

Fundraising Policy and Guidelines

1. Introduction

Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) is the accredited national chapter in Bangladesh of the Berlin-based Transparency International, a global civil society organisation leading the fight against corruption. TIB began its activities as a Trust in 1996 with a vision of Bangladesh where government, politics, business, civil society and lives of the common citizens would be free from corruption. It was subsequently registered under the NGO Affairs Bureau of the Government of Bangladesh, which entitles it raise funds for its operations and programmes through foreign donations.

1.1. TIB's mission is to catalyze and strengthen a participatory social movement to raise and strengthen voice and intensify demand for accountability through strengthening institutions, laws and practices and establishing an efficient and transparent system of governance, politics and business. TIB's research, dissemination, campaign and advocacy initiatives are geared to policy and institutional reforms for controlling corruption, and thereby reducing poverty and promoting sustainable development. Established as a Trust, registered under NGOAB

1.2. The objective of this fundraising policy is to ensure that only secure, unconditional and non-controversial funding from diverse funding sources are raised by TIB to enable it to maintain its independence and neutrality, uphold its reputation and credibility and capacity to operate effectively. This fundraising policy must be fully consistent with TIB's Governance Manual, Code of Ethics and other relevant policies as well as relevant laws of the land.

2. Background

2.1. Although a National Chapter of TI, unlike most other international NGOs, TIB is not funded by the Berlin-based TI Secretariat except for small specific research and/or other collaborative initiatives and from time to time conference participation;

2.2. TIB has a Trust Fund, which is too small to support its operation;

2.3. TIB does not operate any income-generating activity, except for small amounts earned from sale of publications, and bank interest which is also rolled into the relevant project fund;

2.4. For fundraising as for any other purpose, TIB must not risk jeopardizing its reputation for independence, neutrality, honesty, openness and integrity; and

2.5. Its reputation will be compromised if TIB received funding from sources that were perceived to be pursuing activities inconsistent with TIB's mission.

3. Funding Policy

3.1. It is TIB's policy to accept funds as voluntary contributions, whether monetary or in kind, from public, private, institutional, individual, foundations, national or international and other sources in the following manner:

1. Direct core funding as endowment or other unrestricted forms;
2. Project funding or restricted funds including core support;
3. Project funding without core support but including overhead support;
4. Project funding without core support and without overhead support;
5. Crowd-sourcing through conventional and online means; and
6. Other means approved by the Board

3.2. TIB will accept funds from the above sources and in the above manner provided that acceptance does not:

1. impair TIB's independence to pursue its mission; and
2. endanger its integrity and reputation.

4. Guidelines

In raising funds TIB will follow the above policy and comply with the following:

1. Funds to enable TIB's work should be sought from as wide range of sources as possible;
2. Care should be taken to ensure that no funding contribution results in undue influence over TIB's work, stance or policies;
3. Subject to maintaining TIB's independence and reputation, TIB may accept funds from all kinds of sources mentioned above provided that such funding does not endanger TIB's reputation, credibility, independence and neutrality;
4. TIB should list all donations over Taka 10,000 by source and publicly disclose through annual audited statements of accounts in TIB's website and Annual Report and to the NGOAB, or any other relevant authority;
5. If there is a risk that receiving funds from a particular source would impair TIB's independence or reputation, then funds from that source must not be accepted by TIB;
6. Any donation to TIB must be able to stand up to public scrutiny. TIB's independence requires that a donor may be subject to the same criticism or scrutiny by TIB as any other organisation or individual in a comparable situation. If a donor to TIB is accused of having been involved in corruption or any other form of irregularity they can expect no protection or favour from TIB;
7. TIB can receive funds from corporations and other donors from the private sector. This does not imply any endorsement of a donating company's policies, performances or records;
8. TIB can accept donations from a corporation or private company and individual provided that the donor affirms its commitment to integrity consistent with Code of Ethics of TIB before any donation from that entity is accepted;
9. TIB shall not accept donation from a company that is found to have engaged in corruption. TIB shall accept private donations with the understanding that they are committed to ensure an environment in their respective entities which practices zero tolerance to corruption and bribery;
10. It is the responsibility of the Board of Trustees, management and staff of TIB to ensure that TIB's independence and reputation are not jeopardized in the process of fundraising; and
11. If anyone involved with, or aware of TIB, is concerned that there is a threat to TIB's independence or reputation from donations already received, or about to be received, the person(s) should be welcome to draw this to the attention of the Executive Director who will act immediately to take the appropriate action including separation of relationship with the relevant donor.

5. Adoption and amendment

This policy was adopted at the 99th meeting of the Board of Trustees of TIB held on March 13, 2019. Unless warranted more frequently for any specific reason, this policy will be reviewed usually once in every five years.



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Chair, Board of Trustees