



NewsLetter

April - June 2023

Take a peek at what's
inside:

Launching of Climate Governance Integrity
Programme (CGIP)

Transparency International Pakistan Meeting
IGP Punjab

Capacity Building Workshop for Youth

Citizens Meeting with Local Government
Representatives

Workshops on Transparency and Right to
Information Acts

Mobile ALAC-Free Legal Advice Camp

Success Story - Fighting Corruption in the
Public Sector

HIGHLIGHTS

Transparency International Pakistan (TI Pakistan) continued to work to promote anti-corruption initiatives, public procurement monitoring and capacity building in various fields. During April-June 2023, TI Pakistan organized a range of physical and online activities to engage citizens, including women and young people in anti-corruption efforts. The organization commenced its Climate Governance Integrity Programme (CGIP) to strengthen transparency & integrity in climate governance.

LAUNCHING OF CLIMATE GOVERNANCE INTEGRITY PROGRAMME (CGIP)

This quarter, Transparency International Pakistan launched Climate Governance Integrity Programme (CGIP) to strengthen transparency & integrity in climate governance. The project seeks to address the endemic of corruption by working with different groups and stakeholders to ensure that climate action in Pakistan is inclusive and transparent.

Corruption remains the single most serious challenge for climate action in Pakistan. Its impact is a double sword on the communities that are doubly hit by the climate crisis and corruption. CGIP seeks to address these issues through effective implementation of climate action. The Program aims to strengthen integrity and inclusiveness in climate governance framework in Pakistan. Its main objectives are:

- Make Climate Action Transparent and Inclusive
- Improve Climate Accountability
- Safeguard Climate Funding
- Protect communities against impunity



During April-June, 2023, TI Pakistan organized two inaugural stakeholders' consultative meetings in Sindh and Punjab to establish Civil Society Organizations Network on Transparent & Inclusive Governance. Number of participants representing UN agencies, CSOs and relevant line departments participated in the consultation meeting and provided valuable insights regarding the existing policy, procedural, and legislative gaps, as well as identified issues for enhancing inclusion and integrity practices in climate governance framework in respective provinces.



TI Pakistan in consultation with Civil Society Organizations have also prepared recommendations on Draft Sindh Climate Change Policy 2022 for enhancing inclusiveness and Integrity in Sindh's Climate Governance Framework.. Transparency International Pakistan is striving for across the board application of Rule of Law, which is the only way to stop corruption, and achieve Zero tolerance against corruption.

