

## **ORGANIZATIONAL BACKGROUND**

Transparency International Sierra Leone formerly the National Accountability Group started as a taskforce of seven committed Sierra Leoneans who participated in the Transparency International Anti-Corruption Conference in Prague, Czech Republic in 2001. In July 2004, the organization was reorganized into an independent organization called National Accountability Group. In 2010 it was fully accredited as the Sierra Leone National Chapter of Transparency International.

**Our Vision:** To have a country in which the Government, the business community, civil society and the daily lives of the people are free from corruption and its negative effects.

**Our Missions:** To empower the citizenry of Sierra Leone through education, participation and opportunities to demand accountability, transparency and integrity from government, private sector and civil society, and inculcate these values themselves to curb corruption, promote good governance to improve the lives of the people.

Since its establishment in 2004, Transparency International Sierra Leone (TISL) formally National Accountability Group (NAG) has been working assiduously to contribute to Sierra Leone's national development efforts. Specifically, TISL has been engaged in budget, and procurement related programmes, geared towards strengthening systems and capacities of wide range of local councils, related government institutions and stakeholders to enhance effective service delivery that is characterized by values of integrity, accountability and transparency to ensure an effective and sustainable national development effort. With the reintroduction of the local governance and decentralization process in Sierra Leone in 2004, Transparency International Sierra Leone (TI-SL) was concerned about the government's inability to effectively control corruption at national level, it would be very difficult for the local councils to be any less corrupt. With the lack of accountability and participatory decision-making processes in the local councils, especially with the broad mandate given to them to levy and collect taxes, there is a fear that the decentralisation process will succeed only to decentralise corruption. The low level of local council performance in this regard has left service delivery very minimal. Revenues collected as tax, licences, market dues and other fees are hardly accounted for with little or no development to show for it. In view of this TISL has been working with local councils, Parliamentarians and local communities to promote democracy, good governance, transparency and accountability. TI-SL had worked

with local communities to set up Community Monitoring Teams to monitor procurement contract award processes and their implementation by local councils and their contractors. Owing to this experience and collaboration with public institution, TISL was invited by the National Public Procurement Authority (NPPA) to serve in the high level panel that reviewed the National Public Procurement Act of 2000. TISL also serves in national platforms like the Open Government Partnership Steering Committee, the National Anti-Corruption Strategy Steering Committees, the Strategic Management Committee of the National Elections Watch that promotes democracy, integrity, accountability, transparency and citizens' participation.

### **Core Values**

- **Integrity**
- **Accountability**
- **Transparency**
- **Commitment**
- **Comportment**
- **Impartiality**
- **Courage**

### **Aims and Objectives:**

TISL is an independent Non-Governmental Organisation with a focus on anti-corruption issues. TISL's objectives are to:

- a. Educate and raise public awareness of key stakeholders in Sierra Leone to understand corruption issues and their negative impact on the society;
- b. Build/strengthen the capacity public officials, civil society, the media and general public to understand the dynamics of corruption issues to enable them take appropriate measures to curb it;

- c. Provide adequate and credible evidence on corruption issues within the public and private sector;
- d. Develop advocacy tools for the elimination of the factors that lead to corruption, impropriety and injustice;
- e. Facilitate opportunities for specific vulnerable groups/victims of corruption to overcome their predicament.
- f. Foster linkages and partnerships with national, sub regional and intergovernmental stakeholders whose aims and objectives are inconsonance with those of the Transparency International Sierra Leone and the Transparency International Movement.

### **Key achievements of TI-SL**

- a. In the events leading to Sierra Leone's 2007 Presidential and Parliamentary elections, TI-SL formerly NAG successfully implemented public awareness activities to enable citizens make informed choices of contestants/candidate for political offices based on their credibility, integrity and track record on community development initiatives in their localities;
- b. It also supported the enactment of the 2008 Anti-Corruption Bill through Focused Group meetings and advocacy and strategic engagements with a number of stakeholders including Members of Parliament and Civil Society Organizations in Sierra Leone;
- c. It engaged extensively in activities to promote the effectiveness of Public Financial Management. It developed and disseminated a Citizen's Handbook on Public Finance, the National Budget Process and the Public Procurement Process. Most of the personnel that were trained were nominated to serve in District Budget Oversight Committees. It held Budget Summits to engage MDA's on the implementation of their budgets. These have helped to increase the awareness and capacity of citizens to participate in the national budget process, policy hearings, budget discussions and public hearings.

- d. It has endeavoured to conduct a “Know your Right Campaign” through the development, printing and dissemination of various Handbooks such as the Handbook on the Local Governance and Decentralization Process in Sierra Leone. These publications have helped to increase citizen’s awareness, roles and responsibilities in the various issues of focus.
- e. It also conducted public education and awareness raising campaigns on general corruption issues through community radio programmes, national dialogue forum’s, publications and development of Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials on corruption issues. This has contributed to the increase in public awareness of corruption and its negative impact on the effectiveness and sustainability of the country’s post war development efforts. Furthermore, it has helped to increase public knowledge on the role of citizens to promote accountability, transparency and integrity;
- f. It has conducted regular strategic engagements with key stakeholders including civil society organizations, public and the private sectors. The outcome of this engagement has been translated into sustained engagement and dialogue among key stakeholders to ensure proper implementation of programs/project, and the institution of adequate and effective monitoring/oversight mechanisms to curb corruption and its negative impact.
- g. The accreditation of TISL as a local Chapter of TI in Sierra Leone is a huge effort in the fight against corruption. Therefore, the objectives have been well crafted to be in tandem with the Vision and Mission statements and the strategic priorities contained in this document.
- h. In addition to the above, the robust prosecutorial powers arrogated to the ACC and its Anti-Corruption Strategy would also provide the enabling environment for TISL’s objectives to be achieved. This is an opportunity that would the work for TISL in the fight against Corruption in Sierra Leone.

## **KEY RESPONSIBILITIES OF INTERN**

1. Monitor local media to identify key corruption issues and report on them
2. Daily review of at least two print media publications to identify and do a summary of corruption stories
3. Follow up with relevant institutions on corruption related stories
4. Develop Quarterly News Bulletin
5. Represent TISL at meetings as delegated by the Acting Executive Director
6. Write and submit summary reports of meetings attended
7. Develop anti-corruption messages for advocacy purposes
8. Support in conducting research for projects being complied.
9. Support in the implementation of project activities
10. Support in the development of project proposals
11. Any other assigned programs and administrative responsibility