

In 2022, PTF undertook important work in Argentina, francophone Africa, Ghana, India, Malawi, Moldova, the Philippines, Uganda, and Zambia.

PTF's Programs

ARGENTINA

Partnered with <u>Poder Ciudadano</u> to

- expand the COVID-19 vaccine purchase and distribution monitoring program to other immunizations and treatments
- launch a national strategy to increase access to information, accountability, and effectiveness in the health system





INDIA Partnered with <u>CFAR</u> and <u>IDRF</u> to

- increase access to services for survivors of gender-based violence (GBV)
- raise awareness of GBV response mechanisms in local communities and facilitate action through greater stakeholder engagement

MOLDOVA Partnered with IDIS Viitorul to

- equip CSOs and journalists to effectively monitor procurement processes
- ensure findings are taken seriously by contracting entities and government and law enforcement entities, including the National Anti-Corruption Center





THE PHILIPPINES

Partnered with <u>REECS</u> to

 improve governance and citizen engagement by organizing and training a task force for disaster risk reduction and climate change planning and implementation in the City of Iriga





ZAMBIA Partnered with CSPR to

 help strengthen community awareness of and engagement and participation with school and local authorities for accountable primary and secondary education services in nine selected districts

Additional information on the above projects, as well as other initiatives in francophone Africa (third-party monitoring of childhood vaccine distribution), Ghana and <u>Uganda</u> (third-party monitoring of COVID-19 vaccine distribution), and <u>Malawi</u> (public procurement monitoring), can be found at **ptfund.org**.

PTF also prepared CSO knowledge products, such as a <u>report</u> on civil society monitoring in the health sector for the <u>U4 Anti-Corruption Resource Centre</u>.

There is more to be done and we need your help!

To support PTF 's important anti-corruption and good governance work through the <u>WBCCC</u>, please visit <u>Benevity.com</u> where your contribution will be matched.

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PARTNERSHIP FOR TRANSPARENCY

Citizen Engagement and the Fight **Against Corruption:**

The PTF Experience

Partnership for Transparency (PTF)

PTF advances innovative citizen-led approaches to improve governance, increase transparency, promote the rule of law, and reduce corruption in developing and emerging countries.





Who We Are



PTF was established by a group of retirees from different international development institutions.

- These include multilateral development banks, the United Nations, and embassies of different countries.
- They use their vast experience in the design and implementation of projects, volunteering their time for this important work.

What We Do

We work with civil society partners around the world to improve the design and execution of development projects in the following sectors:

- Education
- Environment
- ► Governance
- Health (including COVID-19)
- Infrastructure
- Public Procurement
- Social Protection





PTF Experience

PTF volunteer advisers apply their experience and expertise to help CSOs around the world design solutions to the most challenging issues.

- PTF's Impact in 22 Years
 - Collaborated with over 165 civil society partners in more than 55 countries on four continents
 - Completed more than 250 projects with \$7 million in corresponding grants
 - Undertook an independent evaluation that found 85% of projects met their objectives
- Examples of Recent Projects
 - Monitoring the delivery of COVID-19 relief services in Argentina and Zambia
 - Increasing access to vaccines in India and Uganda
 - Designing initiatives to build resilience to climate change in the Philippines





Contact

Partnership for Transparency <u>info@ptfund.org</u> <u>www.ptfund.org</u> <u>@PTFund</u>



NEWS October 2022

An update from Frank Vogl, Chair of the <u>Partnership for</u> <u>Transparency</u> Board of Directors.

Frank is a co-founder of PTF. He was also a co-founder and Vice Chair of Transparency International. He teaches an anti-corruption graduate course at Georgetown University.



Curbing corruption is crucial in so many parts of the world where grave humanitarian challenges abound. For more than 20 years, the Partnership for Transparency, has been making valuable contributions to strengthen transparency, accountability, and public sector integrity in projects in low- and middle-income countries. We will continue to do more.

Our work is driven by two overarching, and often overlapping, tracks: (1) moving ahead with a range of sectorspecific projects and (2) developing and disseminating knowledge, including training programs.

This newsletter features an update on some of our current work, including cutting-edge public procurement projects for which PTF is bringing knowledge and expert skills to assist incountry civil society organizations (CSOs). These organizations are building their anti-corruption capacities in public contracting, an area where graft and kickbacks are rampant in so many nations.

CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT

(PTF has worked on public procurement in Ukraine and is now similarly engaged in Moldova.)

In December 2021, the <u>Summit for Democracy</u>, which convened at the White House, attracting leaders from around 100 countries, validated a central tenet of the formidable work that PTF has pursued over the last two decades. The Summit, which will be followed up with a similar event in 2023, placed at the center the demands of citizens across many nations for transparent, accountable government.

After the Summit, in September 2022, the U.S. Agency for International Development published a policy statement entitled <u>Dekleptification Guide</u>, noting that this word that has been thrust into our vocabulary "is the process of uprooting entrenched kleptocratic structures".

The opening sentence of this guide states: "The heroes of dekleptification are the civil society actors and other engaged citizens who risk it all to open windows of opportunity, make government work for the people, and lead their country toward a post-kleptocratic future."

