

TI IPP STRONGG IN AUSTRALIA

Accountable Infrastructure in Indo-Pacific

Established in 1995, Transparency International Australia (TI Australia) 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 Australia aims to identify and address corruption risks in the infrastructure sector in the Indo-Pacific region through the development of tools and advocacy strategies under the *Accountable Infrastructure* project. Building on expertise, networks and partnerships established under other initiatives, including the *Accountable Mining Programme*, TI Australia intends to use its advocacy expertise and capacity to advocate for transparency, and accountability in infrastructure decision making processes and encourage the participation of women and vulnerable communities in decision making.

Project At A Glance

- Topic of focus:
Infrastructure Sector Accountability
- Project timeframe:
1 August 2020 – 31 December 2022
- Locations & project outreach:
The project is led by TI Australia and engages with stakeholders from across the Indo-Pacific region.
The Infrastructure Corruption Risk Assessment Tool (ICRAT) will be piloted in the Solomon Islands.
- Budget: 161,958 EUR



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BACKGROUND

Across the Indo-Pacific region, countries are making little progress in tackling corruption, as confirmed by [Transparency International's 2020 Corruption Perception Index \(CPI\)](#). Corruption is prevalent across most sectors in the Indo-Pacific region, and particularly in infrastructure and mining, two sectors that are closely linked, and will lead Australia's COVID-19 economic recovery in the Indo-Pacific region (e.g. [AIFFP Policy Framework, DFAT development assistance in the Pacific](#)). TI Australia aims to address the lack of existing analysis of corruption risks in the infrastructure sector in the region to enhance understanding of these risks, advocate for strengthened governance frameworks and hold decision makers accountable.



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PROJECT OVERVIEW

Objectives

1. Increasing citizen and civil society organisation participation in infrastructure governance processes in the Indo-Pacific.
2. Increasing government capacity to ensure adequate checks and balances on infrastructure projects in at least one Indo-Pacific country.
3. Increasing capacity of the infrastructure industry to adopt and champion business integrity.

Main Activities

Activities under this project include:

- Developing an **Infrastructure Corruption Risk Assessment Tool (ICRAT)**. This will contribute to increased understanding of corruption risks in planning and design processes for infrastructure projects. The tool will also help to identify the gendered impact of these risks. Civil society will be provided with guidance on how to engage government and industry stakeholders to determine the source and level of exposure to corruption risks in the sector.
- Building and engaging **multi-stakeholder national and regional networks** on transparency in infrastructure projects, including civil society organisations, key government institutions, and infrastructure industry stakeholders.
- Providing tailored training, as well as research and advocacy **support to TI Solomon Islands as the chapter pilots the ICRAT**. The tool will be used to identify where corruption risks exist in Solomon Islands' infrastructure project planning, design and implementation processes. Evidence will then be used to call for strengthened oversight, transparency and accountability of infrastructure projects at a national level.

TI Australia's response to the COVID crisis

Infrastructure and construction sectors are central to key to government stimulus packages being developed in the post-COVID context. The Accountable Infrastructure project will help to ensure public funds and project approval processes are managed with transparency and accountability.