ANTI-CORRUPTION KIT

15 IDEAS FOR YOUNG ACTIVISTS

Transparency International is a global movement with one vision: a world in which government, business, civil society and the daily lives of people are free of corruption. Through more than 100 chapters worldwide and an international secretariat in Berlin, we are leading the fight against corruption to turn this vision into reality.

1. FOLLOW THE MONEY

KEEP WATCH

IN A NUTSHELL

Citizens rely on governments for essential goods and services. But what's more is they pay for those services through taxation.

If a government, or people within a government, feel like nobody is watching, then the temptation to steal becomes much more seductive. Accountability to the public begins when people – like you! – track government spending and detect corruption by watching how and where the money flows.

REMEMBER

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HOW DO YOU SET IT UP?

To track your government's spending, a good way forward is:

1. **Identify what spending needs to be monitored:** Were promised schools never built? Were potholed roads never paved? Find out what your community is still waiting on.

2. **Form a team:** Gather peers who want to follow the money with you. Classmates with strong mathematics or analytical skills give you a great advantage.

3. **Set your goals and ambitions:** What's realistic and manageable? A long "lead-in" time for first-time users is suggested.

4. **Be prepared!** Plan the research needed to track spending in your country or town. Collect government records to find out how much is being promised to a given project and for how long.

5. **Collect your evidence:** Go into the field to find data – and recruit others to join if needed.

6. **Share your findings:** Gather your team together to discuss any discrepancies in government spending. Also highlight instances where promised public resources arrived as planned.

7. **Get answers:** Hold a public hearing in your community to discuss the findings. Follow up with officials or political leaders to have them address any gaps in spending.

8. **Keep the momentum:** Consider ways you and your team can continue monitoring spending in the future.

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WHY DO IT?

Governments are often defined by the weak link in their chains. Citizens should play a part in finding those weak links, and expose them if they're corrupt.

The major benefits of citizen participation and scrutiny of public budgets are:
- Less corruption means less money wasted.
- The community at large gets a better sense of the budget process, and in turn a better sense of how their taxes are being spent.

YOU CAN MAKE IT HAPPEN

- The budgetary process is a complicated one – so be sure key participants have a technical grasp of budgets and governance.
- People will only feel empowered to take part if there is scope to create change. Find it.

WHAT ARE THE LIMITATIONS?

- Restrictive laws can limit public access to financial information. Be sure that you're acting in accordance with the law when researching expenditure.
- There may be widespread and deep-rooted reluctance on the part of officials to share financial information to the public. Consider making allies with officials in other institutions, like the anti-corruption or audit agency, to add some weight to your requests for information.
- It's easy to get side-tracked when examining the details of expenditure, but stay focused. Understand the links between "big picture" spending and the micro-level outcomes that the spending should deliver (i.e. a country's health budget versus one government-funded health centre).

IDEA IN ACTION
Kenya: It's Our Money. Where Has It Gone?

In Kenya, members of parliament receive approximately US$1 million per year to spend on development projects. They were able to spend this money without meaningful oversight, so the scheme was plagued with mismanagement and corruption. In response to this, community organisation MUHURI carried out social audits on the spending. Their process included gathering records from the government on projects, training community activists to undertake monitoring, inspecting project sites, and following up with public officials, among others.

Using their project analysis forms and a simple questionnaire, the activists visited each project site to assess whether each project was completed according to the specifications. During a social audit, community monitors found that there were irregularities and nepotism involved in the allocation of scholarships.

Find out more: *www.internationalbudget.org/wp-content/uploads/Profile-of-MUHURI-Kenya-2011.pdf*

RESOURCE
The Open Budget Initiative, International Budget Partnership

The Open Budget Initiative promotes public access to budget information and the adoption of accountable budget systems. It intends to provide citizens and legislators with the comprehensive and practical information needed to measure a government's commitment to budget transparency and accountability.

Find out more: *www.internationalbudget.org/who-we-are*

2. COUNT SUPPLIES

KEEP WATCH

IN A NUTSHELL

As the cost and importance of education go up, so does the temptation to act corruptly. In response to this, parents and students are getting better at sensing corruption and doing something about it.

You can make sense of the often complex spending in schools by counting school supplies. While this has been used primarily for small items like textbooks and classroom supplies, there's no reason it can't be used for building equipment and school assets.

HOW DO YOU SET IT UP?

1. **Identify the problem:** Choose something that you are concerned about in your school or university. Brainstorm solutions.

2. **What's the objective?** Decide what you want to achieve and set your goals.

3. **Survey the terrain:** Understand the policies around the issue you want to monitor or address. Map the university or school budget and learn where the money flows.

4. **Reach out:** Use the project as a means of opening doors with senior leaders within relevant authorities like the education ministry or governing bodies. Make it a conversation starter!

5. **Kick-off the planning:** Convene an introductory meeting and plan the process. Orient and train staff and volunteers involved in conducting the research.

6. **Do the fieldwork:** This is when your team is "on the ground", analysing the processes and spending patterns related to your research goal.

7. **Share your results:** This might be a presentation to the school management or going to the media, depending on your findings.

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WHY DO IT?

- Fix the leaking tap. If there's money leaking out illegitimately, you can spot it and stop it.
- Education spending is a black hole for most governments. But this project can be a catalyst for much larger reforms and change if carried out effectively and regularly.

YOU CAN MAKE IT HAPPEN

- Have a well-resourced team with a shared vision and a commitment to getting the job done.
- Gain buy-in from people with influence in the school or university that is having its supplies counted.
- Gather support from the community! Get students and teachers on board with your project.

WHAT ARE THE LIMITATIONS?

- Education spending processes are complicated, so people using the tool will need a reasonable understanding of decision-making protocols. Find a parent, teacher or ally in government who can help you navigate these challenges.
- This tool demands data availability and accuracy. Talk to school and education officials on how best to go about getting access to the data.
- To encourage transparency in budget spending, follow-up tracking is needed at least yearly. Create and maintain relations with an appropriate official and teacher to give added weight and commitment to the cause.

IDEA IN ACTION
Philippines: A Million New Inspectors

About 1 million boy and girl scouts in Philippines have counted textbooks and conducted quality inspections throughout the country. Working hand-in-hand with government and non-government agencies, the programme discourages theft of textbooks and helps promote long-term transparency in the country's schools.

The Department of Education provided an open door to programme organisers, including access to budget information, contracts, and delivery points, as well as providing inspection sites.

Local organisations and volunteers that include schoolchildren also carry out the monitoring – including surprise inspections – during the textbook production process. The programme has proved successful at reducing corruption in the textbook distribution process.

Find out more: *web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/TOPICS/EXTPUBLICSECTORANDGOVERNANCE/ 0,,contentMDK:23265513~pagePK:148956~piPK:216618~theSitePK:286305,00.html*

3. CITIZEN REPORT CARDS

IN A NUTSHELL

Most people have an opinion of their government or the services it provides, but how often do they actually take the time to write down their views?

