Coalition against Corruption

2014 Report

COCO
COALITION
against
CORRUPTION

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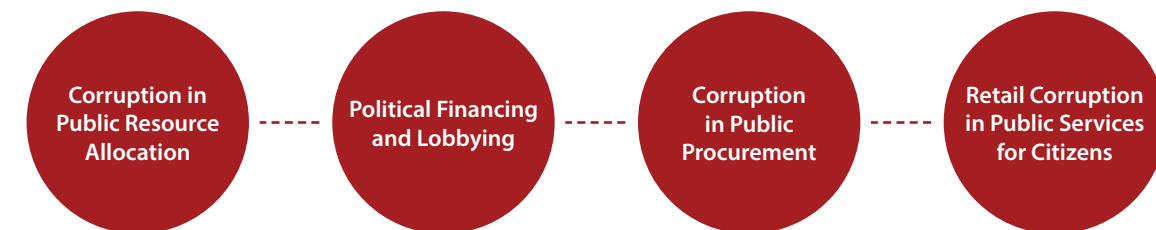**Event**   **Days**   **Countries**   **Organizations**   **Participants**

About CoCo

CoCo 2014 was the inaugural edition of the Coalition against Corruption (CoCo) conference co-hosted by The Center on Democracy, Development and the Rule of Law, Stanford University, Janaagraha Centre for Citizenship and Democracy, Bangalore and Sunlight Foundation, Washington DC.

CoCo brought together participants from over fifteen countries and across a wide spectrum comprising researchers and academics, elected representatives, government officials, practitioners, civil society organisations, technologists and citizens.

Over three days, we engaged in conversations on a wide range of issues on the following corruption types:

Corruption in Public Resource Allocation - - - - - **Political Financing and Lobbying** - - - - - **Corruption in Public Procurement** - - - - - **Retail Corruption in Public Services for Citizens**

CoCo 2014 explored these corruption-types in an innovative format across the themes of rule of law, tools of transparency and accountability and the impact of grassroots pressure groups and digital platforms.

Besides the four plenaries, CoCo allowed plenty of time for short presentations, for showcasing practitioner successes and for open group discussions. Part of the agenda was also an "Unconference" session for surfacing and discussing critical challenges that went beyond the four corruption-types in focus at CoCo.

Coalition against Corruption 2014 Report

Partner Organizations

Janaagraha

http://www.janaagraha.org/

Janaagraha Centre for Citizenship and Democracy (Janaagraha) is a Bangalore based not for profit organisation committed to transforming quality of life in India's cities and towns.

Janaagraha defines quality of life not just as quality of infrastructure and services, but also as quality of citizenship in a democracy. Along with its sister organisation Jana Urban Space Foundation, it runs multiple programs on transforming cities and citizenship. These programmes are based on a Theory of Change built around a City-Systems framework that Janaagraha has developed over many years of grassroots work with citizens, and reforms advocacy with government for scalable and sustainable change.

CDDRL

http://cddrl.stanford.edu/

The Center on Democracy, Development, and the Rule of Law (CDDRL) engages in research, training, and teaching, and organizes intellectual and policy dialogues aimed at increasing public understanding of economic and political development.

Founded in 2002, CDDRL has collaborated with scholars, policymakers, and practitioners around the world to advance collective knowledge about the linkages between democracy, sustainable economic development, human rights, and the rule of law. CDDRL's focus on 'liberation technology' (the way information technology is being used to defend human rights, improve governance, monitor elections, empower the poor, foster micro-enterprise, promote public health, and pursue other social goods) overlaps with the work of both other partners.

Sunlight Foundation

http://sunlightfoundation.com/

The Sunlight Foundation is a nonpartisan non-profit founded in 2006 that uses the power of the Internet to catalyse greater government openness and transparency. It does so by creating tools, open data, policy recommendations, journalism and grant opportunities to dramatically expand access to vital government information. Its vision is to use technology to enable more complete, equitable and effective democratic participation.

Sunlight Foundation is a leading innovator in the transparency and accountability space, bringing greater government transparency by engaging individual citizens and communities - technologists, policy analysts, open government advocates and ordinary citizens to demand policies that ensure government accountability.

Inaugural Address

Justice Venkatachaliah

Justice M N Venkatachaliah was the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of India during 1993-1994.
Justice Venkatachaliah has been actively engaged in the cause of anti-corruption for the past several years.

Justice Venkatachaliah inaugurated CoCo 2014. Corruption is not new to the human condition, he said. It has been a relevant aspect of all history, legend and religion. In India, the perception of corruption has evolved over the years, from being considered a sedate "necessary evil", a lubricant to the wheels of administrative function in the initial years of independence to a threat to the proper functioning of society.

The country has made considerable progress in the last 67 years in different sectors such as agriculture and health despite rapid population growth. India's democratic framework and the Election Commission of India's commendable efforts have provided a solid foundation for growth. Despite these efforts corruption has persisted and the source of corruption, he said, lay in politicians, political parties and the electoral system.

A reformation of processes leading to internal democracy in political parties, accountability of funds and disclosures and audit of expenditures needs to be the first step in the fight against corruption.

Dynamic leaps have been made in technology from the 20th to the 21st century and there is now a need for visionaries; those who can harness technology for the greater good of the people and the state.

The Justice warned that globalization and economic growth will be accompanied by avenues for exploitation and urged the audience towards collaborative thought and action in the fight against corruption from social, political and economic perspectives.

We could not have asked for a better start to CoCo 2014! Justice Venkatachaliah's inaugural speech set the context perfectly and inspired substantive discussions through the three days of CoCo.

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CORRUPTION IN PUBLIC RESOURCE ALLOCATION

Daniel Kaufmann / Justice Santosh Hegde / Jeremiah Sam / Anil Kona

Daniel Kaufmann

President, Revenue Watch Institute

Daniel Kaufmann has pioneered innovative approaches to analyze and measure governance and corruption. He's been a director at the World Bank Institute and has held senior management positions focused on governance, finance and anti-corruption.

> *...80% of the 58 countries surveyed fail to achieve satisfactory governance standards in their extractive sectors – Resource Governance Index...*

http://www.cocosummit.com/speakers-daniel-kaufmann.html

Corruption in
Public Resource Allocation

Preferential or incorrect allocation of public resources due to corruption can have devastating effects on a nation's economy, the environment and the livelihood of people.

> *The solution to Corruption in Public Resource Allocation lies in better quality governance and proper oversight from both government and citizen.*

Corruption in Public Resource Allocation is a topic of contemporary relevance across the world, more so among developing countries that are resource-rich. Resource-rich countries often face the *paradox of plenty* - despite plenty of natural resources, they tend to have less economic growth and less development outcomes. Corruption in the allocation of public resources can have widespread impact; large-scale loss of livelihoods and displacement, long-term environmental degradation and significant losses to the exchequer are all potential risks associated with Corruption in Public Resource Allocation. The panel at CoCo 2014 was successful in not just bringing to light deep-seated problems inherent in public resource allocation, but also in outlining steps that could be undertaken by actors across the spectrum. While Daniel Kaufmann spoke of a framework of governance benchmarking that could be used to evaluate the extent of vulnerability to corruption, Jeremiah Sam spoke of the importance in building capacity in journalists and civil society organizations to ask the right questions. Justice Santosh Hegde reflected on his experiences as Lokayukta of the state of Karnataka, India and his role in exposing mining scams, providing a rich narrative of the complexity. Anil Kona gave an insight into the role that the corporate sector could play in checking corruption in this sector.

While the underpinning theme of the panel was that the solution to Corruption in Public Resource Allocation lies in better quality governance given the expansive role of the state in this area, the role of an ethical framework in society also found emphasis.

Daniel Kaufman as the first plenary speaker in CoCo 2014 set the tone for the session on Corruption in Public Resource Allocation. Corruption, he said, was not the fundamental cause of development, environmental and social ills, but instead a symptom of institutional failure. The term "anti-corruption" must be defined as a broad convergence of systemic improvements across the fields of governance, politics and accountability in public bodies.

The allocation of natural resources is a developmental challenge that affects the economy of the entire country. It's a myth that corruption persists only in developing nations.

Studies prove that better systems of governance have succeeded leading to higher incomes per-capita, even in developing nations.

