Transparency International Zimbabwe (TI Z) is a non-profit, non-partisan, systems orientated local chapter of the international movement against corruption. Its broad mandate is to fight corruption and related vices through networks of integrity.

TI Zimbabwe upholds that corruption can only be sufficiently tackled in a democratic society that follows principles of good governance by which is meant governance that is people centred: accountable to the people and reflects in all its operations and systems the values of engagement, consultativeness, transparency, integrity and participation in its dispensation. From its inception TI Z strategically partners with the private and public sectors in a manner that advances good governance strategies while combating corruption in a manner that is consistent and does not compromise its non-partisan values.

TI Z was established in 1996 and is the local chapter of the global movement against corruption Transparency International (TI) which has its organizing secretariat in Berlin, Germany.

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Edited by: Dr Manase Chiweshe and Mary Jane Ncube

Every effort has been made to verify the accuracy of the information contained in this report. All information was believed to be correct as of December 2015. Nevertheless, Transparency International Zimbabwe cannot accept responsibility for the consequences of its use for other purposes or in other contexts.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FGDs</td>
<td>Focus Group Discussions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NGOs</td>
<td>Non-Governmental Organisations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIEEB</td>
<td>National Indigenisation and Economic Empowerment Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TI</td>
<td>Transparency International</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TI S</td>
<td>Transparency International Secretariat</td>
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<tr>
<td>TI Z</td>
<td>Transparency International Zimbabwe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VID</td>
<td>Vehicle Inspection Department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YCBs</td>
<td>Youth and Corruption Baseline Study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YIDEZ</td>
<td>Youth Initiative for Democracy in Zimbabwe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZACC</td>
<td>Zimbabwe Anti-Corruption Commission</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Transparency International Zimbabwe would like to acknowledge financial and technical support that it got from Transparency International Secretariat (TIS), USAID and Swedish Embassy in implementing the Youth and Corruption Baseline study. Without this support this study and report would not have seen the light of day. Thanks are due to Annette Jaitner for dedicating her time to this project. Through her leadership especially on gender issues, the study was well informed and coordinated.

A special thanks goes to the individuals and institutions who participated in this study. The report is an account of how young men and women are being confronted by corruption in Zimbabwe; as such TI Z is grateful to these young men and women who opened up about how corruption is affecting them.

Transparency International Zimbabwe is indebted to the youth organizations in particular Zimbabwe Youth Council, Youth Initiative for Democracy in Zimbabwe (YIDEZ) and National Youth Development Trust whose advice and expertise helped to refine the study report and methodology. TI Z is grateful to the various youth organizations who attended the consultative and validations workshops in Harare and Bulawayo.

Transparency International Zimbabwe would like to acknowledge the meticulous work of the research enumerators who collected data, the editors of this report Dr Manase Chiweshe and Mary Jane Ncube as well as Komborerai Murimba for designing the report. Thanks are due to CMA team, Frank Mphalo, Ched Nyamanhindi and Nqobani Tshabangu. These guys were instrumental in mobilising young people and getting researchers connected to community structures. Final gratitude goes to the author of the report and various authors of the quoted studies.

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(Lead Researcher and Coordinator)
TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL ZIMBABWE
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INTRODUCTION

Young people are an important group in Zimbabwe social, political and economic history. The 2012 National Census Report shows that Zimbabwe has a youthful population. 77% out of a total population of 13,061,239 consist of children and youth below 35 years of age. Youth aged 15-34 years number 4,702,046 which constitutes 36% of the national population and those aged between 15-24 years are 20%. The youth aged 15-34 years constitute 56% of the economically active population. Young people are thus an important constituency in the fight against the everyday realities of corruption in Zimbabwe. The Youth Initiative for Democracy in Zimbabwe (YIDEZ) notes that fighting corruption by young people should be paramount for any progressive nation given the adverse effects of corruption on their lives and future. To secure the future of youths there is need to safeguard the culture of accountability, integrity and good governance.

This report by Transparency International Zimbabwe (TI Z) outlines the findings from a baseline study on youth and corruption in Zimbabwe which was driven by the need to engage young people in the fight against corruption. TI through its Africa Regional Programme invested in a baseline study in order to inform future youth engagement initiatives. The Youth and Corruption Baseline Study (YCBs) was guided by the following objectives:

- To measure the awareness of young people on corruption issues;
- To document the impact of corruption on young people’s social, political, economic and entrepreneurial endeavours;
- To evaluate the readiness of the youths to act against corruption;
- To identify ideas by the youths on how to fight corruption.

