



# Transparency International PAPUA NEW GUINEA INC.

Our Values: Accountability | Fairness & Justice | Patience & Perseverance | Courage & Commitment | Respect

THE TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL PNG QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



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TIPNG Chair Mr. Peter Aitsi speaking to participants during the CCAC Meeting in Lae.

## GALVANIZING REGIONAL SUPPORT FOR THE CCAC

The Second quarter took off on an exciting start for us at TIPNG as we worked through the Community Coalition Against Corruption (CCAC) to galvanize regional support in response to the concerns expressed by communities on the overall poor governance environment and the difficulties caused by corruption in PNG.

The CCAC in collaboration with the Lae Chamber of Commerce held its first national meeting in Lae International Hotel, which saw the participation of 46 community-based organizations and industry representatives, including the Trade Union Congress, the media, and 18 members of the Lae Chamber of Commerce & Industry representing the business sector. Participants came from all regions of Papua New Guinea. The Meeting was funded by the European Union in PNG through the UNDP Anti-Corruption Project.

At the meeting, participants identified issues of national impact that the CCAC should take on as priorities to focus on s campaigns. The next step being to articulate the issues into a consolidated priority list and develop a work-plan that will be shared with the coalition. The

CCAC is now working to set up a steering committee that will ensure continuity of the campaigns on these issues nationally.

The CCAC is a loose network of organizations and community networks that come together to discuss and make recommendations on national governance issues. TIPNG and the Media Council of PNG currently co-chair the CCAC. The Coalition’s operations, its agenda and priorities are determined by CCAC members. The CCAC works through its membership to empower communities to be informed, mobilize and take action on corruption.

Any organizations interested in joining the CCAC can contact the secretariat on email address, [barbra.ruin@transparencypng.org.pg](mailto:barbra.ruin@transparencypng.org.pg).





Dear Members and Friends,

The second quarter was an extremely busy period for us at TIPNG. At the top of the quarter, we hosted the inaugural National CCAC meeting in Lae in collaboration with the Lae Chamber of Commerce & Industry. Participants came from all four regions and showed support to the work of the CCAC.

We continue to Co-Chair the PNG Open Government Partnership (OGP) initiative and we encourage other CSOs to engage in the OGP National Action Plan 2 (2022 – 2024).

We held our 2022 Annual General Meeting in June and saw the appointment of the new Board. We achieved another unqualified audit report that you can read in our 2022 Annual Report.

Our Promoting Anti-Corruption & Integrity Strategies (PAIS) Project reached its end phase and we are grateful for the funding support by the European Union. The PAIS project was a 3-year project that allowed us to assess the integrity systems of state agencies and working with the agencies to develop anti-corruption strategies to be more effective in their mandates.

At TIPNG, we are committed to seeing better elections and as such we continue to engage with actors of our election administration to ensure that the recommendations from our election observation report are taken up. And we acknowledge the Special Parliamentary Committee on the 2022 National General Elections for the work they have done so far through the public hearings and the regional consultations.

Membership is still ongoing so if you or your organization is interested, please get in touch with us for a registration form. I want to say a big “thank you” to all the people and organizations that continue to throw in support for the work of TIPNG.

We’ve had numerous engagements with various partners this quarter and invite you to read about them in this newsletter.

Yours in partnership,  
Arianne Kassman

## NJSS LAUNCHES ANTI-CORRUPTION STRATEGY

At TIPNG, we are committed to working with a sense of urgency and purpose to ensure that Papua New Guineans are bold enough to stand up against all forms of corruption. We want to critically but constructively engage with all stakeholders and encourage popular demand for good governance and accountability.

The partnership between TIPNG and the National Judicial Staff Services (NJSS) first commenced in October 2021, and the launch of the NJSS’s Anti-Corruption and Integrity Strategy 2022-2025 is a milestone achievement towards the government’s efforts in achieving the National Anti-Corruption Plan of Action 2010 – 2030.

The NJSS’s commitment in developing its anti-corruption strategy speaks to the importance the agency places on ensuring that it is fully equipped to fulfill its mandated functions.

This initiative was made possible by TIPNG through our Promoting Anti-Corruption & Integrity Strategies (PAIS) Project. The overall objective of this project is to strengthen public trust in our state agencies. This can only be achieved in collaboration with Government, Civil Society, Media and the Private Sector. The fight against corruption is one that cannot be won alone.