Resource-rich countries are significantly dependent on revenues from natural resources; these revenues are expected to rise rapidly over the next decade. These countries cannot compensate for not having *controls on corruption.*

A detailed country-specific mapping of risks in public resource allocation using a rigorous empirical framework will bring to light institutional deficiencies and the need for reforms. *The Natural Resource Charter* is one such resource on the process involved in the value chain of converting the raw wealth of public resources to development and welfare. Details on all aspects including the decision to extract, the terms of contracts, revenue transparency, financial data, details of extractive revenues and the reasoning behind all decisions should be in the public domain.

The freedom and voice offered to civil society is a key factor in checking the abuse of power. A strong correlation is observed between good governance, more specifically accountability, and the voice and role of civil society.

Emerging practices like satellite imaging technology using GIS (Geographic Information Systems), statistical analysis and database technology are game-changing tools in the monitoring of public resource allocation. Technology is also instrumental in galvanizing the citizenry and civil society groups towards collective action.

Justice Santosh Hegde

Former Lokayukta (Anti-Corruption Ombudsman), Karnataka; Former Justice of the Supreme Court of India

N Santosh Hegde was also a Former Supreme Court of India and a former Solicitor General of India. As Lokayukta of Karnataka, he brought to the fore major irregularities in the mining industry in Karnataka

Jeremiah Sam

Project Manager, African Elections Project, PenPlusBytes

Jeremiah Sam is a journalist by profession. His main area of work is on the intersection of innovations, technology and governance. He provides support to the African Elections Project which has covered elections in 13 African countries.

> *...Iron that fetched 6000-7000 per metric ton in the open market was sold at 27 per metric ton. The total loss to the State of Karnataka was INR 16,000 Cr (USD 2.6 billion)...*

http://www.cocosummit.com/speakers-justice-santosh-hegde.html

> *...Parliamentarians who are supposed to provide oversight on the oil sector sit on the boards of many of the oil companies...*

http://www.cocosummit.com/speakers-jeremiah-sam.html

Justice Santosh Hegde is one of India's best known faces in the fight against corruption. As the Lokayukta (public ombudsman) of the State of Karnataka, he played a significant role in exposing corruption in the mining industry.

Justice Hegde shed light on the sequence of events that led to mining irregularities in Karnataka. Significant process control measures were ignored from the year 2000, including not assessing the competence of contractors, the availability of mineral resources and the environmental impact of granting these licenses and leases. The influence of the mining lobby ensured that any identified irregularities were ignored.

A 26,000 page report was submitted in 2011 which named over 700 officers serving the Government of Karnataka, 3 Chief Ministers and over 200 companies and businessman who were allegedly involved in the irregularities. The report presented evidence of collusion between multiple departments of the government and malpractices ranging from improper demarcation of land to be mined, poor regulation of operations, mining in prohibited forest areas to the illegal export of mining

waste. These irregularities also caused the destruction of roads and infrastructure and inconveniences in service delivery eventually leading to a migration of people residing around mining regions. The report estimated the loss to the exchequer at INR 16,000 Cr (USD 2.6 billion).

It also spurred other states like Goa, Odisha and Jharkhand to closely examine their mining operations for irregularities. The estimated loss to the state of Goa is INR 30,000 cr (USD 4.9 billion).

Justice Hegde narrated several anecdotes on the abuse of power by elected representatives and the administration, collusion between state departments and insights into the damage done to the land and the livelihood of people in the mining regions.

He remarked that one unseen aspect of corruption was the suffering caused to the people. He commended the office of the Karnataka Lokayukta in responding to the problems of the common man.

The first of the many practitioners to present at CoCo 2014, Jeremiah Sam spoke about his organization PenPlusBytes and their efforts to combine ICT with traditional journalism, focused on three sectors – Governance and Accountability, New Media and Oil, Gas and Mining. The discovery of oil in Ghana in the years 2007-2008 was unexpected, and the lack of capacity to deal with this was evident not just in government institutions, but also in media. The lack of an oversight body, either institutional or from civil society, led to companies misreporting the amount of oil found and exported. The need was felt for proper investigative reporting in this sector.

Apart from workshops to enhance skills of journalists to undertake investigative reporting in the Oil and Gas sector, a forum and platform for oil and gas reports *"Reportoilandgas.org"* was made available in Ghana, Uganda, Kenya and Liberia. This was triggered by the reluctance of media houses to publish reports on the oil and gas sector, partly due to their focus on people-related stories and partly due to fears of loss in advertising revenue from the oil and gas companies.

The website enabled journalists to circumvent this by uploading their stories to an online platform where they could hope to capture the attention of the international media.

Elaborating on the advocacy efforts of PenPlusBytes, he mentioned how journalists were trained to identify research articles disseminated by CSOs and convert them into stories for the mainstream media, thus raising awareness on critical issues.

Empowering and training journalists to ask the right questions on awarding of contracts, collection of taxes, revenue distribution etc. has enabled them to serve as true watchdogs of democracy in their respective countries.

Anil Kona

Partner with Ernst & Young's (EY) Fraud and Investigation Dispute Services.

Anil Kona has vast experience in the fields of Corporate Fraud Investigation, Anti Money Laundering, Financial Fraud and Telecommunication. Anil is an active proponent of technology and uses cutting-edge tools for his work on forensic services, cyber-crime and fraud investigation.

ERNST AND YOUNG (EY)

Ernst and Young (EY) Fraud and Investigation Dispute Services help companies manage risk, investigate alleged misconduct and fraud, and measure the financial implications of disputes.

🔗 *http://www.ey.com/IN/*

Section

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...Any law, enforcement, technology or other anti-corruption measure must begin with the individual...

http://www.cocosummit.com/speakers-anil-kona.html

Anil Kona began by focusing on the scams of the recent past that have made headlines in India. Listing the four major sectors vulnerable to corruption - infrastructure and services, metals and mining, aerospace and defence and power and utilities – he enumerated the following as the top five reasons for increase in corruption as perceived from 1947 till date

1.   Weak Law Enforcement
2.   Multiple Government "Touch Points"
3.   Complicated Taxes and Licensing Systems
4.   Outdated Legislations and Guidelines
5.   Unfair advantages gained by some business institutions over others (Crony Capitalism)

Different systemic approaches could be taken to fix the problem such as better laws, a more empowered RTI Act, smarter use of technology, improvising financial models etc. "India Inc." (i.e. the corporate sector), is a major player in cases of corruption in public resource allocation. By strengthening their internal accountability and anti-fraud frameworks, businesses can keep checks on instances of corruption.

Government administration should adopt smart technology; e-procurement for contracting, connecting supply chains and developing automation in allotment, payments, evaluation of materials and GIS / GPS applications which would ensure greater controls in the value chain and prevent (and not just detect) corrupt practices in public resource allocation.

POLITICAL FINANCING AND LOBBYING

Ellen Miller / Dr Jagdeep Chhokar / Tom Lee / C V Madhukar

Ellen Miller

Co-Founder and Former Executive Director, Sunlight Foundation

Ellen S. Miller is a nationally recognized expert in the USA on transparency and the influence of money in politics. Her experience of over 35 years spans the worlds of non-profit advocacy, grassroots activism and journalism.

http://www.cocosummit.com/speakers-ellen-miller.html

> "*...Disclosure is not the answer. But without it, we do not know what we do not know...*

Political Financing and Lobbying

Political Financing and Lobbying has the potential to upset the framework of democracy by preventing elected representatives from accurately serving the mandate of the people

> "*A small group of people having the power to chart public policy - not necessarily in public interest - is a dangerous prospect for meaningful democracy. Greater transparency and accountability is the need of the hour.*

Corruption in political financing and lobbying and the influence exerted by special interests who contribute to campaign finance has been an issue of concern in democracies around the world. The term "lobbying", legitimate in some countries, hushed in others is accompanied with an opacity that calls to question decisions taken by elected officials. This is compounded by the fact that a small group of business establishments and wealthy individuals have a disproportionate share of campaign finances and donations to political parties.

Ellen Miller spoke of how the influence of "1% of the 1%", a tiny elite minority in the USA was responsible for a significant share of campaign funding. Professor Jagdeep Chhokar, with his experience in controlling the criminalisation of the electoral system via mandatory disclosures, spoke on the resistance to transparency and accountability in Indian politics. Both Tom Lee and C V Madhukar focused on the potential for technology and the impact it would have on dissemination of information, freeing up government data and in empowering citizens. The panel touched on many aspects of political financing and lobbying including the need for electoral reform and mandatory disclosures. Methods to increase accountability in the system were discussed from a medley of viewpoints.

