Long Session Report: Game Changers

Session Title: Fight Corruption: Online Technology and Best Practices
Date & Time: November 7, 2012 18: BRST
Report prepared by: Heather Leson, Director of Community, Ushahidi

Experts:

Metodi Zajkov, Transparency International Macedonia
Karolis Granickas, Transparency International Lithuania
Orsolyi Vincze K-Monitor
Alix Dunn, Tactical Tech
Nathan Wangusi, Kuhungo

Tarik Nash –Nesh, Software Centre Morocco, Transparency International Morocco
(Flight arrived late, he missed part of session)

Moderated by: Heather Leson
Session coordinated by: Heather Leson

Main issues raised in kick off remarks. What’s the focus of the session?

The Fight Corruption session focused on online tools. The session started with brief presentations by Metodi, Karolis and Orsoyi about their respective work with diverse online tools.

Then, we broke into 5 discussion groups to give people a deeper dive on topics. Participants choose which group was of interest to them. Some participants moved from group to group. It was an open concept, open source style.
What initiatives have been showcased? Describe the Game Changing Strategies. Please be as detailed as possible, include web urls, name of the initiatives and indicate if local, regional or national.

Metodi presented his work with Ushahidi:
Karolis presented a number of software tools used by TI Lithuania.
Orsoyi presented k-monitor. http://k-monitor.hu/

Each group was tasked with discussing the items and providing some headlines or “table of contents” items, which could later be used for an online toolkit for the community.
The sub-group topics were:
1. Engagement and Outreach
2. Mapping
3. Data Visualization/InfoGraphics
4. Security and Privacy topics
5. Bridging offline and online communities.
The highlight of the session was the breakout group discussions. A full document of the lessons learned and ideas captured will be shared in the longer form document.

The next steps are:
1. Provide all the pictures and documents to IACC.
2. Provide the long form feedback details.
3. Document all the research on a Google doc
4. Begin to create a toolbox table of contents for the community to continue sharing and adding content. This will become a teaching tool for the community.
What are the recommendations, follow-up Actions (200 words narrative form)

We’ve created a Table of Contents to start a manual on Online Tools for Corruption Activists. It would be helpful for Susannah Vila to get the support she and Engine Room need to complete this important work.
What kind of questions came from the audience? (Please include interesting quotes)

See photographs

What could be done to promote cross-sector and cross-regional work related to the focus of this game changer session? (If applicable)

Technology should not be divorced from policy discussions and research. There needs to be a forum for new technology and existing technology to be reviewed by the IACC community. Promoting technology is something that the online and offline networks do well. By having the hacking/making community join the IACC event, the organizations are closer to being able to meet the gap. More research is required to assist the communities. But, research must also allow for the creation of new tools and the ability to “fail” and remake items that are evaluated and reviewed. This is the key way to determine the next steps for new technology. This could be done in the form of analysis like this blog post: http://europeandcis.undp.org/blog/2012/11/06/i-paid-a-bribe-so-what-an-experience-from-kosovo/
What should be done to create opportunities for scaling up the proven solutions discussed in the session? What and by whom?

This session was far too short. We could have spent a whole day teaching people about the various tools and tactics. In addition, each of the breakout discussions were very fruitful. People were encouraged to keep the conversation flowing for the remainder of the week. It would be good to have more unconference style events at IACC to encourage collaboration.

Key Insights Recommended to be included in the IACC Declaration

Online Technology is increasingly becoming part of the Anti-corruption Activist toolkit. There are a number of core requirements: what are the IACC guidelines for creating new technology? What are the guidelines for users (re: security, privacy concerns)? How can new technology and anti-corruption tactics be merged with best practices.

Anti-corruption activists should receive training from Tactical Tech or other like organizations. The organizations, academics, policy people and researchers should provide the technical community guidelines to improve the creation and use of new online technology to best fit the IACC community.

Rapporteur’s name and date submitted

Heather Leson November 8, 2012