The development of the Strategy was possible through funding support from the European Union, through the PAIS Project. Technical support for the development of the strategy was provided by Square Circle, a Brisbane-based firm focused on International Development.



(L-R) TIPNG CEO Ms. Arianne Kassman and NJSS Secretary Mr. Jack Kariko pictured after the launch.

# AGM APPOINTS NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERSHIP



Group photo of TIPNG Board, Staff and members during the 2022 Annual General Meeting

We held our Annual General Meeting at the end of June and presented our annual report for the year 2022 to our members. The 2022 Financial Statements for TIPNG were presented to the members present and once again, TIPNG returned an unqualified audit which was conducted by DFK Mayberry and represented fairly the Association's financial position and of its financial performance in accordance with accepted accounting practices in Papua New Guinea and the Associations Incorporation Act 1966.

The financial members of TIPNG at the AGM elected Peter Aitsi as chair, Belinda Kanau as secretary to serve for the coming year. Other directors re-appointed were Richard Kassman, Christopher Elphick, Michael McWalter, Bill Doa Neill, James Lunge, Stephanie Kirriwom-Sawong, Paul Barker, Mary Udu. The two new directors to the Board of TIPNG were Jeffery Vaglia and William Koregai.

At TIPNG, the role of director is voluntary and the directors receive no payment for their leadership & service to the organization. The Board is responsible for setting of the organization's strategy, vision, reinforcing its purpose and over-sighting its financial performance. As well as ensuring statutory compliance and with management guiding the overall performance of TIPNG.

In the coming months, the Board will focus on implementing the objectives contained in its Strategic Plan 2019-2023 which is now in its final year. The strategic priorities remain strengthening its brand, continuing the building of stronger and more active partnerships, ensuring financial sustainability and strengthening organizational capabilities.

TIPNG will continue to advance a number of key priorities including generating awareness of the PNG Independent

Commission Against Corruption, closely working with stakeholders to drive the reforms to secure and improve the conduct of our national general elections, and importantly building and supporting the role of the Community Coalition Against Corruption as a united voice on major national issues. We remain committed to our primary role and that is to empower people in PNG to act against corruption.



Read the annual report here: <https://transparencypng.org.pg/annual-reports/>

# THE OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP



OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP  
PAPUA NEW GUINEA

## What is the Open Government Partnership (OGP)?

The Open Government Partnership is a multi-stakeholder forum that provides an international platform for dialogue. This initiative brings together government reformers and civil society leaders in over 70 countries to create action plans that make governments more inclusive, responsive and accountable. In the spirit of multistakeholder collaboration, OGP is overseen by a Steering Committee including representatives of governments and civil society organizations.

## The PNG OGP

PNG showed interest to join the Open Government Partnership global initiative in 2014 at an Asia-Pacific Regional Conference in Bali, Indonesia. The intention was endorsed by the PNG Government in September of 2015. Since then, the 1st National Action Plan for PNG OGP was developed and implemented in 2018 to 2020.

## Why should OGP matter to you?

- 1. A way to hold government to account**
- 2. A chance to stand out** – The government have an obligation to give citizens the opportunity to play a part in decision making and have more control over the entire process, from defining problems in their communities through to implementing solutions.
- 3. An opportunity to lead the way** - We should use the open government platform to champion further innovation in our democratic processes and institutions, looking to our global partners for solutions to build more genuine engagement.
- 4. A way to build trust between citizens and the Government**

Source: <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/stories/four-reasons-why-open-government-matters-to-you/>

## What is TIPNG's role in the PNG OGP initiative?

The PNG OGP is co-chaired by the Department of National Planning and Monitoring and TIPNG.

As part of our role as co-chair of the OGP, we facilitate meetings with the wider civil society organizations to monitor the Government's implementation of the agreed National Action Plan. This ensures that the government is more open and accessible to the people to ensure quality service delivery.

TIPNG works predominately on the Access to Information cluster group with the Department of Communication and Information. We are pushing for the introduction of a Freedom to Information law for PNG.NAP.

## 6 Clusters, 16 Commitments

The National Action Plan 2 (2022 – 2024)

The second OGP National Action Plan for Papua New Guinea is from 2022 to 2024. The Plan captures six clusters and 16 commitments for PNG to deliver.



