

2015

ANNUAL REPORT

THE CENTER TO COMBAT CORRUPTION AND CRONYISM
An Overview of C4 Activities 2015





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Photo showing Bersih 4.0 Rally whereby C4 is an Endorsee

Statement from Board of Directors

How did 2015 go for us at C4 ?

Eventful, dramatic, unprecedented and yes very demanding. 2015 was indeed eventful for Malaysians, perhaps the most explosive in a long time. There was never a dull moment as we were forced down with shock and awe news and revelations worthy of a Hollywood blockbuster - high level fraud, political mastery, rising costs of living and massive corruption,



The nation has been embroiled in a bizarre expose of USD 700 million funneled into the Prime Minister's (PM) private bank accounts – yes it certainly took the prize, unbelievable as it sounded, it set the nation on a backward slide, as the PM refused to step down from power. So it wasn't surprising that the government reacted with a sledgehammer, what followed was a systemic crushing blow to democracy and the rule of law.

Civil society space began to shrink, the tightening and establishing of repressive laws and increasing harassment on rights defenders and whistleblowers, made 2015 one of the darkest years in recent history, a backsliding so painful, that many would want to forget. And yet, despite the dark days engulfing this nation, opportunity and courage shone through to find solutions and new ways of working to speed up reforms and open new windows of collaboration. C4, barely in its second year of operations, took the bull by its horns, moved into high gear and positioned itself strategically to become a leading voice against corruption and for policy reforms.

Speaking engagements, press statements, policy positions moved fast and well. Our profile grew from strength to strength. Work with the Malaysian Anti Corruption Commission, the Auditor General's Office and the Public Accounts Committee strengthened. We addressed the international anti corruption conference (IACC) hosted here in Malaysia, was selected to meet President Obama in a rare dialogue during his visit here last November, and even held a one to one audience with the new and savvy Sarawak Chief Minister, Adenan Satem, on fighting corruption in the State. The recognition by top leaders and institutions was a reflection of C4's rising presence.

The C4 board envisions another challenging year ahead, knowing fully well that despite the closing space on our work, we will strive and we hold faith that we will get the change that we so want to achieve.

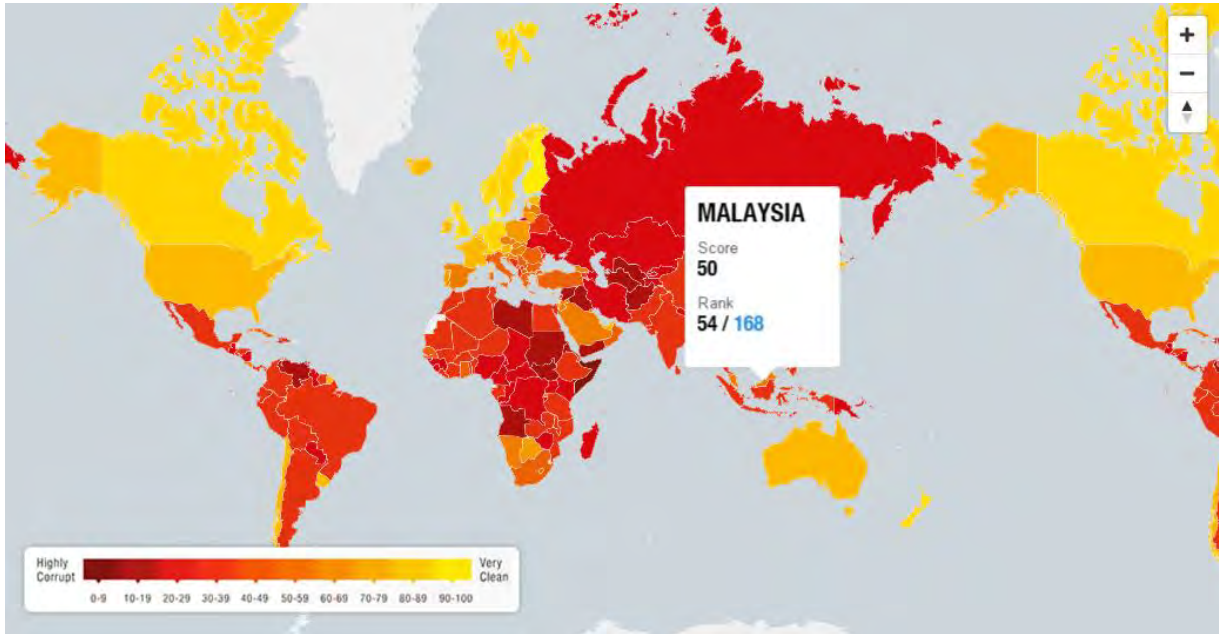
Perseverance, courage and collectively wisdom will see a better Malaysia soon.

