

Vanuatu National Integrity System Study 2014

DevPacific Dialogue
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National Integrity System (NIS)

A system where all institutions cooperate and support each other to fulfil their roles effectively, efficiently and with accountability and transparency.

Definition by Vanuatu NIS Advisory Group

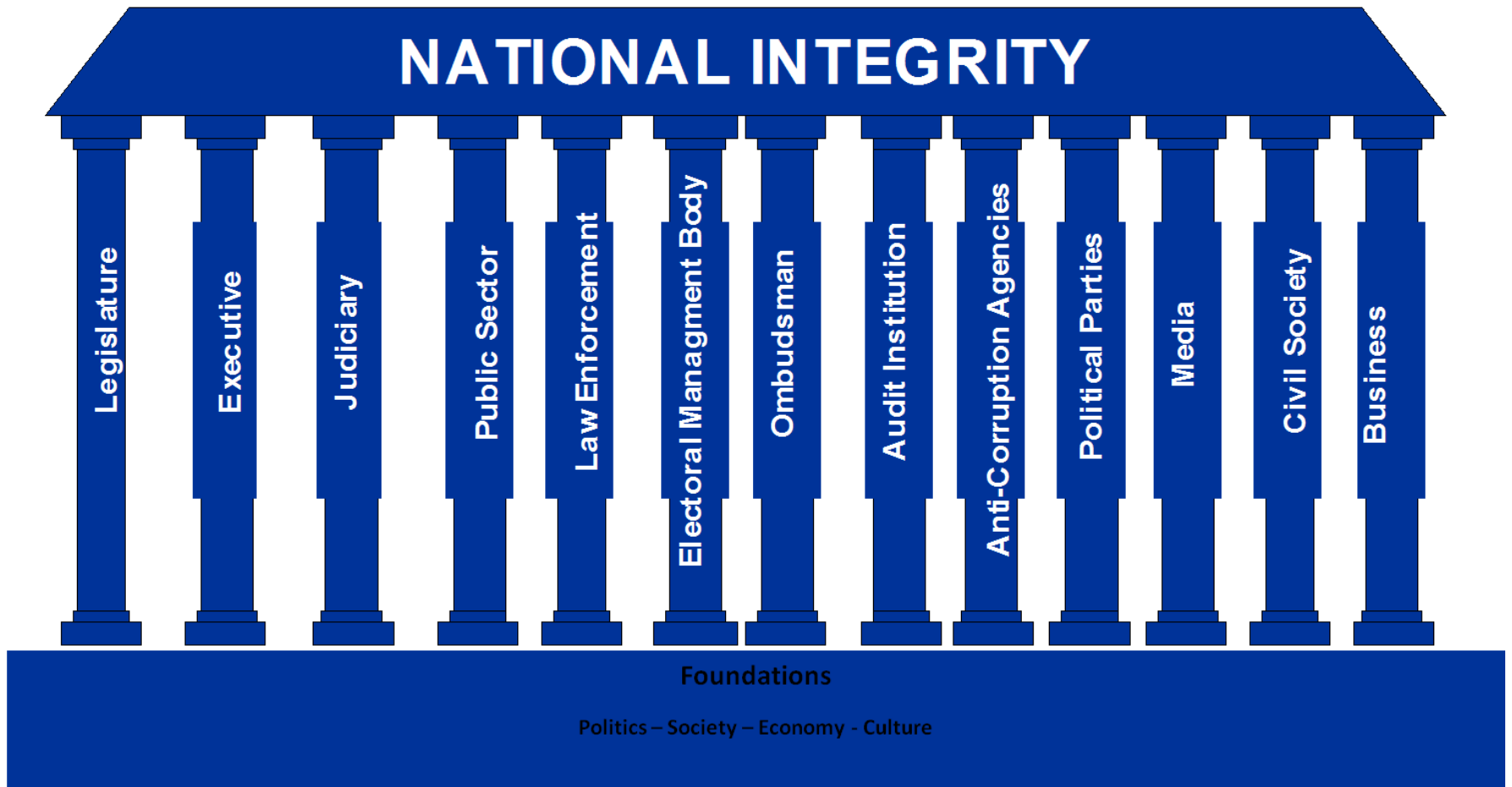
What is the NIS Study?