# MEDIA FREEDOM DAY AT DWU

With one of our recent recommendation for the Draft National Media Development Policy 2023 is for the “government to focus on up-skilling journalism students and media professionals, and protection of journalists from political and corporate censorship.” we accepted an invitation by Divine Word University (DWU) to attend the Media Freedom Day (MFD) in Madang.

Our Deputy Director for Communications Ms. Yvonne Ngutlick was part of the distinguished panel with the UN Resident Coordinator H.E Richard Stephen Howard and prominent journalist Mr. Scott Waide.

During the panel discussion, Ms. Ngutlick emphasized the media’s role as the Fourth Estate and reiterated the steps leading to TIPNG’s review of the Draft National Media Development Policy 2023 which hoisted TIPNG’s high-level recommendations to the PNG government to ensure that processes are being followed and citizens are given time for consultations to take its course. The media’s role in PNG must be a tool for accountability as portrayed in democratic countries. Freedom of Expression or media freedom will permit institutions like TIPNG to hold people in power accountable.



Group photo of DWU students and Lecturers with the panelists of the MFD event.

## TIPNG PARTICIPATES IN FISHERIES TRANSPARENCY INITIATIVE WEBINAR

The Fisheries Transparency Initiative (FiTI) is a global voluntary partnership initiative that seeks to increase transparency and participation for a more sustainable management of marine fisheries. FiTI represents a diversity of different stakeholders in a central feature for implementation, good governance and equal participation.

In this quarter, TIPNG Deputy Director Partnerships & Policy Mr. Yuambari Haihuie participated in an online discussion about the challenges of Fisheries Transparency in Small Islands Developing States (SIDS) which includes relatively weak systems for open government including online platforms for government data shared with the people. Read the Transparency Briefs (tBriefs) series to see more challenges faced by SIDS here: <https://www.fiti.global/tbrief-series>

Mr. Haihuie highlighted TIPNG’s role as the civil society co-chair of the PNG OGP. The platform is an avenue for civil society organizations to engage and ensure accountability of Papua New Guinea’s resources,

including our marine resources, and the agencies that work within the sector.

Watch the full webinar session here: [Fisheries Transparency Initiative](#)



# WORK ON SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY SHARED AT CPP FORUM



TIPNG Coalitions Engagement Lead Ms. Barbra Ruin speaking during the workshop.

The Building Community Engagement in PNG (BCEP) Program and the Church Partnership Program (CPP) recently hosted a partner forum. The forum created an avenue for partners to create dialogue for lessons learnt in 2023.

TIPNG's Coalitions Engagement Lead Ms. Barbra Ruin shared TIPNG's work on social accountability and emphasized the fundamentals of good governance.

Ms. Ruin outlined the TIPNG-led campaigns and advocacy work on the COVID 19 Accountability and the Accountability Scorecard. She added that the result of TIPNG's work can be measured based on;

1. The number of people that have taken action against corruption.
2. The number of agencies that implemented anti-corruption policies in their organization.
3. The number of reforms that are passed in Parliament to ensure transparency and accountability.
4. Or the number of people that have reported cases of corruption to the responsible authorities.

Ms. Ruin shared a panel with representatives from CARE International, Department of National Planning & Monitoring, PNG Council of Churches and Tearfund.

## ENGAGING WITH PASAI ON WEBINAR

The Secretary General of the Auditor-General of New Zealand Mr. John Ryan launched the 4th report of the Transparency and Accountability series with Civil Society Organizations on the platform of the Pacific Association of Supreme Audit Institution (PASAI), Read the full report here: <https://www.flipsnack.com/PASAI/report-4-accountability-and-transparency-xt94jttgvu.html?p=20>. TIPNG's CEO Ms. Arianne Kassman was invited to be part of the webinar session.

PASAI is an official association of the Supreme Audit

Institutions (SAIs) in the Pacific. It is one of the seven regional organizations belonging to the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions. PASAI promotes transparency, accountability, effective and efficient use of the public sector resources in the Pacific.

Ms. Kassman highlighted TIPNG's engagement with multi-stakeholder forums in the areas of shared interest with the PNG Auditor General's Office to ensure that up-to-date audit reports are made publicly available.



A screenshot of the online panelist during the launch of the 4th report of the Transparency and Accountability series.