The C4 Board of Directors

clean conscious competent credible

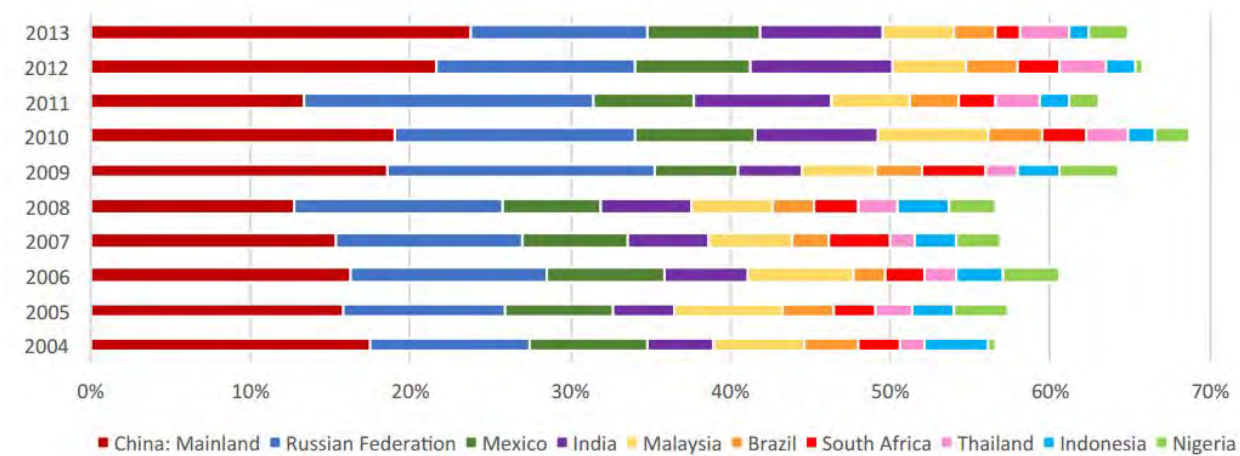
Malaysia Corruption Factsheet

Map Showing Malaysian Ranking in Corruption Perception Index 2015



Source : Transparency International

Chart Showing Top 10 Source Country for Illicit Money Outflow 2004 to 2013



Source : Global Financial Integrity

Malaysia was ranked 54th out of 168 countries in Global Corruption Perception Index 2015. Malaysia dropped 2 points as compared with 2014. The Ernst and Young Report also listed Malaysia as one of the top corrupted country in Asia.

According to Global Financial Integrity (GFI), Malaysia had lost an accumulated amount of US\$418.542 billion (RM1.8 trillion) illicit money outflow since 2004. In 2013 alone, Malaysia lost a total of US\$48.25 billion. A significant amount is related to corruption in public and private sectors.

The data on the actual cost of corruption in Malaysia is difficult to obtained due to the secrecy of the state. This is estimated to be around 1-2% of Malaysia GDP. The billions lost can be used to build thousands of schools and hospitals that can benefit the people.

C4 in Action : At a Glance

Quarter 1 – January to April

The ongoing scrutiny of 1MDB that started as early as 2010 has now turned into a full blown scandal. C4 and many MPs have consistently urged the authorities to investigate the 1MDB. During this period also, the government introduced the controversial Goods and Services Tax (GST). C4 had lobbied for the tax plan to be delayed and released a comprehensive position paper that was sent to government & all MPs. A large anti GST protestors ended with many arrested. . It was also in early 2015, that C4 launched MyCleanCity – a mobile app to make local authorities more accountable. The project was supported by Selangor EXCO, Ean Yong Hian Wah. C4 also provided critical analysis of the Auditor General's report and launched a crowd sourcing website to build citizen participation on the AG report



Quarter 2 – May to August

Public wrath was on the rise with rising cost of living and corruption. C4 actively involved itself in the Bersih rally calling for the people to fight corruption & PM Najib to step down . We were increasingly approached to address more public talks. During this period, C4 stepped up its rural education program with the Orang Asli. Trainings were conducted in Kelantan, Johor, Perak, Sabah and Pahang in collaboration with MACC. In the meantime our work the local authorities were further strengthened with integration with MBPJ. We received keen interests from journalist tracking Penang state government administration. A special focus on the Kelantan timber trade is being produced