**TRANSPARENCY
INTERNATIONAL**

- Global framework
- 100+ countries
- First studies late 1990s
- Framework revised 2009

“Holistic system analysis”



Indicators

DIMENSION	INDICATORS (LAW & PRACTICE)
Capacity	Resources Independence
Governance	Transparency Accountability Integrity
Role	Pillar specific indicators

Inter-relationships



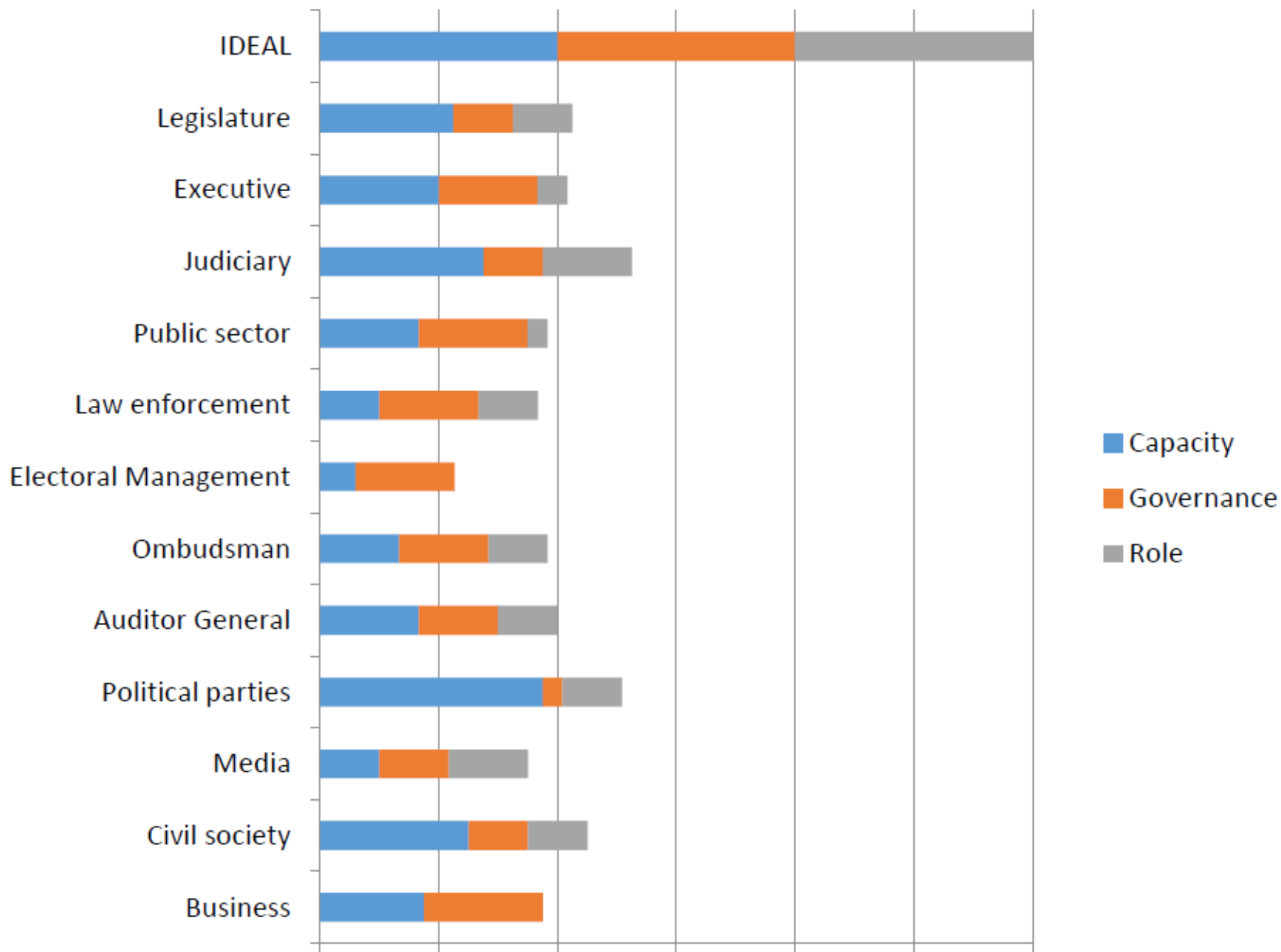
Vanuatu

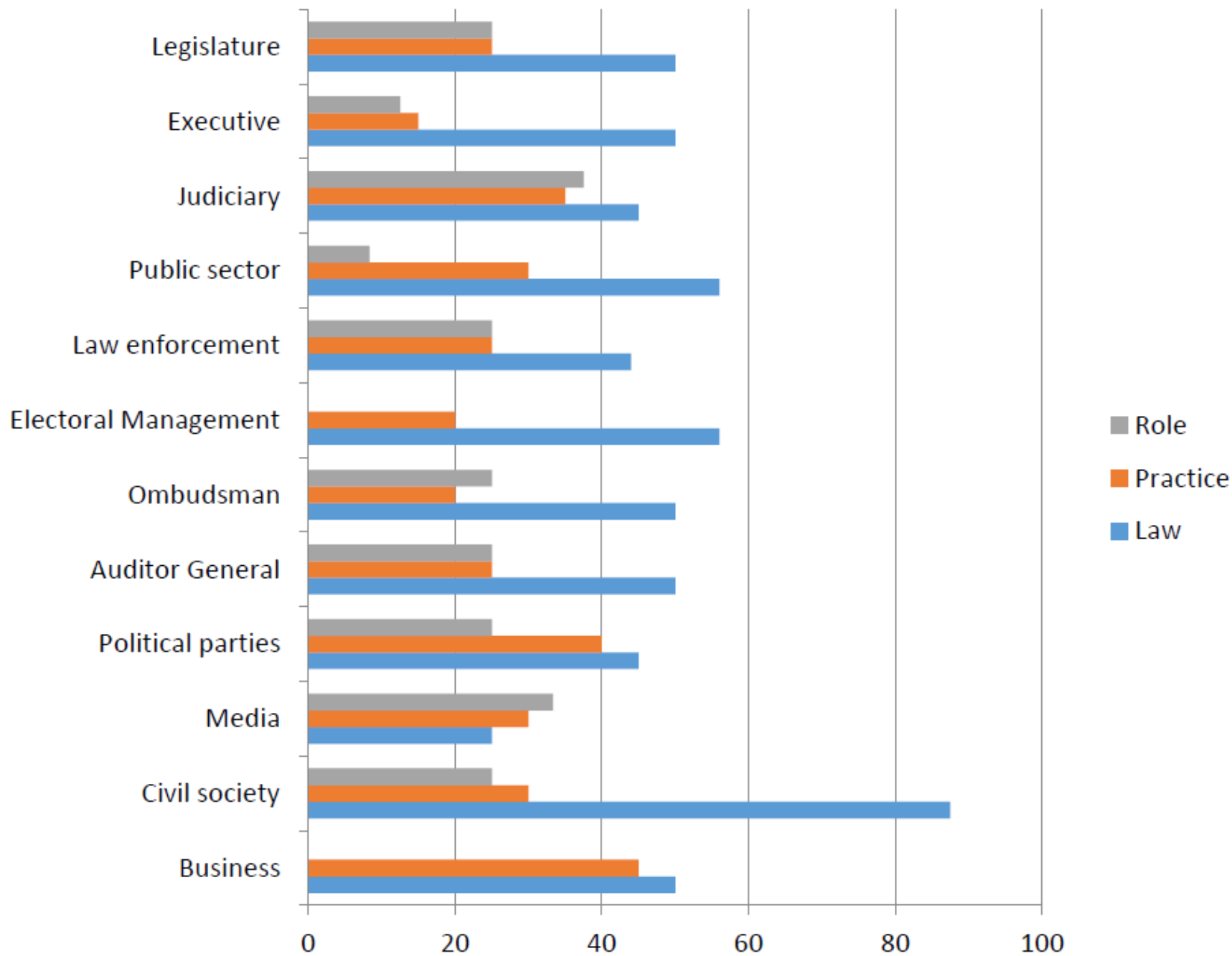
- 2003/2004: NISPAC
- 2006: Vanuatu update
- 2013/2014: *Bildimap tingting blong olgeta*

