

ACCOUNTABILITY, TRANSPARENCY AND BUILDING TRUST IN GOVERNMENT

Jak Jabes

Practice Team Leader - Democratic Governance
&
Coordinator for Asia Pacific Governance
Programme,
UNDP Bangkok Regional Centre

FOSTERING ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY FROM WITHIN

- Human Resource Management
- Financial Management
- Procurement

HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

- Recruitment and promotion based on merit
- Ward off vulnerability to politicization
- Put in place meaningful appeal mechanisms
- Introduce ethics management systems such as Codes of Conduct or Codes of Ethics
- Bring in Asset Declaration

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

- **Inadequate accounting systems**
- **Audit Capacity**
- **Budget Process**
- **Internal Control**
- **Fiscal Transparency (e.g. IMF Code of Conduct for Good Practices on Fiscal Transparency)**

PROCUREMENT

- Great temptation for corruption
- 20 to 100% estimated cost overruns
- Model procurement law and knowledge on transparent processes exist

PROMOTING ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY FROM THE OUTSIDE

- The Public
 - Effective Complaint Handling mechanisms
 - Report Cards
 - Use of ITC
- The Media
 - Watchdog function
 - Need to guarantee its freedom
- Civil Society

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

- Sharing information
- Allowing whistle-blowing
- Freedom of Information legislation
- Appeals and oversight mechanisms

CAN THE SITUATION BE IMPROVED?

- Willingness of Government
- Administrative culture and its proneness to change
- Power and interest of citizens
- Change behavior of civil servants
- Change administrative systems

BUT ABOVE ALL ENSURE POLITICAL WILL

THANK YOU

jak.jabes@undp.org