



TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL

Transparency International is a non-governmental organisation dedicated to increasing government accountability and curbing both international and national corruption. We are the only global non-profit and politically non-partisan movement with an exclusive focus on corruption.

Our movement has multiple concerns: humanitarian, as corruption undermines and distorts development; ethical, as corruption undermines a society's integrity; and practical, as corruption distorts the operations of markets and deprives ordinary people of the benefits which should flow from them.

"Corruption has been globalised as an accepted tool of business; the fight against corruption must be globalised as well. If the people do not act to preserve their democracy, if they lack civic virtue and commitment to their government, then democracy will fall prey to the vulture of corruption ..."

*Nobel Peace Laureate Oscar
Arias Sanchez, Costa Rica*

To learn more ...

... about how you can become involved, please either contact the National Chapter in your country, or the International Secretariat in Berlin. All National Chapter addresses are listed on our Home Page at <http://www.transparency.de>. Our quarterly Newsletters and full details of all who finance our movement can also be seen there.



TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL

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Chairman of the Board
Dr. Peter Eigen
Chairman of the Advisory Council
Olusegun Obasanjo

National contact:

"Corruption will never be entirely eliminated, but it is no longer naive to believe that something can be done about it."

International Herald Tribune

Building public awareness

We make full use of modern communication tools to give access to an exploding body of research and analysis on corruption and governance. We maintain one of the world's leading databases on corruption. Our corruption index has become a prime focus for public awareness.

"Access to information is one of the bulwarks of a free democracy."

James Madison

Building national integrity systems

We focus on building an awareness that simply strengthening prosecution and judicial powers cannot by itself curtail corruption. The whole national integrity system needs to be viewed holistically. Our National Integrity Source Book, in most major languages, provides a framework. A standard reference point for reformers around the globe, it describes practical steps that can be taken in each sector of society and contains a vast best practice documentation. It is available at <http://www.transparency.de>

"By raising public awareness of the problem of corruption Transparency International has broken a taboo..."

The Economist

Building an international framework

Corruption often transcends the national level. Accordingly, combating corruption is often beyond the reach of national governments alone. This is increasingly acknowledged by key international actors. Working closely with a growing number of international organisations now starting to address the issue, we play a catalytic role in defining and implementing the international agenda against corruption.

Why fight corruption ?

Corruption hurts everyone. It deepens poverty. It distorts social and economic development, it erodes the provision of essential public services and it undermines democracy. Instead of fair competition based on price, quality and innovation corruption leads to competitive bribery. This harms trade and deters new investment.

"... Corruption - as practised by exporters from the North as well as by officials in the South - has perverted positive aspects of age old African tradition..."

*Olusegun Obasanjo,
former President of Nigeria*

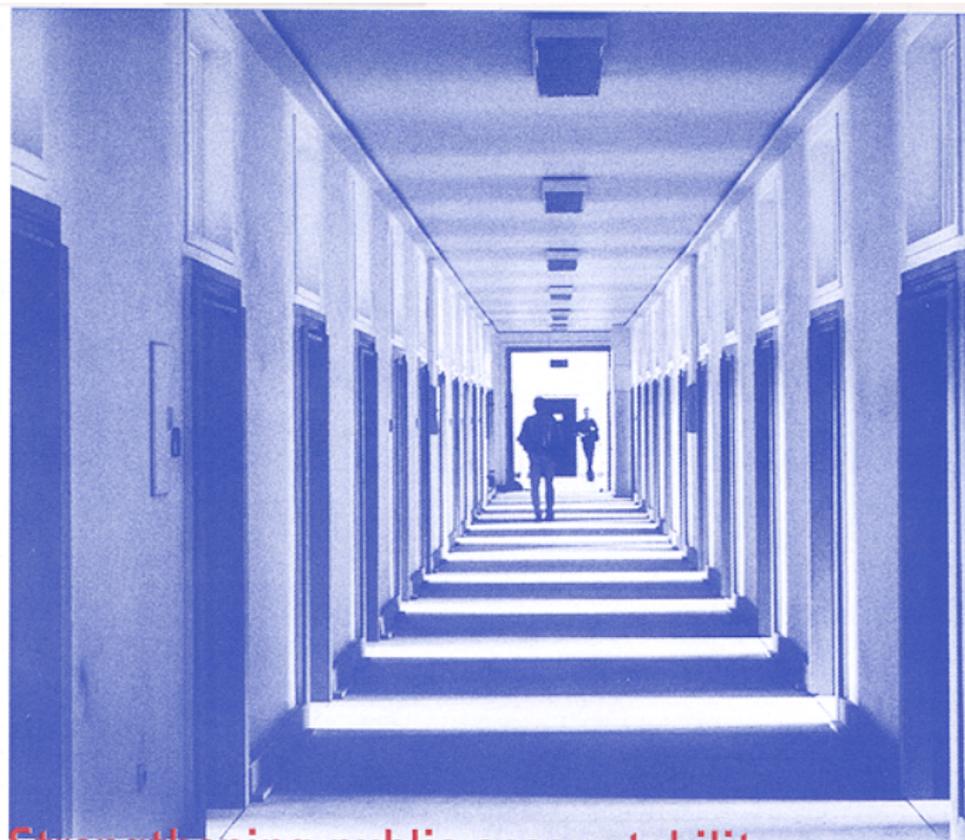
Our agenda

Combating corruption sustainably is only possible with the involvement of all the stakeholders which include the state, civil society and the private sector. History proves that government cannot tackle corruption effectively on its own.

