



## Session Report

*Please know you may design the structure of this report to better suit the session. It's important to capture the key outcomes and solutions proposed for the future.*

**Session Title:** TECH: What is good for engaging the Youth, Society's Harbingers of Change Warding off Corruption

**Date & Time:** Saturday, 10.12.2022, 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm GMT -5

**Report prepared by:**

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- Petra deGraft-Johnson, ALAC Coordinator, Transparency International Ghana (Ghana Integrity Initiative - GII)

**Moderated by:** Kaunain Rahman, Business Integrity Specialist, Transparency International (TI)

**Panellists:**

- Mary Awelana Addah - Programmes Manager, Transparency International Ghana (Ghana Integrity Initiative - GII)
- Jofiliti Venokoso - Board Chair for Transparency International Fiji
- Yang Leaphea - Program Manager, Women and Youth Empowerment, Transparency International Cambodia
- Leonardo Paradiso - Coordinator for the GRACE Initiative, UNODC
- Batandwa Mgutsi- South Africa Blockchain Bulls (Winning Team of – African Coding4Integrity Hackathon 2021)
- Elena Vandyшева - Executive Director, Laboratory of University Transparency Coordinator of Anti-Corruption Education, Transparency International Russia
- Auwal Ibrahim Musa (Rafsanjani) - Executive Director of Transparency International Nigeria (Civil Society Legislative

Advocacy Centre - CISLAC), Trustee Chairman for Amnesty International (Nigeria) and Transition Monitoring Group (TMG)

- Anderson Miamen - Executive Director, Transparency International Liberia

## Share the thematic focus of the session, its purpose and corruption risks?

Transparency International Chapters across the globe have in recent past activated various technology and tools with the view to promoting young peoples' participation in the fight against corruption. It is interesting to know that with the emergence of technology, the youth are beginning to understand and denounce corruption considering its effect to the socio-economic development of nations. There are also many more Chapters that are venturing into youth engagement through technology considering its impact and a platform that assesses the impact of technology in the fight against corruption will help tease out specific aspects of technology that presents higher impact.

The session therefore sought to:

- a. interrogate how the youth can be practically engaged to use and/or develop some unique and interactive tools, not only to fight corruption, but also raise awareness on the challenges or risks of corruption to the climate change agenda.
- b. produce some novel markers for consideration of interested chapters to coordinate and harness the best strategies for propelling the Youth anti-corruption agenda that attracts the attention of their own peers and motivates them to participate in the fight against corruption.
- c. Ascertain how the TI Chapter innovations can be rolled out across the TI movement and which innovations TI can adopt for its strategies
- d. Develop a roadmap for the TI Youth and Tech work

## Summary of panellists' contributions & discussion points (please be as detailed as possible)

**Mary Awelana Addah - Programmes Manager, Transparency International Ghana (Ghana Integrity Initiative - GII)**

spoke to the topic: Promoting Corruption Reporting among the Youth via Technology – A case study of Ghana: Eye on Corruption. This topic focused on explaining the Eye on Corruption App (EoC App) which is a mobile application that facilitates corruption reporting by allowing citizens and non-citizens of Ghana, particularly, young people to report/submit corruption related complaints to the Advocacy and Legal Advice Centre (ALAC). The application is a result of recommendations made by the youth from the organization's second Annual Integrity School held in 2020. The EoC App is geared towards seeking redress to corruption related cases for victims of corruption and gathering the necessary evidence for public policy reforms. GII launched this application at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic to provide an incentive for citizens to upscale the fight against corruption in spite of the pandemic. GII also introduced this initiative to

Transparency International Chapters of Mali, Nigeria, Togo and Liberia and subsequently trained, developed and supported these chapters launch and use the application in their respective countries.

**Jofiliti Venokoso - Board Chair for Transparency International Fiji** spoke to the topic: Using social media for Integrity Education among the Young-Prospects and challenges. He shared information on how TI Fiji is working on creating a safe space for young people to think critically about social media and misinformation online and to have open discussions around bad actors and bad platforms. Their work is about providing perspectives and information on the ecosystem of online misinformation and how it impacts elections, democracy and civil society - and important issues like climate change and COVID-19 response. They are following stories and perspectives from young people in New Zealand and Fiji about how they perceive corrupt behaviour happening online and how they best navigate the platforms.

**Yang Leaphea - Program Manager, Women and Youth Empowerment - Transparency International Cambodia** spoke to the topic: Prospects of Data Driven and Digital Advocacy in Global Anti-Corruption Efforts. She shared information on her organization's mobile application app "Our Voice". This mobile application seeks to Support Citizens in Reporting on Public Services and work on to increase more open space for digital advocacy through public engagement with TI Cambodia's campaigns, the formation of core youth networks across the country.