Citizen report cards are a way to do just this. The cards are used to collect feedback on a public service by the people who use them. It's not only about gathering information – cards are a great way to get citizens thinking about the quality of public services they receive, whether that's public transport, education, or essential services.

Collecting citizen report cards allows you to create a powerful dataset that provides insights into service delivery. An individual card might not seem meaningful in itself, but a collection of hundreds or thousands of completed cards can generate new perspectives on government performance – which can then be used for the media and sharing with the public.

REMEMBER

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HOW DO YOU SET IT UP?

1. **Choose a topic:** Identify what – or whom – it is that you're assessing (e.g. political candidates or a sector).

2. **Identify your audience:** Know who should have a say in your survey. For instance, if you're analysing a school's performance, select students and parents of that school.

3. **Know what you're getting yourself into:** It is vital to talk to target organisations and other stakeholders – like the media – at the beginning rather than at the end.

4. **Define your sample:** Consider how many people need to take part in order to make sure the survey is statistically meaningful. You can start by choosing whichever sample is smaller: 200 people or 10 per cent of the total population (whichever is less).

5. **Pick your questions:** Build your questionnaire and keep it simple – your goal is to connect with people from all walks of life.

6. **Get prepared:** Train those people conducting the survey on questioning and research methods.

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7. **Spread the word!** Promote the survey to attract more people.

8. **Ask the public:** Survey citizens to find out their views on your chosen topic.

9. **Process your results:** Crunch the data and look for meaningful patterns. Focus on parts of data where feedback is most one-sided. What does the data tell you? Is the government doing something very poorly in particular?

10. **Share your findings!** Let the media and your community know if the service meets expectations. Disclose any shortcomings or achievements.

11. **Build for the long term:** Who is going to run the same survey in the future? Map out how you intend to follow up with the institution you've assessed.

WHY DO IT?
- Citizen report cards enhance public awareness on issues of service quality. They encourage citizens to proactively seek higher standards from governments and service providers.
- Citizen report cards can encourage new discussions in communities about the standards that citizens should expect and deserve.

YOU CAN MAKE IT HAPPEN
- Show a desire to *collaborate* and explore problems with citizens, rather than *telling* them about problems in their community.
- Don't let your report card programme become a vehicle for wider discontent. Constructive criticism is something an agency can listen to and act on – personal attacks and political agendas are not.

WHAT ARE THE LIMITATIONS?
- Big data matters – you need to take time to get a lot of people taking part in the survey. It's also important to be sure that the numbers are correct. Any inaccurate data can hurt your credibility in the future.
- An uncooperative institution can disregard this process and results easily at times. To deter this, try to find a trustworthy ally in the agency that can advocate for your findings within the sector.

Source: Information on citizen report cards is adapted from PG Exchange – an initiative by CIVICUS, the World Alliance for Citizen Participation. Find out more: www.pgexchange.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=164&Itemid=121

IDEA IN ACTION
Philippines: First Time Voters
The Center for Youth Advocacy and Networking, a civil society organisation, has worked on the First Time Voters project, an electoral reform advocacy programme, for over a decade. The youth report card programme was used to determine young people's satisfaction levels on the accomplishments and platforms of the different presidential candidates of 2010.

Find out more: *www.cyanpilipinas.wordpress.com/about*

RESOURCE
Improving Local Governance and Service Delivery: Citizen Report Card Learning Tool Kit
This e-learning toolkit is designed to help users develop the basic knowledge and skills to implement citizen report cards.

Find out more: *gateway.transparency.org/tools/detail/319*

4. TECH SOLUTIONS

KEEP WATCH

IN A NUTSHELL

Information Communication Technologies (ICTs) provide effective ways to report corruption and facilitate the lodging of complaints. Reporting can be done via websites, hotlines or phone applications that collect citizens' experiences of corruption.

Social media, in particular, is an effective way for you to address corruption in real-time and anonymously. ICTs that utilise crowdsourcing and mobile technology facilitate the compiling of databases of evidence and can mobilise people instantly.

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HOW DO YOU SET IT UP?

One of the most common and effective ICTs is crowdsourcing. To get it going, do the following:

1. **Gather a reliable team:** Find other like-minded people who have an interest in using technology to fight corruption.

2. **Select your topic:** Identify what you want to report and raise awareness about (e.g. bribes to go to school or transparency in political party financing).

3. **Choose a ready-to-use platform:** Will it be an interactive mapping website like Ushahidi (*www.ushahidi.com*)? Should information be collected via text message with Frontline SMS (*www.frontlinesms.com*)? You decide what's best suited to your community.

4. **Train your team:** You all need to know how to operate the platform. Be prepared to have answers readily available for user questions.

5. **Spread the word!** Let all of your friends know on social media. Actively ask websites and blogs to promote the cause that you want to raise awareness about.

6. **Collect your evidence:** Gather all the data collected through crowdsourcing and make a report.

7. **Update and inform:** Make sure your community knows about the latest milestones and trends you've found. Notify leaders of what's happening and what's needed to help bring about positive change.

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WHY DO IT?

- As they are often ready-built and free to use, ICTs can be a very cost-effective tool in meeting your anti-corruption goals.
- It's a quick way to collect information, especially reports of corruption.

YOU CAN MAKE IT HAPPEN

- Make sure you're in a political environment that is enabling (that is, promotes and protects free speech).

WHAT ARE THE LIMITATIONS?

- There is the potential for misuse of ICTs. For example, they can be used to disseminate misinformation and incite violence. Ensure that you have the means and access to shut down the platform if faced with a hostile situation.
- A huge number of the world's population is still without internet access and thus cut off from participating. Recognise this discrepancy if there is any in your community.
- There are significant security challenges associated with the use of mobile phones for reporting corruption. If the system is poorly designed or vulnerable, participants risk being identified or having their messages intercepted. To deter this, consult digital security experts and ensure that the platform you're using is secure.

Source: Information taken from U4 Expert Answer.
Find out more: www.u4.no/publications/technological-innovations-to-identify-and-reduce-corruption/

IDEA IN ACTION
India: I Paid a Bribe

On *www.ipaidabribe.com*, citizens can report their experiences of corruption. The site received almost 22,500 reports between 2010 and 2012, some of which were picked up by the media and resulted in arrests and convictions. On the flipside, citizens can also report positive experiences they've had with honest officers.

Find out more: *www.ipaidabribe.com*

Philippines: Check My School

Check My School (*www.checkmyschool.org*) allows students to evaluate public schools across the Philippines. Students and parents are able to check that money budgeted for desks, textbooks and toilets are realised. The site also allows users to contest official data via Facebook, Twitter and text messages.

