

Brief Description of Approved Projects

1. Philippines: Anti-Corruption and Transparency in Oroquieta City, Mindanao

CSO's Name: Environmental Cooperation and Linkages, Inc. (ECOLINK)

Grant Amount: \$16,500

Project Cost: \$21,657 (equivalent)

Date of Approval: 11/15/2006

Implementation Period: 7 months

Brief Description:

This project is aimed at addressing the wastage of local government funds as a result of corrupt and inefficient practices in the procurement, use and maintenance of government vehicles. Corruption in the local government offices mirrors an inefficient and poor local governance system resulting eventually in the neglect of basic social services and socio-economic programs for the communities. The project hopes to significantly reduce and prevent the wastage/corruption of local government funds by using participatory, low-cost, innovative and creative strategies.

In addition to reducing wastage of public funds spent vehicles of the local government unit (LGU), project objectives include: (a) significantly increase citizen participation on anti-corruption and transparency programs and actions; and (b) strengthen the LGU's compliance with Government Procurement Reform Act (GPRA). For this the project will have the following components: (a) Information and Education Campaign/Advocacy directed at local citizens (photo-journalism contest, newsletter publication, local radio programs, short play competition); (b) Capacity Building (expenditure analysis workshops, GPRA compliance training, Conference on Corruption); (c) Policy Formulation and Reforms (public consultations, policy formulations, local legislation); and (d) Administration, Supervision, Monitoring and Evaluation of the project. A Memorandum of Agreement is proposed to be signed between ECOLINK and the LGU that would ensure LGU's cooperation in the implementation of the project and required reforms.

2. Philippines: Civil Society Participation in Textbook Count 4

CSO's Name: G-Watch; Ateneo School of Government

Grant Amount: \$22,555

Project Cost: \$65,360 (equivalent)

Date of Approval: 11/1/ 2006

Implementation Period: 9 months

Brief Description:

For the last three years G-Watch has been implementing the Textbook Count: National Textbook Delivery Program which has introduced various successful innovations in the delivery of textbooks to schools, such as the participation of young Scout and student volunteers and tapping the logistics network of a soft drink company to help in the delivery process. (PTF has funded the earlier phases of this program described under item 9 above). These efforts provided public-private sector partnership models for anti-corruption and good governance initiatives. Under the proposed project the program shall venture into an undertaking that will symbolically transfer the responsibility for the program to the local institutions and the communities. Specifically, the *Textbook Count 4* shall gather the Department of Education (DepED) districts and elementary schools, PTCAs, barangay officials, the Scouts, church faithful and other local volunteers to a collective action for a synchronized onward distribution of 12 million (Social Studies for Elementary Grades 1-5) textbooks from 2,346 districts to 39,558 public elementary schools. The LGU force shall augment the assistance being provided by the Coca-Cola trucks.

Under the project the following activities are proposed to be undertaken: (a) CSO Regrouping; (b) Training-Workshop on textbook inspection; (c) Textbook Inspection at the printing presses and

warehouses; (d) Preparation of materials for CSO volunteer monitors; (e) Monitoring and Coordination; (f) Preparations for Textbook Walk; and (g) Evaluation of the Program.

3. Mongolia: Regulation of Conflict of Interest in Mongolia

CSO's Name: Women for Social Progress (WSP)

Grant Amount: \$16,449

Project Cost: \$21,341 (equivalent)

Date of Approval: 11/9/2006

Implementation Period: 10 months

Brief Description:

Mongolia has recently joined a UN Convention on Anti-Corruption necessitating appropriate changes in the country's legal framework. One such area is the Conflict of Interests (COI), not fully covered in existing Mongolian laws, particularly the newly adopted Anti-Corruption Law. Through this project WSP aims to influence legislators and decision makers to produce regulations and/or law on COI to minimize opportunities for corruption. Under the project an effort will be made to introduce international standards and practices concerning COI and promote public awareness, advocacy and lobbying. It also aims to enhance: (a) the transparency and accountability of the government; (b) effective citizen oversight, as well as intra-governmental checks and balances; (c) citizens awareness of ethical issues including COI; and (c) capacity of NGOs to contribute and influence positive changes in the CPI regulation and processes