**Leonardo Paradiso - Coordinator for the GRACE Initiative at the UNODC** spoke to the topic: Leveraging Digital Innovation for Youth Engagement in the fight against corruption - the Coding4Integrity Hackathon initiative. He gave a background to the initiative and via a short video documentary explained the hackathon initiative and how it operates. Subsequently, a representative from one of the 2021 Winning Teams of – African Coding4Integrity Hackathon series, Batandwa Mgutsi, shared his experience in the competition including the processes leading up to the development of his team's application solution to Transparency in public procurement and the administration of public finances will be demonstrated.

**Vandyshva Elena - Executive Director, Laboratory of University Transparency and Coordinator of Anti-Corruption Education, TI Russia** explained her organization's DUMA Bingo platform which is an internet based platform for lobbying activity analysis and the organization's data base Deklarator API which is an initiative that helps to bolster public oversight of elected officials' behaviour and improve investigative reporting

**Auwal Ibrahim Musa Rafsanjani - Executive Director of Transparency International Nigeria (Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre - CISLAC), Trustee Chairman for Amnesty International (Nigeria) and Transition Monitoring Group (TMG)** shared information how CISLAC uses an internet based platform TIMBY application to promote the reporting of sextortion related corruption among students. He also shared his organization's work with student journalists, anti-corruption clubs and their engagement with the youth in the development of the annual SDG Shadow reports.

**Anderson Miamen - Executive Director Transparency International** Liberia shared his organization's youth engagement work including how technologies they use for their youth engagement which includes WhatsApp and specific social media tools.

Attached is the sessions presentation with a list of QR Codes that provides detailed information to the various technologies that were shared during panellists submissions.

## Main outcomes of session (include quotes/highlights and interesting questions from the floor)

The workshop's aims included:

- the identification (or a process for identifying) **specific innovative technological tools** for engaging young people in the fight against corruption that could be expanded, or taken to scale across the TI movement;
- an overall **roadmap** for the use of technology in youth engagement over the short to long term – recognising the need to keep things simple, and at all times be clear on whether any initiative is:
  - aimed simply at *engaging* young people in the TI Movement and/or anti-corruption issues, or also
  - at *empowering* young people to participate, lead, and take an active role in shaping their communities' future through integrity / anti-corruption campaigning, including in the TI Movement.

Through the examples provided by participants, and wider discussion, the workshop successfully identified **5 key elements** (involving a number of choices) that should form part of the proposed roadmap, as well as **6 key issues** that need to be carefully considered in its development and implementations.

### Roadmap Elements

#### A. **Technology development as an engagement tool**

Quite apart from how different technological platforms and tools are used, the process of developing them can itself be used to engage young people (and others) in new and innovative ways, which then also contributes to the fight against corruption. The obvious example was the UNODC Coding4Integrity Hackathon. This type of engagement initiative could itself be expanded, copied or taken to scale across the TI movement.

#### B. **Choices in technology provision for both (a) general engagement and (b) actual anti-corruption interventions**

Chapters, or any movement-wide/regional initiatives, should be clear on whether the priority is to:

- Expand the use of technology to engage and recruit the community (e.g. the use of existing social media and communications platforms) or to
- Create and roll out new tools which will have a direct role in fighting

corruption (e.g. reporting apps or portals, financial tracking platforms) or

- Both.

Especially where the aim includes the second, the examples highlight the choice between investing in tools which *TI chapters or trusted CSO or media partners* own and control (e.g. information is reported to a TI ALAC or monitoring initiative), and investing, partnering in or endorsing tools which are *controlled by others, especially governments* (e.g. information about suspected corruption or other red flags which is reported directly by young people and other citizens to an anti-corruption agency or government ministry, with or without CSO oversight or visibility – see also ‘Trust’ below.)

### **C. Information types/scope**

Decisions about the design and adoption/adaptation (including ‘scaling up’) of any particular direct engagement tools need to recognise the diversity of types of information that current tools have been designed to collect or use, including:

- Any corruption allegation
- Any complaint about a public service
- Specific corruption-related problems (e.g. sexual abuse/favours/harassment; youth/child protection issues)
- Election integrity breaches / irregularities
- Procurement breaches, irregularities, possible fraud breaches
- Financial tracking (donations/general public payments)
- Apparent assets of public officials (versus declared assets)
- Apparent actual lobbying interests or activities (as opposed to declared interests, associations, votes etc)

These different types/purposes of information exchange will determine if a specific app or platform can be upscaled to other chapters (or which ones), or if adaptation is necessary either for specific countries/contexts or more generally.