KEY FINDINGS

Awareness of corruption

45% of young people are aware of corruption and have an appreciation of what it implies. 35% are uninformed as they lack the knowledge and understanding of what it necessitates. The majority of the young people who are aware of corruption are those who have attained higher tertiary education and those who are in the process of obtaining it. The lack of awareness and knowledge of corruption is attributed to information gap that exists among young people.

Fear to participate in anti-corruption initiatives

20% of young people are not willing to talk about corruption. They perceive corruption to be a sensitive topic that is subject to political issues. The study indicates that young people in Zimbabwe are not empowered enough to take a leading role in the fight against corruption.

Pervasiveness of bribery

Bribery is identified as the most common form of corruption in Zimbabwe. 65% of young people indicate that they have been asked for bribes in exchange of services. It is apparent that bribe paying has been institutionalized and internalized as it is perceived as the way of life.

Willingness to fight corruption

The majority of young people interviewed are willing to fight corruption. 75% of young people are more willing to fight corruption through a systematized anti-corruption organization and through social media. Some of the young people indicate that they are willing to report incidents of corruption as a technique of fighting corruption.

Gender and Corruption

The impact of corruption has gender implications. From the focus group discussions held, it emerged that young men and women experience corruption in different ways. The patriarchal society in Zimbabwe renders young women more vulnerable to various forms of corruption. The study demonstrates that young women suffer the double burden of corruption through paying bribes in the form of monetary value and through sexual extortion which is a form of exploitation based on gender.

METHODOLOGY

Research design

The Youth and Corruption Baseline study employed a survey research design. A survey is a systematic attempt to collect information from a sample of individuals in order to describe and explain their beliefs, attitudes, values and behaviour. To effectively understand young people’s beliefs, attitudes, values and behaviour in relation to corruption, the research design used a triangulation of qualitative (Focus Group Discussions) and quantitative (Questionnaire) methodologies in a complementary fashion. Triangulation involves the capturing of different views and data as different methods are used which in turn allows for cross references. The study also made use of secondary data. Secondary data complements but does not replace primary data. Review and analysis of secondary data can provide a cost-effective way of addressing issues, conducting cross-national comparisons, understanding country-specific and local conditions, determining the direction and magnitude of change -- trends, and describing the current situation. The study reviewed national statistics reports, academic papers, reports, and other secondary data.
and reports by Youth Organizations and blog articles. The study also relied on information which was generated through the various consultative and validation workshops that TI Z hosted for the purposes of this study.

**Sampling framework**

For this study, the target population was the entire youth population in Zimbabwe. The 2013 Zimbabwe national youth policy defines youth as persons between 15 and 35 years of age\(^\text{10}\). The total population of youths in Zimbabwe ranges between 6 to 7 million. Owing to the impracticality of involving all the youths in Zimbabwe due to time and financial limitations 750 young men and women were targeted as a sample in this study. Sample size is large enough to allow for generalisation of findings over the whole population\(^\text{11}\). To ensure that the data generated through studying this subset was highly representative of the entire youth population in Zimbabwe, a stratified random sampling procedure was used. This involved a systematic process of compartmentalizing the different units of the target population into homogeneous subgroups before sampling\(^\text{12}\). Stratification is done in order to ensure that the different characteristics relevant to the conduct of the study amongst the members of the target population are taken into account.

The rationale of using stratified sampling emerges from the research proposition that the youths are not a homogenous group and as a result the way they perceive, understand, confront and are impacted by corruption varies according to their locality (rural and urban breakup), province, sex, age, education level, employment status, and income level. Respondents were therefore stratified in accordance with:

- **Sex**: The baseline survey targeted both male and female youth respondents. Stratifying respondents by sex was meant to generate information on how corruption impacts differently on male and female youths.
- **Rural and Urban breakup**: The study target youths from both urban and rural locality. This breakdown allowed researchers to generate knowledge on how context specific corruption issues are affecting on the youths.
- **Age**: The fact that youths are distributed according to age implies that across different age groups, the youths have unique experiences and knowledge about corruption. This hence necessitates the need of breaking down the youth population according to age groups. The following age ranges were considered 15-19, 20-24, 25-29 and 30-35.
- **Education**: Generally most young people between the ages of 15-20 will be enrolled in various academic institutions. The study therefore looked at youths in and out of formal schools. It also targeted young people in institutions of tertiary educations such as universities, polytechnic colleges, nursing and teaching colleges as well as vocational schools.
- **Province**: Since the youth population is distributed across 10 administrative provinces of the country, data for the baseline study was collected from only 6 administrative province of the country using questionnaires and focus group discussions. Selecting youths from 6 provinces of the country allowed researchers to understand how young people living in different provinces, districts, and wards are confronted and affected by corruption.

**SOCIAL DIFFERENTIATION OF RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS**

This section outlines the major demographic characteristics of research participants. It provides an in-depth understanding of the social backgrounds, which are important in analysing the responses of participants. Such information is important in highlighting how factors such as age, sex and educational qualifications influence and affects young people’s perceptions and experiences with corruption. The sample comprised of 53.3% (400) male respondents and 46.7% (350) female respondents. While the initial intention was that of getting an equal number of male and female respondents, it proved difficult as some female respondents were more comfortable in group discussions rather than one on one interviews. Table 1 highlights the distribution of respondents by age category. It is important to note that there were few respondents drawn from the age group 15-19. This age group was difficult to reach out since half the times they would be in schools. Accessing students in formal schools required a letter from the Ministry of Education, Sport and Culture. Due to bureaucratic challenges this letter was difficult to obtain.

Table 1: Distribution of respondents by age

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15-19</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-24</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-29</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-35</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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10 This is the same age definition for youth used by the African Youth Charter [http://www.youthpolicy.org/pdfs/factsheets/Zimbabwe.pdf](http://www.youthpolicy.org/pdfs/factsheets/Zimbabwe.pdf)
11 Trochim (2006)
12 Stuart, 1962
In terms of education qualification, the sample constitutes of young people from diverse academic backgrounds. Respondent’s academic backgrounds range from those who did not attend school to those with doctoral degrees. This diversity in educational background provided important insights into the relationship between educational background and corruption. 27% of respondents indicated that they either have a Bachelor’s Degree or they are studying towards their first degrees. A minority of respondents indicated that they are at junior level Form 1 and Form 2 (3%) and Ordinary Level (4%).

Table 2: Distribution of Respondents by Educational qualification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Highest level of education attained</th>
<th>Number of respondents in Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not attended School</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior level</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ordinary level</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced level</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vocational training</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Diploma</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor’s degree</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master degree</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PhD</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Answer</td>
<td>9.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Employment is another interesting variable to focus on among young people in Zimbabwe and how it correlates with corruption. This is particularly important given the fact that Zimbabwe has a high unemployment rate and corruption is more frequent when there is high demand for employment. Generally there is a relationship between corruption and unemployment. While corruption causes unemployment; unemployment can actually fuel corruption as people seek livelihood opportunities to survive. The 2012 Population Census data shows that the youth aged 15-34 years constitute 84% of the unemployed population and those aged 15-24 years constitute 55%. The statistics also indicate that the highest concentration of 31% of the unemployed is between the ages of 20 and 24 years. There are higher levels of unemployment among female youths. In line with the 2012 National census report, the demographics indicate that a large number of respondents are unemployed and looking for jobs (40%). This figure could be high if it is combined with those of respondents who are self-employed. The self-employed sector largely consists of the informal sector which was described by one respondent as kukiya-kiya. This is in reference to working conditions where someone does anything possible to survive.

The study also considered the issue of geographical location of respondents in terms of their province of residence. As such respondents were drawn from the following 6 provinces in Zimbabwe: Harare Metropolitan; Bulawayo Metropolitan; Masvingo; Manicaland; Mashonaland Central and Matabeleland South. Other than the issue of provinces, the study also looked at the urban rural break up. Respondents were drawn from both rural and urban locations. As shown by the table below the majority (70%) of respondents were drawn from the urban setting while 30% of the respondents were from the rural areas.