# TI ASIA PACIFIC REGION CHAPTERS MEET IN BANGKOK



Group photo of representatives from TI Asia-Pacific Chapters in Bangkok.

In June, TI hosted its national chapters of the Asia-Pacific region during a programme meeting in Bangkok, Thailand.

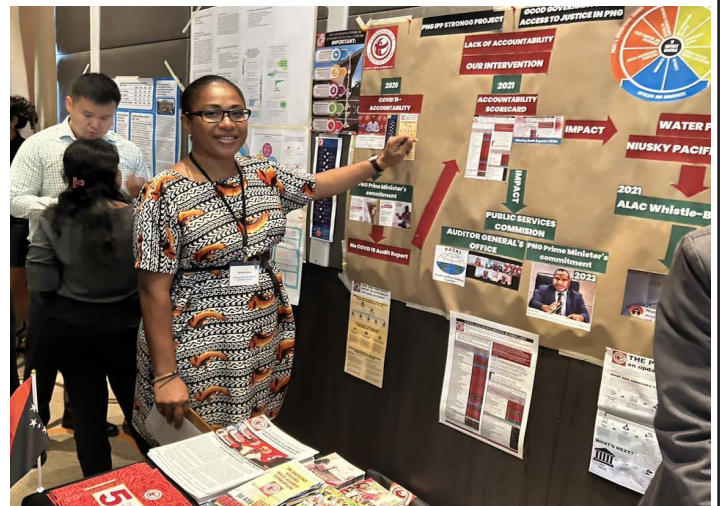
The meeting was part of the Indo Pacific Partnership for Strong, Transparent, Open Networks and Good Governance (IPP STRONGG) Programme. The meeting allowed chapters to take stock of our impact achieved, reflect on lessons learnt and to develop the next phase of the programme.

TIPNG was represented by the Board Secretary, Ms. Belinda Kanau, who shared our 23-years campaign for the establishment of an Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) and other work that we have done in pushing for greater accountability of public funds.

The IPP STRONGG Programme is a multilateral funding arrangement by the Australia Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and New Zealand's Ministry

of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) through the TI Secretariat.

TIPNG's IPP STRONGG Programme runs our coalition work through CCAC, stakeholder engagements, Anti-Corruption Help Desk and other core operations.



TIPNG Board Secretary Ms. Belinda Kanau speaking about the work of TIPNG.

# PNGEITI FINANCIAL REPORT LAUNCHED

As President for the Papua New Guinea Resource Governance Coalition (PNGRGC), we spoke at the press conference organized by the PNG Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (PNG EITI) for its Financial Report Launch.

At the press conference, TIPNG CEO Ms. Arianne Kassman addressed the status of PNGRGC and reiterated the representation of civil society within PNG EITI. Ms. Kassman continued to speak on the value of the work being done through PNGEITI and welcomed the publication of the two reports covering the fiscal years 2020 and 2021.

Ms. Kassman added that the civil society is ready to be engaged with partners in the PNGEITI to achieve the shared vision for PNG, where good governance ensures the value of the resources for the benefit of the people.



TIPNG CEO Ms. Arianne Kassman speaking during the PNG EITI press conference.





# PACIFIC YOUTH CONFERENCE ON GOVERNANCE



TIPNG's Miss. Courtneyalla Dotson (1st from left) and Ms. Elizabeth Aribi (2nd from right) pictured with participants of the Pacific Conference.

TIPNG's Civic Engagement Lead Ms. Elizabeth Aribi and Legal Intern 2022-2023 Ms. Courtneyalla Dotson travelled to Auckland, New Zealand to attend the Pacific Conference on Governance based on the theme "Pacific Youth Spotighting Anti-Corruption in Climate Change and Gender Equality". Our team's mission was fully funded by United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in PNG.

The mission placed TIPNG's representatives amongst 18 youth representatives from around the Pacific to attend the two-day conference that enabled a platform to raise awareness, facilitate knowledge exchange, promoting women's leadership and youth empowerment to strengthen the Pacific Youth Unity against corruption.

The conference was supported by UNDP under the Strengthening Anti-Corruption, Transparency, and Accountability in the Pacific Islands Countries (Pacific Anti-Corruption Project) funded by the UK Government and the UN Pacific Regional Anti-Corruption Project funded by the Government of New Zealand.