Find out more: *www.checkmyschool.org*
www.theengineroom.org

5. COMICS & CARTOONS

GET CREATIVE

IN A NUTSHELL

Comics have been successfully used to raise awareness about anti-corruption with young people.

Using images and text to show speech and dialogue, cartoons present concrete situations from young people's daily lives, illustrating the corruption challenges faced by so many.

Comics have an authentic feel that encourages debate in the society depicted – and can be created by those who normally have little or no access to the media or to media production.

HOW DO YOU SET IT UP?

1. **Consider – are comics appropriate for your campaign?** Have they been used in your community/country? Look at the local context and consider how the idea will be received.

2. **What's the story?** Decide on the story you want to tell. Is it about exposing corruption in universities? A superhero saving the community from corruption? A romance about corruption coming between love? You've got the imagination – now tell the story.

3. **Get the kit:** Making grassroots comics and cartoons is not very complicated. Pen, paper, ideas, and a way to reproduce and distribute the comics are all you need.

4. **Plan your design and format:** All grassroots comic formats use simple, widely available duplicating methods, such as photocopying; digital printing for more than 100 copies; and offset printing for more than 200-300 copies. A printer can advise you on the best option for your project.

5. **Plan publication and dissemination:** Comics can be converted for publication in newspapers, magazines and brochures; it's a good idea to consider this when choosing a format. They can be employed at different levels of campaigning, from peer group distribution within a local community to mass distribution around the country.

WHY DO IT?

- Comics are great for communicating to those who cannot read.
- Comics are created by ordinary people and activists, so they give a first-hand view of the issues facing the community. They are also a form of expression that encourages debate.
- Comics can promote communal understanding across ethnic lines. Genuine, heartfelt stories are convincing, compelling and have credibility.

YOU CAN MAKE IT HAPPEN

- Be creative! Think outside the box when illustrating a story.
- Keep it simple. It's easy to get carried away by telling a long story – but readers will want it to be to the point and entertaining.

WHAT ARE THE LIMITATIONS?

- The cost of production and distribution may be restrictive for some people. Find community sponsors who can help subsidise costs.
- While comics raise awareness about corruption and integrity, it's difficult for citizens to act unless there is a call to action. Find a way to feature the comics in a place that can be used to facilitate discussion, debate, and action against corruption.

IDEA IN ACTION

Bangladesh: Cartoon Competitions

Transparency International Bangladesh organises cartoon competitions to create greater awareness and motivation among young people to stand up to corruption. It also gives participants an opportunity to communicate their understanding of corruption and to raise their voice against it. Once the winners are chosen, all cartoon submissions are featured in an exhibition for the public.

Find out more: *www.ti-bangladesh.org*

Solomon Islands: Comics against Corruption

The Solomon Islands government, in partnership with Transparency Solomon Islands, ran a programme that used comic-style posters and comic strips in newspapers to increase awareness of corruption in the country. It encouraged Solomon Islanders to say "Naf Nao!" to corruption by reporting anyone they believe to be involved in corrupt practices.

The comic was timed to coincide with International Anti-Corruption Day on 9 December. Each comic told the story of average Solomon Islanders in everyday situations, and how their lives can be deeply affected by seemingly simple acts of corruption. The campaign covered the topics of bribery, favouritism, misuse of funds and what you can do to stop corruption. The series of anti-corruption comics ran in all three of Solomon Islands' major newspapers – and was even available as a pull-out poster insert in the *Solomon Star*.

Find out more: *www.ramsi.org/media/news/anti-corruption-comic-hits-the-streets.html*

6. THEATRE & DRAMA

GET CREATIVE

IN A NUTSHELL

Are you ready to put integrity centre stage? With a thoughtful performance, you can do just that – and there are several ways to make it happen.

Popular theatre can be used to empower citizens with new knowledge about societal forces that affect lives as well as ways to improve their own communities.

Whether you're an amateur or professional, performing on the street or at the opera, you get to choose the best way to get your community interested and talking. Will you use actors or puppets? Is it a musical, a comedy or a poetry slam? Improvised or choreographed? The options are endless – and are guided by your creative control.

HOW DO YOU SET IT UP?

1. **Choose a goal:** Should you raise awareness about corruption in the country, in a particular sector or at your school? You decide.

2. **Gather your team:** Find a few actors and theatre-goers who are eager to help you put on the production (e.g. from your school, neighbourhood, or a local theatre). If there are no professionals, recruit some friends and classmates to take part in your play.

3. **Pick a show:** Select or create a play, musical or dance performance that you want to perform. Decide if the play should have the audience interact with the actors or have them only observe.

4. **Set the date:** Pick a location and set a date. Possible venues can be the local theatre, a community space or the street.

5. **Look for sponsors:** Find local businesses and organisations that support your cause and want to be seen supporting it. Negotiate whether they can contribute to costs, promotional materials, or stage props, among others.

6. **Practice makes perfect:** Schedule frequent rehearsals with cast and crew. If the actors are not professional, do a dress rehearsal before the opening for a small group of family and close friends to help combat nerves before performing in front of a larger audience.

7. **Promote your performance:** Use your networks to advertise your performance at least a month in advance. Have your sponsors spread the word as well.

8. **It's show time!** Premiere your performance and gather a list of lessons learned post-production. Adapt them to future shows and record the performance for upload to social media and the web. Finally, be sure to take a well-deserved bow for your hard work!

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WHY DO IT?

- Theatre is a powerful way for people and communities to share their experiences, generate conversation, and enable new insights to emerge. Through theatre, both performers and spectators can engage with difficult issues in a safe space.
- Theatre is an ideal instrument to raise awareness about corruption – potentially reaching many who may not otherwise be receptive to or receive anti-corruption messages and education.

YOU CAN MAKE IT HAPPEN

- Dramatic performances are most effective when they use artistic practices that are culturally appropriate.
- A clear pre-requisite is the availability of local, technical capacity to develop, conduct and evaluate the show.

WHAT ARE THE LIMITATIONS?

- Most awareness-raising tools have limits in fighting corruption and achieving change in real life. After watching a performance, people then need to use the knowledge they've gained for real change to occur. This means that you need to use other methods to complement and reinforce your message, which can include facilitating a discussion after the performance to hear how the audience would stop corruption.
- Gathering support in terms of audiences and sponsors requires a big investment in time (on top of the time spent in organising and rehearsing the performances). Give yourself enough time to find investors, but don't be discouraged if some businesses or individuals say no. There are many anti-corruption advocates wanting to help your cause.

IDEA IN ACTION

Morocco: Umbrellas of Integrity

Drummers and dancers filled the streets of Casablanca as part of International Anti-Corruption Day festivities organised by Transparency Maroc. In a youth led project called *Paroles Urgentes*, or fast words, to raise awareness about corruption through music, dance and theatre hundreds of people turned out to support this message. Part of their performance was a participatory theatrical piece – which included distributing umbrellas of integrity to the crowd as it grew bigger to "shield them from the rain of corruption."

