

Nepal

1 Project Summary

Project Title:

Capacity Building at the Commission for the Investigation of Abuse of Authority (CIAA)

Priority Area for Reform:

Application of MIS, Training, and Improved Investigation and Prosecution

Implementing Institution:

Commission for the Investigation of Abuse of Authority (CIAA)

Contact Person:

Mr. Surya Nath Upadhyay, Rt. Hon. Chief Commissioner

Beginning and End of the Project:

Beginning: January 2007

End: December 2008

2 Project Context

Which deficiencies and/or problems that allow corruption to proliferate does the project address and aim to resolve? Please outline the related current legal or institutional framework and its weaknesses or the exact circumstances that require improvement:

CIAA is an apex constitutional body for controlling corruption in Nepal. It strives hard to fight against incidental, institutional and systemic corruption in the public sphere. It is a distinctive anti-corruption agency in South Asia, playing the roles of ombudsman, investigator and prosecutor simultaneously. It aims to crack down on corruption by a systems-based approach. It also focuses on detection and punishment of corrupt behavior, as well as social, cultural and institutional reform. To attain the ultimate goal of good governance and the rule of law in the country, CIAA is taking all types of measures, i.e., punitive, preventive and promotional, to reduce corruption.

In this project, CIAA seeks to strengthen investigation and prosecution of wrongdoers. Realizing that information is the most crucial element in corruption detection, CIAA has established an Intelligence Section. However, the Section needs to procure surveillance equipment. Equally important is the effective training of CIAA staff for intelligence and investigation. There is a need to improve the training curriculum, produce background papers and procure teaching materials.

The restructuring of CIAA organization with a new state-of-art office building engenders the need for effective planning, computer networking, monitoring and database systems. Also needed are the installation of security devices, fire alarms, a mini-lab for forensic tests and training in the investigation of construction materials.

These days, the private and non-government sectors have a greater share in service delivery. In the spirit of UNCAC, there is an obvious need for making legal provisions to unveil the corruption in those sectors. CIAA is endeavoring to comply with UNCAC. CIAA also understands that more efforts are required to adopt preventive and promotional measures through the involvement of business community and non-governmental actors. Therefore, CIAA considers partnership with the

business community and civil society in conducting dissemination seminars, organizing synergy workshops and producing educational materials on anti-corruption.

CIAA has already initiated outreach programs to ensure the anti-corruption drive at the district level by strengthening organizational set-ups and procuring office equipments. Recently, CIAA has also instigated the formation of local coordination forums in various districts. The forums consist of government officers, representatives of business community and NGO actors. They set for action plans to curb corruption and mal-efficiencies at the local levels. There is the need for more orientation, training and monitoring of those action plans and giving new direction for their effective operations.

3 Expected Outcome of the Project

In relation to the above mentioned deficiencies and/or problems, which concrete improvements are expected to be achieved through the project? In which way does the project help to curb corruption?

1. A database and effective systems of planning and monitoring are established in CIAA
2. CIAA Intelligence and Training Sections are strengthened
3. Skill development of CIAA staff is enhanced through improved training curriculum and effective training programs
4. MIS application is completed
5. Private sector and civil society partnership is promoted to control corruption

4 Components – Main Activities – Method

What are the project's components, implementation steps, main activities and/or methods to achieve the above mentioned outcome and objectives?

1. Efficient office planning, programming and projection
2. Computer networking
3. Handling of online complaints
4. Perfect and updated database and online monitoring
5. Online links and data transfers to affiliated sites
6. Revision of training curriculum and production of training materials
7. Procurement of equipments for surveillance and teaching rooms, and training for handling
8. Hiring of consultants and transfer of knowledge and skills
9. Exposure visits and observation tours of friendly countries
10. Dissemination seminars for field level government officers
11. Synergy workshops with stakeholders
12. Production and propagation of anti-corruption educational materials through public media (TV, radio, cinema slides)

5 Involvement of non-governmental actors and donors

In which way does the project involve civil society actors or other stakeholders and have they been consulted during the project development phase?

CIAA is working jointly with major non-governmental organizations to organize seminars and to create awareness of corruption at various levels. These NGOs include Transparency International / Nepal, Pro-Public, ReMAC, SWATI and the Mech-Mahakali Media Society. The Federation of Nepal Chamber of Commerce and Industries (FNCCI), an umbrella organization of the business

and industrial community, is kicking off various anti-corruption initiatives in consultation with CIAA. Adoption of a “Business Code” by FNCCI is one of the examples. CIAA will organize a number of training and interaction programs in cooperation with the stakeholders and non-governmental actors to share experiences and exchange knowledge. CIAA has a target to train 300 local level government officers involved in corruption control, and to interact with 500 members of the business community and civil society to raise public awareness of corruption.

6 Related Projects under the 2nd Implementation Cycle

Is the project linked to reforms accomplished under the Action Plan's 2nd Implementation Cycle? In which way does this project follow up previous activities?

CIAA has already completed its organizational restructuring. It begins delivering service from a newly-built state-of-art office premise by mid-May 2006. However, CIAA does not possess a cadre of its own, and there is a large turnover of working staff every year. As a result, more training and skill development is required. During the 2nd Implementation Cycle, CIAA carried out various activities including training need assessment, establishment of a training section, development of curriculums and development of investigation guidelines. In the 3rd Implementation cycle, these efforts will be continued in a more advanced and improved way.

7 Project Financing and Budget

Approved or estimated overall project budget:

Approximately USD 2 million

Is external funding required?

Yes, partially.

If external funding is required, have donor organizations been approached yet, and have any commitments been made?

During the 3rd Implementation, Cycle CIAA will receive following external assistance:

1. USAID/ARD Inc. Rule of Law Project – HMG of Nepal and USAID has signed the “Nepal Strengthened Rule of Law and Respect for Human Rights” project. CIAA is one of the recipients of funds from the project. ARD Inc. is the contractor that will administer the project.
2. The “Economic Reform Technical Assistance” project financed by the World Bank – CIAA has signed an agreement with the National Planning Commission.

If external funding is required, what percentage of the total project costs requires external funding?

During this project cycle, government funding will cover a major portion of the expenditure (approximately 85%). The external assistance will cover only the balance.

8 Technical Assistance

Is external technical assistance required? Have relevant agencies been approached and have they made any commitments?

A limited amount of external funding is desirable. USAID/ARD and World Bank have been brought on board for this purpose.