Table 3: Distribution of respondents by rural-urban break up

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Number of respondents</th>
<th>% of respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>525</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>750</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14 Shleifer, 1997
DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINDINGS

Youths’ awareness of corruption

Young people were asked if they understand what corruption means. Figure 1 shows that, 45% of the young people indicated that they know what corruption means. 35% indicated that they don’t know what corruption is while 20% chose the no answer option. The lack of understanding of corruption issues is attributed to dearth of formal education on corruption issues in Zimbabwe. Studies have shown that corruption deprives people of their dignity and their rights to participate in human development (The Declaration of Human Rights, 1948). This therefore makes corruption awareness essential for human development as a preventative measure to mitigate it.

Figure 1: Do you understand what corruption is?

![Figure 1: Do you understand what corruption is?](image)

Generally the No Answer response is indicative of two factors namely:

- Some young people would go for the No Answer option from the first question up to the last. The No Answer option may indicate lack of willingness by some young people to cooperate in activities that do not benefit them directly and or instantly.

- To some young people the term corruption remains unclear because they have never received any form of education which clarifies what it entails. This shows that there is information gap amongst young people in particular those in the age group 15-19.

Respondents who indicated that they know what corruption means, were further asked to provide a brief definition of their understanding of corruption. 25% of the young people defined corruption as abuse of power for private gain. Cross tabulation analysis shows that the majority of youths who defined corruption as such are either doing their degrees, masters, PhD and or are formally employed. 15% defined corruption as illegal transactions. 30% defined corruption as an act of bribery. A majority of young people used local terms such as kudhiza, cut, kugura, chioko muhomwe inter alia in defining corruption. All these terms refer to the act of bribery. The use of such terms by young people shows that most young people relate more with bribery than other forms of corruption. To them corruption is when one uses money or anything of value to get something that he or she does not deserve at a particular time. The formulation of such lingo terms might show how pervasive and institutionalised bribery is in present day Zimbabwe. While young people relate more with bribery, they also lack an understanding on some corruption typologies such as embezzlement, fraud, patronage and nepotism. This lack of knowledge on some corruption forms other than bribery may in future limit the role young people play in demanding transparency and accountability from their leaders in political and bureaucratic offices.

Figure 2: Are you aware of any anti-corruption laws and policies in Zimbabwe

![Figure 2: Are you aware of any anti-corruption laws and policies in Zimbabwe](image)

Awareness on anti-corruption institutions and legislations

Respondents were asked if they are aware of any laws and institutions mandated to fight corruption in Zimbabwe. Figure 3 shows that 74% of the young people indicated that there were not aware of any laws and institutions mandated to address corruption in Zimbabwe. It is apparent that most young people people lack knowledge on the laws and institutions mandated to address corruption in Zimbabwe. This knowledge and information gap as explained during youth consultative workshops, is a serious challenge among young people in Zimbabwe and it makes it difficult for young people to fight corruption. Only 26% indicated that there were aware of laws and institutions mandated to fight corruption.

The 26% who indicated that there were aware of laws and institutions mandated to fight corruption in Zimbabwe, were asked to identify some of these laws and institutions. Table 5 and 6 below captures the pieces of legislations and institutions that were identified and the number of times they were cited by the respondents.
Table 5: Laws fighting corruption cited by respondents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Legislation</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sexual Harassment Act</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Codification Act</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment Act</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corruption Prevention Act</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Nations Convention against Corruption</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax Act</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>195</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What is interesting from this table is that, even though some young people claim to know laws and institutions that are mandated to address corruption in Zimbabwe, some of the laws and institutions that they cited for instance Sexual Harassment Act and Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights and NGOs do not have the mandate to fight corruption in Zimbabwe. This shows an information gap in the young people. A large number of young people are not aware of state laws and institutions that address corruption issues. It is important to note that the reference to such pieces of legislation may be indicative of the extent to which young people are forced into transaction sex in exchange for loans, employment, vacancies, and licenses.

Table 6: Institutions fighting corruption cited by respondents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Police</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NGOs</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zimbabwe Revenue Authority</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anti-Corruption Commission</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transparency International Zimbabwe</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zimbabwe Lawyer for Human Rights</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Courts</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>195</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Young people’s experiences with corruption

The study also looked at young people’s experiences with corruption. This part of the survey sought to understand the behaviour of young people in relation to corruption. Respondents were asked if they have ever been asked to pay a bribe. Those who indicated yes, were asked to mention some of the institutions from which they had been asked to pay bribes. Bribery is a form of corruption which entails dishonest persuasion in a form of payment in monetary value, gift or other inducements for favour or service required. 

