

## Project Proposal to the Dutch Embassy

### General Information

Programme	
Project Title	Anti-Corruption through Legal Action
Country	Cameroon
Name of implementing organisation	Anti – Corruption Cameroon (AC Organization)
Thematic Area/s	The Fight Against Corruption

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## A: Project Information

<p><b>Project Purpose</b></p>	<p>Empowering citizens to actively fight against corruption, creating a tool for the victims of corruption, to open court cases against corrupt officials and set precedence creating deterrence.</p>
<p><b>Outputs</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 2 groups of 6 victims are empowered to take legal action against 2 corrupt officials leading to recovering of civil damages resulting in deterring penal prosecution of the corrupt official.</li> <li>1.1- 5 major sites rife with acts of corruption committed against citizens are located.</li> <li>1.2- 40 victims of acts of corruption are located.</li> <li>1.3- 2 groups of 6 victims are convinced to launch legal action against 2 corrupt officials.</li> <li>1.4- evidence is collected with the use of recorders and bailiff</li> <li>1.5- 2 Court cases opened</li> <li>1.6- Penal charges are added by the prosecutor</li> <li>1.7- 2 deterring prosecutions against corrupt officials given</li> <li>1.8- Court decision is executed - damages recovered and punishment served</li> <li>2. The public is aware of legal action as a tool empowering ordinary citizens to fight corruption.</li> <li>2.1- 6 articles sensitising the public of the model legal action are published in written press</li> <li>2.2- 15 radio news flashes sensitising the public of the model legal action are broadcast on CRTV</li> <li>2.3- 4 TV news flashes sensitising the public of the model legal action are broadcast on CRTV</li> </ol>
<p><b>Main Activities</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.1- Investigator locates 5 major sites rife with acts of corruption committed against citizens.</li> <li>1.2- Investigator and psychologist locate 40 victims of acts of corruption</li> <li>1.3- Psychologist and lawyer convince 2 groups of 6 victims to launch legal action against 2 corrupt officials.</li> <li>1.4- Investigator collaborates with victims using recorders and a bailiff and insures collection of evidence</li> <li>1.5- lawyer opens court cases</li> <li>1.6- lawyer convinces prosecutor to add Penal charges to the cases</li> <li>1.7- legal adviser fights corruption attempts throughout the courts procedures till a deterring prosecution is given</li> <li>1.8- Legal adviser fights corruption attempts in the process</li> </ol>

	<p>of execution of judgement till damages are recovered and punishment served</p> <p>2.1- Media officer produces and gets published 6 articles in written press sensitising the public of the model legal action  2.2- Media officer produces and gets broadcast 15 radio news flashes sensitising the public of the model legal action on CRTV  2.3- Media officer produces and gets broadcast 4 TV news flashes sensitising the public of the model legal action on CRTV</p>
<p><b>Background</b></p>	<p>Cameroon was perceived as the most corrupt country in the world in the years 1998 and 1999 (TI corruption index). Corruption in all levels has been denounced by social, religious and political leaders as the primary obstacle for development in Cameroon. The government of Cameroon hence declared its commitment to the fight against corruption. Despite the declared political will for the fight against corruption, little has changed in any tangible manner. As an example, the report Global Corruption Barometer released in December 2007 by Transparency International highlights Cameroon as the country with the worst results with 79% of Cameroonians admitting to have paid a bribe for services in the last year.</p> <p>This project is based on the view that lack of knowledge is not the main obstacle to the fight against corruption in Cameroon. Sensitisation of the public that corruption exists and needs to be fought has little value if the public is not empowered to take any action against it. The use of the media in naming and shaming technique, as well, has limited value. As limited, in fact, as the power of public opinion inside the country. Corruption in Cameroon relies not much on the inability to know as on the inability to act. The project is therefore trying to empower citizens to actively fight against corruption, creating a tool for the victims of corruption, to open court cases against corrupt officials and set precedence creating deterrence. This is an enormous challenge as the justice system itself is plagued with corruption. It requires innovation and experience in getting law applied in a corrupt environment. The project is based on a similar anti-corruption technique experimented and refined by LAGA on active Wildlife Law Enforcement. LAGA's fight against corruption techniques shifted Cameroon from a decade-long baseline of zero prosecutions under the wildlife law to a one per week rate. The challenge it faced in this experiment can be portrayed in the cases statistics: In the field, LAGA documented bribing attempts in 85% of the operations, In the legal system documented bribing attempts in 80% of the cases.</p>

