

Embassy of Switzerland in Bangladesh

Participatory Action against Corruption towards Transparency and Accountability (PACTA)

Swiss Portfolio Outcome: Improved social well-being for all, including in emergencies

Implementation Period: 01.01.2022 - 31.12.2026

Implementing Partner: Transparency International Bangladesh

Swiss Contribution: CHF 7.05 million

Modality: Multi-donor consortium

General Description

PACTA is designed to reduce corruption and enhance transparency by increasing participation of citizens, especially the youth, to demand better services and foster greater social accountability. This project, cofunded by Switzerland with the United Kingdom and Sweden, will continue the work on reducing corruption by engaging citizens, adding the use of an innovative digital tool for community monitoring. Based on the evidence collected on corruption incidences, the project will reinforce policy advocacy and engagement at different levels.

Objectives

The overall goal is to curb corruption and to contribute to developing an inclusive, equitable, and non-discriminatory society. This goal will be achieved by enhancing citizens' participation to raise their voice and act for reducing corruption and irregularities, promoting greater social accountability, transparency, and better public service delivery.

Lines of Action / Components

- The project will digitally gather data from users of an innovative digital application (PACTApp), to be
 developed under this project, to analyse the challenges associated with corruptive practices in public
 service delivery.
- With a specific aim to reduce bribery and corruption at the local level, the project will enhance the
 quality of basic public services by directly engaging citizens to identify possible solutions to curb the
 practices.
- The project will develop the leadership capacity and mobilise local youths and citizens by establishing
 different forums and participatory spaces, where public service providers will interact with the service
 receivers to receive feedback for improvement of the service delivery.
- At the national level, the project will improve the governance capacity and practices by catalysing legal, policy and institutional reforms recommended from evidence based research and advocacy.
- Strengthen institutional capacity of Government agencies such as Anti-Corruption Commission,
 Office of the Comptroller General, etc. in addressing corruption and improve service delivery in the
 five key sectors: health, education, land, environment and construction.

Intended Impact in terms of Systemic Change

The project will benefit directly poor women and men (estimated 1 million) through civic engagement in specific regions, sectors and institutions. Such engagements will allow citizens, including poor and marginalised women and men, to be able to collectively demand and negotiate corruption-free services and entitlements. Indirectly, the scheme will benefit the wider population of Bangladesh, as the systems strengthening intervention will have a nationwide impact.

Intervention Targets

- Through specific interventions, the project will empower 50'000 youth and 6'000 local actors from regions lagging behind to raise their voice and act for reducing corruption and irregularities.
- The project will work in 38 districts to engage citizens through PACTApp to systematically document corruption incidences.
- Citizen groups, with a focus on women and marginalized groups, are mobilised for anti-corruption actions and improved service delivery.