65% of respondents indicated that they had been asked to pay a bribe. 25% indicated that they had not been asked to pay bribe while 10 % were not comfortable in answering this question. Those who indicated that they had been asked to pay a bribe were asked to identify some of the institution(s) from which they paid bribes. The chart below indicates the institutions identified by respondents and the frequency in demanding of bribes.

Figure 3: Have you ever been asked to pay a bribe?

65% Yes, 25% No, 10% No Answer

16 http://www.iese.edu/research/pdfs/DI-0539-E.pdf
Figure 4 above shows that young people were asked to pay bribes by institutions such as Vehicle Inspection Department (25% see Box 1 below), Education institutions such as universities (18%), Police (15%), Health sector (10%) and Passport office (8%). What is particularly concerning is how state services which are supposed to be a basic right for all citizens require paying a bribe. For most young people with little resources this places a huge cost which leads to most failing to access basic services.

Box 1: Bribing for a driver’s license

During most Focus Group Discussions in areas such as Harare, Bulawayo, Mutare and Masvingo young people told the research team “You can’t get a driver’s licence no matter how good you are, without having to bribe an official from VID, if you don’t pay a bribe they will fail you deliberately”. It emerged that the process of bribing an official is hidden and subtle. Half the times the examining officer at VID does not ask for a bribe, instead the student is the one who should just give the money to the officer. Alternatively the respondent might give money to his or her instructor from a driving school who will then give the money to the Examining officer at VID. The bribing amount from varies from one city to another and it also depends on the driving class. In Harare and Mutare for instance, young people indicated they are forced to pay at least 150 dollars to get a class 4 driver’s licence and 250 for a class 2.

Bribery is a transaction involving two parties namely the briber and the bribed. Young people are not always victims of corruption because at times they initiate corrupt activities. Through discussion with many young people, the research team learnt that some young people perceive bribery as a business transaction which is necessary to get things done. Young people at times voluntarily bribe to avoid paying taxes, following procedures and just to speed up things. One respondent echoed that in colleges and universities young people have tendencies of bribing lecturers to get better grades. The same respondents indicated it is not in every situation in which the person in authority asks for a bribe but rather, they are times when young people approach lecturers with bribe to get an examination paper for instance. Due to economic hardships most young people seem to be losing important Ubuntu values such as honesty and harwork. The *kukiya-kiya* (hustling) economy has taught young people to do anything possible to survive. One young person from Mutare said that *nyika yacho yava yemadhiri, kakara kununa kudya kamwe* which means that for one to prosper one has to exploit other people. This has led to the emergence of corruption based survival strategies.
IMPACT OF CORRUPTION ON YOUNG PEOPLE

In line with the research objectives, the study also assessed the impact of corruption on young people. Although corruption is a global phenomenon, its impact on young people has been perceived to be unsympathetic17. There was consensus by most young people on the fact that corruption is more widespread in Zimbabwe. The following points summarise how corruption is impacting on young people in Zimbabwe:

Corruption denies young people opportunities

Young people indicated that corruption has denied them opportunities in accessing employment and admissions in education institutions. This was brought to light in a focus group discussion as young people pointed out that securing employment or a place of study require greasing the palms of the top officials who are influential in decision making. In Harare metropolitan one of the respondents pointed out that “For one to obtain admission to a higher tertiary education system one has to bribe an official at the education institution.” This consequently compromises the credibility of the education system. This social phenomenon is often justified by common adages such as Mbudzi inodya paya kasungirirwo implying that everyone should exploit opportunities deriving from their position at work. This shows that at times corruption tendencies are emanating from basic principles of social capital, extended family and the Ubuntu philosophy. These principles have in a way promoted the “whom do you know syndrome” which states that one can get what he or she wants on the basis of whom he or she is connected or related to. It is as a result of such social dynamics that corruption has been institutionalised and normalised as a way of life. This institutionalisation of corruption has marginalised young people who do not have resources to bribe officials to obtain opportunities. Most young people are also not connected and or related to those in power. In this way, corruption results in weakening work ethics and professionalism. Moreover, the essence of meritocracy is lost as career and education opportunities are no longer attained on merit but on what one is willing to give in order to secure it. In this context it is ostensive that competition and hard work is undervalued thus breeding a culture of laziness through bribing. The sense of creativity, competition, and entrepreneurship is also lost thus impoverishing young people.

