

Corruption Watch proposal for Jobs Summit

V2. May 2018

1 Problem statement

Please provide no more than half a page providing an outline of the impediments to job creation that exist and how the proposal will meet the challenges.

2 Jobs impact

Indicate the impact on employment of the proposal and what is required to make sure that there will be a positive impact on employment

Please also indicate other anticipated benefits from the proposal, if any.

Corruption Watch

Corruption Watch (CW) is a civil society organisation registered as a non-profit company in terms of the Companies Act. We are the South African chapter of [Transparency International](#)¹ (TI) and form part of a global network of civil society organisations leading the fight against corruption. CW aims to expose corruption and the abuse of funds in both the public and private sector. We encourage and enable the public to report incidents of corruption to us and we use these reports as an important source of information to fight corruption in South Africa and to hold leaders accountable for their actions. We achieve this through policy advocacy, public mobilisation, strategic litigation and select investigations.

National Anti-Corruption Strategy and Job Creation

While the relationship between fighting corruption and promoting job creation is indirect, it is undoubtedly a powerful one. It is commonly understood that a sound, transparent and predictable governance regime is a critical determinant of the quantum and character of investment. Corruption is the antithesis of a pro-investment governance regime – it is, by its very nature, opaque and is effectively the substitution of the formal rules of the game by informal rules developed outside of public scrutiny and accountability. Moreover, the greatest impact of corruption is upon those who rely on the provision of public goods and services – public health, public education, public housing, public transport, public security. Because corruption compromises the quality and raises the costs of these services, it reduces the social wage, a critical component of the livelihood of the working class and the low income segments of the population generally. This places upward pressure on the salary component of the earnings package and on the fiscus, further compromising job creation.

¹ Transparency International is a global civil society organisation leading the fight against corruption

The South African government has recently released its draft National Anticorruption Strategy for public discussion. CW has engaged with the process of preparing this strategy and is now intent on ensuring that the proposals contained in the document be subject to a genuine process of public engagement and participation. In addition, once the draft is finalised and endorsed by cabinet, it is essential that the public be made aware of the contents of the final document in order to hold to account government, the private sector and those other stakeholders responsible for the implementation of the strategy.

CW's proposal is directly linked to the commitment made by the South African government at the 2016 London Anti-Corruption Summit, to reduce increasing levels of corruption in both the public and private sectors in the country, by way of by developing a National Anti-Corruption Strategy (NACS) and a supporting implementation plan. CW is in the process of rolling out a campaign on the NACS in order to raise awareness about the strategy as well as to monitor government's progress in its implementation.

The NACS document deals with nine specific pillars that all directly or indirectly affect job creation, such as;

1. Citizen empowerment through whistle blower support;
2. Partnerships with stakeholders;
3. Transparency across sectors;
4. Improving the integrity of public procurement systems;
5. Support of the professionalization of public sector employment;
6. Improving consequence management and adherence to integrity management ;
7. Strengthening of governance mechanisms in government;
8. Strengthening anti- corruption agencies and ensuring their independence and
9. Vulnerable sector management.

In order to roll on out this campaign, CW has developed a two-phased approach. Firstly, we intend to contribute to the existing draft NACS document, by raising awareness about the Strategy and the nine pillars throughout various sectors in society in order to obtain public participation, input and comment on the pillars. We intend to obtain input through various interventions such as; sectoral workshops, community engagements, a public survey, and consultations with anti-corruption experts both locally and internationally. CW will compile the data collected from our various interventions into a report to be submitted to The ACIMC, for consideration. Our ultimate objective is for government to produce a document that not only has extensive input, but one that is able to mitigate against all forms of corruption thus improving the environment for investment and job creation.

Once the final NACS is approved by Parliament and adopted as government policy by Cabinet, phase two of our campaign will then focus on raising public awareness about the final document, serving as a public watchdog to ensure the terms of the final document are implemented, and we will also continue to monitor its development nationally. In this way we will ensure that the public is empowered by providing them with the knowledge on a document that has been put in place to hold those in positions of power accountable, and will serve as a tool to uphold transparency and accountability in both the public and private sectors.

3 Theory of change

Please provide no more than half a page that indicates in practical terms, how the proposal would work – what has to be done, what the outputs would be, how that would lead to the desired outcomes.