Transparency is a necessary but not sufficient condition for rooting out corruption in political financing and lobbying. Improved technology, better access to data and information allows for a clearer view of the influence of campaign finance and lobbying on public policy. The way forward therefore should comprise policy reforms in both transparency and accountability with respect to political finance and lobbying

Ellen Miller spoke about how private financing of elected candidates in the USA allows a tiny elite lobby of powerful donors to influence decisions at the highest levels of government. The problem is further compounded by a lack of timely transparency on the identity of donors and purpose of donations.

28% of all political funding in the 2008 elections came from only 31,000 people, the *1% of the 1%* in a nation of 300 million. Ellen demonstrated this stark inequity through an innovative interaction with the audience. As the wealthy influence and determine the policies that govern hundreds of millions of citizens, the ideal of the "One individual, One vote" is rendered meaningless. *The results of a 2011 research poll* found that two-thirds of Americans believe that elections are usually for sale to those who can raise the most money. Private financing of political parties has led to deep scepticism among citizens of the USA.

The Washington non-profit Global Integrity concluded that weaknesses in political financing systems were the primary corruption risk in the public sector.

While acknowledging the current shortcomings of the Open Government Partnership (OGP) on the subject of political financing, and declaring her scepticism of voluntary commitments from Governments, Ellen Miller espoused the OGP as a power tool for advocacy.

Over the last decade, more countries have adopted the equivalent of the Freedom of Information Act. Technology has opened new avenues for advocacy and transparency. Watchdogs and voters, if empowered with data, can track the source of campaign funds and political donations and keep tabs on illegal fundraising and potential conflicts of interest.

Citing the emergence of various new initiatives like OpenContracting, the Opening Parliament movement and others, Ellen envisions a renewed push in the campaign for political financing reform.

Dr Jagdeep Chhokar

Founder and Trustee,
Association for Democratic Reforms

Professor Jagdeep Chhokar was a professor of Management and Organisational Behaviour at the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad (IIM-A) during 1985-2006. He was also Dean and Director In-charge at IIM-A.

Tom Lee

Director, Sunlight Labs,
Sunlight Foundation

Prior to being Director of Sunlight Labs, Tom managed Sunlight's Subsidyscope project, an effort to explore the level of federal involvement in various sectors. Tom and his team were responsible for identifying and parsing federal databases covering various forms of government support.

http://www.cocosummit.com/speakers-prof-jagdeep-chhokar.html

> *...Donations over INR 20,000 which require to be reported by law account for only 25% of the income of political parties...*

Professor Jagdeep Chhokar began by saying that decriminalising the electoral process was the first of many steps. Praising the Indian judicial system for mandating full disclosure of criminal records by politicians, Prof Chhokar expressed dismay at the willingness of political parties to achieve an easy consensus to maintain status quo on electoral reforms.

ADR's work indicates that out of 62,487 candidates analysed since 2004, the average asset of a candidate was INR 1.37 crores (USD 221,310). An average elected representative at the State or Union level had assets worth INR 3.83 crores (USD 618,700). The average assets of an Indian citizen is INR 10 lakh (USD 15,000)

In terms of the affidavits filed declaring expenditure during elections 99.4965% of candidates claim to have spent only half of the limit currently imposed on them. The distinction between election financing and political financing is significant. The focus is usually on the former during election years; whereas it is information on the day-to-day financing of political activities that is harder to obtain.

Prof Chhokar made a *strong case* for the inclusion of political parties as public -institutions and thus to be made subject to the RTI Act. He reasoned that political parties use public facilities, offices and land provided to them by government, are eligible

for tax exemptions amounting to hundreds of crores, and security in their membership vide the anti-defection law.

The income of the six national parties in India is INR 4,895.96 crores, of which, 75.05% comes from unknown sources. The Law Commission of India in 1999 observed that the bulk of funds contributed to political parties comes from business houses, corporate groups and large companies and most often, these payments are made in black money (unaccounted money with no trail). This has implications on the public policy engineered by these elected representatives.

Various attempts to enable financial transparency like the maintenance of accounts in a standardized format were rejected by the political parties. Alternative ways forward would be to have party accounts audited by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India or auditors selected by the Election Commission of India.

Prof Chhokar pointed to inner party democracy as a crucial electoral reform.

> *...The lack of unique identifiers and lack of policies enforced at the federal level to provide distinctive entities make it impossible to de-duplicate or merge records...*

http://www.cocosummit.com/speakers-tom-lee.html

Tom Lee in his practitioner presentation demonstrated the flagship effort of the Sunlight Foundation – Influence Explore – a web interface and database that combines political finance and influence information about the US political system at the Federal and State level. Influence Explore links corporate givers, politicians and prominent individuals allowing journalists, watch dogs, researchers and citizens to delve into the complex relationships that determine US politics and influence public policy.

Covering campaign finance contributions, details of lobbying expenditure, participation in the regulatory process and other information, the database is both an extensive and intelligent repository of data.

The data is completely open, downloadable in bulk, is accessible by an API and is for the benefit of others who would like to explore the possible permutations in political influence.

Poligraft, another application from Sunlight has the ability to parse through passages, cross reference organizations and

individuals allowing users to view the political relationships present. Inbox Influence is an application that allows users to view the political giving activity of those they correspond with to better understand how the people and businesses they interact with are involved in the political finance system.

Tom stated the advantages of having open software development practices to build systems that are re-usable and extensible. Managing thousands of records, removing duplication and merging common layers of information, especially given the lack of a unique identifier while simultaneously maintaining the timeliness of these records is a challenge.

Federal policy reform on data standards is central to transparency in political financing and lobbying. Most of the disclosure is voluntary from lobbyists and other organizations.

While Influence Explore does agglomerate a vast amount of data, and technology can help scale that, to visualize the complete landscape of political financing would require a policy intervention from the Government.

C V Madhukar

Director, Investments, Omidyar Network India; Co-founder, PRS Legislative Research Bangalore, India

C V Madhukar is currently Director Investments with Omidyar Network India Advisors. He is co-founder and director of PRS Legislative Research. Madhukar has also worked at the World Bank in Washington DC with a group focussed on parliamentary capacities in various countries.

OMIDYAR NETWORK/ PRS LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH

Omidyar Network is a philanthropic investment firm dedicated to creating opportunity for people to improve their lives.

http://www.omidyar.com

PRS Legislative Research is an independent and non-partisan research institute what aims at making the legislative process better informed, more transparent and participatory.

http://www.prsindia.org/

http://www.cocosummit.com/speakers-madhukar.html

C V Madhukar began by *commenting on the stigma* related to the term "lobbying" in India. Acknowledging that in a democracy, a group of people can legitimately approach government urging change in law and policy, he highlighted the fine line between advocacy and lobbying, one concerning public interest and the other for private benefit. The shroud of secrecy around lobbying conducted by companies and organizations is part to blame for the lack of transparency and accountability.

He spoke of the efforts of the Aam Aadmi Party in successfully soliciting donations from thousands of common citizens who otherwise would not contribute to campaign finance.

He indicated that scalable solutions to governance must be found at the confluence of technology and advocacy towards change in public policy.

CORRUPTION IN PUBLIC PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTING

Robert Hunja / Mathias Huter / Vinod Rai / Felipe Estefan

Robert Hunja

Manager, Open Government Practice, World Bank Institute

Mr Hunja, a Kenyan national and lawyer by training, has been doing significant work in the field of Open Government, and has worked in the procurement arena for over 17 years. Mr Hunja plays an important role in the Open Development Technology Alliance.

http://www.cocosummit.com/speakers-robert-hunja.html

A culture of Radical Openness, active citizen engagement, thoughtful process reform, and the use of technology can bring about change in this sector

Corruption in Public Procurement and Contracting

The act of paying a bribe to public officials to win contracts is well understood. It has massive consequences on the infrastructure and development of a country.

Corruption in Public Procurement and Contracting is a global phenomenon that is ubiquitous across levels of government. It is a form of corruption that is generally well understood by citizens given the many reported instances of bribes paid to win contracts.