Corruption impoverishes young people

Corruption propagates kleptocracy which is a form of corruption that exists to increase the personal wealth of political officials at the expense of the wider population. The study noted that young people are adversely affected by this form of corruption because they lack the political influence and the wealth to compete in the business arena. In Matabeleland, a respondent argued that, “young people face challenges in participating in the national economy because they lack political capacity, power, and money to influence the economic activities.” Young people thus lack the resources which enable them to actively participate in economic activities. The majority of young people were of the opinion that they are not capacitated enough by the education system and the government institutions. It was highlighted that corruption in the governance framework marginalises young people, because it has no systems in place that ensures young people actively participate in economic development. One respondent in Harare wistfully indicated “that there is need to mainstream active participation of the young people to create a level playing field for economic development.” The Zimbabwe youth fund was identified as one of the mechanisms that appropriate young people’s participation in economic development. The Youth Fund was set up for the Youth of Zimbabwe, in an effort to improve levels of unemployment and act as a stimulus to economic growth in the country18. The Fund is targeted at Youths between the ages of 18 and 35 years who can participate in the economic mainstream through running a business project while at the same time creating employment for other fellow young people. While this might be a noble initiative, it was noted that there is no transparency in the management of the youth fund. A group of young people from Masvingo and Manicaland noted that the money was being distributed on partisan basis and was more accessible to youths in Harare.

Leads to the erosion of cultural values and morals

The survey pointed out that corruption has become systematic as one of the respondents indicated that corruption has become a way of life as bribery is the order of the day. In a focus group discussion, it was highlighted that in an environment where an individual see others around him/her benefiting from corruption, one may be persuaded to indulge in the same activities. Young people noted that in colleges and Universities it was now easier to pass without studying through buying examination papers. This shows the erosion of key values such as hard work and integrity.

Corruption widens tribalism and regional differences

A group of young people interviewed through FGDs in Bulawayo pointed out that an analysis of corruption in Zimbabwe should not be done in isolation of broader governance challenges such as tribalism, deindustrialisation of Bulawayo and the calls for devolution. These young people explained that as a result of corruption and tribal issues in Zimbabwe young people from the Bulawayo region were often denied opportunities that young people from predominantly Shona speaking provinces could access. Another young person alleged to have been denied an opportunity to study aircraft engineering with Air Zimbabwe because of his Ndebele surname. The respondent explained that this was a deliberate ploy which has its roots in the “1979 Grand Plan”19. Some young people explained that young people from Bulawayo had very little opportunities

17 Krueeger (1974) and Rose Ackernah (1978)
18 http://www.cabs.co.zw/index.php/kureraukondla-youth-fund
19 The Grand Plan is a document that was allegedly authored by Zanu PF in 1979 outlining how Matabeleland was marginalised. Among other things, the document is believed to have noted that he only way to weaken the Ndebele is to deprive them of education - See more at: http://bulawayo24.com/index-id-opinion-sc-columnist-byo-48601.html#sthash.ATFJWcn1.dpuf
due to historical marginalisation of the region which was worsened by the economic crisis post 2000. It is important to note that such issues should not be underestimated as there are widening tribal differences in Zimbabwe. The allegations by young people in Bulawayo seem to point to a situation where corruption entrenches already existent inequalities leading to mutual suspicion and ethnic tensions.

