Information overload and knowledge deficit:

Lessons from the U4 Anti-Corruption Resource Centre

12th IACC

Harald Mathisen
Knowledge Management for Anti-Corruption: Problems, Perspectives and Prospects
(Summary Note with Peer Review)

Summary Note:
Harald Mathisen and Nick Duncan
(based on study by Bryane Michael)

Peer Review:
Bruce Bailey
Who we serve:

DFID
Department for International Development

Sida

gtz
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) GmbH

NORAD
Direktoratet for Utviklingssamarbeid
Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation

Ministerie van Buitenlandse Zaken

Canadian International Development Agency
Agence canadienne de développement international

Canada
A series of concerns:

- Information overload
- Knowledge insufficient for the need of pro-integrity reform
- Bilateral agencies, not good learning institutions
- Practitioners are constantly reinventing the wheel
- Strategy formulation most often happens in a vacuum.
The failure to learn and share:

• Lack of resources

• Field staff are extremely pressed for time

• No systems for harvesting information

• Some people do not want to share their knowledge

• Rotation of staff
U4 Resource Centre is responding to these challenges:

• Projects Database
• Resources
  – Theme Pages
    • Public Finance Management
    • Health and Education
    • African Anti-Corruption Commissions
    • Donor Coordination
    • Knowledge management
    • Corruption in Emergencies
    • Political Will
  – Selected literature
  – Tool kits
• Links
  – Web-sites
  – Organisations
• Services
  – Helpdesk
  – Training
What changes are needed within agencies:

- Agencies must open up
- Build on established knowledge
- Employ people with KM skills
- Resources must be made available to KM activities
- Review incentives for sharing
- Staff rotation practices
How internet based resource centers help?

- Resource centers must be developed further
- Resource centers must make alliances with academia and civil society in order to act as a link to practitioners