The project consists of the following groups of activities: (a) Development of a Toolkit (definition of COI with specific examples of what constitutes COI, ethical standards, disclosure methods, case study, etc.); (b) Consultancy of International Experts for review and recommendations on required COI regulations and law in Mongolia. The recommendations will be submitted to the Parliament, National Council and used for public discussions; (c) Public campaign (TV and radio programs, newspaper articles, distribution of leaflets, publication of the new law/regulations in the newspaper, etc.); (d) Project Administration.

4. Mongolia: Public Monitoring of Corruption in the Mongolian Mining Sector

CSO's Name: World Wildlife Fund

Grant Amount: \$21,500

Project Cost: \$27,860 (equivalent)

Date of Approval: 11/9/2006

Implementation Period: 12 months

Brief Description:

The rapid expansion of the mining sector combined with the lack of regulatory enforcement has resulted in the violation of many laws designed to protect Mongolia's natural resources. The rapid expansion in mining has also increasingly become a major source of corruption. In order to mitigate negative impacts of mining and to decrease corruption in the sector, proper implementation of the recently revised mineral and anti-corruption law are of utmost importance. Therefore, the primary goals of the project are to monitor the implementation status of the recently revised Mongolian laws on mineral resources and anti-corruption, inform the public and make advocacy for further improvements in the legislation of the mining sector. The project will be implemented as a collaborative effort between WWF Mongolia and the Alliance of the River Movements (including 15 organizations) and the Center of Human Rights and Development (CHRD).

The project encompasses the following activities: (a) Enhancing public knowledge on the revised mineral resource and anti-corruption law (including the preparation of education materials for public, training of resource persons, information dissemination and public education); (b) Monitoring of implementation status of Anti-Corruption and Mining laws through public participation; (c) Recommendations for improved legislations on mineral resources and anti corruption is developed; and (d) Project management.

5. Pakistan: Assessing governance for eliminating corruption in the health sector in Pakistan

CSO's Name: Heartfile, Pakistan

Grant Amount: \$23,183

Project Cost: \$ 29,683 (equivalent)

Date of Approval: 11/6/2006

Implementation Period: 6 months

Brief Description:

A recent report by Transparency International has identified high levels of corruption including the basic public services in Pakistan. The survey results showed that even when public services were meant to be freely available, bribes and delays keep many from receiving them and it is most often the poorest in society that suffer the most. Similarly, issues of management and governance have also been identified as some of the key impediments to leveraging the potential within Pakistan's extensive health infrastructure by the World Health Organization. In view of this, the project objectives are to: (a) carry out an anti-corruption intervention in one health facility setting in the North-West Frontier Province (NWFP) of Pakistan in collaboration with the NWFP's Health Reform Unit; (b) draw on the existing evidence of corruption in the health sector with a view to developing assessment and intervention tools that can later be utilized; and (c) institutionalization of intervention tools in other health facilities of the province.

The project involves a five-stage process: (a) Assessment Phase (focusing on economic and social costs of poor governance, unbundling corruption into different forms through qualitative research methods, identifying specific institutional weaknesses and priority areas for reforms and assessing the institutional structure and explaining why some health institutions are more vulnerable than others to corrupt activities); (b) Intervention Phase (selection of a few critical issues for intervention, development of instruments to enable transparent monitoring and garner accountability, strengthening the existing laid down procedures that can check corruption and establishing new monitoring frameworks that reinforce them); (c) Dissemination Phase (using a participatory, consultative approach); (d) Monitoring Phase (development of indicators and benchmarks for future anti-corruption monitoring activities; and (e) Institutionalization (train the trainer's workshop for concerned officers in the Health Reform Unit and the Departments of Health, Planning and Finance of the Government of NWFP and other monitoring agencies).