GENDERED DIMENSIONS OF CORRUPTION AMONGST THE YOUTHS

The nature and impacts of corruption are highly gendered. Findings from this study highlight that young people’s experience with corruption in Zimbabwe is influenced by their gender. This is mainly because of the dominant patriarchal system in which young women are generally excluded from resources and opportunities which make them vulnerable to various forms of exploitation. Young women are also active agents who are involved in various forms of corrupt activities as a means of accessing goods and service. Below we outline the various instances and circumstances relating to how corruption experiences are gendered:

Gendered dimensions of knowledge about corruption

The cross tabulation analysis in Figure 5 below highlights the relationship between gender and knowledge about the meaning of corruption. The interesting aspect of this cross tabulation is that is shows the extent to which both female and male respondents chose the No Answer option. The No Answer option was more common among young women (see Figure 5 below). Young women largely feared to answer questions relating to corruption due to the sensitive nature of subjects as one female respondent retorted “you want to get us into trouble.” This statement shows the extent to which corruption is perceived as a dangerous topic in Zimbabwe. While some young people may know what it is, they are not comfortable to talk about this subject to anyone whom they either don’t know or don’t trust. This is especially so for young women who fear recriminations if they openly talk about corruption.

Sex for goods and services: Sexual exploitation as a form of corruption

Corruption has gender implications. It affects young women differently than it does young men. Women suffer corruption in two ways: firstly they are victims of bribe corruption and secondly they suffer sexual extortion (TI, 2014). Women suffer a double burden of being citizens in a corrupt environment and being exploited because of their gender. According to a female respondent, “we are often asked for sexual favours as a means to sweeten the deal in exchange for employment, if one refuses, one may end up not securing employment.” This is usually described by young people as carpet interview in which getting a job depends on exchanging sexual favours. Young women are thus more vulnerable to corruption and this has health, education and justice implications than it has on young men.

Sex for marks and sexually transmitted degrees

When analysing corruption in the education sector it emerged that much of the bribery involves the sexual exploitation of female students. Most young women who participated in the FGDs indicated that they have at once been asked to pay bribes in the form of sex by male lecturers in return for better grades. The research team learnt that they are certain degrees popularly known as STDs in reference to sexually transmitted degrees. It emerged that at times male lecturers fail female students on purpose to allow a negotiation for a better grade. This usually occurs towards one’s final year where the student cannot afford to fail any course simply because it would mean that she would not graduate. To avoid the hustle of “repeating” and “disappointing parents” the female student is helpless thus resulting in giving in to the ploy of the male lecturers. Sexual corruption is as a result of the discretion that the teachers have in awarding marks to students. It seems as if schools and colleges do not...
have well-functioning systems of peer reviewing grades of students. While students can appeal and ask for a remark, the process is usually long and requires some payment. These conditions render the system ineffective in terms of ensuring a transparent student grading system.

It is important to note that issues of sexual exploitation also involve male students. Abuse of male youths is often excused and hidden because of commonly held perceptions that males would generally want sex and are not exploited out of option but it would be a choice. The element of sex for a service is not only common in the education sector but it is cross cutting. Young women are at times forced to pay a bribe through sex in return for job opportunities, avoid arrest or speed up processes. FGDs with young women from Zimunya Township who operate as commercial sex workers highlight how they are forced to bribe local policemen through sex to avoid arrest. While sex trade in Zimbabwe is widespread, it is still illegal. The illegality of this trade makes the exploitation of women more inevitable. One of the young women noted that:

‘Most male police officers operating in Zimunya now know us as prostitutes so they can easily arrest us even during times when we are not doing business and half the times they demand unprotected sex.”

The exploitation of young women by males in positions of authority show the unequal power dynamics. Young women are forced to offer sex in return for a service because half the time they don’t have money and they are desperately in need of services.

Young people and the fight against corruption
The study analysed young people’s willingness to fight corruption. Young people were asked if they thought they could make a difference in the fight against corruption. Figure 6 below indicates that only 29% of the young people believe that they can make a difference in the fight against corruption. 49% of the respondents highlighted that young people cannot make a difference in the fight corruption while 22% chose not to answer this question.

