



Targeting Natural Resource Corruption

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) recognizes that corruption in the natural resource sectors undermines global development and biodiversity conservation efforts. The USAID-funded Targeting Natural Resource Corruption (TNRC) project, led by a consortium of experts in the fields of both conservation and anti-corruption, responds to this challenge. The TNRC consortium is led by **World Wildlife Fund (WWF)** with the **U4 Anti-Corruption Resource Centre** at the Chr. Michelsen Institute, **TRAFFIC**, and the **Terrorism, Transnational Crime and Corruption Center (TraCCC)** at George Mason University.

THE CHALLENGE

Corrupt practices in the governance and management of natural resources result in the misuse or outright theft of public revenues, environmental degradation, reduced economic growth and enduring poverty. Corruption undermines public trust in state institutions and facilitates criminality, insecurity, and even war. It distorts good governance and effective decision making, and it drives the allocation of resources away from the public good and into private hands, adversely impacting both people and biodiversity.

OUR GOAL

TNRC's goal is to strengthen anti-corruption knowledge and practice to improve biodiversity outcomes by reducing threats posed by corruption to wildlife, fisheries and forests. Corruption has long been a "black box" in conservation. TNRC will help unpack that box and address the gap between anti-corruption knowledge and practice in the natural resource management (NRM) sector and the larger range of tools, lessons and good practices developed over the past two decades of anti-corruption work in international development.

LEADER AND ASSOCIATE AWARDS

TNRC is a **Leader with Associates (LWA)** award. The Leader Award supports research, knowledge dissemination, networking, and piloting new approaches in a limited number of countries (\$10 million + \$4 million in cost share over 5 years). Associate Awards may be awarded by USAID country offices and other operating units, at their discretion, to support further analysis and/or implementation of context-specific anti-corruption programming (with a combined ceiling of \$35 million).

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STRATEGIC APPROACHES

TNRC's core work at the global level focuses on three Strategic Approaches (SA). Our knowledge element will start with reviews of selected anti-corruption approaches and lessons, specifically tailoring them for NRM practitioners. New field research will be launched to examine selected approaches in practice and to generate better evidence on the conditions that make them effective or not (topics and geographies to be finalized by August 2019). Network and partner engagement will initially target global-level agenda setters and influencers. Later work will engage specialized groups at the international, regional or national/local level, driven by research topics, themes and geographies. A limited number of pilots to field test new hypotheses by this research will be undertaken (starting in 2020-2021).



SA1: Research and knowledge management

Review existing anti-corruption knowledge and make it relevant and available to NRM practitioners

Develop rigorous new evidence on the conditions under which tailored anti-corruption approaches can be effective to reduce corruption in NRM

Disseminate knowledge to influence practice



SA2: Leverage networks and partnerships to promote change

Engage networks and partnerships to exchange knowledge and amplify the reach of anti-corruption information to promote change

Empower others to implement anti-corruption initiatives at the country level



SA3: Apply knowledge and test hypotheses

Limited pilots to test new approaches and evidence and feed knowledge back into the research and outreach under the Leader Award

Broader application of anti-corruption interventions under Associate Awards

The Associate Awards will leverage and contribute to TNRC's knowledge agenda, while responding to specific programming priorities agreed between USAID missions and operating units and TNRC. In-country programming will feed back into TNRC's core research questions to validate or challenge our initial hypotheses, thereby creating an essential **continuum from knowledge to practice**, and back again.

WHERE WE ARE NOW

We expect initial research streams and geographic focal areas to be defined by mid-2019. TNRC does not expect to begin processing Associate Award requests before the spring of 2019.

LEARN MORE

To learn more and for future resources, visit <https://www.worldwildlife.org/tnrc>. For additional information on project activities and Associate Award procedures, please use the following points of contact:

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