



Supporting Citizens to Fight Corruption

PTF Europe Annual Report 2019

April 2020

Table of Contents

Our Vision, Mission and Approach	5
Our focus areas.....	6
Our Services	7
Our Input	8
Our Outputs	10
Our Outcomes	12
Our lessons learned	14
Our Plans for 2020 and beyond	16
Our Members	17
Our Organizational Structure	17
Our Core Team.....	18
Our Finances I: Balance Sheet	20
Our Finances II: Statement of activities	21
Support Us.....	24
Our Contact Details.....	25

Message from the PTF Europe Chairperson

One of our major achievements in 2019 was the development of a PTF Europe Strategic Plan. In the years 2020-2023, we intend to focus mainly on stakeholder engagement and third-party monitoring through respective capacity building of like-minded CSOs in developing and emerging countries.

In 2019, we successfully delivered two Guidance Notes on Stakeholder Engagement for the European Investment Bank (EIB): one for EIB projects and one for EIB staff. We also continued to support the EU-financed and Helvetas Germany-led programme “Promoting Equitable and Accountable Civic Engagement” (PEACE) in Myanmar.

As in the past years, PTF Europe continued to screen calls for proposal, mainly from the EU, corresponding to the overall PTF Europe agenda. In 2019, we submitted two proposals: one to the EU on CSO training on local budget and e-procurement monitoring in Ukraine and one to the German Schmitz Foundations on primary education monitoring in Northern Ghana.

Since the start in early 2014, PTF Europe has gradually increased its membership. Amongst the new PTF Europe members is a Brussels-based former senior World Bank official who served for several years as the World Bank Representative to the Europe Union as well as a former senior World Bank Environment Manager.

PTF Europe benefitted once more from the very generous in-kind support by many of its members as well as from financial and advisory support from PTF HQ in Washington D.C.

We are confident that, based upon the ongoing reflection process on the future of our organization, we can foster the PTF Europe agenda even more in 2020 and 2021.

Franz Kaps
PTF Europe Chairperson



Message from the PTF President in Washington DC

PTF Europe continues its role as a key member of the PTF global family.

In 2019, it successfully completed a contract to prepare guidance notes on stakeholder engagement for the European Investment Bank (EIB). An EU-funded, Myanmar *Promoting Equitable, Accountable Civic Engagement* (PEACE) project, with Helvetas Germany as the lead partner, and PTF Europe and the Myanmar Local Resource Center as co-partners, had a demonstrable impact in building the capacity of local civil society to hold their government accountable.

PTF Europe has been very active in strengthening ties with European institutions and preparing two bids in response to EU and German bi-lateral calls for proposals; we are optimistic that at least one will be successful.

We are proud to be working closely with PTF Europe. Indeed, in this connection recent PTF's successful bid to implement an operation in Malawi designed to strengthen the capacity of civil society to monitor public infrastructure procurement, was in part based on the lessons we learned in our joint effort to develop an e-procurement monitoring system for the Ukraine funded by the EBRD and PTF.

We look forward to further building our close relationship!

Richard Stern
President and CEO of PTF



Our Vision, Mission and Approach

Our vision | Partnership for Transparency e.V. (PTF Europe) strives to improve governance, increase transparency, promote the rule of law and reduce corruption (*UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals, Goal 16*). We strongly believe that citizens are instrumental in resolving their communities' governance challenges. Together with strong civil society organisations (CSOs) they can hold governments accountable.

Our mission | PTF Europe is convinced that the best way to bring about accountability, transparency and rule of law and to reduce corruption is through strengthening locally led civil society organizations in developing and emerging countries. They are the best equipped to empower citizens and to constructively engage with authorities.

Our learning approach | We adapt our approaches as we learn from challenges. As a relatively small organization with a large network of like-minded CSOs, we are agile and able to connect with relevant expertise as needs arise.

Our focus areas

Third party monitoring

Target groups | CSOs with interest and experience in third party monitoring at local levels

Methods of work | PTF Europe will provide small grants (for which we are seeking funding), advice and technical assistance.

Expected results | We envisage the following results:

- CSOs participating in PTF Europe projects identify faulty policies and procedures, corruption, abuse and incompetency using the tools developed in partnership with PTF Europe.
- CSOs lobby with relevant national authorities to improve policies and procedures and to correct identified problems in individual cases and, if appropriate, strive to bring responsible people to justice.