Find out more:
blog.transparency.org/2012/12/14/beating-bribery-international-anticorruption-day-in-morocco/

Papua New Guinea: Staging an Election

Around 80 students made up much of the audience for a play carried out by the Understanding Corruption through Drama Troupe, based in the PNG capital Port Moresby. Its performance highlighted challenges during the elections. Lively discussions followed, demonstrating that the audience understood the play's messages and underlying themes. When asked if PNG citizens have the right to ask their member of parliament on how their money is being spent, a student answered yes, explaining that this was because it was their money. "Everybody pays taxes," he said.

Find out more: *http://issuu.com/transparencyinternational/docs/annual_report_2010/66*

7. BOARD GAMES

GET CREATIVE

IN A NUTSHELL

In the modern world, games are increasingly at the heart of the way we work, learn and play.

Games and sports are a valuable form of education – even for serious topics like corruption. They develop knowledge, attitudes and values, and can be highly effective in encouraging teamwork and collectivism.

Game playing is a tool many educators use to teach about integrity and corruption. Board games in particular provide cost-effective, hands-on experiences for participants while encouraging collaboration and open discussion about the game's subject matter.

HOW DO YOU SET IT UP?

1. **Define the basics:** For the board game, decide on your target audience(s) and the context for playing the game.

2. **Design, plan, budget:** Be aware of time needed to implement the planning stages. Questions to consider: What materials will the board and game pieces be made of (paper, durable cardboard, plastic, etc.)? How many need to be made and at what cost?

3. **Get support:** Approach businesses and organisations that may want to help fund the game. Negotiate the terms (i.e. if they can't offer enough to cover the costs to make the game, ask them to sponsor the dissemination of it).

4. **Test your idea:** Implement your plan and test the game with a focus group before taking it to your target group. During the trial phase, ask players if they are unsure about the concept and be sure that all questions are answered in the game's accompanying "how to play" sheet.

5. **Promote the game!** Share with friends and the community and consider hosting a tournament or posting the game online so others can replicate it.

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WHY DO IT?

- Games cut through student boredom and disinterest. To some, they can even offer learning in camouflage.
- Games can accommodate many different types of learning styles.
- Games are great vehicles for "learning by doing" and can be an excellent way to test knowledge and reinforce practical skills.

YOU CAN MAKE IT HAPPEN

- Educators need to grasp the links between the game and the lessons of the game. This isn't just about using up student time; there are meaningful ideas at play here.
- Games need to be both enjoyable and useful. One out of two isn't good enough.
- Games need to raise insightful questions about the issues at hand – and players should be encouraged to engage intellectually with the ideas of corruption and integrity.

WHAT ARE THE LIMITATIONS?

- Board games require considerable planning for creating the layout, instructions and rules. Give yourself enough time to produce a well thought-out game.
- Depending on the materials used to make the game, costs can add up quickly. Consider fundraising to alleviate costs.

IDEA IN ACTION
Playing for Rights

Amnesty International created a simple board game to educate youth on human rights – with players becoming groups of refugees planning their escape to freedom. The only equipment needed was print-outs of playing cards on A3 paper, a watch, crayons and pens.

While the theme is not focused on corruption, the downloadable board game can be adapted to the integrity agenda. You can create corruption challenges where players choose what they would do when faced with certain situations and earn points based on their answers. Participants gain an introduction to corruption as well as a better understanding of how to combat it.

Find out more: *www.amnesty.org.uk/resources/activity-great-escape*

8. SPORTS

GET CREATIVE

IN A NUTSHELL

What's your favourite sport? From running against corruption to scoring a goal for transparency, you can raise your community's anti-corruption awareness through any sport you want.

Anti-corruption education through sports creates a fun, outgoing and effective means of reaching young people with messages of integrity. And better yet – it's all done outside the classroom.

HOW DO YOU SET IT UP?

1. **Start planning:** Plan the event at least three months in advance. Form a committee and delegate roles. Decide on the message you want young people in your community to learn. Prepare a detailed work plan and set up a feasible budget.

2. **Select a venue:** At least two months before the event, choose a venue. If holding a race, identify the most suitable route. Notify police/traffic management, first aid providers and city managers.

3. **Team up!** Six weeks before the event you should be advertising and getting teams to register. Ideally, you are looking for organisations such as companies, churches, government departments and educational institutions.

4. **Get equipped:** Before the event starts, be sure that items like water supplies, tents and sound equipment are available.

WHY DO IT?

- It's a great way to include sports lovers and to be active.
- It's an opportunity to raise your organisation's profile as an effective community organiser.

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YOU CAN MAKE IT HAPPEN
- Good planning: Make sure this incorporates the safety of participants.
- Strong networking: Success is dependent on strong partnerships.
- Clear focus: You must have a clear focus for the event, with simple but strong key messages (e.g. "Kick corruption out of schools" or "Batting for transparency in politics").

WHAT ARE THE LIMITATIONS?
- Sporting activities often involve limited numbers, so the reach is not great. As you gain experience, consider initiating a larger event with multiple schools or universities acting as co-hosts.
- While sports can raise anti-corruption awareness, it only scratches at the surface of the complicated issue and does not provide in-depth information. Be sure to include a discussion on corruption's effects and how anti-corruption efforts by young people can help stop it.

IDEA IN ACTION
Afghanistan: Kabul's Corruption Marathon
Afghan youth Tariq Eqtidari uses marathons to fight corruption. He sees sport as the best way to spread awareness among Afghan youth, so he organised his first big marathon against corruption. The team was able to gather around 500 young Afghan boys and girls in one of Kabul's many dusty streets. Their message was loud and clear: "Don't pay or accept bribes". The participants did not run a long distance, but a large crowd noticed the group. Eqtidari also involved local radio stations in his campaign, which then covered the marathon live and interviewed participants. This outreach helped them convey their message to an even larger audience.

Find out more: *www.dw.de/afghans-marathon-efforts-to-fight-corruption/a-16632624*

Kenya: Show Corruption the "RED CARD"
By using soccer as an educational tool, the 'Show corruption the "RED CARD"' programme strives to attract young people to help them learn about preventing corruption. During the football games, cones labelled with corruption drivers (including greed, bribery and nepotism, amongst others) blocked the path of players. If a player stepped on a 'corruption cone', their team was punished with 20 star jumps for committing an act of corruption and a point was awarded to the opposing team. The aim of the game is to illustrate that corruption penalises the majority and stands in the way of achieving your ambitions.