Research process as advocacy

- NIS Toolkit:
 - Stakeholder analysis, political will analysis
 - Advisory group, interviews
 - Advocacy after research done
- Local approach, research as advocacy:
 - Street surveys
 - Print media
 - Discussion papers
 - ~~■ Social media & broadcast media~~
 - Public talks
 - Weaving through projects

Findings

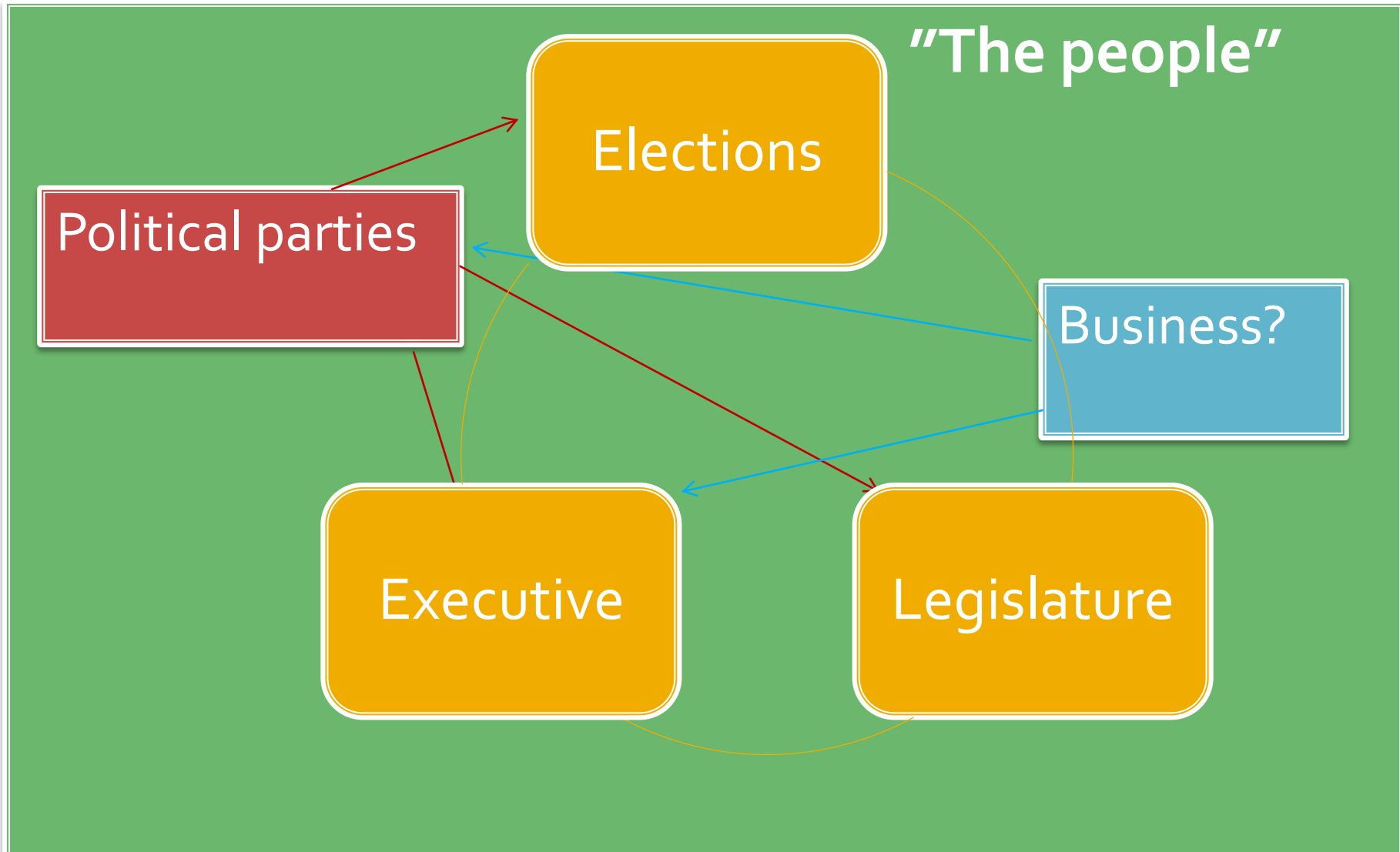




Key themes/policy priorities

1. The functioning of most pillars is weakened by failures within the Legislature and Executive to play their role in the “cycle of accountability” and to maintain a stable policy direction. These failures largely stem from lack of **POLITICAL INTEGRITY**. Unless lack of political integrity is addressed it will be impossible to consistently develop laws, policies and practices that support national integrity.
2. There are significant gaps in the legal frameworks for **ACCOUNTABILITY** of institutions and individuals and the practical implementation of those frameworks. Accountability mechanisms act to reduce the gap between law and practice. Unless accountability mechanisms are strengthened laws will continue to have little impact on practice.
3. Laws and practices tend not to support **TRANSPARENCY** of actions by institutions and individuals. Transparency increases detection of bad behaviour, which in turn enhances accountability. Unless transparency is improved it will remain difficult to hold institutions and individuals to account and to develop public will for change.

Political integrity



The challenge

- Little incentive for politicians to change laws and policies