A variety of views from our speakers was presented at the session with the overarching theme being the need for a combination of methods to prevent corruption in procurement and contracting, including systemic reform, technology, Radical Openness and citizen engagement. While Robert Hunja laid emphasis on Radical Openness, Vinod Rai offered engaging insights into the "models" of corruption most commonly used in India, going on to explain how inefficiencies in the system allowed for people to exploit loopholes. Mathias Huter cited the example of Georgia, how a country which was once deemed a failed state had made admirable progress by freeing up information on all public contracts. Felipe Estefan, commending technology and the potential it had for the future, cautioned the audience against depending solely on technology and stressed the importance of citizen engagement and verification of data.

> *...The global procurement market stands at USD 9.5 trillion. A 1% improvement in that figure could improve the lives of millions...*

"Radical Openness" was the single biggest take-away from Robert Hunja's keynote address. While no one questions the need for transparency in budgets, there is quite a large opposition when it comes to disclosing details of public contracts. Robert cited a *survey* conducted across 62 countries under the auspices of the Open Government Partnership which found that a majority of citizens (61%) wanted greater openness and transparency.

Speaking of the impact of technology on the procurement and contracting landscape, he highlighted how e-procurement systems ensured lesser discretion of individuals and allowed citizens to obtain information about contracts. Technology also allows for the cross-referencing of multiple datasets of contracts awarded and corporate ownership and beneficiary information, thus enabling oversight bodies to identify potential conflicts of interest.

He underscored the need to demystify the contracting black box for the benefit of citizens and to build capacity so as to enable them to participate in conversations regarding procurement and contracting. *Open Contracting* – a program by the World

Bank Institute in partnership with other organizations - focuses on "Radical Openness" and enabling greater participation from citizens and civil society organizations to allow them to engage with public officials across the lifecycle of a contract.

Robert drew on his vast experience to offer insights into global best practices. The Slovak Republic mandates public disclosure as a necessary prerequisite for a contract to be legally valid. Philippines and Mongolia insist on citizen participation in procurement processes, decisions and monitoring. Mexico has a public portal that combines contract information with business data, allowing for easy analysis and comparison across states, another example of technology aiding the fight towards greater transparency.

Mathias Huter

Program Manager, Transparency International, Georgia

Mathias Huter leads Transparency International Georgia's work on public procurement, open data, media freedom and ownership transparency. He has a background in journalism and holds an MA in International Relations.

Vinod Rai

Former Comptroller and Auditor General of India

Mr Rai is widely considered as a symbol of the anti-corruption movement and is credited with having turned the office of CAG into a powerful force for accountability and transparency. Prior to this, he served as Sectary to the Government of India in the Ministry of Finance.

> *...Public Procurement accounts for 10% of Georgia's GDP and 40% of Government spending. A 1% improvement can radically improve the lives of citizens...*

www.cocosummit.com/speakers-mathias-huter.html

> *...Within a year of a 5 year KG-D6 gas exploration contract being awarded (at $4.20 per mm BTU), the contract awardees began demanding double the rate...*

http://www.cocosummit.com/speakers-vinod-rai.html

Mathias Huter spoke of his work on Tender Monitor in Georgia. Initially considered a failed state, Mathias spoke of the transformation made by Georgia in the landscape of public procurement and contracting, with the government moving away from paper-based operations to a "Radically Open" e-procurement mechanism –

http://tenders.procurement.gov.ge.

Companies are required to submit bids electronically. All data on contracts including terms of agreement, details of bids and information about the contractors, and all tender documents relating to the tender can now be viewed in a transparent manner.

The process involves full disclosure of bids and bidders with the ability to track the progress over multiple rounds of bidding. Any modifications to contracts are published along with the initial details of contract so there is an oversight over the changes. The availability of this depth of information allows citizens, civil society organizations or other concerned parties to review all the important details, raise a complaint if concerned which would stop the tender process until it was reviewed.

Building on the information from the e-procurement site, Transparency International Georgia built *Tender Monitor* which scrapes the information and cross-references tenders and details of suppliers and procurement agencies across sectors.

It allows for analysis like % of tenders won vs bid, a list of tenders won by the company, a list of the competitors (which allows oversight on the potential cartelization in procurement) etc.

Mathias also drew attention to *directly awarded contracts* –i.e. contracts that skip the tender process by executive decree - and how there is a surge in such contracts during elections.

The data allowed Transparency Georgia to link contributions to campaign finance to directly awarded contracts evidencing a quid pro quo operation.

Vinod Rai began by talking about *India's early attempts* to prevent corruption. Discussing the various models or forms of corruption that are prevalent in India, Vinod Rai noted that while attempts were being made to plug the leakages that allowed for corruption, forms of corruption also became more sophisticated. The first model, also being the most conventional, involves a share of the total cost of the contract being offered as a bribe. Over the years, the proportion of the bribe has increased from 10% in the early 1970s to the current 18-20%.

The second model is the rigging of bids, often seen in big-ticket contracts. The awardee is determined well in advance and the contract is tailor made to suit the specifications that are unique to her/his offer thus reducing or eliminating the possibility of competition.

The third model is that of concessions being awarded to the recipient of the contract post-approval.

Public Private Partnerships were once considered a panacea for the development of India's physical infrastructure. However, as evidenced in the ENRON contract of the late 1980s where the

company commenced operation of a power plant and then reneged on its contractual obligations, and the more *recent gas exploration projects*, contract terms being changed post awarding of contract are a major issue for concern in PPPs.

Crony capitalism has led to unfair awarding of contracts and the flouting of government norms. It has also led to contractors with little or no domain knowledge in the sector receiving large contracts. These "cronies" are also the ones most likely to petition for a change in terms post awarding of the contract. Some of them having obtained a loan are unable to fulfil the terms of the agreement and default on the loan leaving crores of Non Performing Assets (NPA) in the hands of (often) public sector banks.

Optimistic about the future, Mr Rai said the potential for change has significantly increased over the last few years with discontent festering among government, citizens and contractors. Technology, transparency and a better oversight mechanism would eventually lead to a better form of administration in the public procurement and contracting landscape.

Felipe Estefan

Specialist, Open Government and Citizen Engagement, Open Government Cluster, World Bank Institute

Felipe Estefan specializes in open government, public diplomacy and strategic engagement at the World Bank Institute. Estefan is currently part of the World Bank's Open Government practice – which is focused on initiatives in open contracting, open budgeting and open private sector.

WORLD BANK

The World Bank Institute (WBI) supports the World Bank's operational work and its country clients by providing expertise in three key areas - open knowledge, collaborative governance and innovative solutions to key development challenges.

http://wbi.worldbank.org/wbi/

http://www.cocosummit.com/speakers-felipe-estefan.html

> "...*In the same proportion as it is desirable for the governed to know the conduct of their governors, is it also important for the governors to know the real wishes of the governed...*

Felipe began by describing how the Open Government Global Survey was conducted across 62 countries and 95,000 respondents to gather citizen opinion on the perceived "openness" of their government. A majority of citizens (Globally 61%, 64% in India) wished that their government were open and believed that greater transparency would lead to improved efficiency.

The ability to quickly index, search and cross-reference data across contracts is important. The World Bank Institute, the World Wide Web Foundation and the Open Contract Partnership plan to create a *data disclosure standard* for all public contracting allowing for dissemination and aggregation of data in a uniform manner. Such a data standard would allow for sector specific contract specifications as well, allowing the capture of all information relevant to the contract.

It is important to bridge the offline and the online. While technology is powerful tool for transformation, 65% of the world's population does not have reliable, consistent access to the internet. A combination of context appropriate technology and non-technology based approaches help in making contracting and the discourse around it truly open to citizens.

He also spoke of the need for ground-truthing data published by the Government. Citing an example of an outreach exercise with a community with poor online presence, Felipe narrated how in the case of a contract for building a roof for a school, while the contract clearly mentioned the amount spent and details of the contractor, the roof was finally not built.

Transparency and online data are extremely empowering, but there is also a need to integrate such information with on-ground engagement to *bridge the disconnect* between information and ground reality.