<b>Longer Term Impact</b>	When precedence is achieved, it will change the power balance between the victims of corruption and the corrupt official. The mere threat of a legal action against a corrupt official will become a new tool in every citizen's hand to fight corruption.
<b>Sustainability</b>	<p>The law in Cameroon allows the accusing party to be compensated by the accused of all the costs incurred in order to win the court case within the procedure of demand of damages. This fact allows some costs to be recovered, increasing sustainability.</p> <p>The project offers a multiplying effect, and is expected to encourage beneficiaries to take action beyond its existence. After a good model for successful legal action by citizens against officials is created, any citizen can initiate an action on his own with relatively low costs (recoverable if the lawsuit is won).</p>

## B: BUDGET INFORMATION

<b>TOTAL COST TO Dutch Embassy</b>			<b>4,986,500 CFA</b>
Proposed Start Date	September 2008	Proposed end date	May 2009
<b>Co-funding</b>			
Type (e.g. in kind/ cash)	Organisation	Amount	
cash	British High Commission	5,253,500 CFA	
Total Cost of Project		% from Dutch Embassy	
10,240,000 CFA		48.6%	

Have you applied for funding for the same project idea to other donors? If not heard, when do you expect to hear? What was the outcome?

Yes, Funding is received from the British High Commission.

## C: Monitoring and Evaluation of Objectives

<b>Expected Outputs</b>			
<b>Outputs</b>	<b>Indicators of Success</b> <i>(evidence that the outputs have been delivered)</i>	<b>Status before project/ baseline data</b>	<b>Source of Information</b>
1. 2 groups of 6 victims are empowered to take legal action against 2 corrupt officials leading to recovering of civil damages	<p>1.1- 5 major sites rife with acts of corruption committed against citizens are located.</p> <p>1.2- 40 victims of acts of corruption are located.</p>		<p>1.1-Field report</p> <p>1.2- Field report, recordings</p>

<p>resulting in deterring penal prosecution of the corrupt official.</p>	<p>1.3- 2 groups of 6 victims are convinced to launch legal action against 2 corrupt officials.  1.4- evidence is collected with the use of recorders and bailiff  1.5- 2 Court cases opened  1.6- Penal charges are added by the prosecutor  1.7- 2 deterring prosecutions against corrupt officials given  1.8- Court decision is executed - damages recovered and punishment served</p>		<p>1.3 -Contracts signed between victim and lawyer  1.4- Recordings, Bailiff's declarations  1.5- court records  1.6- court records  1.7- letter of judgement  1.8- court records, prison records, legal adviser follow up reports</p>
<p>2. The public is aware of legal action as a tool empowering ordinary citizens to fight corruption.</p>	<p>2.1- 6 articles sensitising the public of the model legal action are published in written press  2.2- 15 radio news flashes sensitising the public of the model legal action are broadcast on CRTV  2.3- 4 TV news flashes sensitising the public of the model legal action are broadcast on CRTV  •</p>		<p>2. All media pieces published and broadcast are recorded and presented in an electronic database.</p>

#### **D: M&E Plan**

The lack of measurable standards is one of the main obstacles for the Fight Against Corruption. Increased donors budgets do not correlate with the stagnant state of lack of tangible results. It becomes increasingly important to divide effective Anti Corruption action from ineffective easy-to-justify projects that are not results oriented, as workshops and seminars that may have fueled corruption more than prevented it. To correct this, AC will continually monitor its activities and produce monthly progress reports.