Find out more: *vijanaamanipamoja.webs.com/*

9. YOUTH GROUPS

MOBILISE

IN A NUTSHELL

Throughout the world, groups of young people are coming together to, in one voice, share their disapproval of corruption. These groups are found at local and national levels.

Different groups have different goals, but one trait in common: a willingness to talk openly about their opposition to corruption and raise awareness about its adverse effects on a society.

Organisations can be formed with an ongoing plan in mind, or for the sake of a one-off event or a single issue.

HOW DO YOU SET IT UP?

1. **Question time:** Before you jump into the world of designing programmes for young people, ask yourself some questions first. For example, could you use an existing group or network to help young people in your community? What is the biggest corruption issue for young people today? What's the real cause of the problem? What can be done about it?

2. **Consider collaboration:** Just like "adult" organisations, youth groups can vary in size and purpose in all sorts of ways. What's more, it may be appropriate for youth groups to work as an adjunct of an existing institution, such as a church, school or sports club.

3. **Ask a friend:** You may already know what type of group you would like to form. But at the very least, you'll want to ask your friends and other young people how they feel about that issue. Ask direct questions, such as what sort of organisation should you form? Where should it be based and how often should it meet? How should you attract members? What should the goals of the group be?

4. **Remember logistics:** You will also need to consider logistical issues about the running of the group. Think about things like – how can the group be resourced? How do you obtain and maintain those resources? What are the training requirements for new group members? How does the actual work of the group get undertaken? How is success shared, celebrated and replicated?

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WHY DO IT?

- Healthy communities flourish when all members of those communities are listened to and engaged with – and this includes young people.
- Youth groups provide a healthy, socially productive outlet for young people to meet one another and fight for change.
- Youth groups create a culture of civic leadership for young people.

YOU CAN MAKE IT HAPPEN

- When attracting members, look for people with the skills and passion you need to make the group succeed.
- Don't be prescriptive – allow group members to speak out about their own experiences and develop an agenda that is relevant to them.

WHAT ARE THE LIMITATIONS?

- Members may not have spare income and will find costly activities off-putting. Be sure to have affordable activities so that everyone can participate.
- Many young people may be committed to other similar groups and movements. To gain and maintain interest in your group, promote what's different about it and keep member responsibilities feasible, not overbearing.
- Organisations require a large investment of time, energy and commitment. Be sure to find a dedicated group of friends and participants that you can rely on to make sure the youth group runs efficiently.

IDEA IN ACTION
Paraguay: Youth for Change

Reacción Joven de Cambio, or Youth Change Reaction, is a youth group with members between 15 and 26 years old. The movement promotes initiatives to raise young people's awareness about corruption. In 2012, the young activists implemented the Transparency Talks Project, which included workshops for student leaders in secondary schools across three cities to strengthen their efforts to fight corruption in Paraguay.

Find out more:
www.worldbank.org/en/news/feature/2013/05/30/jovenes-por-un-paraguay-mas-transparenteq

10. INTEGRITY CAMPS

MOBILISE

IN A NUTSHELL

Fighting corruption doesn't have to be serious business. With integrity camps you can get friends and students together to take on corruption.

Organising a camp is an unconventional way to gather peers from schools or universities together to take part in fun outdoor activities. Camps can be one-day or as long as time permits.

HOW DO YOU SET IT UP?

1. **Start planning:** Plan your integrity camp. Decide if it should be held off campus to provide students with a change in scenery.

2. **Get permission:** Discuss the proposed camp with your school or university leadership (e.g. a principal or faculty leader).

3. **Identify outcomes:** Decide what you are aiming to achieve at the camp and secure a date. Decide on a venue.

4. **Logistics checklist:** Plan all camp activities with your organising team: venue location, costs, legal requirements, transportation, accommodation, and staffing roster.

5. **Find experts:** Develop your activities with an anti-corruption agenda in collaboration with an experienced teacher. Consider bringing anti-corruption experts, officials and activists on board.

6. **Be creative!** Ensure all activities are participatory and include competitions, use of arts, sports and/or games.

TIPS FOR SUCCESS
Logistics

At least one month before the camp: Finalise your camp activities, curriculum, rosters, equipment and so on. You will also need to supply information to students, parents, teachers and staff; organise rosters and activities; brief attendees on everyone's role at camp; and create a camp booklet.

During camp: Abide by the rules and responsibilities. Reinforce camp policies, but have fun!

After camp: Get feedback from students and evaluate the camp. Write thank you letters to volunteers and organisers. Publicise the camp through networks and media. Decide if your community is ready for an annual camp, and if so, start brainstorming the next event!

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WHY DO IT?

- Education is effective – more effective than awareness-raising – for instilling values and attitudes, transmitting knowledge and changing behaviour.
- Integrity camps are a great way to present this information – they are designed to be both fun and educational.

YOU CAN MAKE IT HAPPEN

- Ensure you work closely with teachers, educational authorities and the educational community to obtain support for your programme.

WHAT ARE THE LIMITATIONS?

- For camps lasting longer than one day, money needs to be raised to deliver information and educational programmes. Find local sponsors to help alleviate costs, which can include providing food and drinks, tents, or money.
- Camps require lots of logistical planning and support from your university or school. Ask a teacher or school official to act as a leader and mentor throughout the process.

IDEA IN ACTION
Cambodia: Empowered and Inspired

One hundred and thirty young people from Cambodia gathered in the country's capital to learn innovative ways to promote anti-corruption. The camp, organised by Transparency International Cambodia, featured speakers from the Anti-Corruption Unit, lawyers specialising in transparency, media producers and prominent youth leaders.

Inspired and ready to take on corruption, campers planned how to engage people in their own communities. They also discussed hosting a workshop open to all ages to help others learn about fighting corruption in the country.

Find out more: *blog.transparency.org/2013/02/06/ti-cambodia-youth-camp-in-pictures-empowering-young-people-to-join-the-fight-against-corruption/comment-page-1/*

11. "ZERO" BRIBES

MOBILISE

IN A NUTSHELL

The "zero currency" note is a visual aid that encourages people to say "no" to corrupt officials and to expose where and when bribes are demanded.

The concept originated in India where it was known as the "zero rupee" movement and has proven a formidable tactic in fighting corruption. Here's how it works: when asked for a bribe, you "pay" with a bill that resembles real currency, but is actually fake paper money that includes anti-corruption messages.

REMEMBER

Before getting started on planning, it's important to verify that this activity is in line with your national and local laws and to check what legal permits, if any, are required. You should also let your parents know what you have planned. If you're not permitted to carry out this task, please refer to our other youth activities.

HOW DO YOU SET IT UP?

1. **Take a moment to consider if this is right for you:** Has it been done in your country before? Would using "zero currency" risk your personal safety? Ask adult activists for their thoughts.

2. **Gather supporters:** Bring together friends and family members who may want to take part. The larger the group, the more effective the "zero currency" notes become.