Stakeholder engagement

Target groups | donors, implementing agencies, government institutions and CSO with interest and experience in stakeholder engagement in the whole project cycle

Methods of work | PTF Europe will provide advice and technical assistance on meaningful stakeholder engagement.

Expected results | We envisage the following results:

- Project stakeholders are identified, properly informed and included in a meaningful consultation process about the project.
- Recommendations of the project stakeholders are taken up, wherever appropriate.

Our Services



Technical Assistance

Our highly experienced, mostly volunteer Advisers assist in developing plans, monitoring implementation and evaluating impact of PTF Europe supported programmes



Networking Services

We link organisations with common goals and challenges to promote mutual support networks



Knowledge & Learning

We introduce global best practices for adaptation to local conditions and extract lessons for world-wide knowledge sharing



Strategic Advice

We provide services to enhance institutional development and strengthen citizen engagement to qualify for potential support by aid agencies and international financial institutions

Our Input

What resources we put into our activities

Human resources input

Strategic Input | In 2019, PTF Europe concluded its strategy formulation process. This process included strategy discussions held during the 2017 and 2018 annual meetings, a 2019 landscape analysis undertaken by PTF Europe, providing an overview of key stakeholders and their approaches towards good governance and anticorruption, and consultations held with key PTF Europe and PTF members.

Professional Input | PTF Europe members provided professional input on operational issues (screening for funding opportunities, drafting calls for support), on ongoing programmes (supporting the “Promoting Equitable and Accountable Civil Society” – PEACE) in Myanmar and developing “Guidance Notes on Stakeholder Engagement” for EIB) and on organisational matters (contributing to the application for professional CSO umbrella networks such as CONCORD and VENRO).

Technical Input | PTF Europe renewed its website www.ptfeurope.org to comply with internationally set transparency standards. Key documents (statutes, codes of conduct, annual narrative and financial reports) are now publicly available.

Financial input | In 2019, PTF Europe received income from project activities (5,000 Euro), membership fees (1,326 Euro) and a PTF grant (12,994 Euro). This support allowed PTF Europe (1) to hire a part-time Integrity Adviser (from April 2019 onwards); (2) to further develop its business, including participation in respective international events and presenting PTF Europe and its agenda to international institutions, including the European Commission (EC), the European Investment Bank (EIB), the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD); (3) to respond to respective international calls for proposals and (4) to apply for professional memberships with CONCORD and VENRO.

What we achieved in 2019

Furthering strategic alliances in Brussels

Haleh Bridi, Board member



Since joining PTF Europe in early 2019 and from my base in Brussels, I helped better connect PTF Europe to EU institutions. As such, I held regular meetings with Commission officials and introduced PTF Europe to many local development players including local EU embassies, foundations and associations.

As part of my effort to improve PTF-Europe's visibility in Brussels, I worked on developing formal partnerships with two prominent Brussels-based CSO umbrella organizations (CONCORD Europe and Climate Action Network Europe).

I also initiated a promising dialogue with some Europe-wide CSOs with whom PTF-Europe now considers partnering in a variety of EU calls for proposals. These are seeds being planted which I hope will result in concrete project activities and strategic alliances not only for PTF Europe, but PTF as a whole.

Our Outputs

What we achieved through our activities in 2019

Strategy formulated | The PTF Europe Strategy and its implementation plan were approved in August 2019. Key objectives are the following ones: (1) promotion of stakeholder engagement and third-party monitoring through capacity building of CSOs; (2) furthering impact and sustainability of our projects by further developing PTF Europe engagement and monitoring tools, and networking with like-minded CSOs; and (3) enhancing PTF Europe's institutional and operational capacities.

PTF Europe declared eligible for support by the German Development Cooperation | In the summer of 2019, the German Schmitz Stiftungen informed PTF Europe of its eligibility for grant funding under the German Development Cooperation. A PTF Europe proposal for funding a primary education programme in Northern Ghana is currently being examined by the Schmitz Stiftungen. Success under this programme may open the door for wider German Development Cooperation support.

For outstanding civil society networks applied | In 2019, PTF Europe applied for associate membership with CONCORD Europe, the European Confederation of Relief and Development NGOs in Brussels – <https://concordeurope.org/> – and as a guest member of VENRO, the umbrella organisation of development and humanitarian aid NGOs in Germany – www.venro.org. Besides, PTF Europe continues being part of the *one PTF family* which is guided by the PTF/PTF Europe mission statement and the Memorandum of Understanding with PTF Headquarter in Washington DC.

