

Where to Start

# Preventing Corruption from Undermining Community-Based Conservation

- » As local communities, Indigenous peoples, and other actors at national or sub-national levels seek to assert or protect access rights and to sustainably manage and benefit from forests, fisheries, and wildlife resources, they can encounter significant challenges from corruption.
- » Corruption may marginalize women and other groups who already face power inequity and who rely heavily on environmental resources.
- » Programming to prevent corruption's impact on community-based conservation should be informed by a careful assessment of corrupt practices involved at various levels, the power and resources of change agents and their opponents, and associated risks.

## Building Anti-Corruption into Conservation Programming

### 1 UNDERSTAND CORRUPTION

Get familiar with how corruption impacts conservation and ways to respond

Take the TNRC eCourse

### 2 ASSESS YOUR SITUATION

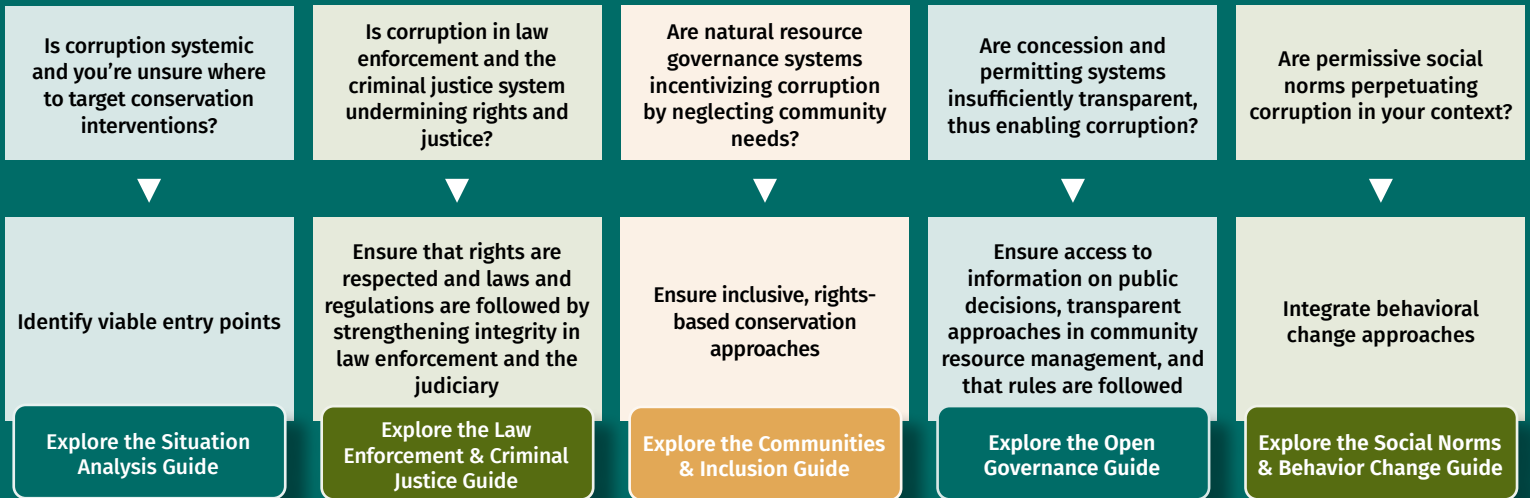
Identify how corruption affects the objectives of your own programming

Find TNRC tools for situation analysis

### 3 ADAPT YOUR PROGRAMMING

Consider approaches that fit your needs

*Remember: Evidence suggests that targeting corruption through multiple approaches yields best results*



### CASE STUDY: Mobilizing youth to increase accountability in community forest governance

WWF Nepal is taking a human rights-based approach to better understand and address governance challenges in Community Forest User Groups (CFUGs), particularly how corruption undermines good governance in six focal CFUGs. A participatory assessment explored governance gaps and collected information on the socio-political context, engaging marginalized groups (including poor women, Dalit, and indigenous people). Findings from that assessment were used to target specific trainings for both duty bearers and rights holders, as well as state and non-state actors. The pilot advanced learning on the effectiveness of participatory, rights-based interventions to build transparency and accountability in community forest management. Based on that learning, the theory of change was expanded to include a hypothesis that youth, with appropriate training on risks and responsibilities, may be able to address the corruption risks in CFUG governance. The team is currently assessing their potential influence, both directly through their roles as youth leaders in the community and indirectly via their peers and parents ([TNRC Pilot 2021-2023](#)).

*This TNRC "Cheat Sheet" outlines pathways to get started with anti-corruption programming. For more information and resources, visit [tnrcproject.org](http://tnrcproject.org).*

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