سندھ کی کلائمیٹ چیئنج پالیسی عملدرآمد سے خالی ہے ٹرانسپیرینسی انٹرنیشنل

ویب ڈیسک ۲۶، پیپر، جون ۲۰۲۳

شیئر کریں



TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL

ٹرانسپیرینسی انٹرنیشنل نے محکمہ ماحولیات سندھ کی کلائمیٹ چیئنج پالیسی کو عملدرآمد سے خالی قرار دے دیا، ٹرانسپیرینسی انٹرنیشنل نے کرپشن میں ملوث افسران کے خلاف سخت اقدامات کرنے، ماحولیاتی جرائم کی تحقیقات اور موسمیاتی تبدیلی کی تمام فنڈنگ بیلنگ اکائونٹس کمیٹی کے کردار میں اضافہ کرنے کی تجاویز دے دیں۔ جرات کی خصوصی رپورٹ کے مطابق ٹرانسپیرینسی انٹرنیشنل نے سفارشات میں کہا ہے کہ سندھ کلائمیٹ چیئنج پالیسی میں شہریوں اور سول سوسائٹی کی تنظیموں سے مشورہ کر کے تجاویز حاصل جائیں، پالیسی پر 10 سالہ عملدرآمد پلان تیار کر کے زراعت، لائیو اسٹاک، جنگلات اور جنگلی حیات کے شعبوں کی ترقی پر توجہ دی جائے، پالیسی میں جنگلات کے اضافے اور موجودہ جنگلات کے تحفظ کی رہنمائی کی جائے، سندھ انوائرنمنٹل پروٹیکشن ایجنسی (سیپا) پی ڈی ایم کو ضلع سطح پر اسٹریکچر مضبوط کیا جائے، شہریوں کی شکایات اور ان کے حل کے لئے مکینزم بنایا جائے جس میں کرپشن کی شکایات اور متعلقہ کمیونٹی کی باتوں کو توجہ سے سنا جائے، وزیراعلیٰ سیکریٹریٹ میں ہاٹ لائن شکایات سیل قائم کیا جائے جس میں ای میل، ٹول فری نمبر، فیکس کے ذریعے شکایت درج کی جائے، موسمیاتی تبدیلی کی تمام فنڈنگ پر بیلنگ اکائونٹس کمیٹی کے کردار میں اضافہ کیا جائے، ماحولیاتی جرائم کی تحقیقات کے لئے اینٹی کرپشن، ماحولیات، زراعت، لائیو اسٹاک، جنگلی حیات کے اسٹیٹنگ کمیٹی کے میمبران کو شامل کیا جائے، موسمیاتی تبدیلی کے لئے فنڈز کے استعمال پر مفادات کے کنٹرول کی پالیسی تیار کی جائے، سندھ ٹرانسپیرینسی اینڈ رائٹ ٹو انٹارمیشن ایکٹ 2016 کے تحت موسمیاتی تبدیلی کی تمام معلومات اور معاہدے منظرعام پر لائے جائیں، کرپشن میں ملوث افسران کے خلاف سخت اقدامات لیں جائیں۔ واضح رہے کہ حال ہی میں سیپا میں کینیڈین شہری ڈیٹی ڈائریکٹر محمد کامران خان نے ایک اہم ادارے کے افسر کے رشتیدار سے ایک منصوبے کی منظوری کے لئے بھاری رشوت طلب کی جس کے بعد جس سیپا نعیم احمد مغل نے محمد کامران خان کو تمام عہدوں سے فارغ کر کے ڈیٹی ڈائریکٹر لیب تعینات کیا۔



TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL PAKISTAN MEETING IGP PUNJAB

Transparency International Pakistan team met Inspector General Punjab Police Dr. Usman Anwer to discuss the working of Punjab police and provide recommendations for strengthening reforms in the service delivery. During the meeting, TI Pakistan team was briefed that the Punjab police had aligned



the crime control and service delivery into two separate sectors to meet the modern policing requirements along with establishment of the Service and Protection Centres, Complaint Centre, Police Service Apps and Complaint Management System.

Transparency International Pakistan presented a set of recommendations to IGP Punjab on police reforms aimed at enhancing citizen friendly engagement of the police and highlighting positive initiatives.

CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP: YOUTH ENGAGEMENT, LEADERSHIP AND PARTICIPATION FOR TRANSPARENT AND INCLUSIVE GOVERNANCE



The objective of these workshops was to raise awareness and enhance capacity of young people on the role they can play for the promotion of transparent and inclusive governance in their communities and at the sub-national level. The workshop was attended by number of participants including the govt.



governance processes is crucial to promote transparency and inclusivity in their communities and the wider society.

Transparency International Pakistan in collaboration with different NGOs organized Capacity Building workshop on the topic: “Youth Engagement, Leadership and Participation for Transparent and Inclusive Governance” in Umarnot, Sindh and Multan, Punjab.