New members recruited | We continued to pro-actively recruit several outstanding experts for PTF Europe: such as (1) a former World Bank Special Representative to the EU who is partially based in Brussels. She serves as a PTF Europe Board member as well as PTF Europe's and PTF's representative to the EU and other European institutions and (2) a former senior World Bank Manager Environment and Climate Change which fills an important gap among PTF Europe and PTF experts. The current membership stands at 30.

What we achieved in 2019

Linking PTF Europe with long-time African PTF Partners

Pietronella van den Oever, PTF Board member



After 10 years as a PTF Member I joined PTF Europe, with the purpose to establish links between PTF Europe and several long-time African PTF Partners. As a first joint effort we prepared a proposal to the German Schmitz Stiftungen with SAVE-Ghana, a 12-year PTF partner located in Tumu, a remote small town in northern Ghana.

The proposal builds further on earlier efforts to increase transparency and accountability in the primary school system in northern Ghana. School teachers do not want to go to this remote area of the country. The phenomenon of "ghost teachers" is rampant; teachers are on the official payrolls and go to cash their salary, either not showing up for the job at all or working less hours as officially required. And even in the classroom, they tend to underperform – due to limited oversight from the education ministry.

To address these issues, SAVE-Ghana will further expand an already existing app that aimed at teacher absenteeism and performance (checking their teaching plans, watch life their classroom performance). In addition, SAVE-Ghana will mobilise the traditional community school governance structures such as Parent Teacher Organizations and Village School Management Committees to increase transparency and accountability and to decrease pay role fraud.

This one-year proposal provides a venue towards future funding of PTF partners' initiatives by BMZ.

Our Outcomes

The changes and benefits that result from our activities in 2019

EIB standards and good practices on stakeholder engagement compiled in two handbooks | From September 2018 until April 2019, PTF Europe was contracted by EIB to draft two Guidance Notes on Stakeholder Engagement:

- *for project implementers*: providing recommendations to project implementers on how to meet EIB's requirements regarding stakeholder engagement in EIB operations; and summarising good practice recommendations for meaningful stakeholder engagement to help promoters maximise the potential project gains.
- *for EIB staff*: clarifying project implementers' obligations regarding stakeholder engagement; and describing how EIB could enhance its due diligence with respect to stakeholder engagement.



Our Outcomes

The changes and benefits that result from our activities in 2019

Myanmar CSO engagement in service delivery and local policies increased | Together with Helvetas Germany (the lead partner) and Myanmar Local Resource Center (LRC), PTF Europe continued the PEACE Programme. The Programme aims at increasing local CSOs' participation and influence in the planning, implementation and review of development projects, in services delivery and in policies, both at national and sub-national levels, for more inclusive and equitable development in Myanmar.



During 2019, PTF Europe Advisors visited Myanmar to finalize a report on the LRC financial sustainability and begin work on a business plan with LRC, jointly select local CSOs to receive grants in the final fourth round, assist LRC staff to prepare case studies of grant projects, and participate in quarterly Steering Committee meetings.

Our lessons learned

The lessons learned that result from our input, outputs and outcomes in 2019

Compliance with EU project application requirements | Experience gained under the *Partners in Empowerment* (PiE), the Myanmar *Promoting Equitable, Accountable Civic Engagement* (PEACE) as well as the *Ukraine CSO Capacity Building to Monitor Public Procurement* Programmes are laying the foundation for establishing PTF Europe's track record. One important lesson learned in the context of a promising EU call for CSO capacity building in Ukraine was the lack of a PTF Europe statutory audit report, over and above the standard PTF Europe tax advisor report, as one of the EU eligibility criteria. Such statutory audit report will be available by May 2020 and entered into the EU PADOR system.

Impact of role model projects | CSO capacity building in monitoring public procurement at local level, based on experience gained in Ukraine, has become a PTF/PTF Europe flagship programme which is being used to develop similar programmes in different parts of the world. This experience figures prominently on the PTF Europe – www.ptfeurope.org – as well as the PTF – www-ptfund.org – websites. While the Ukraine programme has decisively contributed to improved monitoring capacities of local CSOs, the impact on systemic governance and corruption issues at local and even more at regional and national levels was low. As a result, PTF Europe includes in every new third-party monitoring project a lobby and advocacy component with local and regional government officials.

