

Where to Start

Countering Corruption’s Impact on Protected Areas and Natural Resource Governance

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- » Institutions and systems that govern natural resources are frequent targets of corrupt actors.
- » Investments in nature-based solutions like [REDD+](#) are thought to [need to triple by 2030](#) - but these projects face serious [corruption risks](#).
- » To strengthen results, assess how corrupt practices impact protection regimes, increase transparency in land use decisions, and consider partnerships and new approaches for inclusive conservation.

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

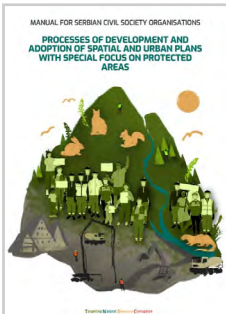
Identify how corruption affects the objectives of your own programming

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: Increasing citizen engagement in spatial planning to safeguard protected areas

The preservation and management of protected areas in Serbia is threatened by illegal construction and large capital projects. Civil society organizations that have the capacity to address these problems often have no standing in official procedures, which hinders their active participation. WWF Adria piloted an approach for increasing citizen engagement in spatial planning processes to reduce the influence of special interest groups that may override environmental acts to increase their wealth and harm free-flowing rivers. The team worked with a consultant to complete a legal analysis that mapped relevant processes and regulations. Entry points were identified for local non-governmental organizations (NGOs). The pilot team delivered capacity strengthening to 10 NGOs on processes, regulations, and communications strategies. It emphasized collaborative approaches as opposed to confrontational ones to address governance issues. A handbook was rolled out that outlines issues and opportunities for further citizen actions to close opportunities for corruption in the Serbian spatial planning process ([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](#).

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