Through our National Chapters we bring together people of integrity in civil society, business and government to work as coalitions for systemic reforms. We do not "name names" or attack individuals, but focus on building systems that combat corruption.

"Corruption, by definition, is exclusive: it promotes the interests of the few over the many. We must fight it wherever we find it."

*World Bank President
James Wolfensohn*



Strengthening public accountability

How is Transparency International organised ?

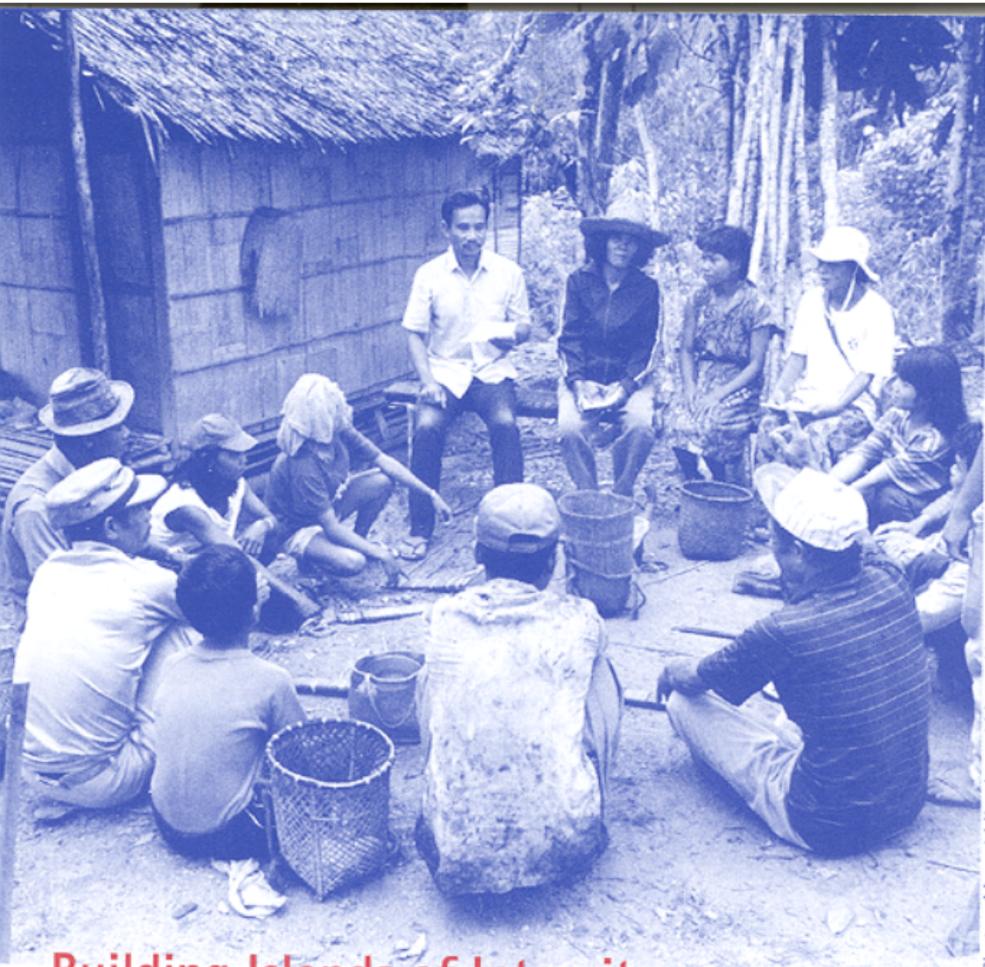
Founded in 1993, Transparency International is active in more than 70 countries and in the international arena. A small secretariat in Berlin co-ordinates and supports our international movement.

What is the role of National Chapters ?

Our National Chapters form the core of the global anti-corruption movement - they are actively developing new and original national anti-corruption strategies and monitoring national developments. National Chapters are financially and institutionally independent but observe our guiding principles of non-investigative work and independence from government, commercial and partisan political interests. Elected leaders of National Chapters have a key role in electing the Board of Directors which serves as the governing body of Transparency International.

"The OECD treaty requiring all signatories to ban international bribery was a victory for Transparency International."

The Washington Post



Photos: Marcel Minnee and Marco Limberg, Xpress

Building Islands of Integrity

How you can support Transparency International ...

Membership of Transparency International is open to all individuals and organisations of integrity. You can become a member of the National Chapter of your country or help to establish one where none already exists.

We count on a network of volunteers all over the world contributing time, energy and dedication to our cause. Volunteers work closely with their National Chapters or with the International Secretariat.

"Among a people generally corrupt, liberty cannot long exist."

Edmund Burke