

Mid-Term Evaluation Report: TI IPP STRONG¹ Mid-Term Evaluation Report (February 2023)

The above report relates to the Transparency International Indo-Pacific Anti-Corruption Programme (ACT-0101075)

Background

The evaluation was commissioned by Transparency International (TI) and undertaken by Crystal Clear Consulting EOOD. This activity extends support to 15² Transparency International chapters in the Indo-Pacific.

New Zealand's funding of \$3.4 million/4-years is tagged to the Pacific while the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) grant of AUD\$9.65 million offer assistance to all of the participating countries.

Both the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) and DFAT provided comments on the Terms of Reference (ToR) and draft versions of the report. Our feedback was focused on the Pacific aspects while DFAT's comments covered the full scope of the programme that included input from its evaluation team.

The Evaluation

The evaluation concluded that the activity was making good progress and on track to achieve the objectives. Flexibility was a key enabler for the positive results achieved - especially during COVID. The report included 24 recommendations - 6 that could be actioned for the remainder of the programme, 9 for consideration in a new phase, while the remaining 9 were general and related to the operational environment. TI accepted the recommendations and in its management response undertook to implement the first set of recommendations immediately and incorporate the second set when designing a new phase. The recommendations for the operating environment will be considered following wider consultations within TI and with national chapters.

We concur with the evaluation findings and recommendations and consider them to be a fair reflection of activity progress. These also align with our observations in the Pacific. TI has published the report and Management Response on its website at:

<https://www.transparency.org/en/the-organisation/evaluations>

NOTE: that TI has not published the Annexes and requested that we do the same.

MFAT Management Response

Given the above DEVECO recommends that the Ministry publishes the report only.

¹ Transparency International Indo-Pacific Partnership for Strong, Transparent, Responsive and Open Networks for Good Governance programme (TI IPP STRONG)

² Afghanistan, Australia, Cambodia, Fiji, Indonesia, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Vanuatu, and Vietnam