

GENERAL INFORMATION

Title of Consultancy: Scoping Study Outlining Grand Corruption in the Land Sector

Application Closing Date: 19 July 2024

Consultancy Start and End Date: 1 August-30 September 2024

Location of Consultancy: Remote/ no travel is required.

BACKGROUND

Transparency International (TI) is the global civil society organisation leading the fight against corruption. Through more than 100 chapters worldwide and an international secretariat in Berlin, Germany, TI raises awareness of the damaging effects of corruption and works with partners in government, business, and civil society to develop and implement effective measures to tackle it.

Grand corruption is the abuse of high-level power that benefits the few at the expense of the many. It involves high-level officials and their associates and family members, is carried out on a large scale with complete impunity and causes serious and widespread harm.¹ Despite the gravity of the crimes, the perpetrators' power often enables them to escape accountability. Much of the focus on grand corruption in the anti-corruption sector has looked at corruption involving financial flows. However, in many cases public assets such as land, are captured by political elites. Corruption perpetrated by high-level government actors and national elites is common in the governance and management of land and involves land as a resource. Despite the far-reaching consequences of grand corruption in land, it is not being effectively or systematically addressed by either the anti-corruption community or land governance professionals.

The Transparency International Secretariat (TI-S) is looking for a consultant specialized in land governance to develop a 20–30-page scoping study to document how grand corruption manifests in the governance of land. The study should look at how the allocation and management of land can be used by political elites to achieve their private interests; the particularities of the land sector that make it distinct from other sectors in terms of both dynamics and impact; and what existing anti-corruption and land governance approaches/best practices can be harnessed and/or adapted to fight grand corruption in the land sector.

OBJECTIVES

The main objective of this consultancy is to support TI-S to identify how grand corruption affects the land sector, and which are its main manifestations. To achieve this objective, two specific goals have been defined:

- 1) Develop a clear framing of grand corruption in the land sector which examples of the specific pressure points and corruption risks, and how this intersects or differs from broader corrupt practices in the allocation of resources.
- 2) Identify concrete approaches for tackling grand corruption in the land sector as well as specific best practices from the land governance and anti-corruption communities.

To this effect, the research is expected to:

- Identify vulnerabilities/characteristics of the land sector and land policy/regulation that create opportunities for grand corruption.
- Identify specific aspects of the allocation of land and related concessions that are vulnerable to high-level corruption.
- Identify common high-level corrupt practices in the land sector which can be illustrated further by 2-3 case studies.
- Identify anti-corruption approaches that are being utilised to address grand corruption in the land sector or that **could** be utilised to address corruption in the land sector. Assess the degree

¹ Source: 2023-Working-paper-Tackling-grand-corruption-impunity.pdf (transparencycdn.org)

to which such anti-corruption approaches (and related tools) may be adapted to meet the specific challenges in land governance corrupt practices. This can include prevention approaches, follow-the-money approaches, beneficial ownership transparency, asset declaration laws, conflict of interest laws, risk assessments, etc.

- Identify in 2/3 case studies best/successful practices at the national level to address grand corruption in the governance and management of land.

The research should build on existing resources and research including Transparency International's [written submission](#) to the UNCAC on land corruption and the [FAO report on tackling land corruption by political elites](#).

Research Methodology:

The research should be partly desk-based, with a literature review of existing data sources, and partly empirical, with a series of semi-structured interviews with experts. The consultant and TI-S will work together to identify a list of relevant experts, which will include experts from the land governance and anti-corruption fields. The consultant will also work to identify 2-3 case studies that illustrate impact, risks and best practices by working with TI-S, experts and with TI national chapters.

Based on these interviews and the review, the consultant will put forward a proposed outline for the study. The report will be drafted with feedback from TI-S and potentially partners. In accordance with TI policy, all research should clearly indicate and acknowledge all sources used and the reader should be able to trace the source of information in footnotes and bibliography.

The timeline is envisioned as follows:

- Step 1: Scoping exercise/literature review & interview guide development (Weeks 1-2)
- Step 2: Data collection including key informant interviews, identification of case studies (Weeks 3-4)
- Step 3: Final document outline and case studies (Week 5)
- Step 4: Development of first draft (Weeks 6-7)
- Step 5: Development of final draft based on feedback (Week 8)

EXPECTED DELIVERABLES AND TIMELINE

The expected deliverables are set out below:

- Proposed methodology for approaching the work incl. interview guide, general outline of the report (deadline August 15)
- Final document outline including case studies (deadline Aug 30)
- First draft of the report, not exceeding 30 pages including footnotes, in a style appropriate for the audience of policy makers, civil society practitioners, and the donor community (deadline Sept 13)
- A final report within two weeks after receiving and incorporating feedback on draft report. The report should follow TI's style guidelines which will be provided at the start of the consultancy (deadline Sept 27)

Please note that this timeline is tentative and can be revised once a research consultant has been selected and a research plan has been drawn up.

All presentations and reports are to be submitted in English, in electronic form, in accordance with the deadlines stipulated above. The Consultant is responsible for editing and quality control of language. TI-S retains the sole rights with respect to all distribution, dissemination and publication of the deliverables.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The Consultant should have the following qualifications:

- Expertise in the fields of land governance and/or anti-corruption with significant proven experience producing research reports and policy recommendations on the topic.
- Demonstrated experience with both qualitative and quantitative research methods.
- Wide experience of working with clients in civil society and particularly advocacy-oriented NGOs.
- Excellent writing and presentation skills in English.
- Ability to operate under strict time limits and apply high production and technical standards for the purpose of maintaining a high level of professionalism.

REMUNERATION AND COSTS

The consultant should provide their estimated total fee as a lump sum or as standard daily or hourly rates as gross inclusive of taxes and other charges, as well as the number of estimated days to complete the consultancy.

For candidates based in the EU, EEA, UK, and Switzerland

Transparency International e.V. is registered as a Business Entity in Germany with VAT identification number DE273612486. EU reverse charge applies. Service providers should issue invoices with zero VAT.

Candidates who are based in Germany and do not charge German VAT must confirm their small entrepreneur status.

How to apply

Applications should be sent in English by e-mail to the TI-S Land team at landcorruptiontender@transparency.org by close of business of **19 July**. Please indicate “Grand corruption in land governance research consultancy” in the subject line of your email application.

The application should include the following documents in English, saved in one PDF:

- A short letter describing motivation and qualifications for the assignment.
- A brief overview of how the work will be approached, suggested timeline, methods, a sample literature list and key methodological considerations.
- A cost estimate of the above-mentioned services and outputs in euros.
- Curriculum vitae of key personnel involved in undertaking the assignment.
- 2-3 samples of relevant research (confidentiality guaranteed).
- References from two previous consultancy clients whom TI could contact.

Please note that only shortlisted applicants will be contacted and that it is unfortunately not possible to provide individual feedback on applications.

TI-S is committed to creating an inclusive work environment where diversity is valued and where there is equality of opportunity. We actively seek a diverse applicant pool and therefore welcome applications from qualified candidates of all regions, countries, cultures, and backgrounds.

Selection of candidates is made on a competitive basis, and we do not discriminate on the basis of national origin, race, colour or ethnic background, religious belief, sex, gender identity and expression or sexual orientation, marital or family status, age or ability. We kindly ask applicants to refrain from including in their application information relating to the above as well as from attaching photos.

DATA PROTECTION

When you respond to this tender and submit your application, you provide consent that Transparency International e. V. keeps your application materials for the period of ten years according to German legal requirements. Afterwards Transparency International will delete your application and any personal data included in it. If you have any questions, please reach out to dataprotection@transparency.org.