Corruption Watch intends approaching our intervention by way of a two phased approach. In phase one, our objective is to create avenues for public engagement and consultation on the draft NACS by targeting the general public, civil society, and the private sector. We intend hosting engagements with a specific focus on the nine pillars of the NACS. The overall objective will be to submit a report to the Anti-Corruption Inter Ministerial Committee (ACIMC) for consideration. We intend collating data through various activities which include:

- 1.1.1. Releasing a public survey on our website and social media platforms which focuses on questions related to the nine pillars of the NACS. The data collected will serve as quantitative evidence to be included in our final submission.
- 1.1.2. Engaging anti-corruption experts; locally, regionally and internationally, in order to obtain feedback and commentary on the NACS. This will ensure that the final NACS document is of an international standard.
- 1.1.3. Hosting workshops with our network of civil society organizations and with the business sector in order to obtain sectoral input into the NACS, to ensure its multi-focal approach.
- 1.1.4. Hosting public engagement workshops in communities, such as Alexandra in Johannesburg, and Khayelitsha in Cape Town, in order to gain public input into the NACS from a grass roots level and to ensure that marginalised communities are engaged and that their concerns surrounding corruption are addressed. Our target audience in such instances will include; youth leaders, community leaders and ward councillors, amongst others.
- 1.1.5. Attending as many of the public engagements hosted by ACIMC around the country as possible, in order to engage and participate in the development of the final strategy.

Phase Two

With regards to the implementation of the NACS, CW intends raising awareness on the final document after its approval by Parliament and adoption by Cabinet. Once the ACIMC has released an implementation plan, CW intends on developing platforms for ensuring citizens are empowered and are able to hold both the public and private sector accountable to the strategy. CW as well as other CSO's will be in a position to lobby for policy change and legislative intervention in specific sectors to ensure alignment with the adopted strategy, which in turn will result in an environment that supports job creation.

4 Existing initiatives/experience

Indicate if the proposal has been attempted or piloted, and broadly what was learned.

The NACS proposal is currently in phase one, and input from relevant stakeholders as well as the public is being gathered in order to contribute and develop the final strategy.

5 Constituency participation in implementation

What is the potential for constituencies to participate in the implementation of the proposal?

This proposal speaks to both the private and public sector, as well as the public at large. In terms of the private sector, there are opportunities for business groups such as Business Unity South Africa (BUSA), the Black Business Council (BBC), Business Leadership South Africa (BLSA) & the National Business Initiative (NBI)x and the various sectoral business associations, to contribute and make inputs into the NACS. There is also opportunity for civil society to input as well as the public at large, including traditional leaders, mining communities, and township communities within different provinces.

6 Benefits

What social/economic groups would benefit from the proposal directly and indirectly? Please use the following table, and do not list more than 5 groups. Please describe the benefits as precisely as possible.

Group	Job creation	Other benefits	Time frame for success
Civil Society	Campaigns/ programmes will be put in place to monitor/implement NACS. And as a result capacity will be needed	Staff developments	Ongoing
Business	Anti-corruption units will be required to be put in place to comply with the strategy. As a result capacity will be needed	Staff development	Ongoing
Communities	community leaders can be trained and in turn train community members	Citizen empowerment	ongoing

7 Cost and potential sources of funding

What social/economic groups would bear the cost of implementing the proposal directly or indirectly? Please use the following table, and do not list more than 5 groups. Please

describe the costs as precisely as possible. In the case of financial costs, who would pay them?

Group	Anticipated costs	Potential sources of funding to implement the project	Time frame for impact
Government			
Corruption Watch	R1.5 million	We have obtained the required seed funding and are seeking additional funding	3 years

8 Risks

What are the main risks that would prevent the proposal from achieving the anticipated outcomes? Describe *at least two*.

1. A lack of sufficient public awareness & mobilization around the NACS may result in there not being sufficient pressure from the public to uphold & support the NACS if and when its terms are deviated from by stakeholders.
2. A lack of ownership of the NACS from a strong arm of Government, i.e. ownership by the president, in order to ensure there is accountability for the final document and proposed programmes

9 Risk mitigation

What should be done to mitigate the identified risks? Which stakeholder would be responsible for the risk mitigation activity?

Corruption Watch and other relevant stakeholders will engage in a public education and awareness raising campaign, part of which will be to demand that the President assume ownership of and accountability for the implementation of the NACS.

10 Additional comments