Financial sustainability | While continuing to work with traditional funders, PTF Europe is pro-actively engaging with potential new sources of funding, including bilateral and multilateral donors as well as various foundations and private sector groups, for which we could capitalize on our excellent third-party monitoring and stakeholder engagement expertise as well as our long-standing fund management and allocation expertise (providing grants to partners).

What we achieved in 2018

Developing new project approaches

Lars Jeurling | Deputy Chairperson | Board Member



After four years of hard work and many challenges, we completed the Ukraine CSO procurement capacity building and monitoring project at the end of 2019. The final report was completed and approved by EBRD two months later.

We have learned a lot from the Ukraine project both with regards to how to do CSO procurement monitoring and CSO monitoring more generally. With a few exceptions PTF projects in the past have focused on training and capacity building rather than actual on the ground monitoring. Capacity building is a necessary component in any project to increase the effectiveness and relevance of CSOs in monitoring of policy and project formulation and implementation, but it is not enough to achieve results.

The Ukraine project taught us that monitoring is also not enough. More attention needs to be paid to what is done with the findings of the CSOs i.e. are those responsible listening and prepared to take action. This conclusion, I believe may also apply to CSO monitoring more generally.

PTF Europe will build on these conclusions in the upcoming project proposals several of which will deal with promoting CSOs monitoring actions to mitigate and adapt to climate change.

Our Plans for 2020 and beyond

Toolboxes for public procurement monitoring and citizen engagement further developed | PTF Europe aims to build upon lessons learned under the EU funded “Partners in Empowerment” programme in Eastern Europe; the experience gained under the PEACE programme in Myanmar; the EBRD/PTF supported CSO capacity building in Ukraine to monitor public procurement programme; the failed application for a EU funded “CSO capacity building programme in the Ukraine” (no statutory audit for 2017-2019 available) as well as the EIB consultancy on drafting Guidance Notes on Stakeholder Engagement. Overall aim is to further develop existing toolboxes to be offered to potential donors.

Subcontracts and grants won | PTF Europe with the support of PTF and in cooperation with like-minded CSOs, aims at winning (sub)-contracts and grants from the EU and other European donors, and actively participate in anti-corruption, rule of law and good governance projects in, among other, the education, energy and environment/climate change sectors.

Networking further advanced | PTF Europe aims to continue to promote cooperation with existing anti-corruption network partners and identify further such partnerships, including with like-minded European CSO umbrella networks. In 2019, PTF Europe applied for memberships with the German VENRO and the European CONCORD, both umbrella organisations representing the interests of development CSOs at national and European level.

CSOs supported in third-party monitoring and stakeholder engagement | PTF Europe aims to continue building up the capacities and competences of local partner CSOs as it does with HELVETAS within the PEACE Programme in Myanmar. Discussions are under way for similar PTF Europe support in, among other, Albania, Armenia, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova.

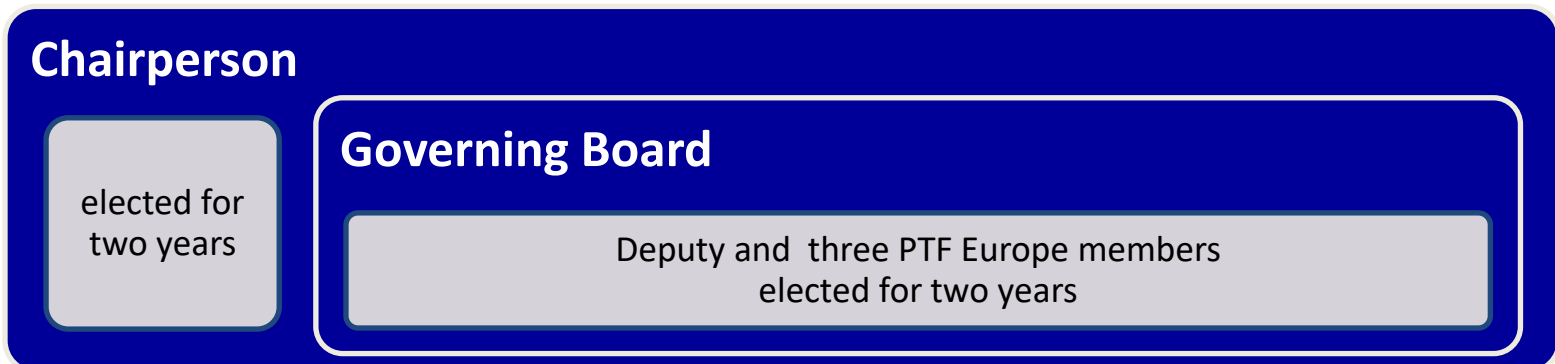
Our Members

By the end of 2019, PTF Europe had a stable membership of about 30 persons, mixing former World Bank staff, CSO representatives and younger members with substantial background in governance, compliance and anti-corruption matters around the world.