Stakeholders from the social welfare dept., information dept., education dept., district government office, district disaster management authority, social activists, and students participated. Speakers emphasized that empowering young individuals to actively participate in

CITIZENS MEETING WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES



Transparency International Pakistan, in collaboration with partner organizations organized Citizens Meeting with LG Representatives in Tehsil Chichawatni, District Sahiwal, Punjab, Lasbela and Kalat, Balochistan. The primary objective of these meetings was to promote citizens' engagement

and community participation in the decision-making and accountability processes of local government. During the session, attendees had the opportunity to ask questions from the elected representatives and hold them accountable. The meeting also included an introduction to the Provincial Local Government Acts and its key features. Local government representatives also



shared the challenges they face and the work they have accomplished. The majority of the participants were residents from the surrounding areas, including traders, journalists, women rights activists, local government stakeholders, and social mobilizers.



Speakers highlighted the importance of local government and TI Pakistan' role to promote social accountability at grassroots level through citizens' meeting with local government representatives.

WORKSHOP ON PUNJAB TRANSPARENCY AND RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT 2013

Transparency International Pakistan in collaboration with Participatory Welfare Services (PWS) organized one day workshop on Punjab Transparency and Right to Information Act 2013 in District Layyah, Punjab. The workshop attracted a diverse group of participants, representatives from civil society organizations, activists, educators, students, and concerned citizens from Layyah and the surrounding areas. The total number of participants were 40 including 24 males and 16 females. The participants were eager to learn about the RTI Act and its significance in promoting transparency and accountability in governance. At the conclusion of the workshop, group exercise was conducted to reinforce participants comprehension of the RTI Act. They were divided into smaller groups and assigned specific sections of the act to analyze and present their findings. This exercise effectively deepened their understanding of the act and its underlying concepts. Additionally, under the guidance of the trainers and organizers, participants were given the opportunity to write RTI applications, further applying their newly acquired knowledge.



WORKSHOP ON SINDH TRANSPARENCY AND RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT 2016

Transparency International Pakistan organized a One-Day Workshop on the Sindh Transparency and Right to Information Act 2016 on 26th June 2023 in Khairpur Mir's, Sindh. Around 35 participants representing Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), journalists, and lawyers working on the Right to Information, Human Rights, and Institutional Development at the district level attended the workshop.

Mr. Anwar Ali Mahar, Chief Executive Officer of the National Advocacy for Rights of Innocent – NARI Foundation, shared the objectives of the Workshop on the Sindh Transparency and Right to Information Act 2016.

Mr. Toufique Wassen, Project Coordinator at TI Pakistan, discussed the overview of the legislation and its implementation status at the departmental level. He briefly explained that, in light of Article 19-A of the Constitution of Pakistan, every citizen is entitled to question public bodies. All the financial resources of the state belong to the people of Pakistan, and the government is the custodian of these resources. Therefore, every citizen has the right to ask government institutions/departments and hold them accountable.

Mr. Muhammad Ali Sahto, Advocate and RTI Activist, divided the participants into 4 groups and assigned them to file RTI requests to the Municipal Services, Revenue Department, Planning and Development, and Women Development Department.



MOBILE ALAC-FREE LEGAL ADVICE CAMP



On May 30, 2023, Transparency International Pakistan partnered with the Sudhar Development Organization to host a free legal advice camp in Village 515/EB Tehsil Burewala, District Vehari, Punjab. Individuals from neighboring villages gathered to register their complaints in the camp. Advocate Aftab Husain provided free legal advice. Most of the complainants were females.

Ms. Saima Batool, Executive Director Sudhar Development Organization explained the objectives of the legal advice camp and emphasize on the importance of highlighting and reporting corruption/mismanagement. She told participants that women are affected by corruption more than that of men. She also introduced TI Pakistan, its working, and the key projects and initiatives. Several issues were reported by women, some of which require attention. Firstly, the absence of boundary walls and security guards at Basic Health Units (BHUs) makes women feel insecure, particularly at night. Additionally, there have been delays or halts in the payments of the Benazir Income Support program, and scholarship payments for children have also been suspended.

To assist these complainants, TI Pakistan provided free legal advice and informed them about relevant authorities who can redress their grievances. Furthermore, TI Pakistan is currently reviewing all the complaints to examine the allegations and forward them to the authorities for appropriate resolution.



