

ACTION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION PROJECTS 2002-2003

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

**PROJECT 3: EDUCATION AND AWARENESS – PUBLIC DISCUSSION OF CORRUPTION
AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

1. Summary

Country	Papua New Guinea
Project title	Education and Awareness Promotion Program
Priority reform area	Pillar III: Supporting Active Public Involvement Educating through seminars, conference, dissemination of information through the media and publications to generate public support on anti-corruption measures.
Implementing Agency	Ombudsman Commission and the Public Sector Anti-Corruption Committee in concert with civil society groups, business associations, Churches, NGOs and the community.
Duration	On-going - commencing in March 2002
Budget/Requirements	US\$ 120,000.

2. Project Objectives

The objective of the proposed project is to educate the general public as well as leaders at all levels about the negative impacts of corruption on the society and economy of PNG. Furthermore, the project aims to win public support for legislative reform aimed at effectively preventing corruption.

3. Rationale

Corruption in public places is a serious concern for the majority of Papua New Guineans. Most cases of bribery and corruption take place because people do not know the laws and therefore do not and

cannot raise the issue or blow the whistle. Public awareness about corruption, its negative effects on society and economy, and relevant laws, will improve and increase public scrutiny and vigilance of conducts of persons in positions of trust. A better informed society regulates conduct of its leaders.

This project will support the Ombudsman Commission of PNG in fulfilling one of its function as prescribed in the relevant Act, namely the one with regard to education and awareness raising under the External Relations Program formulated in 2000.

4. Project Description

- Provide funding for efforts to promote the co-operation between State agencies and the community, i.e. by means of partnerships in establishing and implementing anti-corruption public awareness campaigns.
- Provide training and organise workshop for community advocacy groups with the aim of building awareness about leadership issues and support legislative reforms by means of which loopholes shall be filled which currently undermine anti-corruption efforts.

5. Program Components

- Fund workshops, seminars, public anti-corruption awareness raising campaigns and specific leadership training.
- Fund publications and distribution of educational materials to the general public and schools.
- Fund media campaign on corruption and its impact, to be conducted by the Ombudsman Commission and the Public Sector Anti-Corruption Committee in co-operation with concerned civil society groups, and promote a pro-active legal reform agenda aiming to influence the Government’s definition of anti-corruption measures.

6. Target Groups/Beneficiaries

Community advocacy groups, general public, young people in schools and the society at large.

7. Scope/Duration

Period	Activity
Early March 2002	Leadership Seminar
Mid March 2002	Regional Leadership Code Workshop
April -June 2002	Public Campaign on leadership issues as part of the “clean government campaign” leading to the general elections in July 2002.
August/September ongoing indefinitely	Education and awareness programs targeting newly elected Parliamentarians and senior managers in the public sector. Promote corporate governance in the business sector.

8. *Project Location*

Country-wide anti-corruption awareness campaign and seminar based in Port Moresby.

9. *Implementing Agencies*

- Ombudsman Commission of Papua New Guinea (lead agency)
- Department of Police
- Justice and Law and Order Committee
- Public Sector Anti-Corruption Committee
- Provincial Affairs
- Personnel Management
- Attorney General

10. *Consultations*

The PNG Media Council declared war on corruption in January 2002. This declaration has gained widespread support from all sectors of the community. Civil society groups are also supportive of this project.

11. *Resources and Funding Requirements.*

Estimated costs for the following elements, for the current year, are **US\$ 150,000**:

- 1 Leadership Workshop for public office holders in March 2002
- 1 Leadership Code public seminar
- 4 Regional Anti-corruption public seminars at 3 weeks interval before July 2002
- 10 days news paper publications on Anti-corruption efforts
- 2 community advocacy seminars

12. *Sustainability of the Program*

Given the forthcoming general elections in July 2002, public awareness with the slogan 'clean government' would be of great benefit to the country. By means of such campaign, the electorate can be sensitised about the importance of applying transparency and accountability criteria when voting in the elections, and thus such campaign can influence in a positive way the outcome of the elections. Politicians which were elected based on these criteria are expected to support legal reforms in the field of anti-corruption.