RETAIL CORRUPTION IN PUBLIC SERVICES FOR CITIZENS

Robert Klitgaard / Dr Vikram Chand / Dr Sameer Sharma / Swati Ramanathan / Dr Shalini Rajneesh

Robert Klitgaard

Consultant and Global Specialist on Retail Corruption

Robert Klitgaard has been an advisor to many governments on economic strategy and institutional reform, and his consulting work and research have taken him to more than thirty countries in Latin America, Asia, and Africa. He` has been called "the world's leading expert on corruption".

> *Retail corruption needs a multi-pronged approach. Civil Society, Government and Citizen must come together to combat it. Technology shall open ways forward for better collaboration.*

Retail Corruption in Public Services for Citizens

The simple act of giving or taking a bribe, if unchecked, can lead to the creation of a parallel system where bribery is the norm.

Retail Corruption in Public Services for Citizens or "Petty Corruption" refers to instances of bribery faced by citizens for availing basic public services. Robert Klitgaard, one of the world's leading experts on corruption, began by positioning it from an economic viewpoint, listing the various models of retail corruption and the different processes required to control them. He spoke on how retail corruption could pervade the system and institutionalize the process of bribe giving. Dr Vikram Chand focused on anti-corruption legislations, agencies and their efficacy. Dr Sameer Sharma spoke on the distinction between retail and wholesale corruption, the different methods to tackle them and how technology could aid the process. Swati Ramanathan presented Ipaidabribe.com, Janaagraha's platform for crowdsourcing retail bribe reports. Dr Shalini Rajneesh discussed Sakala, Karnataka's public service guarantee initiative. She dwelled on how changing the way government and citizens interact has the potential to reduce bribes.

They all agreed on few overarching themes, albeit viewing these from different perspectives originating from their experiences in their specific sectors. Retail corruption needed to be tackled both from the point of view of governance and systems and from the mindset of the citizen. One strong sentiment that dominated this panel was the need for governments to work with citizens and civil society groups to identify and rectify systems and workflows in government; to understand the nature and extent of corruption prevalent across departments and processes so as to implement process reengineering in vulnerable departments based on such understanding.

> *...Retail corruption cannot be understood only in the context of the payment of a bribe...*

Retail corruption, as Robert Klitgaard explained is a transactional act that happens at the interface of government and citizen, largely in matters of service delivery.

The tendency to pay or accept a bribe is proportional to the payoff – the benefit, and inversely proportional to the probability of being caught and the penalty faced on being caught – a theory well established by studies on the *Principal Agent Client (PAC)* model (a basis for various anti-corruption laws and a variation of the Principal Agent model).

There are five forms of policies that help check corruption – influencing the agent so as to make the moral cost of bribery high, changing the principal (Government), agent (public official) and client (citizen) dynamics so as to reduce monopolistic discretion of the agent, changing the incentives to reduce the potential payoffs for agents and clients, improving information flows and trying to improve the overall ethical framework of all participants involved.

Retail corruption cannot be understood only in the context of the payment of a bribe. The idea of retail corruption in the minds of people is also affected by the availability and accessibility of quality service. As retail corruption becomes institutionalized,

Coalition against Corruption 2014 Report
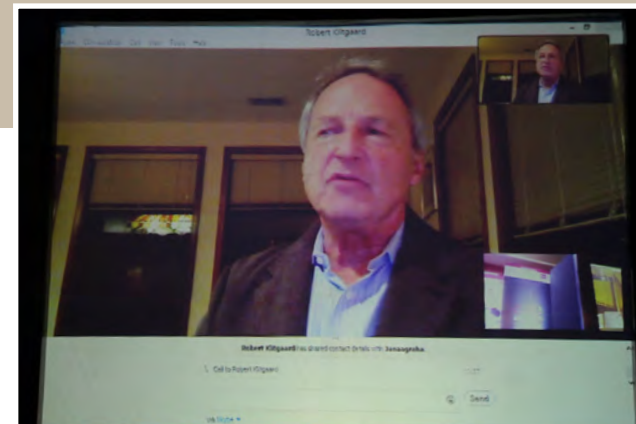
individual acts of bribery become a systemic norm leading to a parallel system for service delivery. This needs to be understood and evaluated across the value chain, by engaging the government, private sector and citizens in a risk-free manner. He applauded the Coalition against Corruption Conference for creating such a platform.

Reforming one part of a value chain or increasing the awareness of people about these practices is not sufficient to eliminate the parallel system. Strategically targeting major actors in this model, raising the stakes for some of the larger private entities, convincing citizens of the potential for change by initiating small, easy to introduce reforms, strengthening the belief in the government by targeting corrupt elected representatives – the sum of individual acts such as these can destabilize systemic corruption.

Dr Klitgaard spoke of how countries such as Georgia, Columbia, Philippines, Indonesia and Malaysia among others have addressed systemic corruption to varying degrees of success by following similar approaches.

Dr Vikram Chand

Senior Public Sector Management Specialist, World Bank

Dr Vikram K. Chand has taught at several prestigious universities. He has also been an Associate Research Professor at the Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi. He is the author of several publications.

THE WORLD BANK

The World Bank is a United Nations international financial institution that provides loans to developing countries for capital programs. The World Bank's official goal is the reduction of poverty.

🔗 *http://www.worldbank.org/*

Dr Sameer Sharma

Principal Secretary, Municipal Administration and Urban Development, Government of Andhra Pradesh

Dr Sameer Sharma has a Ph.D. in Urban Development. He took over the office of the Municipal Commissioner of Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation in 2009 and initiated a variety of unique and innovative programs in Hyderabad, using technology.

DEPARTMENT OF MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

The Department of Municipal Administration and Urban Development handles planning and development in urban and rural areas.

🔗 *http://www.cdma.gov.in/*

> *...There is no standardized approach to the problem of corruption. It's unique; its dimensions rest in the political economy of each country...*

http://www.cocosummit.com/speakers-vikram-chand.html

> *...We have to hand over operations, management and control of local services to the communities of interest...*

http://www.cocosummit.com/speakers-sameer-sharma.html

Agreeing with Robert Klitgaard on the urgency of correcting the problem of retail corruption by going after the big fish, he paid special attention to India's problem with large scale corruption and the political economy surrounding it that abetted the practice.

Paying homage to the political debate still raging in the Indian media over how pluralistic an anti-corruption agency should be, he spoke on how the various anti-corruption agencies were necessary, but not sufficient to eliminate corruption. There is a need for citizen engagement and the involvement of the private sector. Anti-corruption bodies, he sympathized, find themselves unable to recruit competent technical staff (from choice departments or open markets), lack independence in budget-setting and objective procedures for appointment and removal of senior staff. He drew parallels with such bodies in other countries. KPK, the Indonesian anti-corruption body has strong powers with functions of oversight, investigations and prosecution but faced a strong backlash over certain investigations.

Speaking of the recent *Lokpal Bill*, he commended its attempt

towards objectivity, but drew attention to the various aspects that were ambiguous. Alerting the audience to the danger of overburdening the Lokpal and the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC), he questioned how the CVC could achieve the scale required to investigate all employees of the Central Government. The danger of overwhelming the machinery was justified.

Anti-corruption agencies are just one part of the puzzle, and the RTI is one such piece of the puzzle that has achieved reasonable successes in improving accountability across the board.

However, there is a need for data management and the use of information systems to avoid the information commissions from getting inundated by information requests.

There is no avoiding the digital highway; all public data of interest – tenders, budgets, payments etc. should be made available and accessible on an online public portal, a "transparency portal" where it could also be indexed and searched.

Dr Sameer Sharma began his plenary address by classifying corruption in India into three forms – retail, the kind that affects service delivery to the citizen, wholesale – more indirect contact with citizens like the public distribution system where the value chain of corruption runs both horizontal across departments and vertically through the hierarchy, and finally the institutional – large contracts relating to public procurement, contracting and the allocation of public resources.

Speaking of the different strategies to tackle these three kinds, he stressed the importance of the overlap between the three kinds of corruption to identify common solutions. Standard measures would be to increase the risk of getting caught, to impose harsher penalties, institute better oversight and prosecution bodies, special courts etc. However, Dr Sharma warned that all of these should be subject to the law of diminishing returns. The second approach, of the pursuit of integrity, while important and admirable isn't very easy or inexpensive. Democratic administration by way of the decentralization of decision making and empowering local bodies with oversight powers could also aid.