Quarter 3 – September to December

The 3rd quarter saw a further rollback in governance and rights. Here we are playing a leading role in civil society. The visit by President Obama gave C4 a direct opportunity to address ongoing concerns and bring international pressure on Malaysia.. Our profile were further enhanced when we spoke at the IACC. A new campaign on political funding together with other groups became a focus. C4 further produce a budget transparency analysis urging better tracking and participatory budgeting. A key highlight was a bilateral meeting with Sarawak CM to combat corruption in the state



Obama Visit to Malaysia

“The Centre to Combat Corruption and Cronyism (C4), strongly urges for Obama’s visit to Malaysia not be stymied, by trade and commerce issues only but to address important and critical concerns of the floundering Malaysian ringgit, grand corruption, allegations of money laundering, rising costs of living and its impact on the economy. “

“



Dialogue With Sarawak Chief Minister

C4 met with Adenan Satem, the Sarawak CM. The CM has pledged full cooperation on fighting corruption in the State. Travel ban for Cynthia Gabriel was temporarily lifted for this meeting



Advocacy at the IACC

In the session on “Tackling grand corruption: what recommendations to the UNCAC Conference of States Parties in November?”, C4 provided insights on the causes of corruption and how the UNCAC can be better utilised.

Thematic Focus Areas

- 
-  Selangor Ombudsman Office
 -  The GIAT Coalition
 -  Open API

Open Governance Initiatives

Governance and Integrity are issues fast gaining traction in government. More and more Malaysians are becoming aware of the ills and weakness of our government administration, and are demanding greater accountability and responsiveness on issues of public policy and public interest.

Transparency breeds accountability, and accountability in turn nourishes to a culture of integrity and responsibility. C4 Center works to change the culture of government, by pushing for greater openness and responsiveness in government, so that civic participation in public policy is made meaningful and duly respected.

Key Outputs

- In 2015 Selangor budget announcement, Selangor Menteri Besar Azmin Ali announced the setting up of an Integrity Office and Ombudsman for Good Governance. C4 has been instrumental in lobbying the Selangor state government for greater transparency in Selangor state since 2014
- In collaboration with MBPJ C4 pilot the MyCleanCity project, which allows interaction between C4 system and MBPJ system. This is also first time that MBPJ develops an API that allows an external party to access their system
- C4 is a member of the coalition on Governance, Integrity, Accountability and Transparency's (GIAT) and Coalition of Good Governance (CGG). Through these platforms we have co-organized events around the Open Government Partnership and various press statements promoting open government initiatives

Thematic Focus Areas



INDEPENDENT INSTITUTIONS



THE AG REPORT



COMBATCORRUPTION.MY

Combat Corruption

The Auditor General runs an audit of public sector agencies, government departments and government linked companies to report on the performance of public sector officials, wastage and leakages detected in financial budgets and allocations for various government programs. However, the awareness of the significance of the report is still low, and C4 aims to further increase the awareness of the AG Report, and provide recommendations on how the AG Report can be used as deterrent for corruption.

Key Outputs

- C4 organized several forums entitled “The AG's Report: Biting the Bullet on Government Accountability. The Forum was also participated by the Auditor General , and the Public Accounts Committee Chairman.
- Through direct dialogue with the Auditor General Office, and media statements C4 has proposed several recommendations to enhance the work of the AG Office. Among the recommendation is the establishment of a score card for the AG findings. An online scorecard was established by the AG Office in 2015
- C4 launches the CombatCorruption.my website that allows Malaysians to easily access the AG Report summaries.

Thematic Focus Areas

Local Government Integrity

Embracing the vast opportunities of internet technology to help boost accountability and transparency in local government, C4 Center has created innovative reporting tools to push local government to account for their actions. With poor public services delivery being bane to many city folks, a mobile app is being used as a creative platform to get resident voices organized.

Key Outputs

- Both Android and Apple version of MyCleanCity were launched and now can be downloaded at Google Play and Apple Market
- During the pilot period, around 600 people downloaded and sign up to use the MyCleanCity apps. A total of 300 complaints were received. Out of this, a total of 140 complaints were resolved by MBPJ.
- Cyberview has showed interest to rollout in the project to Sepang Municipal Council. The project was successfully replicated by Ipoh City Council and the Ipoh version to be launched in early 2016.



