

## Brief Summary of Program and Strategies

### Transparency and Integrity Fund

The Transparency and Integrity Fund (TIF) seeks to increase government transparency and accountability at the state and federal levels. The fund envisions an engaged public with equal access to information and institutions, and active participation in democracy and public life.

Disclosure of information, government accountability and fair and impartial courts are central principles of the fund. Within these broad parameters, TIF pursues the following goals:

- Ensuring a transparent democracy and an engaged public through support for media and government 'watchdog' groups and support for the development and use of emerging technology tools and practices;
- Addressing the crisis in journalism in part through supporting the development of solutions that ensure that high quality and low cost journalism on state and local governance and beat issues remain or emerge on the Internet, radio, television or in newspapers;
- Promoting government accountability principally (though not solely) through supporting broad and equal access to the ballot and advocacy on the independence and diversity of the judiciary; and
- Exploring the impact of the increasing privatization of government functions, especially in relation to other U.S. Programs priorities; for example, the privatization of prisons and immigration detention facilities.

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For a complete copy of TIF's 2009-2011 Strategic Plan, please visit USP's central repository of information, "USP Central", in Karl.