

How to infiltrate the subversive system of corruption

Central control of anti-corruption coordination activities is essential for reducing corruption in order to create a transparent legal and regulatory environment and leveraging change through strategic institutions and managing the flow of information to and from the public.

Information about the allocation of tenders where bribery, price fixing and bid rigging prevails can, for instance, be made public. "Covert agents" should be "planted" in "hot spots", such as revenue and tax component(s), customs and excise, police and procurement, to observe and report transgressions.

On the one hand, informers should be used to spread "misinformation", for example about bid rigging, to create fear and/or to provide suspects with leeway to make mistakes and to "hang themselves". On the other hand, disseminating credible information to the public is essential to increase public pressure for transparency and change.

LIFESTYLE AUDITS

Politicians and public servants whose lifestyles do not match their remuneration packages and asset portfolios should be legally required to explain how they accumulated such wealth. The central anti-corruption coordinating unit (the Namibian



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Anti-Corruption Commission) can cooperate with private institutions, community based organisations and interest groups which have an interest to reduce corruption. Examples of such interest groups are Access to Information Namibia (ACTION), Citizens for an Accountable and Transparent Society (CATS) and the National Society for Human Rights (NSHR).

Corruption can be uncovered by making use of hidden video cameras, confidential exit interviews and electronic surveillance (Klitgaard). Whistleblowers can be promised state protection, immunity, financial rewards and new identities in other countries to encourage them to come forward to expose organised criminal syndicates and other manifestations of corruption, for example cartels, collusion, extortion and bribery.

Reference:
Klitgaard, E. 2000. *Addressing Corruption in Health*.

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