Our Organizational Structure

PTF Europe has a volunteer board of five members under the chairmanship of Franz Kaps, a former World Bank official residing in Munich.



Our Core Team

Franz Kaps | Chairperson

Franz retired from the World Bank in May 2007 as a Special Representative for Southeast Europe, Manager of the Joint European Commission-World Bank Office for Southeast Europe, and the Europe and Central Asia Region Senior Partnership Adviser. Prior to this, Franz held several senior assignments in the World Bank's Africa Region, including serving as Resident Representative in Dakar Senegal, as well as operational assignments in Central America, Egypt and Yugoslavia. Franz joined PTF as an Advisor in 2010. In October 2013, he was elected Chairman of the PTF Europe.

Lars Jeurling | Board Member | Deputy Chairperson

Lars Jeurling has been an adviser to the Partnership for Transparency Fund since 2004, working mostly on Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union. Lars worked for nearly 30 years at the World Bank in different positions and in different parts of the world, such as Latin America, Indonesia and, since 1991, in the former Soviet Union. Lars' field was infrastructure - an experience he is now drawing on to implement a programme supported by EBRD to train and support CSOs in procurement monitoring in Ukraine with follow-ups planned in other countries. Lars sees the PTF Europe's mission as raising European funding for PTF as a whole and to identify and promote projects supported by PTF in Europe and working towards an effective cooperation of advisers in PTF and PTF e V.

Matthias Einmahl | Board Member | Treasurer and Legal Adviser

Matthias Einmahl is currently teaching as a Professor for public procurement and civil law at the University for Public Administration for the state of North Rhine-Westphalia in Cologne. Before that he worked as a Judge at the Court for the city and county of Halle/Saale. Matthias studied Law at the Universities of Freiburg and Konstanz in Germany and holds a PhD from the University of Hamburg. Matthias is treasurer and advises PTF Europe in legal matters.

Our Core Team

Hady Fink | Board Member

Hady is a German national, until March 2020 working as Manager Compliance Monitoring for Qatari Diar, a real estate investment fund of the State of Qatar. He has 15 years of experience in corruption, governance and compliance related matters. Hady holds a PhD (Dr. phil.) in Intercultural Studies, as well as Master degrees in Economics (Diplom-Volkswirt) and Intercultural Studies (Diplom-Kulturwirt), all from Passau University in Germany. For PTF Europe, he acts as webmaster and contributes to the overall management of the organization's activities.

Haleh Bridi | Board Member

Haleh Bridi retired from the World Bank in November 2018 with about 35 years of development experience. Her last posting was Director for Communications and Partnerships for the Africa region. Prior to this, Haleh was a Country Director for the Indian Ocean Department in Africa, based in Madagascar. She also served as Director for Advisory Services at IFC and held several other managerial positions at the World Bank in the Africa and Middle East & North Africa regions. Before joining the World Bank, Haleh spent for 10 years at the OPEC Fund in Vienna, working on the Fund's lending to francophone African countries. Haleh joined PTF in January 2019 and also serves on the Board of PTF.

Marie-Carin von Gumpfenberg | Advisor

Marie-Carin holds a PhD (Dr. phil.) in political sciences and is a certified compliance officer. For 10 years she worked for the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) with duty stations in Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Georgia and Northern Macedonia. Marie-Carin is one of the founding members of PTF Europe. In 2018/2019 she co-authored the EIB Guidance Notes on Stakeholder Engagement – a consultancy won by PTF Europe. Since April 2019 she is employed as part-time Adviser with PTF Europe.

Our Finances I: Balance Sheet

Assets and liabilities | By the end 2019, PTF Europe had accumulated cash balances at the bank that included donations, membership fees, and unspent PTF and project activities. These funds were carried over into 2020.

