

## **Forest governance and corruption**

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## Forests & corruption

Corruption - *The misuse of entrusted power for private gain*  
– is a driver of deforestation.... and will be serious  
impediment to REDD implementation

TI views:

1. Corruption needs to be tackled from multiple directions
2. Not just laws, judiciary and enforcement but a holistic system built up of various institutions that contribute to a country's integrity system; corruption is best fought and prevented by institutional safeguards & reforms
3. National Integrity Systems (NIS) need to be strengthened to curb corruption

# A fully functioning NIS

Rule  
of Law

Sustainable  
Development

Quality  
of Life

## NATIONAL INTEGRITY SYSTEM

Legislature

Executive

Judiciary

Public Sector

Law Enforcement

Electoral Mgt. Body

Ombudsman

Audit Institution

Anti-Corruption Agencies

Political Parties

Media

Civil Society

Business

POLITICAL-INSTITUTIONAL, SOCIO-POLITICAL AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC FOUNDATIONS

# TI's Forest Governance Integrity Programme



- *Direct law enforcement actions need to be complemented with national and global forest and timber trade governance reform*

## Methodology

- **Diagnostics to identify corrupt practices in the forestry sector that pose the greatest risk to governance;**
- **Identify existing anti-corruption instruments and institutions and initiatives within countries.**
- **Work with stakeholders to monitor the performance of such tools and identify gaps needing governance and legal reforms.**
- **Conduct advocacy interventions aimed at raising awareness and addressing governance weaknesses.**
- **Critical but constructive engagement with all stakeholders focusing on a process of change.**

## **Is this useful for REDD+?**

**REDD issues can be very technical**

***But REDD governance issues are not ‘carbon technical’***

- **Laws, rules & regulations are decided upon and agreed to openly by all stakeholders to achieve a common good with benefits that are shared by all. Actors are decided by informed opinion and consensus. This is the basis of all forest governance.**

## What needs to be done

### Citizen participation in forestry governance

Local CSOs need to develop their own capacity for assessments, monitoring activities and advocacy

### What do these CSOs need?

Space and mandate to participation in information collection and related decision making,

.....and to demand reform where needed

A willingness to engage from bureaucrats and technocrats

Technical knowledge in their own fields to background and give credibility to advocacy

# CSOs need to understand some basic principles forestry governance



The framework/ guidance documents can help with this by providing a common language.

- What counts as good governance, How is it recognisable?
- What information is need for good governance and who provides this, and how can it be monitored?
- Where can their particular expertise be best targeted?
- Checklists on which to build their participation, advocacy and knowledge
- Warning signs to recognise failures, (before they happen)

Even if there was serious disagreement, the guides still have served a valuable purpose of being a discussion point

## Local CSOs need to get involved

- External NGOs may be seen as patronizing, anti development.
- Local ownership and local grounding of knowledge and expertise and initiatives is vital for long lasting impact
- Reforms need foundations built out of local multi-stakeholder consultations. Effective multi-stakeholder cooperation helps in:
  - **Better informed decisions supported by public, which leads to...**
  - **More credible initiatives &...**
  - **Improved prospects for effective REDD implementation**

Practical steps: We could use the frameworks/guidelines as training material for capacity building, before focusing on corruption and developing corruption indicators