

PRESS RELEASE

Preventing corruption: 5 new tools for local governments

Transparency International Italia presents, together with national and international partners, the results of the ACT! Anticorruption City Toolkit

23 March 2021 - An international conference will be held today, Tuesday 23 March starting at 10.00, to present the transparency and corruption prevention tools developed by Transparency International Italia together with several national and international partners, as part of the *ACT! Anticorruption City Toolkit project*.

The project, co-financed by the European Commission and coordinated by Transparency International Italy, has seen the collaboration of important civil society organizations active in the promotion of transparency, open government and anti-corruption, in order to develop some useful tools for local governments in the prevention and fight against corruption. Among national partners there are: OnData association, Openpolis Foundation, Avviso Pubblico and Re-Act. At international level, the organization Access Info Europe (from Spain) and Vouliwatch (from Greece) have taken part to the initiative.

The project is aimed not only at Italian public bodies, but also at Spanish, Greek and, overall, European ones, hoping that, despite the regulatory differences, the commitment on transparency issues and the fight against corruption can be improved as much as possible in all EU countries thanks also to the tools developed.

The tools are now available free of charge to all public entities that request them on the project website <http://www.anticorruptiontoolkit.eu>. The 5 thematic areas involved are all crucial for transparency: access to information, risk analysis, whistleblowing, open data on public procurement, transparency of decision-making processes.

With regard to access to information and the analysis of corruption risks within institutions, a self-assessment survey will be available on the policies and practices adopted by the institution, in order to be able to provide any recommendations, in case of any shortcomings.

The institutions will then be guided, thanks to a tutorial and guidelines, to a better management and implementation of international standards on open data in public contracting.

A whistleblowing platform will also be available, developed in collaboration with Globaleaks, which local governments can implement to receive reports of illicit behaviors from their employees or suppliers.

Finally, to make decision-making processes and relations between politicians and representatives of private interests more transparent, a platform will be available for monitoring the meetings of local administrations and for the transparency of asset declarations.

The Municipalities of Athens, Madrid and Milan also collaborated in the project and, thanks to their experience, they made an important contribution in defining the anti-corruption tools developed.

“We are very happy to present these tools today, the result of an important international collaboration that will certainly have a strong impact not only in Italy but also in Europe. We are aware of the difficulties that many public bodies, especially the smallest ones, encounter in complying with all the anti-corruption obligations that the laws provide. Given the difficulties in terms of time and resources, we hope that our work will be of help to them”said Giovanni Colombo, Director of Transparency International Italy.

Media contacts

Transparency International Italy
Susanna Ferro
media@transparency.it