ICT-based New Reporting Tool



MBPJ Backend Integration



Ipoh City Watch, Cyberview

Thematic Focus Areas

MACC Reform Initiatives

The MACC often finds itself under much public scrutiny, given the worrying state of corruption in the country. As the primary law enforcement body in the country, it is axiomatic that MACC must be seen to independent and impartial in all its work. In reality however, the commission admits to various limitations in its legal mandate to effectively combat corruption. C4 Center together with Bar Council and other groups, are mooted various proposals aimed at strengthening the MACC.

Key Outputs

C4 in collaboration with Bar Council, IDEAS, CNBN and Transparency International submitted a joint declaration to the MACC on 28th July 2015. The memorandum calls for creation of an independent Anti-Corruption Commission beyond the influence of the Executive

In light of the 1MDB and RM2.6 scandal plaguing the nation, C4 continues to monitor the situation and has issued various statements and engage various stakeholders for the protection of MACC. C4 has lobbied US President Barack Obama to address the issue of corruption and money laundering involving Malaysia Prime Minister Najib Razak



THE 1MDB SCANDAL



THE SCORPENE SCANDAL



ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION

Thematic Focus Areas

Rural Community Education

Corruption impacts on the poor and rural communities in complex and devastating ways. It distorts allocation meant for poverty alleviation, destroys democratic institutions and entrenches poor governance and patronage politics. Realizing the importance of reaching these communities, with anti-corruption and human rights framework, C4 Center aims to build capacities and empower the rural community leaders to understand their rights, identify bribes and corrupt practices, and report wrong doing through a series of training programmes.

Key Outputs

We met the goal of opening new doors, building bridges between communities and public institutions entrusted to safeguard their rights. And gave the community a new sense of empowerment that they could serve as the eyes and ears of the MACC in curbing corruption in illegal logging, land grab and other issues that affect their lives.



Building Bridges Between People and Institutions

Encouraging Whistle Blowing

Protecting quality of life of rural communities

C4 in Figures

In the year 2015, C4 has produced 4 thematic reports providing specific policy recommendations

4 REPORTS

48

EVENTS

C4 co-organized or participated in more than 50 events

35

STATEMENTS

A total of 35 press releases or comments given to the media

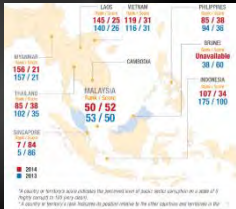
There is at least 90 citations or references quoting work related to C4

90

CITATIONS

C4 In the News

Google search results revealed between 90 to 120 News Item related to C4
Independent Media in Malaysia seeks views from C4 as it is neutral and non-partisan



Better graft index ranking does not mean all's well, say activists

The Malaysian Insider



Obama urged to needle Najib on corruption, money laundering

Malaysiakini



NGOs demand MCMC unblock Sarawak Report

FreeMalaysiaToday



A-G's clearance of 1MDB raises more suspicions, says anti-graft watchdog

The Malaysian Insider



Bold Steps on the Road to Good Governance : Ombudsman for Good Governance

Malaysiakini



Cynthia Gabriel: Our Work Cannot Be Interrupted & Threatened By Acts Of Violence

MediaRakyat



Give the MACC more bite in fight against graft, MPs told

Malaysiakini



C4 wants US President Barack Obama to review ties with Najib

Malaysiakini



C4 launches Mycleancity, an online "gotong royong" app for PJ

TheRocket



C4: MACC should freeze Najib's bank accounts

FreeMalaysiaToday

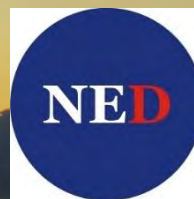
Acknowledgement

The Center to Combat Corruption and Cronyism would like to thank all our supporters, partners, the media, staff and volunteers and all who have contributed one way or another in our fight against corruption in Malaysia.

In barely 2 years, C4 has achieved tangible impacts through its collaboration with government agencies in Malaysia such as Selangor State government, MBPJ, MACC and the Auditor General's Office, political parties and civil society. A special thanks to all Malaysians who have strived for a better Malaysia.

C4 is resourced through both international and local donors such as National Endowment for Democracy, Open Society Foundations, HIVOS through its SEATTI program. In the year 2015, the total grants and donations C4 received amounted to RM450,000.

Our Supporters



Our Partners