SUCCESS STORY - FIGHTING CORRUPTION IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR

Fighting Corruption in the Public Sector Corruption is a significant issue that affects governments and societies worldwide, including both developing and the developed world. Corruption hampers the overall development of a country and has far-reaching consequences. Corrupt practices prioritize personal interests of individuals in positions of power over the welfare of ordinary citizens. This leads to negative impacts on the economy, impedes progress, and restricts access to essential services like healthcare and education, particularly for vulnerable populations. In countries where corruption is prevalent, public trust in the government is often low. Thereby, it becomes imperative to safeguard taxpayer funds from being wasted due to corrupt practices. It is in this context that Transparency International Pakistan established Advocacy and Legal Advice Centre (ALAC) for more than a decade ago to provide platform to the victims, witnesses and whistleblowers of corruption to safely report corrupt practices. ALAC has reached out to 1000s of people across Pakistan and intervened on their behalf to seek redress for their grievances. One such example is the case of corrupt


practices in the Legal Directorate of Lahore Electric Supply Corporation (LESCO). On 10th May 2023, ALAC Pakistan received a whistleblower complaint regarding favoritism and corruption in the award of legal cases of Lahore Electric Supply Corporation (LESCO) to the selected lawyers by the Legal Directorate of the LESCO. The complainant alleged that certain officers within the legal directorate of LESCO were involved in corrupt practices, including receiving commissions for assigning legal cases to a handpicked panel of advocates. It was pointed out that LESCO, on 21 December 2020, had already issued office order highlighting favoritism in selection of lawyers in court cases and required that no single lawyer on the panel of advocates will be given more than 100 pending court cases of LESCO with effect from 01-01-2021. It was also a clear case of Conflict of Interest whereby the government lawyers in violation of Establishment Division rules were being given private court cases at exorbitant fee. It was further pointed out by the complainant that more than 1100 appeals in

electricity cases had been filed in the Supreme Court of Pakistan, with only one advocate handling all of them and charging an exorbitant fee of Rs. 10,000 per case, resulting in a substantial burden of 11 million rupees to the national exchequer. TI Pakistan reviewed the complaint in light of documentary evidence and consequently on 15th May 2023, wrote a letter to the provincial head of the government, Chief Minister of Punjab, Prime Minister of Pakistan, Supreme Court of Pakistan and the National Accountability Bureau highlight the violations of Establishment Division Rules, LESCO's own office order requiring no lawyer be given more than 100 cases and prevalent corrupt practices in the department. TI Pakistan also highlighted that the allegations of bribery and kickbacks in the award of legal cases to a selected panel of advocates, are serious in nature and urged the department to investigate the allegations and hold all those responsible, accountable. In response to TI Pakistan letter, the office of the Prime Minister of Pakistan vide letter No. 3746-47/CCC/PMDU/COMP/029/Vol-28 dated 24th May 2023 wrote to the

LESCO on TI Pakistan complaint. In response to the Prime Minister office letter, LESCO informed the Prime Minister Delivery Unity (PMDU) on 26th May 2023 that it has terminated the contract services of Chief Lawyer Officer vide its office order No. 2857-60 dated 24th. TI Pakistan has further written to LESCO that administrative inquiry may also be initiated against responsible officer through anti-corruption agency so that the loss caused to the national exchequer can be recovered. Due to its consistent advocacy and legal assistance, TI Pakistan ALAC regularly contributes towards building a more transparent and accountable governance in the public sector in Pakistan, effectively combating corrupt practices and conflicts of interest.



Plot 72F/2, Floor 1, 9th Street, Jami Commercial Street, D.H.A. Phase 7, Karachi City, Sindh 75500, Pakistan

 021-35311898

 ti.pakistan@gmail.com

 www.transparency.org.pk

 Transparency International Pakistan (TI-P)

 TIPakistan1