It has taken many years of campaigning by PTF to encourage development aid agencies to mainstream the concept of citizen engagement and leadership in the fight against corruption, but our views are now being heard.

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www.PTFund.org



PTF knowledge makes a difference. Advisor Lars Jeurling stresses that "Based on PTF's experience, small interventions that do not rely on specific tools to address corruption and are conducted over a short period are unlikely to succeed. The key to PTF's work, for example in public procurement, is to bring cutting-edge know-how and train civil society partners in how to use effective tools to best monitor contracting. This needs to be done while simultaneously securing the confidence of partners and obtaining follow-up funding to allow the project activities to be sustained and impact to be achieved."

To expand our activities, and make a still greater anti-corruption contribution, PTF needs to attract more volunteers and consultants with expert skills to develop and disseminate our lessons learned, as well as more donors, small and large, to boost our pipeline of projects.

Our unique niche rests in the expert volunteer culture that has encouraged many former professional economic development experts to join and guide the organization. Our Board of Directors and our Management Team bring together people of many nationalities who volunteer for PTF because of a passionate commitment to reducing poverty and combating injustice.

Many of us working for PTF share the vision of securing a world of integrity, intolerant of corruption. We are driven by the priority demands of in-country stakeholders dedicated to improving the living standards of their fellow citizens in middle- and low-income countries.



Building Partnerships - Making A Difference



PTF's Pietronella van den Oever participated in the three-day <u>ConneXion Conference</u> in Niamey that was opened by Prime Minister Ouhoumoudou Mahamadou of Niger on July 5, 2022. The photo on the previous page shows Pietronella on a panel with other participants from Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Burkina Faso, and Burundi. In the photo above is a group of champions (representatives of national platforms of OAFRESS, an organization dedicated to working with civil society to improve health outcomes for 18 francophone African countries) with traditional wall hangings they received from Niger's Minister of Health, Population, and Social Affairs.

For more than two decades, volunteers have undertaken significant numbers of hours of hard work to improve the lives of citizens in middle- and low-income countries whose lives, and the lives of their children, could be so much brighter were it not for widespread abuses of public offices by politicians and civil servants.

Today, more than 80 volunteers are engaged with PTF via our global office based in Washington, DC and affiliates for <u>Asia</u> based in the Philippines, <u>Europe</u> based in Germany, and <u>India</u>. Recently, a special PTF committee was established to consolidate and strengthen our work in sub-Saharan Africa. The team has much to be proud about, yet remains humble. We recognize that our work is in support of brave, dedicated, and professional women and men in many countries who speak truth to power and challenge the corrupt.

Training Session with members of Zambia's <u>Civil Society for Poverty Reduction</u>



As much as possible, the projects and programs PTF supports encourage citizen groups with which we work to partner with public authorities and to find champions in the public sector who deplore abuses of governance. For example, PTF can provide expertise with regard to the most significant challenges when it comes to basic health care service delivery.

Often, in many countries, we find that services are hampered severely by the combination of management inefficiency, waste, and corruption.

FRANCOPHONE AFRICA

Recently, under the leadership of Pietronella van den Oever, Aileen Marshall, Jonas Mbwangue, and Jean-Louis Sarbib, PTF forged a partnership with the <u>Organisation d'Afrique</u> <u>francophone pour le Renforcement des</u> <u>Systèmes de Santé et de la Vaccination</u> (OAFRESS). They brought together nationallevel CSOs working on healthcare issues from 18 French-speaking countries in Sub-Saharan Africa. They work with governments to improve basic healthcare delivery services.

The goal of this partnership is to <u>mentor</u> <u>champions</u>, representatives of each national OAFRESS platform, to promote increased childhood vaccination rates by 1) bridging the gap between government services and poor and remote populations, 2) monitoring the flow of financial resources allocated to childhood vaccination, and 3) providing assistance with regard to service delivery.

ZAMBIA

In Zambia, PTF is providing technical assistance to the <u>Civil Society for Poverty Reduction</u> to implement a project centered on service delivery in the education sector that is financed by the Japan Social Development Fund (administered by the World Bank). Team leader Tjaarda Storm van Leeuwen says the aim is "to strengthen community awareness and participation with school management and local authorities for accountable primary and secondary education services." This Voice and Accountability Project is building community awareness and capacity to apply social accountability tools in education service delivery and increasing community participation with school management, local authorities, and other stakeholders in nine districts in Zambia. The project will deepen relationships at the community level between educators, civil society, and public officials, while raising public awareness of key issues in education service delivery. A team of PTF advisors is providing technical assistance and training on social accountability and sectoral issues, as well as M&E, communications, and project management.

MALAWI AND MOLDOVA

Training is an important feature of PTF's work, notably in public procurement, and multi-year projects are now proceeding in Malawi and Moldova. In <u>Malawi</u>, PTF has partnered with CoST Infrastructure Transparency Initiative, as well as the <u>CoST</u> Secretariat in London, to improve transparency, integrity, and accountability in Malawi's construction sector. President Lazarus Chakwera strongly supports the project and PTF's involvement.

