CSOs' Role in Monitoring and Tackling Corruption

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Effects from the CSOs' monitoring

- Transparency (open data)
- Accountability for promises made
- Responsibility from the government
- The monitoring and control improve the quality of public policies
- It allows wider participation
- Instrument for agreement between all stakeholders
- Supports the building of strategic vision

CSOs' role: Monitoring anticorruption policies and legislation at all levels

Macro level policies

Principles of governance

Monitored by CSOs' analysis (e.g. SELDI CMS; RAI's methodology, etc.)

National policies

Standards for operation of the administration and strategies

Monitored by CSOs' analysis (e.g. SELDI CMS; CSD's indicators for evaluation of Anti-Corruption Strategies)

Policies/measures at public organization level

General and specific rules for operation in concrete insituations

Monitored by CSOs' analysis of the anti-corruption procedure at organizational level (e.g. CSD's MACPI tool)

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CSOs' challenges

- inadequate human resources;
- financial weakness;
- poor management and strategic planning;
- lack of information on national policies;
- low levels of analytical capacity;
- low levels of knowledge on using technical instruments useful for monitoring and/or analysis;
- weak public and constituency support;
- ineffective and unsustainable networks;
- lack of recognition by the public institutions;
- risk of capture.

Enhancing CSOs capacity to tackle corruption

- Identifying and collaborating with CSOs and policy-makers: (a) institutional development; (b) organisational development; (c) initiating a 'quick scan' for potential partners. (http://www.againstcorruption.eu/?post_type=projects or http://www.againstcorruption.eu/anti-corruption-projects/anti_corruption_toolbox/

- Increasing transparency, accountability and legitimacy (be in touch with *Transparify*). Challenges: absence of mandatory transparency procedures; ineffective compliance with financial regulations; lack of an auditing culture; low level of self-regulation and coordination of efforts.

- Synergies and collaboration between CSOs: use 'chains of influence' and the general public getting the message across; use joint networking, lobbying, campaigning (visuals), education and awareness raising

- Working with investigative journalists and having a successful social media presence: share powerful but short quotes or relevant statistics; capture the right moment to present new information

Involvement with international and European initiatives

CSOs can:

- contribute by sending recommendations and comments to the EU accession process reports (chapters 23 and 24)

- perform monitoring of the implementation process of the United Nations Convention against Corruption – UNCAC (see Using the UN Convention against Corruption to Advance Anti-corruption Efforts: A Guide).

- join the initiatives under the Governance Pillar of the SEE2020 Strategy

- work with other international stakeholders active in the region, such as UNODC, UNDP, OSCE (Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe), etc.

Assessment of the public policies

- **Assessment of the process and its content** – does the AC programme/strategy functions as planned?

- **Cost-benefit analysis** – efficiency of the AC measures and recommendations for better alternatives

- **Assessment of the results** – quality; unexpected effects

- **Impact assessment** – if the programme did not exist?

- **Social analysis** of the concerned groups

Make a "Business" Plan

1. Target groups (customers / beneficiaries of the anti-corruption initiatives' products and services)	Government bodies	CSOs and associations Researchers and their respective educational institutions Businesses and the private sector
2. Product description	SELDI CMS, surveys, reports, specific analysis, policy recommendations, forums, website and social media, newsletter, press releases and media notes	Future/Prospective products -e.g. measuring the corruption risks at individual institution's level -awards for investigative journalists -building open format databases relating to understudied/ under-tackled sectors
3.Partnership / synergies for joint action	List any partners / similar projects	…
4. Financial description	Financial assistance for continuation of the activities or development of new ones can be sought by international and private donors	Possible methods of funding or engagement Fees? donation program , part time engagement, volunteers
5. Risks		

Match target groups, their interests and needs

Government bodies

- Anti-corruption and prevention of conflict of interest commissions
- Ministries / Agencies
- The judiciary and prosecution
- Financial Supervision Commissions and Protection of Competition Commissions
- Tax, revenue, labour, health, energy, water and other inspectorates
- Financial police

CSOs and associations, including

- Community-serving – foundations; think-tanks or policy institutes; charitable organizations; environmental, vulnerable groups protection
- Member-serving - Business, sports, etc.
- Defined by geographical coverage

Researchers and their respective educational institutions

Businesses and the private sector

The media

Possible future activities

- measuring the corruption risks at individual institution's level
- custom made corruption risk analyses
- corruption media monitoring
- consultancy and support to grassroot CSOs for preparation of project applications
- access to statistical databases, including the SELDI corruption survey data
- anti-corruption manuals and handbooks (developed in-house, or adopted from partners' initiatives and translated into local language)
- update and reprint the partners' or external materials
- corruption proofing of legislation
- collaboration with, and/or awards for investigative journalists
- building open format databases relating to understudied/ under-tackled sectors (IT, energy, etc.)
- hotline / forwarding corruption cases to the authorities

Possible methods and sources of funding or engagement

Method

grants or tenders by donors

annual/monthly membership fee from:

- network internal (members of the initiative) / network external (other organizations and contributors)
- organizational / individual (including students)

donation program

part time engagement on voluntary basis

Source

international and EU donors

government

businesses and corporations

foundations/other CSOs

individuals

Risks

- lack of private sector financial capacity
- lack of private donations tradition in the poorest region in Europe
- political antagonism, deterring donations and other forms of support
- civil society and media capture (government friendly media and CSOs)
- fear of consequences and usage of the findings for political purposes
- low capacity to mobilize and train human resources
- lack of information (access to databases or policy documents)

Thank you !

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