- The program has built-in procedures for determining the success or failure of the model. AC's case follow-up reports allow direct auditing. AC has one primary measurable standard, an objectively verifiable indicator of achievement: the number of violators receiving and serving a deterring punishment.
- Independent monitors are encouraged to verify reports in the field, and can do so without prior notification.
- AC's financial reports are transparent and detailed. AC will use a unique financial system, developed as a response to corruption within NGO projects in Cameroon.
- Field operations will be documented in video. All media coverage will be recorded and filed.
- The results of the project will be published on the AC website on a monthly basis and will be opened for public evaluation and monitoring.

## E. BUDGET

### Budget Anti-Corruption through Legal Action - AC Cameroon

Original CFA Budget

items	Item Cost	Quantity	time	Annual cost	British High C	Deutch Embassy
<b>management</b>				0		
Coordinator	150,000	1	10	1,500,000	1,350,000	150,000
Phone	5,000	30	9	1,350,000	150000	1,200,000
local transport	2,000	30	10	600,000	600,000	0
photocopies	25	100	20	50,000	25000	25,000
<b>total 1</b>				<b>3,500,000</b>	<b>2,125,000</b>	<b>1,375,000</b>
				0		
<b>Investigations</b>				0		
Investigator	70,000	2	6	840,000	140000	700,000
Phone	5,000	30	6	900,000	100000	800,000
local transport	4,000	20	3	240,000	80000	160,000
recorder	30,000	2	1	60,000	30000	30,000
<b>total 2</b>				<b>2,040,000</b>	<b>350000</b>	<b>1,690,000</b>
				0		
<b>Psychology assistance</b>				0		
Psychologist	90,000	1	3	270,000	180000	90,000
local transport	2,000	20	3	120,000	80000	40,000
Phone	2,500	30	3	225,000	100000	125,000
<b>total 3</b>				<b>615,000</b>	<b>360000</b>	<b>255,000</b>
				0		
<b>Legal assistance</b>				0		
Legal adviser	150,000	1	10	1,500,000	1350000	150,000
Lawyer	250,000	1	3	750,000	250000	500,000
Bailiff	20,000	2	8	320,000	160000	160,000
legal fees	70,000	1	3	210,000	70000	140,000
Phone bailiff	5,000	8	3	120,000	100000	20,000
Local trans. Bailiff	1,500	10	4	60,000	60000	0
<b>total 4</b>				<b>2,960,000</b>	<b>1990000</b>	<b>970,000</b>
<b>Media</b>				0		
Téléphone	5,000	10	10	500,000	45000	455,000
local transport	1,500	10	10	150,000	13500	136,500
Media officer	20,000	1	10	200,000	135000	65,000
Salary is supplemented by bonuses scaled to results as follows below						
Written press	10,000	10	1	100,000	60000	40,000
radio	5,000	15	1	75,000	75000	0
télévision	25,000	4	1	100,000	100000	0
<b>total 5</b>				<b>1,125,000</b>	<b>428500</b>	<b>696,500</b>
<b>Total</b>				<b>10,240,000</b>	<b>5,253,500</b>	<b>4,986,500</b>

## F: INSTITUTIONS

Capacity of Implementing Organisation to implement project
Anti-Corruption Cameroon is an NGO registered in France in December 2005. The founder and director is Ofir Drori, the founder and Director of LAGA. Several members of the Cameroon board are key LAGA members.

Government support

The fight against corruption is a declared priority of the Government of Cameroon, that has created multiple structures within this framework. This project relies on strong support from the international community to be fully endorsed by government structures.

**G: ADDITIONAL DETAILS**

Attached to this proposal is an annex written by a group of lawyers and legal advisers assessing the legal tools that form the basis to any legal action suggested in this proposal.