I am delighted about this partnership with CoST, not only because its Board Chairman, Christiaan Poortman, is also a member of the PTF Board, but because our organizations have so much in common. CoST is the leading non-governmental organization working on improving transparency and accountability in public infrastructure in developing countries that seeks partnerships with business, government, and civil society.

Since 2020, in <u>Moldova</u>, we have been implementing a project with the goal of improving the integrity and transparency of public procurement. According to PTF Advisor Karin Millett, "Our goal is to work side by side with the Institute for Development and Social Initiatives (IDIS Viitorul) in Moldova to enhance the capacity of civil society organizations and investigative journalists to engage in informed and responsible monitoring of public procurement."

Our work in public procurement, notes PTF Advisor Lars Jeurling, "is to equip civil society organizations with the meaningful training and technical tools that can enable them to be effective monitors of public contracting and thereby address corruption and waste in public procurement. These tools are not easy to develop and use, but PTF is making progress in the procurement area. Civil society engagement in itself, although very important, is not enough to address corruption in any area, least not procurement. Specifically, in many cases, quite technical tools are needed, which often require technical expertise not available to local partner CSOs. PTF can help find such expertise."

Lars Jeurling adds "We have found excellent partners and strong support from the government in Moldova. The challenges are substantial, but the multi-year funding that we have received greatly helps us to be confident that the work can yield sustainable results."

INDIA

For many years, PTF has been focused on gender issues. We have found that the gravest indignities to individuals are shouldered by women in poor communities seeking basic social services. As one of our PTF public forums highlighted, women experience corruption differently and disproportionately - extortion for sex (as distinct for cash) in universities, workplaces, and government offices, such as taxation and permit-granting, is a monstrous global phenomenon.

PTF Advisor, Board Member, and India Board Director Indira Sandilya is playing a key role in a project on <u>gender-based violence</u> (GBV) in India. She notes:



MONITORING MOLDOVA'S PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

BUILDING INTEGRITY IN PUBLIC PROCUREMENT REQUIRES ENGAGEMENT FROM ALL STAKEHOLDERS, INCLUDING CITIZENS'



Public procurement is an area vulnerable to fraud and corruption. Addressing these risks requires the improvement of systems: management systems, integrity systems and processes to strengthen the public system, motivate public officials, and create conditions, laws, processes, and regulations that are clear, easy to apply, and do not lead to misinterpretation.

Diana ENACHI Project coordinator and public procurement expert at IDIS "Viitorul"

I also call on all of us not to wait for the authorities to fight corruption. All things start with us, and as long as we are fair and not part of these

illegal acts or these acts of corruption, we will be able to create change. If we wait for the authorities to intervene, then things certainly will not change any time soon. That is why integrity must be built from all sides, including by the citizens.

"PTF and the Indian Development and Relief Fund are supporting a two-year project led by civil society to reduce GBV, specifically domestic violence, sexual harassment, and sexual assault against women and girls in Rajasthan. It is important to ensure that the voices of women be heard and the project seeks to boost effective citizen demand to produce safer environments, press for implementation of the rule of law that provides women's rights, and develop partnerships and community actions that can sustain and secure change."

THE PHILIPPINES

Another area of concern for PTF is the environment. PTF Asia, together with the <u>Resources, Environment, and Economics Center</u> for Studies Inc., is pushing ahead with the

<u>Climate Change and Environmental Governance</u> <u>Project</u> in Iriga City, Philippines.

PTF Asia's Chairman Geert van der Linden says: "The project seeks to demonstrate how major global problems like climate change can also be addressed through local solutions. In this case, the project looks to address local issues related to forests, river basins, and Indigenous populations in the institutional setting of a local government unit in Luzon. A special feature of the project's approach is the co-creation methodology, which aims to strengthen local governance by giving citizens and business associations a role in identifying the climaterelated issues and developing practical approaches to address them. Thus, the project combines feasible technical solutions along with the broader participation of local people's organizations for improved governance."

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

Aiming to expand PTF's work in sub-Saharan Africa, the PTF Board of Directors established a special committee of experts to develop strategy, seek new initiatives, review opportunities, develop our networks, and enhance funding support. As we moved ahead with this initiative, we were most fortunate to add three outstanding African experts to our Board in 2022.



Mervyn King is a Senior Counsel and former Judge of the Supreme Court of South Africa. He is Professor Extraordinaire of Corporate Citizenship at the University of South Africa. He is also Chair of the International Integrated Reporting Framework and Chair Emeritus of the Global Reporting Initiative.



Cissy Kagaba is a lawyer, development expert, and the former Executive Director of <u>Anti-Corruption Coalition</u> <u>Uganda</u>, which has partnered with PTF often.



Jonas Mbwangue, based in Burkina Faso, has many years of development experience and currently serves as Lead Technical Advisor of France's Initiative for Health in Africa, implemented by Expertise France of the Agence Française de Développement group.

Please **DONATE** to PTF. Please tell your friends and colleagues about PTF.

If you are a current or former staff member of the World Bank or IMF, then please contribute through your institution's annual giving program later this year. Your donations will be matched.

Partnership for Transparency Fund, 1100 13th Street NW, Suite 800, Washington, DC 20005