3. **Get the materials:** Download the "zero currency" for your country through the website www.zerocurrency.org.

4. **Multiply!** Where possible, produce double-sided, full colour notes. The more realistic they look, the more surprised your target will be when you hand them the note!

5. **Build momentum:** Encourage others to distribute "zero currency" notes. Spread the word at school, university, or by putting up a stand in the city.

6. **Plan into action:** When asked for a bribe by anyone, give him or her a "zero currency" note.

7. **Share your success:** Publicise the campaign and encourage as many people as possible to take part.

8. **Speak out:** Consider reporting the person who asked you for a bribe.

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WHY DO IT?

- "Zero currency" is a simple, inexpensive tool that anyone can use.
- It is a non-violent, yet assertive, symbolic gesture that immediately signals to a beneficiary of bribery that you believe bribery is unethical and illegal, and you're not participating in it. You are leading by example – as you should!
- The "zero currency" note doesn't "name and shame" people who bribe, but it does send them a strong message, without using words, that bribery is wrong. The notes may be valueless, but they are not worthless. They are a powerful symbol.
- Using non-violent tools to fight corruption invites less retaliation.

YOU CAN MAKE IT HAPPEN

- First look at the local context and consider how the idea will be received.
- The success of tools like the "zero currency" note lies in people's willingness to use them. If you're the only one using it in a city of millions, the gesture might be overlooked.

WHAT ARE THE LIMITATIONS?

- Depending on how much interest there is around "zero currency" notes, paper and printing costs can add up quickly. Consider fundraising options to mitigate costs whilst promoting your efforts simultaneously.
- The potential recipient may not accept your note and may be hostile to your gesture of non-compliance. In this situation, do not rely on the notes – and advise others to do the same. Be prepared with a backup plan that ensures your safety.

IDEA IN ACTION
India: The "Zero Rupee" Movement

The "zero rupee" note was created by an Indian physics professor who was harassed by endless extortion demands. He handed out the "zero rupee" notes as a polite way of saying "no" to officials who held out their hands.

Printed on the note was "Eliminate Corruption at all levels" and "I promise to neither accept nor give a bribe". When a corrupt official suggests to a citizen that they should pay a bribe to get something done, the citizen can hand over the "zero rupee" note and its effects have taken hold. The Indian NGO 5th Pillar has now distributed more than 1 million bills in five languages since 2007.

Find out more: *www.5thpillar.org/programs/zero-rupee-note*

12. PROTESTS

MOBILISE

IN A NUTSHELL
Protest events are a way for citizens and groups to come together in public as a display of large scale support or opposition for a particular issue. Protests, marches, demonstrations and rallies can be a powerful tool for anti-corruption campaigners.

REMEMBER
Before getting started on planning, it's important to verify that protest marches are in line with your national and local laws and to check what legal permits, if any, are required. You should also let your parents know what you have planned. If you're not permitted to carry out this task, please refer to our other youth activities.

HOW DO YOU SET IT UP?

1. **Build a core organising group:** Protests require a lot of planning, and this is best done with a team. What logistics do you need to worry about? Think about media, permits, equipment, safety, transport and signs.

2. **Define your message:** Move ahead in steps. Protests are used to communicate short, simple messages. What's the slogan or motto that best describes your campaign? Make it catchy.

3. **Pick a time and location:** When and where you hold a protest will help determine who can come. The circumstances of the date and location are often important. It is common to march on days of national or historical significance.

4. **Notify the authorities:** Think about who needs to be notified. This may include police, local government and school or university authorities.

5. **Organise permits:** You may also need specific permits or formal permissions. If your protest is within your school, ask administrative or senior staff what you need to do.

6. **Round up volunteers:** Gather as many people as you can to help out on the day. Create a phone tree to make getting the message out as easy as possible.

7. **Spread the word:** A protest depends on public awareness. Create as much publicity as possible to swell your crowd! Think about social media and word-of-mouth campaigns to do this.

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8. **Organise speakers:** Most protest events have a speaker or speakers as the centrepiece activity. The right speakers can educate protestors about your message and inspire them to take up your cause.

9. **Check for hazards and dangers:** The safety of your protestors is vital. You owe it to them to keep them safe. Plan for a safe and risk-free day.

10. **Get equipped:** What do you need to make the day succeed? Microphones? Signs? Video cameras?

11. **Check the weather:** Nothing keeps protestors away like bad weather. Have a "plan B" – like an indoor venue.

12. **Manage the info:** You can educate your protestors by giving them reading material to take away. A protest is also a great chance to get contact details (like e-mail addresses) so you can reach people in the future.

13. **Clean up your mess:** Make sure you clean up when you're done. Remember that people have to use that space after you're finished, so leave it the way you found it.

WHY DO IT?
- Protests are a great way to show strength and create change.
- Peaceful protests and rallies can be the beginning of bigger campaigns and movements.

YOU CAN MAKE IT HAPPEN
- The combination of strong motivation, good planning, creativity and passion can be a powerful force to see your campaign realised.

WHAT ARE THE LIMITATIONS?
- Protests come with the high risk of low turnouts. Be confident that you can get enough people there to make it look impressive by promoting the event.
- Protests can come with legal risks. Know what you're getting yourself and volunteers into. Make sure your protestors are safe by acting within the law and consulting police on safety precautions.

IDEA IN ACTION
Thailand: The Thai Youth Anti-Corruption Network
The Thai Youth Anti-Corruption Network, a group of more than 4,000 Thai university students from more than 90 universities, was recognised as a "Creative for Good" best practice by the World Economic Forum. On 9 December 2012, on International Anti-Corruption Day, 2,000 students rallied at the Bangkok Art and Culture Center. They raised public awareness on the corrosive effects of corruption in Thai society and sent a signal that every sector in Thailand should be actively engaged in fighting corruption, including young people and their universities.

Find out more: *www.th.undp.org/content/thailand/en/home/presscenter/articles/2012/12/11/students-crowd-bangkok-on-anti-corruption-day-december-9.html*

13. PETITIONS

MOBILISE

IN A NUTSHELL

A petition is a collection of signatures from people supporting your cause. That petition is then presented to decision makers – like government or education officials – that have the power to create the change you want.

REMEMBER

Before getting started on planning, it's important to verify that this activity is in line with your national and local laws and to check what legal permits, if any, are required. You should also let your parents know what you have planned. If you're not permitted to carry out this task, please refer to our other youth activities.

HOW DO YOU SET IT UP?

1. **Decide on your objective:** What are you trying to accomplish? Who is the petition aimed at and what are you asking for? Be clear about what it is you want done and who needs to do it. Ensure that there is significant support for your cause in the community.

2. **Decide whether it will be offline, online, or both:** The exact regulations for legitimate petitions vary from authority to state to country. Be sure to know yours!

