BUILDING PUBLIC AWARENESS

NIA is contributing to citizens becoming more aware of the prevalence of corrupt activity in society and working to increase appreciation of the impact corruption has on the individual, societal and national levels. This public awareness and education process relies on:

• Print & electronic media adverts and campaigns
• Press releases and op-eds on issues of importance
• Public presentations on various topics
• Social media engagement

STRENGTHENING OUR ANTI-CORRUPTION INSTITUTIONS

Jamaica’s Anti-Corruption institutions need to be reconfigured to achieve the efficient detection, investigation and prosecution of corruption in high places. NIA is building popular awareness and support for the passage of a Single Anti-Corruption Commission:

• The passage of amendments to the Representation of the People’s Act to allow for Political Party Registration.
• Recommendations of the Electoral Commission around Campaign Finance Reform, which were accepted by Parliament.
• Invited Special Prosecutor Joseph Kamara of Sierra Leone to visit Jamaica and share insights on the single anti-corruption agency approach and framework.
• Through public forums, engaged community members in dialogue with the Minister and Opposition Spokesperson on Justice, on the proposed Single Anti-Corruption Commission.

STRENGTHENING OUR DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES: CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

Jamaica needs transparency in the financing of political campaigns, facilitating greater accountability in the spending of public funds once a Government is elected. NIA is building awareness of the need for Campaign Finance Reform. To this end, NIA supported:

• Recommendations of the Electoral Commission which were accepted by Parliament, including recommendations around Political Party Registration and Campaign Finance Reform.
• Voluntary disclosure of campaign financial contributions by 6 leading companies in the private sector in the lead up to the 2011 general elections.
• Director of Elections disclosure of the names of candidates who were in breach of the electoral law by failure to file election returns in the post 2011 general election period.

GET INVOLVED:
Empowering yourself to play a role in combating corruption in Jamaica

Educate:
- Visit the NIA website and read our factsheet and presentations on the Single Anti-Corruption Commission and Campaign Finance Reform.
- Watch the NIA Awareness and the Cost of Corruption Documentary on our website.
- Keep abreast of developments in the Anti-Corruption landscape.

Engage:
- Write in to the newspapers and call in to the talk shows
- Visit, write letters or sign petitions to your MP and Councilor, hold your elected representatives accountable
- Develop your own integrity initiatives and invite NIA to partner with you

Donate:
- NIA needs your support. Contact our offices for further details.

Hold yourselves and our leaders accountable; play your role in building integrity in your organisations, in your communities and throughout Jamaica.

PARTNERING WITH NIA
For further information on assisting NIA in the Building of Integrity please contact our offices.

Join NIA:
- NIA membership is based on acceptance of the values of Transparency, Accountability, Integrity, Impartiality and Diversity.
- Become an individual or corporate member of NIA today; the membership form is available on our website.

St Andrew Justices of the Peace applaud Professor Munroe as he commences his presentation at their September 2014 quarterly meeting.

A resident seeking answers to questions on corruption at the June 2012 Runaway Bay Outreach.

A section of the audience at the UTECH-NIA Anti-Corruption Summit in March 2015, featuring several newly-induced NIA members.

Students of Spanish town Primary performing at a town hall meeting in St. Catherine in March 2013.

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NIA Reaching out to Citizens and Communities

BUILDING INTEGRITY
A Work in Progress

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About NIA

National Integrity Action (NIA) is a registered not-for-profit organization with the objective of combating corruption and building integrity in Jamaica. The establishment of NIA grew out of the necessity to raise levels of national integrity and to combat corruption more effectively in Jamaica.

NIA furthered the work of its predecessor, the National Integrity Action Forum — a non-partisan network of heads of anti-corruption agencies established in January 2009.

In 2010, NIA was launched on UN International Anti-Corruption Day, December 9. Consistent with its non-partisan character, the then Prime Minister of Jamaica, the Honorable Andrew Holness, MP, was keynote speaker at the launch and the Opposition Speaker on Finance, Peter Phillips, MP, made a presentation on behalf of the then Leader of the Opposition, the Most Honorable Portia Simpson Miller.

National Integrity is the National Chapter of Transparency International (TI), the global movement and leading civil society organisation working against corruption worldwide.

Our Programme

NIA EMPLOYS A MULTI-FACETED APPROACH:

- Lobbying for priority legislation to improve the institutional framework for the effective prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of corruption
- Advocacy campaigning to generate awareness and drive public dialogue
- Development of a series of documentaries for public education
- Research on the costs of corruption to Jamaica, particularly its negative impact on the quality of life of everyday Jamaicans
- Engaging of communities and youth on the positive impacts of combating corruption and the importance of building integrity
- Sensitization and training of private sector and professional groups on the advocacy agenda to combat corruption and build integrity
- Programming to enhance the capacity and strengthen the response of critical anti-corruption agencies, investigators, prosecutors, judiciary – it combating corruption and building integrity, inclusive of targeted workshops and seminars

OUR PARTNERS AND COLLABORATORS

- Funding partners include USAID and UK DFID, with additional support from GIZ, GTZ, Group BLOW, the Gleaner Company, Grace Kennedy, National Commercial Bank, Gary Bolch Heidroksen/ Continental Bakers and Gordon ‘Butch’ Stewart/Goswai Ltd.
- Partners of NIA in Public outreach and awareness have included the Social Development Commission, USAID-COMET II Project, the Jamaica Civil Society Coalition, the Parish Development Committees, the University of Technology and a range of civil society and community-based organizations.
- Collaborators in programming have included the Office of the Chief Justice, the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, the Financial Investigation Division and Anti-Corruption Branch of the Jamaica Constabulary Force, the Justice Training Institute, the Chartered Accountants of Jamaica and the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Jamaica.

Achievements

- Production of public education tools, including two feature length documentaries ‘The Cost of Corruption...Jamaica’s Barrier to Prosperity’ and ‘Building Integrity... A Work in Progress’, both of which were aired on local television and are available for viewing on our website, with the former receiving over 140,000 views on YouTube.
- Multi-media advocacy campaigns to heighten awareness and foster dialogue around the rule-of-law, tax evasion, campaign financing and other critical issues.
- Outreach and engagement with thousands of citizens across the length and breadth of the island through public lectures, town hall meetings and other fora.
- Over 400 public sector and 150 private sector professionals sensitised or trained on issues relating to combating corruption and building integrity. NIA also produced and published a manual on the Proceeds of Crime Act.
- Presentations on building integrity and advocating for the combat of corruption to service clubs, business associations, religious organisations, professional bodies, students and youth groups.
- All of which have contributed to an elevated understanding of the costs of corruption and the need for individuals, organisations and the nation as a whole to take steps to reduce corruption, build integrity, challenge impunity and improve accountability.

Through more than 100 national chapters worldwide and an international secretariat in Berlin, Transparency International works with partners in government, business and civil society to put effective measures in place to tackle corruption. NIA became the fully accredited Jamaican chapter of Transparency International in early 2015.

Ours Vision

A peaceful and prosperous Jamaica built on principles of integrity, equality and justice, in which each person holds themselves and their leaders to account for advancing their lives, their communities and the nation.

Our Mission

Enhancing integrity as well as building public awareness, engagement and demand for:

- Legislation to strengthen transparency and accountability in governance
- Enforcement of the rule of law against the corrupt
- Ensuring that anti-corruption agencies function effectively
- Forging strong ties with national and international partners, institutions and communities, to build integrity by combating corruption.