



# Transparency International Australia

*Affiliate of Transparency International,  
the Coalition against Corruption*

## The Corporate Partnerships Program



### Cornerstone Membership

#### Introduction

Transparency International is a global organisation leading the fight against corruption. Through more than 90 chapters worldwide and an international secretariat in Berlin, Transparency International raises awareness of the damaging effects of corruption and works with partners in government, business and civil society to develop and implement effective measures to tackle it.

***Transparency  
International in  
Australia needs  
your support and  
commitment.***

#### Transparency International's Mission in Australia

Transparency International's Australian chapter works to promote transparency, accountability and integrity, nationally and globally. Our mission is to curb corruption by mobilising a global coalition to promote and strengthen international and national integrity systems.

Transparency International achieves its purpose by:

- building national, regional and global coalitions to fight domestic and international corruption
- coordinating and supporting national chapters to implement our mission
- assisting in the design and the implementation of effective integrity systems
- collecting, analysing and disseminating information and raising public awareness on the damaging impact of corruption on human and economic development, especially in developing countries.





## The Truth About Corruption

*Bribery blights lives. Its immediate victims include firms that lose out unfairly. The wider victims are government and society, undermined by a weakened rule of law and damaged social and economic development. At stake is the principle of free and fair competition, which stands diminished by each bribe offered or accepted.*

Foreword to UK Bribery Act 2010

*...the price of integrity is insignificant compared to the huge cost of a failure of integrity. A failure of integrity in public administration can result in damage to individual reputations and careers, financial loss, court action, long-term damage to agency reputations that would have taken years to build, and ultimately to a loss of confidence in the processes of governance of the state.*

Commissioner the  
Hon. Len Roberts-Smith, RFD, QC,  
Corruption and Crime Commission of  
Western Australia, 2010

*Corruption not only erodes the trust and confidence that citizens hold in one another and in their governments, it also robs citizens and governments of resources that could be invested in a brighter future. Every bribe paid represents a hidden tax on the cost of doing business and a drag on economic growth.*

Hilary Clinton,  
formerly US Secretary of State

## By the Numbers

- The World Bank estimates that each year bribery and corruption results in the misdirection of up to US\$1.6 trillion globally
- Corrupt practices cost companies as much as 35% of the cost of doing business in Asia
- Transparency International's Global Corruption Barometer identified that 54% of respondents indicated that the level of corruption experienced has increased in the past three years
- Over 70% of countries in the Asia-Pacific region, Africa, Middle East and South America are perceived as having public sectors that pose a serious corruption risk

## The Outcome of Corruption:

- Creating uneven competitive environments
- Undermining business and consumer confidence
- Discouraging investment through market instability

## Corruption in our Region

- One third of Australian and New Zealand organisations are currently operating in high corruption risk countries
- One fifth of these organisations have identified an incident of bribery or corruption in the past five years, with around 60% of these incidents occurring in the past 12 months alone
- There have been many media reports about Australian companies bribing overseas officials, corruption in sport in Australia, corruption in Australian Customs and corruption between unions and companies
- The NSW Independent Commission Against Corruption has found corruption in public procurement and other business dealings, including the issuing of mining tenements

## What Makes Transparency International Different?

Transparency International is the only international movement exclusively devoted to curbing corruption. It is an international centre of expertise on combating corruption.

Transparency International seeks to empower civil society, the private sector and the community generally to play a meaningful role in countering corruption.

***Transparency International in Australia  
needs your support and commitment.***

# NATIONAL AUSTRALIA

## **The Corporate Partnerships Program – Cornerstone Membership**

The Cornerstone Membership program is an anti-corruption program aimed at helping Australian businesses:

- raise awareness of corruption risks and issues, especially for businesses operating in high risk countries
- promote a culture of honesty, integrity and transparency
- protect and enhance reputation and bottom line

There is a particular focus that will benefit directors and senior management to assist them in embedding an ethical culture in all levels of the organisation.

The program incorporates the following elements:

### **Annual Anti-Corruption at Board Level**

Board members of participating companies will have the opportunity to meet with Transparency International Australia board members in frank discussion (under Chatham House rules) about anti-corruption threats, initiatives and opportunities. The discussions will focus on the questions board members need to ask to establish whether the systems their companies have in place are working.

Through this initiative, leading Australian companies who share a commitment to anti-corruption will be able to keep in touch with the latest developments in this area and assist each other in developing strategies for countering corruption.

### **Executive Roundtable Discussions**

There will be two professionally-facilitated roundtable discussions per year on corruption with up to 15 senior executives from participating companies, together with Transparency International Australia representatives and invited experts. Participants would typically be executive committee members and heads of compliance, internal audit, legal, risk or finance. The discussions allow interchange between organisations working on similar issues.

The roundtables will discuss real life examples of the way corporations have dealt with corruption, will assist participants in developing strategies for countering corruption and will enable them to benchmark their practices against others. The roundtables would be conducted under Chatham House rules. In addition, Transparency International will outline its manuals, tools, and case studies from around the world.

### **In-House Forums**

Senior figures within the Transparency International Australia network will lead in-house forums (up to 2 per year) which would enable employees to discuss topical corruption issues. These events will be in a workshop format.

### **Information and Transparency International Policy Updates**

Your employees will have facilitated access to anti-corruption tools and information updates from Transparency International with opportunities to hear an Australian perspective.

### **Country Induction Programs**

Through our association with affiliated Transparency International Chapters, we can assist in training contractors and staff in other countries in relation to anti-bribery programs to ensure that they understand and accept the zero tolerance basis on which Australian companies are investing in those countries. We can assist you to design and implement workshops which will gain effective buy-in from foreign contractors and staff in countries in which you are investing.

### **Disclosure of Your Commitment Publicly**

Transparency International Australia will acknowledge your commitment in its annual report and on its public website. You will be entitled to disclose your Cornerstone Membership in your internal and external publications.





# Cornerstone Membership

## As a *Cornerstone Member*, you would be able to demonstrate:

**Engagement:** Your board and senior managers are engaged in dealing with this global problem, building networks, learning how others are fighting corruption in the field and leading by example.

**Confidence:** Through strengthening your linkages, you will build confidence in your commitment and programs. This includes interaction with Transparency International Australia experts with their key government and corporate networks.

**Your commitment to anti-corruption:** You are able to demonstrate to your employees, shareholders, government and other stakeholders your leadership and commitment to business integrity. This is clear “tone at the top”.

## Cornerstone Member’s Commitment

On agreeing to become a member, your company would commit to \$15,000 (plus GST) per year for a three year period. (Total: \$45,000 plus GST)

Your commitment will enable Transparency International in Australia to continue the fight against corruption and to promote transparency, accountability and integrity, nationally and globally.

*Transparency International in Australia needs your support and commitment.*

For further information and application form, please visit: <http://transparency.org.au>  
or contact:

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