Dr Sharma then moved onto elaborate on the methods practiced in Andhra Pradesh. Using technology to identify delays in service delivery, deduction of salary as a penalty for delays, prompt escalation of delays etc. has made inroads in the fight against corruption. Other steps used include the establishment of citizen centres to remove intermediaries - such as the e-Seva program, the use of mobile phone cameras to establish easier processes of accountability and the release of this data in the public domain. The tactic of "flipping processes" has also disrupted the standard corruption payoff. E.g. As of now, a building permit is granted only after an inspection. This allows the authorized signatory to demand a bribe or be the target of one.

However, reversing the norms and granting permits first and insisting on an inspection later removes the power of the authorized signatory over the client and increases the penalty for the client as he now risks losing the building approval. This too has seen good results in Andhra Pradesh.

Swati Ramanathan

Co-Founder, Janaagraha Centre for Citizenship and Democracy

Swati Ramanathan works closely with governments across levels on urban planning and governance in a pro-bono capacity and also does extensive work on crowdsourcing and citizen participation in India's cities, with a focus on technology.

Dr Shalini Rajneesh

Principal Secretary, Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms, Government of Karnataka

Dr Shalini Rajneesh is in-charge of implementing the landmark Karnataka Guarantee of Services to Citizens Act, 2011 popularly known as "Sakala", which is in force since April 2012. Dr Rajneesh has authored books in English and Kannada.

> *...Unlike wholesale corruption which is limited to those in power, retail corruption is all pervasive; it erodes the values and ethics of an entire society...*

http://www.cocosummit.com/speakers-swati-ramanathan.html

> *...The "Us" and "Them" must change to "We"...*

http://www.cocosummit.com/speakers-shalini-rajneesh.html

Swati Ramanathan began by describing the genesis of *Ipaidabribe.com.* She stressed the need for data on the day-to-day corruption that the average citizen faces. The challenges of IPAB included anonymity – making reports anonymous could lessen the impact of the bribe report, but anonymity was needed to avoid a backlash from a potentially malevolent or vindictive public official or government.

There is graft in almost every transaction the citizen encounters with the government, and this all-pervasive retail corruption erodes the trust of the citizen in democracy, erodes the rule of law, encourages the idea of "beating the system" and thus damages the value system of society by blurring the idea of right and wrong.

Ipaidabribe has two fundamental driving points. One is to uncover the size of the retail corruption market in India, the other to identify what the market price of retail corruption is for services provided by the government.

Apart from being a cathartic vent for citizens to share their experiences with bribe giving, it also allows interested public officials to look at the nature of corruption rampant in their departments, an example of transparency paving the way for process re-engineering. She narrated instances of the power of the data and how fair-minded officials had undertaken process engineering in their departments based on the same.

The website also allows citizens to report cases where they didn't pay a bribe when asked as well as their interactions with honest officers when bribes were not demanded at all.

Ipaidabribe.com now has an international presence with sister-sites going live in 16 countries around the world, largely based on the same source code. Swati also shared the progress made on a mobile platform and a *Hindi website* to make IPAB more inclusive.

Defining *Sakala* – the Karnataka Guarantee of Services to Citizens Act as a weapon against corruption for citizens, Dr Shalini Rajneesh began by citing problems within and outside government.

Lack of transparency, accountability, accessibility and convenience of government services and lack of empowerment of citizens are the main reasons behind corruption.

Sakala is a rights-based initiative that tackles the issue of retail corruption at the interface of citizen and government. The use of technology to empower the citizen and the use of psychology (as incentives) to build ownership and pride in public officials and penalties (as disincentives) were characteristic of this initiative.

Dr Rajneesh emphasized the need to bridge the gap between governments and citizens and the overwhelming need for trust between these two key actors in a democracy. Sakala's focus on outreach is evidenced by the use of helpdesks, call centres and cyber cafés to ensure that a citizen can get access to a service at her/his home.

Proactive outreach from the call centre is an example of the handholding the team at Sakala is working towards in the initial years of implementation, thus also working towards the gradual building of trust.

Sakala has served 40 million citizens and covers 447 services. The mix of decentralization and service delivery commitments entrusted to the employees of the government, the use of penalties in case of delays and the automatic use of disciplinary action resulting in deduction from salaries are all part of a reformist approach.

One important aspect of the elimination of corruption via the use of technology or otherwise was the involvement of the citizen.

Quick Links

Worldwide Governance Index	http://goo.gl/opf3cp
Resource Governance Index	http://www.revenuewatch.org/rgi
Natural Resource Charter	http://naturalresourcecharter.org/
The Karnataka Lokayukta Report on Illegal mining	http://goo.gl/LfIcnE
Reporting Oil and Gas	http://www.reportingoilandgas.org/
Paradox of Plenty	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Resource_curse
Freedom of Information Acts	http://goo.gl/cbx2qd
The RTI in India	http://goo.gl/kcDG4I
Helping Countries Combat Corruption	http://goo.gl/lPYNFt
On the Dynamics of The 1% of the 1%	http://goo.gl/WBT58D
2011 CNN Poll Results	http://goo.gl/LJRxjI
Global Integrity 2011 Report	http://goo.gl/VFlQ4w
Open Government Partnership	http://www.opengovpartnership.org/
Towards The Decriminalistion of Politics	http://goo.gl/w0yPAu
Political Parties to be brought under RTI	http://goo.gl/di5ZBi
The Law Commission of India on Reform of Electoral Laws, 1999	http://www.lawcommissionofindia.nic.in/lc170.htm
The Law Commission of India on Electoral Disqualifications, 2014	http://lawcommissionofindia.nic.in/reports/Report244.pdf
Source of Election Funding	http://goo.gl/nNqk2O
Influence Explorer	http://influenceexplorer.com/
Poligraft	http://poligraft.com/
Inbox Influence	https://inbox.influenceexplorer.com/
Should India legalize Lobbying	http://goo.gl/Ni10Is
2011 Opening Government Survey	http://www.openinggovernment.com/
UN Guidebook on Public Procurement	http://goo.gl/Rw8kbG
Open Contracting	http://www.open-contracting.org/
Stop Secret Contracts	http://stopsecretcontracts.org/
Open Data and International Aid	http://goo.gl/3yO6o5
Prevention of Corruption Act India	http://goo.gl/Mxgf2Z
Vinod Rai on PPP Projects in India	http://www.infrastructure.gov.in/pdf/PPP-PROJECT.pdf
The CAG Performance Audit Report on 2G Spectrum Allocation	http://goo.gl/MzREQj
Tender Monitor	http://tendermonitor.ge/en
Directly Awarded Contracts and their Impact	http://transparency.ge/en/node/3667
Open Contracting Data Standards	http://goo.gl/bRcfgq
Felipe Estefan – Bridging the Disconnect	http://goo.gl/d4SkSv
The Principal Agent Model and Corruption	http://doc.utwente.nl/77654/1/principal-agent.pdf
Controlling Corruption (book) – Robert Klitgaard	http://goo.gl/V62hzL
About the Lokpal Bill	http://goo.gl/21crvi
IPaidABribe.com	http://www.ipaidabribe.com/
MaineRishwatDi – the Hindi version of IPaidABribe	http://www.mainerishwatdi.com/
Right to Public Services Act, India	http://goo.gl/FC9YjM
Sakala	http://www.sakala.kar.nic.in/

Coalition against Corruption 2014 Report

> *...The Open Group discussion held within them the promise of future collaboration; perspectives from different individuals and organizations melded together for an overview of the corruption landscape...*

Open Group Discussions

A key feature of CoCo was the involvement of participants from different sides of the aisle. A platform for minds from civil society, academia, government and citizens, the open group discussions served as a catalyst for conversations and issues stemming from and related to the plenary sessions.

The discussion on Public Resource Allocation was anchored by Larry Diamond of CDDRL. Touching upon issues related to mining, the loss of land and livelihood to the indigenous population, the relation between big conglomerates and the government, the lack of transparency in the issuing of big contracts, the conversation settled around public resources and their impact and importance on the economy. Corruption related to public resources like mines, land, and spectrum have received an enormous amount of focus in the recent past. Drawing on the concept of the "resource curse", many spoke about how the utilization of resources played a major role in shaping a nation's development.

The manner in which a country dealt with these resources – either by strengthening its public institutions of oversight, by legislating stronger laws, involving the citizen through better discourse and participation – has an impact on whether the resource will lead to equitable growth or to skewed societal balance.