- ?Few incentives for people to demand change?
- Other institutions have limited control over change
 - what benefit is there directing advocacy to them?

Next steps?

- How to leverage 100 day plan:
 - “ 17. Establish a “Public Concerns Monitoring Group” headed by the Ombudsman with secretarial support from the Office of the Ombudsman and comprised of representatives from VANGO, VCC, VCCI, Malvatumauri, Auditor General’s Office and others...”

Validation meeting

- To finalise recommendations
 - *adopt recommendations as basis for national integrity strategy implemented by national integrity committee?*
- Who?
 - Advisory group
 - Pillar representatives (incl. VCC, Malvatumauri, NGOs)
 - DG of Ministry of Justice (? Or all)
 - Representatives of all political parties represented in parliament
 - Law Reform Commission
 - Donors

Other (more realistic?) options

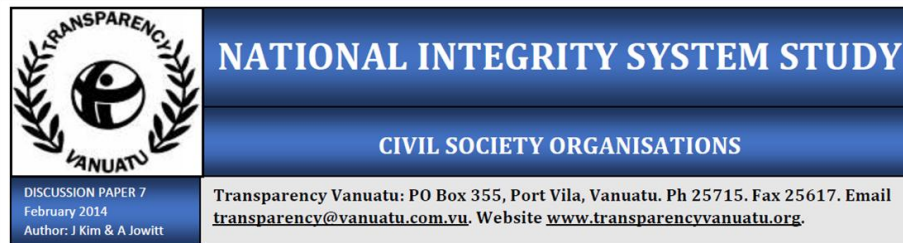
- NGO only integrity committee
- Smaller coalitions on specific recommendations
- “Give” specific recommendations to other key institutions to implement
- Use findings for public awareness (how??)
- Ongoing (internal) research

National integrity week

- Engagement:
 - Poster competition
 - Quizzes
 - Speech competitions
 - Debates
 - Lolly scrambles
 - Band night...
- Static displays, movies
- Displays/participation by partners
- Increasing use of TIV services; uptake of reports; membership

For more information

- <http://www.transparencyvanuatu.org/index.php?page=national-integrity-system-project>



- Contact anita.jowitt@gmail.com
 - Comments
 - Be added to validation workshop list
 - Become involved in national integrity week