

# Preventing Corruption in Humanitarian Aid



Transparency International defines corruption as,

The abuse of entrusted power for private gain.

# Facilitation Payments

A type of bribe, often requested or given to speed up a process or approval.

# Facilitation Payments: Group Discussion



You are finishing a latrine construction project after your predecessor left suddenly. Unfortunately, things are going poorly. Your main contact in the Water and Sanitation department keeps asking for extra, unofficial fees for the construction permits you need. Each time you refuse to pay, there are suddenly additional administrative barriers to finishing your project, all of which involve fees.

Facilitation payments are common in this region. Your predecessor regularly paid these fees, saying it was more important to finish the project than it was to worry about small payments. Now it seems to be expected, and after two months on the job with hardly any progress, you feel powerless to complete the project without making these types of payments.

# Conflicts of Interest

Situations where a person's decisions relating to a primary interest (such as the good of the organization) might be influenced by a secondary interest (such as helping a family member or business associate.)

# Conflicts of Interest: Group Discussion



Anh is coordinating the hire of an assistant for her boss Mike, a high-ranking member of the expatriate staff. Two candidates were interviewed and scored by the selection committee. One candidate was clearly more qualified than the other, making the selection committee's decision easy. However, when Anh brought the paperwork to Mike, he refused to sign, saying that he wanted the other candidate.

Anh suspects that Mike's preferred candidate is a personal friend from his religious community, but she doesn't have proof. She has only been working for Mike for a few months, but she has noticed that he becomes angry when challenged. She is afraid that if she doesn't do what Mike says, she will lose her job, which she needs to support her family.

# Do you see signs of corruption?

Even though several people in your department handle procurement contracts, every time that a particular vendor comes into the office he asks to talk to your coworker Paul. If Paul isn't available, the vendor leaves. This vendor's company, Marly Medical Supplies, has won several contracts with your organization to supply medical kits to the field.

You've noticed that Paul often sends emails from his personal email account during work hours. He has recently bought an expensive car.

# Bid Documents

Marly Medical Supplies  
254 5th St.

500 Mdeical Kits --- \$550

Price good until April 3

Kits Medical  
75964 North West Blvd

500 Mdeical Kits: \$600

Total: \$600

Green Care Supplies  
325 High St.

500 Mdeical Kits: \$800

"Quality medical  
supplies for 50  
years"



# Outcome

Two weeks later, Paul is let go from the organization and Marley Medical Supplies is added to your team's blacklist. Through co-workers, you learn that Paul had been receiving kickbacks from several vendors