The deep dive on Political Financing and Lobbying, anchored by John Wonderlich of the Sunlight Foundation, continued the questions raised in the plenary session. As the panellists spoke about their backgrounds, they compared trends across nations, primarily the USA and India. One major challenge raised was how the issue of electoral reform or changes in laws relating to political finance had to be initiated from those being elected. In the Indian context, the discussion moved around the identity of a political party as a public entity, the involvement of big money spanning borders, the role of black money, the unaccounted-for funds and the lack of disclosure norms or practices.

The role of education was discussed, specifically civic education and how it could work hand-in-hand with technology to get to the root of the role money plays in finance and the interventions one could hope to make.

The open group discussion on Public Procurement and Contracting explored the issues that the panellists had spoken about – namely the role of anti-corruption agencies, the laws instituted by a nation, the focus on disclosure of contracts and the existence of crony capitalism and conflicts of interest. It was anchored by Felipe Estefan of the World Bank Institute. Through examples and

discussions, it reiterated the importance of complete disclosure of contracts, the need for citizen engagement and participation and improving the interest and public discourse around the subject, and the use of community outreach to disseminate data.

The discussion on Retail Corruption in Public Services for Citizens, anchored by Swati Ramanathan of Janaagraha began with presentations from the IPaidabribe partners, those who had initiated a service similar to IPaidabribe in their respective nations. Asanga Abeyagoonasekara from Sri Lanka, Ákos Maróy from Hungary, Tawanda Kembo from Zimbabwe, Juan Pablo Calderón from Colombia and Kristina Tremonti from Greece spoke of the state of retail corruption in their countries and their individual stories of how they started their Ipaidabribe initiative.

The session witnessed fervent participation in the group discussion, from individuals sharing their experiences about how they resisted paying bribes, the role of the political class in encouraging this sort of system, the hierarchy of sharing of bribes from the lowest public official to the highest political office, and the impact of technology. Of much debate was the discussion around making bribe giving culpable, which many felt would hamper any information on bribery and drive it deeper. A major theme was the attempt to

identify the reason for corruption – be it lower pay that encouraged the public official or habituation to the evolution of a parallel system of getting things done.

The group discussions at CoCo lent voice to the various experiences and points of view. The perspective emerging from the many organizations, each attempting to tackle corruption in their own way, be it using technology, influencing policy or working within the government striving for stricter norms, contributed to a mix of ideas and suggestions which held within them the promise of collaboration.

Anchors

The anchors for the group discussions provided a context and framework to the many debate; melding the various perspectives and points of view into a cogent thought process.

Larry Diamond

Director, Center on Democracy, Development and the Rule of Law

CDDRL collaborates widely with academics, policymakers, practitioners to advance knowledge about conditions for democracy, economic development, human rights, and the rule of law.

http://www.cocosummit.com/ speakers-larry-daimond.html

John Wonderlich

Policy Director, Sunlight Foundation

Sunlight Foundation is a non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to harnessing the power of the Internet for achieving the goal of greater government openness and transparency.

http://www.cocosummit.com/ speakers-john-wonderlich.html

Felipe Estefan

Specialist, Open Government and Citizen Engagement, Open Government Cluster, World Bank Institute

The World Bank Institute (WBI) supports the World Bank's operational work and its country clients by providing expertise in three key areas - open knowledge, collaborative governance and innovative solutions.

http://www.cocosummit.com/ speakers-felipe-estefan.html

Swati Ramanathan

Co-Founder, Janaagraha Centre for Citizenship and Democracy

Janaagraha is a non-profit organization based in Bangalore that works with the citizens and the government to improve the quality of life - quality of infrastructure and citizenship - in India's cities and towns.

http://www.cocosummit.com/ speakers-swati-ramanathan.html

IPaidABribe Partners

The IPaidABribe partners narrated their individual stories; a global common ground was found in the fight against corruption.

Kristina Tremonti

Founder and President of EDOSA FAKELAKI (I Paid A Bribe Greece).

Kristina Tremonti is the founder and president of EDOSA FAKELAKI (I Paid A Bribe Greece), a non-profit digital democratic platform created to tackle corruption

http://www.cocosummit.com/ speakers-kristina-tremonti.html

Ákos Maróy

Co-Founder, Atlatszo.hu (I Paid A Bribe Hungary)

Akos Maroy is the co-founder of the award winning Hungarian investigative journalism project atlatszo.hu, which runs a range of online solutions to enhance citizens' participation in active democracy.

http://www.cocosummit.com/ speakers-akos-maroy.html

Tawanda Kembo

Co-Founder, (I Paid a Bribe Zimbabwe)

Tawanda Kembo is a Tech Entrepreneur and the founder of www.ipaidabribe.org.zw. The idea behind the initiative is to fight corruption by exposing it and by making it easy to report corruption.

http://www.cocosummit.com/ speakers-tawanda-kembo.html

Asanga Abeyagoonasekera

Founder Chairman, Diri Saviya Foundation (I Paid a Bribe Sri Lanka)

He is presently the Advisor to the Minister of external Affairs of Sri Lanka and the Executive Director Lakshman Kadirgamar Institute for International Relations and Strategic Studies (LKIIRSS)

http://www.cocosummit.com/ speakers-asanga-abeyagoonasekera.html

Juan Pablo Calderón

Founder, (I Paid a Bribe Colombia)

http://www.yopagueunsoborno.co/

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Section

3.1

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Vivek Srinivasan / Chris Taggart / Grace Githaiga
/ Ebony Bertorelli and Taran Raghuram

Vivek Srinivasan

Program Manager, Program on Liberation Technology, Stanford University

Vivek Srinivasan's work seeks to understand why there is a high political commitment to delivering public services in Tamil Nadu, a southern Indian state. Prior to this, he worked with the Right to Food Campaign and with the National Alliance for the Fundamental Right to Education in India.

Chris Taggart

Co-Founder and CEO, OpenCorporates

OpenCorporates has grown to become by far the largest open database of companies in the world, with over 60 million companies in 80 jurisdictions, and is regularly used by journalists, anti-corruption investigators, civil society, banks, financial institutions and governments.

LIBERATION TECHNOLOGY AT CDDRL, STANFORD

The Program on Liberation Technology at CDDRL, Stanford seeks to understand how information technology can be used to improve governance, empower the poor and pursue a variety of other social goods.

🔗 *http://liberationtechnology.stanford.edu/*

OPENCORPORATES

OpenCorporates is a website which shares data on corporate entities. It aims to have a URL for every company in the world.

🔗 *http://opencorporates.com/*

Vivek Srinivasan described the efforts of their group towards combating corruption with mobile phones. The RTI can be used to verify the declarations of the government with regard to disbursement of pension, the public distribution system, or participation in various other schemes. Uncovering these through the "social audit" process – that is using the involvement of citizens to verify government data has its challenges.

Disseminating information collected from government web portals to the citizens using mobile phones allows for proactive transparency. There are many technical challenges inherent in the public dissemination of information. Voice was found to work better than SMS. However, local issues cannot have generic methods and necessitate targeted outreach.

While the mobile phone holds great promise, approaches are stifled by technological inefficiencies. Challenging the audience to keep in mind the various nuances of gender, caste and class and other social divisions while envisioning technology-aided solutions to civic issues, he urged the need for information sharing between technologists and civil society organizations as a group to better understand the use and adoption of technology.

Chris Taggart envisions a single database that comprehensively codifies information about all legal entities worldwide. With over 60 million companies over 60-80 jurisdictions, he spoke of the need to identify company directors and decision makers. Access to company registers is not easy and even then, basic statutory company information is often not available.

OpenCorporates presents its data in an open format, substantiating the data with information regarding sources and the level of confidence in the data, something proprietary information providers don't do. Not having the sources or the time associated with when the data was collated makes it impossible to verify for authenticity, difficult to cross-reference, and makes one uncertain regarding how updated the data really is. He urged the audience to be mindful of the pitfalls of "black-box" data thinking.

Out of 150 large-scale corruption cases, the majority used legitimate companies to hide the money trail. Identifying these large scale corporations and their involvement with public authorities is vital to avoiding corruption. Using Facebook as an example to explore the complex link from parent to subsidiaries and the number of interconnected holding companies, he explained how most companies did not disclose all subsidiaries.