		Balance Sheet		
		31 December 2019	31 December 2018	31 December 2017
Assets				
Fixed Assets		0 €	0 €	0 €
Current Assets				
cash balance at the bank	PTF Europe	7,728 €	16,626 €	12,284 €
	PEACE	10,416 €	4,564 €	12,628 €
	EIB	35,423 €	6,816 €	-
Accruals and deferrals		0 €	0 €	0 €
Total Assets		53,567 €	28,006 €	24,912 €
Liabilities				
Funds carried forward		53,567 €	28,006 €	24,912 €
Revenue reserves		0 €	0 €	0 €
Provisions		0 €	0 €	0 €
Total Liabilities		53,567 €	28,006 €	24,912 €

Our Finances II: Statement of activities

Revenues | In 2019, PFT e.V. received the bulk of its revenues from a PTF grant, project activities as well as PTF Europe membership fees. These funds secured PTF Europe administrative and project costs. Besides, PTF Europe administered grants from Helvetas for the PEACE programme and from the EIB for the consultancy on Stakeholder Engagement.

Expenditures | Roughly 3/4 of 2018 PTF Europe core expenditures were dedicated to cover project activities and roughly 1/4 to administrative cost, including for bookkeeping and tax advisory services. The overwhelming amount of expenditures went to cover the expenses of the PEACE and EIB projects.

Revenues	Expenditures
Support to PTF Europe	PTF Europe
12,994 € PTF grant to PTF Europe	11,068 € personnel costs
1,251 € membership fees	2,310 € travel costs
5,000 € project activities	14,740 € administrative costs
Project I: PEACE	Project I: PEACE
45,280 € from Helvetas Germany	43,091 €
3,663 € from PTF Washington	
Project II: Stakeholder Engagement	Project II: Stakeholder Engagement
62,680 € from EIB	30,889 €
Total 135,943 €	Total 102,007 €

Our Finances II: Statement of activities

- (i) **The “Promoting Equitable, Accountable Civic Engagement in Myanmar (PEACE)” Programme** | In 2019, PTF Europe, as a co-applicant of the EU funded PEACE programme, received three instalments and one indirect cost allocation from the lead agency Helvetas Germany and one instalment from PTF.

The entire amount had been used to cover advisory services by PTF Europe advisors in accordance with the terms of reference and on the basis of individual consultant contracts concluded with PTF Europe. Most PTF Europe advisors engaged under PEACE donated their fees to PTF to support its budget.



EIB SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS

Guidance Note for
Standard 10 on
**Stakeholder Engagement
in EIB Operations**

- (ii) **Consultancy on Stakeholder Engagement** | In April 2019, PTF Europe concluded the consultancy that resulted in two Guidance Notes on Stakeholder Engagement: one for promoters, i.e. EIB project implementers, and one for EIB staff. Funds received from EIB in 2018 covered administrative and travel costs as well as consultancy fees. One adviser engaged under the consultancy donated the fees to PTF Europe.

Our Finances III: Advisors' Donations

Most PTF Europe advisors have committed themselves to donate their fees from PTF Europe implemented programmes to PTF as part of the annual World Bank supported Community Connection Campaign (CCC). Under said programme, the World Bank matches such donations dollar for dollar. Together with direct donations to PTF by members and friends, PTF managed to generate about USD 300,000 in 2019. This makes it possible for PTF to provide, among other, the annual grants to PTF Europe as well as to come up with the required co-funding needs for the PTF Europe co-administered PEACE programme.

Our special thanks go to the PTF Europe members for their generous donations.



The chairperson and the treasurer say „Thank you“!

Support Us

Donate your time | Are you interested in contributing to PTF Europe as a member? Are you looking for ways how to contribute to transparency, improved governance and reduced corruption? Do you want to join an innovative, growing, member-driven organization? Then donate your time to PTF Europe! We are looking for support in one of the following areas:

- Procurement monitoring, stakeholder engagement, anticorruption
- Networking
- Fund raising activities
- Project design, implementation and monitoring
- Project/programme evaluation

Donate funding | Your contribution for PTF Europe can be a first step of your commitment against corruption. You may make a single or a regular donation or by topics/countries. Donations can be set off against tax liability in Germany.

Any questions on PTF Europe's activities? | Feel free contact our chairperson Franz Kaps at +49-171-1403184 or f.kaps@ptfund.org

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