The Centro de Integridade Pública (CIP), or Center for Public Integrity, was founded in 2005 to promote democracy and human rights in Mozambique. The organization conducts research and advocacy on fiscal transparency and decentralization and monitors public-sector procurement, anti-poverty programs, and extractive industries operating in the sub-Saharan African nation.

CIP partners with a number of domestic and international organizations, such as Transparency International, Global Integrity, the Project for Democratic Municipal Governance, and TIRI – Making Integrity Work. CIP is also a member of the G20 Anti-Poverty Civil Society Platform, a group of 20 organizations monitoring the implementation of the government’s poverty reduction plan, and was recently appointed the G20 representative in the government’s Anti-Corruption National Forum.

CIP Monitors the Political Process in Mozambique

CIP has maintained a singular focus on corruption and graft in recent years. While Mozambique has come a long way since the ratification of its 1990 constitution, there is still room for further progress. Some government institutions are relatively weak, and low-level fraud is endemic. CIP addresses these issues by engaging with government ministries and pressuring policymakers to implement a more comprehensive anti-corruption strategy. CIP first identified significant gaps in the country’s legislative framework for addressing corruption in 2006, and in 2008 it produced a provocative report detailing systemic weaknesses in Mozambican institutions.

CIP’s report outlines strategies to bring Mozambique more in line with international standards established in the UN Convention against Corruption, the Protocol for the Community Development of Southern Africa against Corruption, and the African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption. While these standards were endorsed by the government of Mozambique, they are not yet written into law. For example, current anti-corruption statutes do nothing to curtail corruption in the private sector, as they apply only to cases in which at least one party is an employee or agent of the state. CIP is pushing to fill these gaps.

CIP’s report now serves as the basis for a massive overhaul of Mozambique’s legislative framework on corruption. New legislation was approved by the Council of Ministers and will be sent to the National Assembly for review during its next session. The Ministry of Justice has agreed to hold a series of public forums on the issue, and authorities have started to interpret existing law more strictly, which led to a new wave of prosecutions in 2008. Pressure from CIP also led the government of Mozambique to join the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) in 2009. By joining the EITI, the government...
The IBP’s Partnership Initiative is a collaborative effort that seeks to enhance the impact of civil society budget work in selected countries of Africa, Asia, and Latin America. The initiative strives to contribute to the development of sustainable institutions; to increase public access to timely, reliable, and useful information; to enhance the effective participation of civil society in policy and budget processes; and to establish a platform of good practices on which future generations of civil society can build.