) Angela Gorta, Barbara Hayman, Bertrand de Speville, Charles Sampford, D.J.D. Macdonald, Dani Kaufmann, Denis Fitzgerald, Drew McKay, Frank Vogl, Gerry Parfit, Gesner José de Olivera Filho, Guy Dehn, Hansjorg Elshorst, Howard Whitton, Inese Voika, Jeffry Tan, Jim Wesberry, John Feneley, John Githongo, Jude Carey, Justice Michael Kirby, K. Gopakumar, Kevin Ford, K.P. Joseph, Kim Barata, Lance Lindblom, Mark Pieth, Michael Hershman, Michael Lippe, Michael Waller, Michael Wiehen, Murray Petrie, Nancy Zucker, Olusegun Obasanjo, Pam Nadarasa, Peter Eigen, Peter Rooke, Petter Langseth, Piers Cain, Pushpa Nair, Richard Allen, Ross Jones, Sir John Robertson and Tunku Aziz. Anne Lyons prepared the index. The staff of the Berlin, Washington and London offices responded to many and varied queries, whether for documents or for experience in the field and Nihal Jayawickrama prepared the "Best Practice" summaries. Shahzrad Sedigh again edited the manuscript and Czeslaw Doniewski exercised infinite patience in putting the final work together. There are others too numerous to list here, and I can only hope that they are adequately acknowledged in the text.

The illustration is by Daniela Bigošová (17) from Spiske Podhradie, who is a student at a High School in Levoca, Slovakia. It was a prize-winning entry in a competition organised by TI-Slovakia for young students to portray "Transparency, morals, ethics – how I see it". The winning posters are being used as the symbol of the National Programme for the Fight against Corruption in Slovakia.

I must again record my gratitude to Susan Rose-Ackerman, the founder of the recent political-economic literature on corruption, who with infinite patience helped see the original edition through from vague outline to finality. Fritz Heimann has also been a staunch ally throughout.

The Ford Foundation, who have encouraged the project from the outset in 1995, was again instrumental in making this further development possible through its generous financing.

Many have assisted, but I must bear sole responsibility for all expressions of opinion.

Jeremy Pope
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