

TI IPP STRONGG IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Good Governance and Access to Justice in PNG

Started in 1997, Transparency International Papua New Guinea (TI PNG) is part of the Transparency International global coalition against corruption. The TI Movement brings together chapters operating in more than 100 countries worldwide with an international Secretariat based in Berlin, working towards a shared vision: a world free of corruption.

With support from the *TI Indo-Pacific Partnership for Strong, Transparent, Responsive & Open Networks for Good Governance (TI IPP STRONGG) 2020 – 2023*, TI PNG aims to build a strong coalition against corruption by bringing together voices of anti-corruption actors from across the country. Through the *Coalition Engagement for Good Governance and Access to Justice* project, the chapter sheds light on corruption issues and seeks to improve citizens access to justice, and their understanding of key legislation and policies. The programme also supports the chapter's overall [2019-2023 strategy](#) by providing access to core funding.

Project At A Glance

- Topics of focus:
Leading a strong civil society voice to promote good governance and advocate for effective anti-corruption frameworks.
- Project timeframe:
1 February 2020 – 31 December 2023
- Locations & project outreach:
Across the country, in both urban and rural areas.
- Budget: 511,000 EUR



TI PNG conducts awareness raising and outreach activities / Picture: © Transparency International PNG

BACKGROUND

Due to widespread corruption, governance issues, and lack of political integrity, Papua New Guinea's score in [Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index \(CPI\)](#) has remained stagnant in the past years (28 in 2016, 2018, and 2019). 'Petty' corruption prevents citizens from accessing public services in a fair and transparent manner and corruption at the top has so far prevailed. The election of a new Prime Minister in 2019 brought some hope for change as James Marape's government has presented anti-corruption efforts as one of his top priorities. TI PNG continues to advocate for the passing of RTI laws and the introduction of an independent Information Commission for which promising measures have been taken.



Youths participating in TI PNG's 2019 Mike Manning Youth Democracy Camp / Picture: © Transparency International PNG

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Objectives

1. Increase citizen's awareness and engagement on corruption, and improve understanding of the functions of state agencies.
2. Strengthen multi-sectoral coalitions against corruption.
3. Strengthen the chapter's foundations to enhance its voice, agency, and access.

Main Activities

Activities under this project include:

- Providing **free legal advice** to victims and witnesses of corruption through TI PNG's Advocacy and Legal Advice Centre (ALAC). As part of an internship program launched by the chapter, students will provide support on ALAC activities.
- Organising a **Biennial Anti-corruption Exhibition** to provide an avenue for state agencies and anti-corruption actors to showcase their work and raise citizens' awareness of their services.
- Reinvigorating the **Community Coalition Against Corruption** to mobilize and collectively campaign on corruption-related issues.
- Facilitating input into **international governance platforms**, including the Open Government Partnership and the PNG Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative.
- Enhancing TI PNG's capacity, sustainability, brand, and partnerships in line with the **chapter's overall strategy**.

TI PNG's response to the COVID crisis

In the current pandemic context, TI PNG's ALAC services include the provision of free legal advice to citizens on COVID-related complaints. ALAC services are being targeted at relevant sectors, including healthcare, public administration and sub-national governments.

The chapter has also been working on a State of Emergency (SOE) COVID Transparency Campaign, lobbying Parliament to report on the use of COVID Aid received.