Ebony Bertorelli

Manager, Applied Research Program, Janaagraha Centre for Citizenship and Democracy

Ebony Bertorelli is an international development practitioner and researcher interested in multi-sectoral policy-making, locally-anchored capacity development, social/technological innovation for poverty and inequality and how the developed world approaches issues of development.

Taran Raghuram

Student, Brown University

Taran Raghuram is finishing his final year at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island in a dual bachelors degree in physics and economics. His interests include applied mathematics, international development, and energy science.

Grace Githaiga

Associate, Kenya ICT Action Network

Grace Githaiga, is also affiliated to the Media, Empowerment and Democracy in East Africa (MEDIeA) Research Programme. She is the immediate former President of the African Chapter of the World Association of Community Broadcasters (AMARC), and a former Director of EcoNews Africa.

JANAAGRAHA

Janaagraha is a non-profit organization based in Bangalore that works with the citizens and the government to improve the quality of life - quality of infrastructure and citizenship - in India's cities and towns.

🔗 **http://janaagraha.org/**

THE KENYA ICT ACTION NETWORK (KICTANET)

The Kenya ICT Action Network (KICTANet) is a multi-stakeholder platform for people and institutions interested and involved in ICT policy and regulation

🔗 **http://www.kictanet.or.ke/**

Restating earlier discussions on the importance of data on corruption, especially considering the scarcity in nations where retail corruption is rampant, Ebony Bertorelli brought to light some of the *data findings from IPaidabribe.com*. If 62% of India's urban population paid the average amount of bribe reported on IPaidabribe once in their lives, the amount would total to INR 21,62,98,00,00,000 – that's 2,16,298 crores or USD 36 billion – 25 times the budget of Bangalore and 2% of India's GDP.

Taran Raghuram presented the CRBI – the Crowdsourced Retail Bribery Index created from bribe reports on IPaidabribe.com which identifies the amount of corruption, the departments and the different stages at which a bribe is paid. The RBI – the Retail Bribery Index was a set of surveys conducted across India's metros to compare the data reported on IPaidabribe with citizen perception.

The CRBI scores differentially weigh bribes paid in total rupee on an increasing corruption scale of 1 to 10. Tweaking the methodology to compare reports across cities (since cities like Bangalore, where IPaidabribe was launched have more reports than others), it was found smaller cities often have heavier bribery trends than others – with Pune charging citizens 17.5 times the cost of services.

The findings were presented in a visual depicting "Lifetime of Bribes" listing the cost of bribery over time and estimating that an Indian pays INR 4,38,918 in bribes over a lifetime. The CRBI and RBI were compared and the data on Ipaidabribe was found to be representative.

While there was a correlation between gender and tendency to pay a bribe, age was found to have no bearing. The strongest finding was that knowledge of service cost, especially if displayed by the department has a strong impact on not paying a bribe. The details and other findings are presented in the actual CRBI report which analyses the IPaidabribe data across occupation, socio-economic status, frequency of bribe giving etc.

Grace Githaiga spoke about the interest of her organization in ICT and their hope to use ICT as a catalyst for reform. KICTANet conducts debates, disseminates on important public policy, new services, elicits opinions and anchors discussions with citizens to improve public participation. Moderated group discussions and debates on public policy and decisions emerging by the government are conducted, the results of which are submitted to the government or service provider.

The network is influential; freestyle debates often elicit opinions from the Cabinet Secretary or other public officials, many of whom are members of the forum. She spoke of the efforts of the group to demand consultation in public policy decisions, the use of ICT to spread features, articles and documentaries disseminated via newspaper, television and other offline channels thereby bridging the technology divide.

Challenges in Civic Innovation

The intent of hosting an Unconference at CoCo 2014 was to catalyse broader conversations on issues of corruption and the methods to tackle them. Given the multifaceted nature of the audience, the theme selected was "Challenges in Civic Innovation". Samidh Chakrabarti anchored the broader discussion on the types of challenges one could encounter.

Inviting Penhleak Chan of Open Development Cambodia, Kristina Tremonti of Edosa Fakelaki (IPaidabribe Greece) and Ramzi Jaber of Visualizing Palestine to share their personal experiences to kickstart the discussion, the floor was later thrown open to the audience for their views.

The ideas that came up through the narratives of the three panellists included coping with legal grey areas, challenges of reaching out to an international community and making sense of big data. Samidh challenged the audience to think of the major roadblock that was preventing them from scaling up their impact, and the group came up with many.

Bridging the digital divide using offline or basic technology that did not require connectivity, using technology for citizen participation, reaching out to those who were illiterate, resistance and often antagonism to change from those in power, creating local leaders who could work on the ground, resistance to technology from government, funding and resources,

inaccessible government data were some of the topics brought to the forefront.

From the broad themes that emerged, the audience voted for a discussion on three topics

1. Working with Government and Legal Grey Zones – dealing with interaction and engagement with or resistance from Government and the rule of law while dealing with accountability issues and initiatives

2. Developing Technology Platforms for vulnerable populations – covering in its definition the poor, the illiterate, tribals and other marginalized or ignored sections of society; those who need the extra help to cross the digital divide

3. Developing greater engagement using technology platforms – converting participation and engagement on digital platforms to action

The opportunity to participate in small discussions provided participants with a platform for constructive debates and the voicing of varied opinions. Personal and professional experiences were shared as they spoke about how their organizations or they in their individual capacity had faced the issues. The advantage of a third party perspective and fresh ideas allowed for an engaged dialogue, hopefully the beginning of many more.

Panelists

The panellists on "Challenges in Civic Innovation" sparked off the discussions on the hurdles faced in path towards change

Samidh Chakrabarti

Civic Innovation Principal, Google

Samidh Chakrabarti is a Principal on the Civic Innovation team at Google.org where he is working to reimagine government.

http://www.cocosummit.com/ speakers-samidh-chakrabarti.html

GOOGLE
Google.org invests in technology entrepreneurs with innovative ideas aiming to solve the world's most challenging problems and that create lasting global impact.
www.google.org

Kristina Tremonti

Founder and President of EDOSA FAKELAKI (I Paid A Bribe Greece).

Kristina Tremonti is the founder and president of EDOSA FAKELAKI (I Paid A Bribe Greece), a non-profit digital democratic platform created to tackle corruption

http://www.cocosummit.com/ speakers-kristina-tremonti.html

EDOSA FAKELAKI
Edosa Fakelaki (I Paid A Bribe, Greece) is a non-profit digital democratic platform created to tackle corruption

http://www.edosafakelaki.org/

Ramzi Nader Ramzi Jaber

Co-Founder, Visualizing Palestine

Ramzi is the co-founder of Visualizing Impact, an interdisciplinary organization that specializes in data visualization and journalism, creating visual stories on social justice issues.

http://www.cocosummit.com// speakers-ramzi-nader-ramzi-jaber.html

VISUALIZING PALESTINE
Visualizing Palestine uses creative visuals to describe a factual rights-based narrative of Palestine/Israel.

http://visualizingpalestine.org

Penhleak Chan

Research and Volunteer Coordinator, Open Development Cambodia

Penhleak (Pinkie) Chan is Research & Volunteer Coordinator for Open Development Cambodia.

http://www.cocosummit.com/ speakers-penhleak-chan.html

OPEN DEVELOPMENT CAMBODIA
Open Development Cambodia is an open data initiative which provides a treasure trove of data and information on Cambodia's economic and social development trends
http://wwwopendevelopmentcambodia.net/

Coalition against Corruption 2014 Report

Participating Countries

CoCo 2014 was a platform for collaborative thought and action, as participants from various nations brought their minds together to forge a strong coalition against corruption

Bangladesh

Greece

Myanmar

United Kingdom

USA

Cambodia

Canada

Colombia

Georgia

Ghana

Hungary

India

Kenya
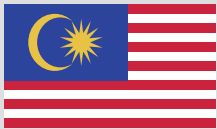
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Pakistan

Sri Lanka

Zimbabwe

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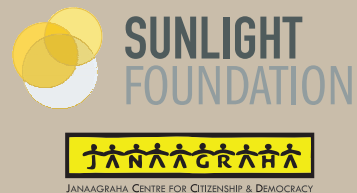
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