Transparency and Accountability for the People of Solomon Islands
UNDP Project Initiation plan

Small Grant and Innovation Award Scheme

Are you:

- A registered civil society organisation (CSO), an academic institution and/or a registered non-government institution interested in promoting integrity, transparency and accountability in the Solomon Islands?
- An individual or informal group with a great idea on how to challenge "business-as-usual" in the Solomon Islands?
- A journalist or individual willing to tell a well-researched story related to integrity and anti-corruption?

Then you should:

- Check if your idea could be funded through this Grant Scheme by visiting www.pacific.undp.org or UNDP ANZ Haus office.
- Check if there are any upcoming design workshop by contacting tap.project@undp.org
- Develop a proposal and budget using the template in Annex. 1
- Submit your completed proposal to tap.project@undp.org or UNDP, ANZ Haus by 31 July 2018 for first selections

Background

The Initiation plan for the Transparency and Accountability for the People of Solomon Islands (TAP) Project anticipates collaboration with individuals and civil societies to raise awareness of anti-corruption and integrity
frameworks and participate in social accountability activities. Those activities should be aligned with the general context of the Solomon Islands, which include the tabling of the Anti-Corruption Bill in Parliament for the July 2018 session, the presentation of the budget and Appropriation Bill in Parliament in November 2018 as well as the implementation of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy.

Keeping this context in mind and building on the success of prior UNDP initiatives with youth and media groups on anti-corruption, the TAP project will implement a grant scheme to enable civil societies to engage with transparency and accountability activities in the second half of 2018. Applicants will be encouraged to design specific activities linked to awareness and understanding of the “integrity framework” of the Solomon Islands. Those activities should be designed with the National Anti-Corruption Strategy Framework in mind, the recommendations of the second cycle of the UNCAC review and in anticipation of a potential Anti-Corruption Agency being created this year with multiple institutions and commissions already operating in the anti-corruption space. Additional areas of focus include awareness and monitoring of the national budget and government budget literacy as an important area for accountability initiatives with the Appropriation Bill currently being drafted.

Individual applicants and organisations alike will be encouraged to suggest innovative initiatives that would help change “business as usual” in any sector where corruption impact citizen’s life and prevent rippling the benefits of development. This is keeping in mind the results of the recent private sector scan by the Solomon Islands Chamber of Commerce (SICCI) presenting corruption as a priority for businesses trying to operate in the country as well as recent reports and research by Transparency Solomon Islands highlighting the social and economic impact of the lack of transparency and accountability on numerous sectors.

What does “Innovation” mean for the purpose of this award?

Innovation is not just about having a new idea or inventing something new. And it certainly is not about creating a website, or a social media campaign or a mobile phone app to do something you are already doing.

Innovation looks at what the underlying problem really is, what end-users need, and what solutions could add real value to their situation. Then we formulate a hypothesis and test a solution idea to see whether it works in practice, and adjusts it as we get more feedback from users.

So, when thinking about your initiative in terms of innovation, consider what new idea, approach, methodology or technology it brings to the situation that has not been tried before and adds real value to end users. Then explain how you will test your potential solution and how you will determine whether your solution is valid or not.

This grant scheme has for aim to:

i. Facilitate public debate about the state of corruption and awareness about anti-corruption and integrity institutional framework, budget processes and literacy and empower individuals to act on integrity issues;

ii. Emulate innovative activities on supporting key government functions and oversight, social accountability, stories on corruption, anti-corruption and transparency, contribute to change “business as usual” in any sector where corruption impact citizen’s life and prevent rippling the benefits of development;

iii. Capacity-building of non-government integrity stakeholders to design, implement and report on integrity activities;

iv. Facilitate building of connections and networks between integrity stakeholders.
Final beneficiaries shall be communities and/or journalists and/or any other relevant actors in increasing transparency and accountability. Particular attention shall be given to gender mainstreaming and/or integration of the youth. Activities should ideally be designed with communities for communities.

No support can be awarded retrospectively for programs/projects already completed except in Channel 3, which might award prize for published media outputs. Support cannot be awarded for a project which has already begun. However, scaling-up an existing project (such as through co-funded service delivery, language diversification or reaching into remote and more marginalised communities) fits the guidelines. No political activities can be funded through this grant scheme.

Three channels will be made available to groups and individuals:

- **Channel 1.** For registered civil society organisations, grants up to USD15,000 will be awarded.

- **Channel 2.** For individuals and informal groups, grants and/or prizes up to USD2,000 will be awarded.

- **Channel 3.** For journalist and stakeholders engaging with the media, 5 prizes of USD1,000 each will be awarded to the best stories run on radio, print or social media that contribute to awareness of principles of integrity and budget planning and management.

The total amount available for the three channels is $USD55,000. Grants activities will need to be implemented in a maximum of 4 months from the signature of the award and no later than the 12th of December 2018. For civil society organisation grants, low-value grants modalities will be utilized, for individuals’ grants and awards Innovation Fund modalities will be used.