## NZ HIGH COMMISSIONER PAYS A VISIT

The New Zealand High Commissioner to Papua New Guinea His Excellency Peter Zwart visited the TIPNG office as part of his introduction.

H.E Peter Zwart was welcomed by TIPNG CEO Ms. Arienne

Kassman and the staff of TIPNG. The Ambassador and the CEO discussed the current work of TIPNG on elections and youth empowerment amongst others. TIPNG receives multilateral support from New Zealand through the IPP STRONGG Program.



A group photo of TIPNG staff with the NZ High Commissioner to PNG H.E Peter Zwart.

## SHARING OUR WORK AT THE 2023 SME MARKET 'BUNG'

The Centre for International Private Enterprise's (CIPE) PNG Women's Business Resource Centre (PNG WBRC) invited TIPNG to participate in the 2023 SME Market Bung in Port Moresby.

Our team shared TIPNG information with other participants of the SME Market to showcase TIPNG's

publications and interacted with visitors at the stall.

TIPNG joined 30 other members of the PNG Women Business Resource Center (PNGWBRC) who are women owned SME's to showcase their products and services at Vision City Mega mall. All costs were covered by the PNGWBRC through the Market 'Bung' initiative.

# MEMBER FEATURES

## CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATION MEMBER: WEST COAST DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION INC.

### 1. What is the nature of your business?

WCDF's nature of business is to educate and empower communities to understand their rights. Everyone has an obligation to ensure there are no corruption within communities. Members of the community has the right to speak up if there are issues affecting them without threat and intimidation by developers and or police. We have experienced that through our advocacy programs on Mining, Logging and Deep sea Mining where communities are threatened when they want to speak up about these issues. Also through this advocacy program we want to ensure communities understand the importance of electing good leaders because a lot of issues being discussed boils down to leadership. Having good, honest and transparent leaders will help in addressing corruption in all levels of government.



### 2. What TIPNG activities have you joined? (if any)

Last year we were part of the TIPNG Observations during the National General Elections and early this year we attended the Community Coalition Against Corruption meeting in Lae.

### 3. Why is stopping corruption in PNG important to your organization?

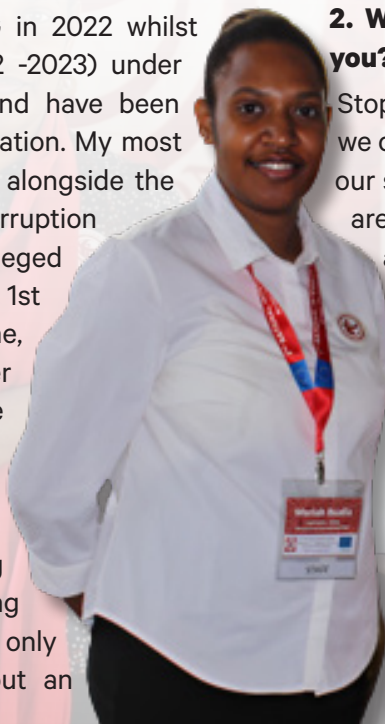
It is very important that we address corruption in PNG because it has affected every organization, agencies and businesses in PNG. As an advocate for corruption, if we do nothing then we should be guilty of knowing the truth but not taking any action against it. One day when we all will lose our energy and cannot

be actively involved in fighting corruption then we will regret that we have contributed nothing to address this issue for the betterment of the future of our children and this beautiful country.

## INDIVIDUAL MEMBER: MARIAH BUALIA

### 1. What TIPNG activities have you joined/volunteered for?

I joined as a member of TIPNG in 2022 whilst working as a Legal Intern (2022 -2023) under the Legal Internship Program and have been actively involved with the organization. My most recent engagement was working alongside the Community Coalition Against Corruption Secretariat. I was given the privileged to assist the team in hosting the 1st CCAC National Meeting in Lae, Morobe Province. As a member I was able to gain invaluable insight and knowledge into the work of TIPNG as well as partnering organizations on their contribution towards combating corruption in PNG. Hence, choosing to be a member of TIPNG as not only been a wonderful experience but an



extremely rewarding decision.

