1. Introduction

Transparency Maldives in partnership with the International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES) is conducting a Democracy Camp from 6th to 12th June 2015, and 29th August – 03rd September 2015. The 6-day camps will be held at a Kaafu Girifushi.

The primary goal of the camp is to enhance the participants’ knowledge on civic education, rights and responsibilities of a citizen, democracy, human rights and various social issues. The camp will aim to provide participants with the knowledge and tools to actively engage in community initiatives and encourage responsible citizenship and civic engagement.

*The main content of the training would include (but will not be limited to):*

- Democratic principles
- Human Rights
- Civic participation and engagement
- Tolerance, ethics and learning to live together
- Leadership and life skills

**About organizers**

**Transparency Maldives**

Transparency Maldives is a non-partisan organization that promotes good governance and advocates to eliminate corruption from the daily lives of the Maldivian people. Transparency Maldives engages in a wide range of activities to incorporate and advocate for good governance, stop corruption and to promote democracy and civic participation at the local and national level. Transparency Maldives seeks to engage with stakeholders from all sectors (government, business, politics, civil society, media, among others) to raise awareness on corruption’s detrimental effects on development and society.

**IFES**

The International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES) is an international, nonprofit organization that supports citizens’ right to participate in free and fair elections by providing technical assistance to election officials; empowering the underrepresented to participate in the political process; and applying field-based research to improve the electoral cycle. Since 1987, IFES has developed and implemented comprehensive, collaborative democracy solutions in more than 135 countries. IFES is implementing a program to provide civic education for young people, promote women’s political participation and promote the integrity of electoral and political processes through electoral reform.
2. **Overall Objectives**

- Increase knowledge of human rights, democratic principles and civic participation amongst young people.
- Promote youth leadership, civic engagement, and participation in public life by providing youth with the skills to take initiative and engage in issues important to them.

3. **Application**

Interested Applicants **between 14-16 years** of age are invited to submit a completed application form, copies of recent academic certificates/report cards and copy of ID card to the following:

Email: application@transparencymaldives.org

**Post Address:**
Transparency Maldives
MF Building, 07th Floor
Chaandhanee Magu
Male’
Fax: 300, 6062

The deadline for applications for both camps is **10th May 2015, 4:00 pm.**

4. **Selection Procedure**

Applicants will be evaluated on:

- Previous engagement in co-curricular, volunteer and civic initiatives (school and island level)
- A commitment to apply what they learn in the camp, upon return to their respective communities
- Academic performance
- Phone interviews will be conducted for short listed candidates only. Phone interviews will be conducted during May 2015 for the applicants of the first camp and August 2015 for applicants of the second camp.
- Applications received via email will be acknowledged with a reply email, and those received via fax will be acknowledged by a text message.

5. **Selection Criteria and Methodology**

Applicants will be evaluated on:

- Previous engagement in co-curricular, volunteer and civic initiatives (school and island level) (15 points).
- Answers provided for general information questions in the application form. (Question 1: 2 points, Question 2: 2 points, Question 3: 6 points)
- Essay (30 points)
- Reference (10 points)
- Academic performance (15 points)
- Phone interview (20 points)
To evaluate the above, participants will be required to submit an application form. Phone interviews will be conducted for shortlisted applicants only.

Phone interviews will consist of 5 equally weighted questions related to democracy, human rights and community issues.

**Application Form**

Participants are expected to express interest through a written application form. The application form will comprise of three parts:

**Part 1**
First part of the application will consist of personal information and questions about democracy and human rights where candidates are to provide short answers.

**Part 2**
The second part of the application consists of an essay of 150 to 200 words on a topic provided.

*Instruction on Essay:*
- Each participant must submit a written essay as part of the application.
- Applications without essays will not be accepted.
- Essays will be checked for plagiarism.
- Marks will be allocated for presentation, ideas expressed, style and grammar.
- Applicants can submit essays in either English or Dhivehi. Marks allocation will remain the same for either language.

**Part 3**
The third part of the application consists of the declaration of the participants and the consent of the parent or guardian. Applications without the signed declaration of participants and consent of parent or guardian will not be accepted.

**Part 4**
*Referee form:* A referee form will be provided along with the application form. All applicants are required to fill out the referee form by a teacher, supervisor or principal. Points will be allocated for the referee form as well.
General criteria:

- **Age:** Applicants should be between the age of 14 to 16 years

- **Representation:** Democracy camp aims to select 2 participants from each atoll. However, this would not apply to situations where the available applicants score extremely poorly on the application form. If few or no applications are received from a particular atoll, the participant slots will be reallocated to more populous atolls and islands.

- **Gender:** Maximum effort would be made to create a gender balance among the participants by aiming to select equal numbers of boys and girls for the camp. The target is 20 boys and 20 girls. Wherever possible, one boy and one girl will be selected from each atoll.

5. **Evaluation Panel**

The evaluation panel will consist of 3 members including one representative from Transparency Maldives, one representative from IFES and one representative from another civil society organization or public.

6. **Fee**

No fees will be charged for participation in the camp. The organizers will bear all costs related to the training, including travel cost for participants travelling to Male’ from islands, food and accommodation for participants during the camp.

7. **Travel arrangements**

Parents/guardians will be responsible to drop off the participants of the first camp on **6th June and pick them up on 12th June** and for the second camp drop off the participants **on 29th August and pick them up on 04th September** at a designated location in Male’. Upon presentation of valid receipts, the organizers will reimburse the cost of travel for the participants only (not for the parents/guardians).

8. **Contact Us**

Project Coordinator
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Website: www.transparency.mv