**How to apply?**

Applications can be made on a rolling basis from the 18th of July 2018 to the 15th of November 2018. Grants will be distributed on a first come, first served basis. The first round of selection will take place on August 1st for applications received before July 31st. Activities will have to be completed no later than the 12th of December 2018, allowing activities for Anti-Corruption Day to take place.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to attend design workshops and training to help them meet the quality and content standards expected from grantees. Design workshops and trainings will be held in multiple locations. To learn more about upcoming design workshops please write
to: tap.project@undp.org indicating which Channel you would be interested in, your status (individual, registered organisation, journalist, etc) and a brief outline of your idea.

Some identified locations include:

- A design workshop will be held in collaboration with DSE at the CSO Open Day on 26 July 2018;
- A training for journalists will be held in September 2018;
- A design workshop for youth will take place on 20 July 2018 in Auki, Malaita;
- A design workshop will be held with youth groups in September 2018;
- Additional design workshops will be held with educational and other community groups with strong presence outside of Honiara.

All grants awarded before September 2018 will be part of “Moa foa Me Mani” First Group, all grants awarded between September and November 2018 will be included in the second group.

First Group grantees will participate in a Results Training in September 2018 to provide them with tools and support in planning, documenting results from their activities. A Results Workshop will be held in November 2018 for First Group grantees to present their results and discuss the next phase of activities.

Second Group grantees will participate in a results training in October 2018 to provide them with tools and support them in planning for documenting results from their activities. A results workshop will be held in January 2019 for Second Group grantees to present their results and discuss the next phase of activities.

Application, selection and grant award process

Application forms can be retrieved from http://www.pacific.undp.org/content/pacific/en/home/presscenter/events/TAP-Grant-Scheme.html or at the UNDP office (ANZ Haus, UN JPO, Honiara). All applications should be emailed to tap.project@undp.org or delivered to:

TAP Project
ANZ Haus, UN Joint Presence Office
Ranadi, Honiara, Solomon Islands

Only applications including a fully completed application form (Annex.1) will be considered. Each timely received application is pre-assessed against the eligibility criteria – those not fulfilling the criteria are recommended for rejection. Those fulfilling the criteria enter the assessment phase. For the assessment phase, UNDP TAP team assesses all applications in terms of level of innovation of proposal, synergy with objectives of the grant scheme, existing and potential partnerships. Meetings with applicant organizations may be conducted if there is a need for additional clarification.
The Selection Committee will meet to make final decisions upon a full review of applications once at least 3 valid applications have been submitted. The Selection Committee is composed of one member from UNDP, one member from a government institution and one representative of the civil society.

After the Selection Committee meeting, the applicants will be informed of the decision made. An approval letter and a contract are then prepared for signing. Once both parties sign the contract the first installment is transferred to the contractor’s bank account.

**Eligibility Criteria**

Proposals will be assessed according to the Channel they have applied for:

- Channel 1. Registered CSOs, academic and non-government institutions;
- Channel 2. Individuals and groups residing in the Solomon Islands or citizens of the Solomon Islands residing abroad but maintaining close links with the Solomon Islands;
- Channel 3. Individuals and journalists residing in Solomon Islands contributing to media publications in print, radio or online with a primary focus on Solomon Islands affairs or a wide outreach to Solomon Islands audience.

**Evaluation Criteria**

- **Theory of change:** Level of innovation of project/output idea; how this project/output addresses social accountability challenges, needs and priorities; how this project/output addresses vulnerable communities, youth and/or gender aspects; sustainability; clarity of expected impact and methodology;
- **Contribution to integrity landscape:** Contribution towards public debate and data generation about the state of corruption and awareness about anti-corruption and integrity institutional framework, budget processes and literacy and empower individuals to act on integrity issues;
- **Relevance:** Contribution towards the anti-corruption and integrity processes of the integrity instructional setting and implementation of up-coming Anti-Corruption Bill, the UN Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) and SDG 16, including through engagement with oversight agencies, Ombudsman, Audit Office, Parliamentary Committees, UNCAC Implementation Review, etc.;
- **Strategy and feasibility:** Communication and Outreach Plan; cost-effectiveness/reasonableness of the project budget, quality of the planning and budgeting presentation.

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<td>2. Innovation</td>
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<td>3. Contribution to Integrity landscape</td>
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# Annex 1. Template for Proposals

| What Channel are you applying for? | Channel 1. Registered organisations projects  
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------  
|                                   | Channel 2. Individuals and informal groups initiatives  
|                                   | Channel 3. Media and individual prizes  
| Organisation/Individual Name      |                                              |  
| Focal Point name and Contact Details |                                                |  
| **Description of Activities/Publication and Expected Results (max 2 pages)** | Please describe each activity planned as part of the proposal and its associated objective and output. |  
| **Impact and sustainability of the project/publication (max 1 page)** | Please describe the intended overall impact of the project including gender specific impact and sustainability plan if any. |  
| Communication Activities if any   | Description of activities | Associated cost  
| Budget                            | Please list each activity to be undertaken. | Please do not provide lumpsums, budget for each activity should present a breakdown of how the funds will be used (workshop, travel, publication, salary …) |  
| Any additional relevant information | Kindly indicate here if the activities will benefit from additional funding from external/internal sources. |  