3. **Identify your target:** Decide if it's the government, a university, a corporation, a political party, an NGO and so on.

4. **Research:** Obtain the relevant facts before you start. Be knowledgeable and clear about the topic you are petitioning about and key arguments from all sides.

5. **Wording:** The wording should be clear and concise. It should describe the relevant issue – like what's wrong with it – and suggest what's needed.

6. **Gathering signatures:** Every signature matters. Recruit people to take your petition to their friends, family and communities.

7. **Deliver your petition:** Organise your delivery strategy before collecting signatures on your petitions. You could e-mail the recipient of your petition, but consider taking the petition offline for an in-person delivery.

8. **Promote your petition and follow up:** Be sure to thank signatories.

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TIPS FOR SUCCESS
Designing and promoting petitions
Offline/paper petitions: Have more pages photocopied than you think you will need. Your signature page should have some columns that will probably include things like the name, address, phone number and, of course, the signature.

Online petitions: You need to publicise your petitions. Link your petition URL to as many websites and forums as possible for maximum exposure.

Get your bearings: Petitions aimed at the government
Governmental petitions have their own rules and procedures – so follow the rules set out by your governmental authority. Find out, for example:

- How many signatures will you need?
- Must all signatures be on certified/official petition sheets?
- How should people's names be signed (printed, by signature, or both)?
- Do signatories have to be over 18 (for example), or on the electoral roll?
- What information must be included by the signatory, or by the submitter?
- When must the petitions be returned, and to whom?
- Do the jurisdictions you are targeting permit/recognise internet petitions?

WHY DO IT?
- Petition writing isn't especially time-consuming or demanding. It's also cost-effective.
- Petitions can heighten community awareness about your issue and help bring about the positive changes you want.

YOU CAN MAKE IT HAPPEN
- Make sure there is strong or significant public support for your issue before starting.
- A good petition is logical, compelling, and backed up with good research and facts.
- Petitioning can be an overused tactic. Consider partnering with an organisation to give yours more credibility and weight.
- Online petitions, whilst easy to get going, are competing with hundreds of other online petitions. Consider keeping the petition tailored to your community to stand out from the noise.

IDEA IN ACTION
Vanuatu: Youth Petition
In 2011, Youth against Corruption Vanuatu organised an event under the theme "Unite and Fight against Corruption". Organisers asked participants to sign a petition calling on the government to end all corrupt practices. All signatures were quickly collected and a final petition was presented to Vanuatu's minister of justice and social welfare two days after the event closed.

Find out more: *www.yacv.org/yacv/archives/minister-of-justice-social-welfare-receives-a-petition-from-yac*

RESOURCE
Change.org
Change.org is the world's largest petition platform. There are more than 40 million change.org users in 196 countries and the site has been translated into 11 languages. Every day, people use the platform to transform their communities – locally, nationally and globally.

Find out more: *www.change.org*

14. ELECTION PLEDGES

MAKE ELECTIONS COUNT

IN A NUTSHELL

Politicians may be running for office – but they shouldn't be able to hide. During the lead-up to elections, candidates are in the spotlight and this is a good time to hold them accountable for their campaigning and election promises.

Election pledges, or signed promises, can be used to have your community stand for elections that are fair and free of corruption.

You can make election pledges happen in your community to raise awareness about the serious problem of vote buying and selling – a very common form of corruption during elections.

REMEMBER

Before getting started on planning, it's important to verify that this activity is in line with your national and local laws and to check what legal permits, if any, are required. You should also let your parents know what you have planned. If you're not permitted to carry out this task, please refer to our other youth activities.

HOW DO YOU SET IT UP?

1. **Build a team:** Gather a reliable team of people who want to ensure this year's elections are clean and fair.

2. **Define your objectives – be specific:** Identify the problems in this electoral environment (like vote buying) and your proposed solutions (promote the pledge to individual candidates or voters).

3. **Get equipped:** Find out what resources are available to you and use them.

4. **Start preparations:** Train staff and volunteers. Meet regularly.

5. **Get to work!** Develop a campaign planner and timeline that everyone on the team can access.

6. **Make a plan:** Decide how to talk to voters and how they can get in touch with you.

7. **Make your pledge:** Write an election pledge for voters. You want to keep the language simple and concise, as well as making sure there are plenty of copies for voters so you don't run out. Be sure there's also space in the document for participants' signatures.

8. **Spread the word:** Publicise the campaign and gather support before the launch. Then unveil the campaign!

9. **Celebrate your success!** Write a brief report for a broad audience. Publicise the success of your programme through your networks – and even pitch the results to news outlets.

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WHY DO IT?

- An election pledge is a simple and uncomplicated tool to raise awareness about corruption in elections.
- Election pledges also remind the community of their power to contribute to a clean election.

YOU CAN MAKE IT HAPPEN

- Be professional. Be credible. Follow through on the election pledge project to the end.
- Make a thorough plan, a feasible budget (including how you'll get money for printed materials), and a detailed schedule.

WHAT ARE THE LIMITATIONS?

- Monitoring electoral processes can be extremely powerful, but depending on the level of sophistication, such processes usually require a lot of time and people. Be sure you have both.
- An election pledge may not deter people from selling and buying votes – even if it does raise awareness about the issue – because it is based on an honesty system. Consider following up with pledge signers to see if they honoured their promise.

IDEA IN ACTION
Solomon Islands: Clean Election Pledge

A group of young volunteers established the "Clean Election Campaign" in the Solomon Islands. Their approach was to gather voter pledges, each being a promise to not take part in corrupt activities during that year's election.

Their pledge states: "I pledge that I will reject all bribes. I will not accept any false promises. I will not sell my vote. I will not involve myself in any corrupt activities during, before and after the elections. And also I pledge that I will use my full conscience to decide on my vote and ask God to help me to decide my vote. And I pledge that I will only vote for an honest leader."

What should a pledge in your country say?

Find out more: *www.cauxforum.net/node/22741*

15. CROWD-SOURCING

MAKE ELECTIONS COUNT

IN A NUTSHELL

Tweet. Text. E-mail. From accessing your mobile phone to surfing the web on your computer, it's never been easier or quicker to monitor your elections in real-time.

Through online crowdsourcing you can let the world know of voting irregularities in your country within just a few clicks. Some of the information can even be plotted onto an interactive map online, allowing you also to see what your community is reporting.

HOW DO YOU SET IT UP?

1. **Build a team:** Gather a reliable team of digitally savvy people who want to see elections clean and fair.

2. **Pick your tools:** Decide whether you want to monitor elections by using social media, a ready-to-use web platform, or both, to collect data on electoral violations.

3. **Make a plan:** Develop a timeline that everyone on the team can access.

4. **Get to work!** Decide how to engage voters online and how they can get in touch with your team with any questions. Decide who will lead on responding to queries in a timely manner.