### **D. General engagement & training platforms**

In addition to all of the above – how can TI develop and then maintain strong ongoing platforms for more effectively engaging and equipping young people in advocacy, information exchange, skills development and decision-making, including:

- Access to internal information and decision-making
- Transparency of TI processes and networks
- Linking and upscaling Integrity Schools and the information, content and skills development opportunities that they hold
- Other?

### **E. Intergenerational design**

Much of the focus is, and should remain, on technological innovation to better engage, enlist and empower young people. Especially because they are the source of new energy and innovative thinking in response to the problems we face. However, the actual design and roll-out of any platforms needs to also take into account:

- What technologies other generations are or could be using, or what they

could/should/will be doing with technology and communication now and into the future;

- The fact that young people themselves migrate across, adopt and abandon platforms increasingly rapidly, and that what is effective or popular today is often not effective or popular tomorrow.

### **Key Issues**

The roadmap, plan or any specific initiatives need to take into account at least six key issues:

#### **1. Trust**

Can young people and others trust that their information (including any personal or identifying information) will only be used, and then securely held and retained in accordance with the intended purpose, with no risk to themselves or others?

#### **2. Verification**

Who can/will verify that the recipient or holder of the information is using it appropriately, including following through on reports/complaints provided, and maintaining the security of information? This applies both to government agencies who own any applications/platforms which TI or CSOs endorse or promote, and to TI/CSOs themselves.

#### **3. Interaction with other media/communication methods**

Few apps or platforms can operate in isolation from other communication methods including non-anonymised (direct) contact through either virtual or traditional means, including face-to-face contact. E.g. true trust in reporting and information provision often depends on direct personal contact with those receiving information (not simply anonymised contact), and true empowerment rests on reciprocation and ability to control or influence how information is used. Any new technology initiatives need to be designed with these facts in mind, not as attempted segregated/stand-alone activities.

#### **4. Value conflicts, tensions and challenges**

Initiatives need to be designed with awareness of the capacities of target communities to participate safely and positively in any digital interactions, in the context of their own society and culture – including measures to compensate for known or likely dis/misinformation, ensure e-safety, assess the human angle, and evaluate the appropriateness of encouraging new and different technology use in specific family, cultural and political contexts.

#### **5. Incentives**

Is the initiative simply a 'supply-side' project or will it meet a genuine social need and grab an opportunity? What incentives will young people or other proposed users have to engage and use the platform? Do all young people have equal opportunity and/or interest to access the initiative (e.g. in terms of gender, education levels etc) or are positive measures needed to adapt or enable participation in the initiative? Are additional incentives (including commercial or cash compensation) needed and/or appropriate?

#### **6. Feasibility and sustainability**

Are there the financial and technical resources to develop the initiative, or how can they be obtained? Are there, or will there be resources to *maintain* it (including continual updating of data, maintaining effective administration and outreach) or *adapt* it as circumstances and fashions change. Are skills exchange, training and mentorship arrangements built into the plan? Have alignments and opportunities for collaboration with other institutions been identified and maximised?

## Key recommendations for the future and concrete follow-up actions

1. Evaluate and expand Eye on Corruption app across full TI ALAC network, and any non-ALAC chapters with capacity to manage and use the information?
2. Expand/partner with UNODC to roll out Coding4Integrity across all interested TI Chapter/Partner countries?
3. Design and roll-out youth-focused social media outreach materials, suitable for maximum number of chapters (with translation and visual design/adaptation support)?
4. Increase online transparency and accessibility of TI information and processes to young people seeking to participate in the movement (and others)?
5. Establish central portal for young people (and others) to access all TI Integrity Schools, share content and information, and identify allied/verified educational opportunities?
6. Identify 'next level' policy and organisational training needs of young TI activists and workers (beyond existing Transparency School and other Integrity Schools) consider options for meeting these in an accelerated way, e.g. TI Academy?
7. Employ TI youth coordinator(s) to support chapter networking, information exchange and common initiative development across any/all of the above?
8. Fundraise regionally and globally for any/all of the above?

## What can be done to create opportunities for scaling up the solutions discussed in the session? And by whom?

The TI Youth Working Group should consider or explore the possibility of adopting and incorporating some of the solutions shared at the workshop into the TI movement. Furthermore, the working group should consider the adoption of a tech component in its strategy as a priority area in the TI movement and begin to look for sources of funding to make this happen.

## Rapporteur's name and date submitted

Petra deGraft-Johnson, 12.12.2022