### 2. Why is stopping corruption in PNG Important to you?

Stopping corruption in PNG is important to me because, if we continue to allow corruption to thrive and grow within our society, it becomes normal and hard to identify. If we are not able to identify corruption, we won't be able to address it properly. Stopping corruption is important to me because it protects and uphold the integrity of our public institutions and state bodies, it protects our National Sovereignty and most importantly to ensure that the citizens trust is maintained.

### 3. Who should be a member of TIPNG?

Everyone who is of legal age should become a member, especially youths. This is a great opportunity for you to gain exposure, build your network and as an opportunity for you to contribute meaningfully towards the fight against corruption.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

AUG

12

World Youth Day

SEP

28

International Day for Universal Access to Information

OCT

01

2024 TIPNG Membership Renewal Starts

OCT

15

Sir Anthony Siaguru Walk Against Corruption

OCT

- Legal Internship Program
- Legal Aid Program

OCT

- Communications Internship
- Accounting School Internship Program

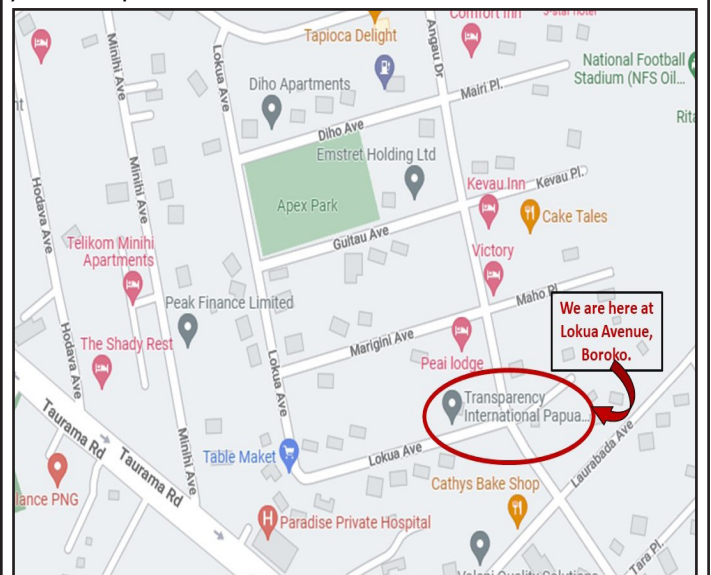
# FOSTERING SOLIDARITY ON WORLD WHISTLE BLOWERS DAY



On Friday 23rd June 2023, we shared social information across various online platforms with the global community to commemorate the World Whistle-Blowers Day. Whistle-blowing is one of the most effective ways to detect and prevent corruption and other malpractice and help save millions in public funds and resources.

Whistle-blowing is the act of making a disclosure in the public interest an employee, director or external person, in an attempt to reveal neglect or abuses within the activities of an organization, government body or company that threaten public interest, its integrity and reputation. To protect whistle-blowers from retaliation and harm, there be strong laws, policies and procedures that should empower those who experience or witness corruption by companies, organizations and government.

TIPNG through our Anti-Corruption Help Desk (AnCoHD) provides free and anonymous advice to the victims and witnesses of Corruption. The AnCoHD can be accessed by calling the toll-free 180 6000 or visit our office at Section 54, Allotment 31, Lokua Avenue, Boroko to lay your complaint.



# THANK YOU TO OUR 2023 SUPPORTERS!

Allens << Linklaters

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Group of Companies



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TOHOUWA (PNG) LTD



OM HOLDINGS LTD



TWM Total Waste Management

## WHO WE ARE:

Transparency International PNG is a chapter of Transparency International, a global non-profit, NGO dedicated to empowering people to take action against corruption. TIPNG was formed in 1997 with the aim of combatting corruption in PNG and promoting openness, honesty and accountability in private and public dealings. TIPNG is a membership-based association, guided by voluntary Board of Directors.

## OUR MISSION:

To empower people to act against corruption.

## WHAT IS CORRUPTION?

Corruption is the abuse of entrusted power for private gain, it hurts everyone whose life, livelihood or happiness depends on the integrity of people in a position of authority.

## OUR PROGRAMS:

- Building Elections Integrity Through Partnership
- Anti-Corruption Help Desk
- Active Civic Engagement
- Mike Manning Youth Democracy Camp
- Campaigns and Coalitions
- Sir Anthony Siaguru Walk Against Corruption
- Promoting Anti-corruption & Integrity Strategies

## CONTACT US:

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