5. **Launch the platform:** Plan your launch at least one month before the election. Publicise and promote it as early as possible so that users become familiar with it.

6. **Collect your evidence:** Gather the information collected on electoral violations and pass it along to leaders and the community.

7. **Celebrate your success!** Write a brief report for a broad audience. Publicise the success of your programme online – and even pitch your findings to news outlets. Be sure to thank everyone that participated.

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WHY DO IT?

- Crowdsourcing is a simple and uncomplicated tool to raise awareness about corruption in elections.
- Accurate data you collect can be used to question an election's legitimacy. It also provides the media with figures that can be relayed to the local and international community.

YOU CAN MAKE IT HAPPEN

- Be professional. Be credible. And follow through on the project all the way to the end.
- Make a thorough rollout plan for the online platform. Put together a reliable team to make sure it's running well and have a detailed schedule.

WHAT ARE THE LIMITATIONS?

- Monitoring election violations through crowdsourcing can be extremely powerful, but requires a lot of outreach to get the word out to the online community. Be sure to have a powerful promotional period before and during the launch of the tool.
- There is the potential for misuse of ICTs. For example it can be used to disseminate misinformation and incite violence. Ensure that you have the means and access to shut down the platform if faced with a hostile situation.
- Data collected through crowdsourcing is difficult to verify – and some people may provide false information. Include a clause on the tool that states data has not been verified.
- Crowdsourcing is not a substitute for contacting emergency services – serious violations and intimidation should be reported. Be sure that those following your approach know this.

IDEA IN ACTION

Kenya: Mapping the Election

Uchaguzi is an open-source platform designed to crowdsource information via SMS and online messaging and appears on an interactive map. Pioneered in Kenya after the fall-out of the deadly 2008 elections, the website had 45,000 users in Kenya reporting on both instances of electoral fraud and acts of integrity during the following presidential elections.

Activists launched the platform to crowdsource data via Twitter, SMS, Android, e-mail and the web. More than 4,500 reports were cast – and a staggering 58 per cent of these claims have been verified. The findings were referred to by Kenya's electoral commission and international media.

Find out more: *www.uchaguzi.co.ke*

Venezuela: Tweeting the Election

Twitter is a simple way to monitor elections with your friends and community. Use or create a credible twitter name so that fellow tweeters know whom to contact for details on election monitoring. Design a hashtag so that voters tweeting claims of election fraud are streamlined (e.g. #PNGfreevote or #AUSvotefair).

In Venezuela, civil society organisations came together to cast a watchful eye on the national elections via Twitter. They received tweets – including photos – from around the country to gather data on election violations at the polling stations through several hashtags. They received more than 1,000 tweets claiming electoral fraud.

What hashtag will you create for tweeters to report election fraud?

Find out more: *www.transparency.org/news/pressrelease/ citizen_election_network_reports_on_irregularities_during_venezuelas_electi*

STAY SAFE

A BRIEF INTRO TO ASSESSING RISKS

A. WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

Risks are a part of life. When you went to school or work this morning you will have identified lots of potential risks – such as a hole in the road – and taken measures to make yourself less vulnerable – such as slowing down to avoid the hole.

While this is okay for everyday personal risks, we need to be a bit more structured when identifying and managing risks in our activities to tackle corruption. Whether we organise a protest march or a youth camp, those taking action against corruption can encounter a wide range of risks.

Below you will find help on assessing and avoiding some of the most common risks you are likely to face. This is only a short introduction though – if you have any questions you should always consult an expert before starting your activity. Remember: in all situations the most important thing is to ensure your and your volunteers' personal safety. If you ever feel in danger, you should not proceed further without getting expert guidance.

What is a risk?

To find risks we must think about threats. Threats are anything that can do us harm or disrupt our activities – such as the hole in the road while travelling, which we mentioned earlier. As there could be lots of threats, to help us prioritise we must consider how likely it is to happen, and what the impact would be if it did. You should think of ways to manage the most likely risks with the highest impact.

B. HOW DO YOU GET STARTED?

Assessing risks doesn't have to be complicated; in many situations the risks are few and simple. Checking them is common sense, but necessary. You probably already know whether, for example, you need permission to hold a demonstration in a certain area. If so, check that you have taken as many reasonable precautions you can to be prepared, avoid injury, and ensure the activity is a success!

It's important to undertake a risk assessment before starting your activity. To help, please ask yourself the following questions:

1. **What can go wrong?**
   Think about your planned activity and what could go wrong. What are the threats? Think about who might be harmed and how – for example, volunteers, passers-by, shop keepers.

2. **What can we do to stop it from happening?**
   Think about how you can reduce the risk. What can you do in advance to minimise the risks – for example, taking a different road might help avoid any holes.

3. **What will we do if it happens?**
   What can we do before it happens to help reduce the impact? Who do you go to for help and assistance?

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C. WHAT SHOULD YOU LOOK OUT FOR?

Here are some suggestions of common risks, as well as ways to manage them.

Permission - Before carrying out any activity, it's vital that you find out if you're acting in accordance with the law. This can include being a legal adult or securing permits – it all depends on the local legal system. Do your research before getting started – and if you're unsure always ask a legal expert.

Physical safety - A plan should also be devised to ensure the physical safety of both volunteers and participants in the activities. Liaise with government officials, parents, teachers and police to help ensure this.

Privacy and anonymity - For activities involving technology, it's important to ensure digital security. Participants may want to remain anonymous, but this can be difficult to do. Be careful not to make promises you cannot keep. Warn potential participants of the risks, and be careful not to pressure them into taking part.

Privacy of potential participants should also be respected. Understand your country or communities' privacy laws and make sure your activity is in line with them.

CASE STUDY
Organising a demonstration

David and Amanda are planning to organise a demonstration calling for an end to corruption in schools. They plan to tell friends and volunteers to come, and expect up to 70 people to attend. They want to put posters around town, and encourage people coming to make banners and placards. They plan to hold the demonstration outside the front of the main high school in the city on a sunny Saturday afternoon.

1.   What can go wrong?
2.   What can we do to stop it from happening?
3.   What can we do if it happens?

David and Amanda identified a list of threats and decided that these five were the most likely and had the biggest impact: 1) not having permission from the local authorities to hold the protest; 2) 'too' many people attend; 3) banners and placards have conflicting messages; 4) somebody is hurt by a wooden placard; 5) it rains or is very sunny on the day of the demonstration, and people get either sunstroke or cold and wet.

This is how David and Amanda managed the first risk. They contacted local authorities and asked for permission for the demonstration. They made sure to get a written letter of approval which they could take to the demonstration. They also told the school and nearby shops so they were aware.

How could they manage the other risks?

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GET INVOLVED.

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🐦 twitter.com/anticorruption

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www.transparency.org