Willingness to fight corruption
Young people were asked if they would be willing to fight against corruption. The questionnaire proposed various way of fighting corruption indicated in Table 7 below. The table below shows the responses by young people.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Would you be willing to do</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>No Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sign a petition asking the government to do more in fighting corruption</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take part in a peaceful protest against corruption</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Join an anti-corruption organization</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pay more from a corruption free company</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Talk about corruption through social media</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Report an incident of corruption</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refuse to pay a bribe</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Responses from this table indicate that most young people are more willing to join an anti-corruption organization (75%) and talk about corruption through social media (59%). Generally young people are less willing to take part in peaceful protest against corruption (10%), sign a petition asking the government to fight corruption and reporting a corruption incident. Responses by most young people on these three variables showed that there is fear among young people to come out in the open and fight corruption. A student from the University of Zimbabwe indicated that in Zimbabwe demonstrations are not possible due to draconian pieces of legislation like the Public Order and Security Act which prohibits public meetings and gathering without a police clearance. On signing of petitions most respondents indicated that this is a “waste of time as the current government is not moved by such advocacy tools.”
The data from the Table 7 above indicates that most young people would rather accommodate corruption if it is benefitting them. 66% of the respondents indicated that they would be willing to buy cheaper products from corrupt company rather than paying more from a corruption free company. On refusing to pay a bribe 57% of the respondents highlighted that they would not refuse to pay a bribe. Some of these respondents indicated that they do not refuse mainly because they get what they want through paying. This shows that young people are not only victims of corruption in Zimbabwe, but rather use corruption to access certain goods and services.

REPORTING AN INCIDENT OF CORRUPTION

Respondents who indicated that they would report a corruption incident (20%) were asked to whom they would report to. Most young people indicated that they would report corruption to an independent non-profit organization (45%) and the media (32%). A few young people expressed willingness to report an incident of corruption to the institution involved (15%) and to the Zimbabwe Anti-Corruption Commission (ZACC) (8%). When asked why they were less willing to report to either the institution involved or the ZACC most young people highlighted that it is difficult to report to the institution involved simply because they do not know who is corrupt and not. One respondent added that corruption is often deeply entrenched in organizations involving a number of people, so reporting it internally is difficult as you get to expose yourself as a whistle-blower and you are not guaranteed protection or that corrective action will be taken. On ZACC, respondents indicated that the institution “only goes after small fish and not bigwigs.” One respondent working for a youth organization mentioned that ZACC had failed to deal with a lot of corruption scandals in Zimbabwe such as the Asia gate scandal and the National Indigenization and Economic Empowerment Board (NIEEB) scandal and hence forth the public had lost faith in this institution.

Respondents who indicated that they would not report a corruption incident (77%) were asked for reasons and 45% of respondents indicated that they would not report largely because of fear of being victimised after reporting. It is important to note that in Zimbabwe there is no policy or legal framework to protect whistle blowers. A respondent went on to say that at times reporting corruption or crime in general is cumbersome as half the time the police would be bothering you as a witness to report to their office and offer some statements which costs money and time. 30% of respondents indicated that they would not report corruption simply because reporting won’t make any difference. Most of these respondents went on to talk about the high levels of impunity and the impartiality of the judicial system in Zimbabwe. 20% of the respondents indicated that they would not report because they don’t know where to report to while 5% indicated that don’t report because they are simply not concerned. The last section of the questionnaire asked young people if they would be willing to receive any anti-corruption training.

88% of the respondents indicated that they would be willing to receive an anti-corruption training while 12% expressed no interest.

Figure 7: Would you be willing to receive an anti-corruption training

Those who indicated that they were willing to receive anti-corruption training were asked to identify some of the training areas. The bullet points below summarises the training areas that were identified by respondents.

Identifying, monitoring and reporting corruption:
- Corruption and the constitution
- Gender and corruption
- Corruption in Civil Society
- Corruption and its manifestation in community
- Reducing and curbing corruption
- Joining anti-corruption groups
- Anti-Corruption activism
- Researching on corruption
RECOMMENDATIONS

Mainstreaming corruption into school curricula at secondary school level
The research highlighted a serious lack of knowledge about corruption among youths. This shows a lack of capacity building in terms of knowledge on corruption within the schooling system. Mainstreaming corruption into secondary school curricula will build knowledge on the prevention, reporting and combating corruption among young people. This will also ensure that they know their rights and they are protected from powerful elders who use their positions and power to exploit young people.

Youth friendly and youth accessible means of reporting corruption
Findings also highlighted how institutions mandated with combating corruption are highly inaccessible for youths especially in the rural areas. There is need for these government institutions to devise outreach programmes and ways that ensure young people have access to report cases.

Advocacy and social marketing of anti-corruption institution
Young people in this research seemed to have little knowledge about the institutions mandated by government to fight corruption. There is need for these institutions to embark on social marketing programmes that promote visibility and knowledge of their work.

Conviction of corrupt political elites to show the system works
Most young people believe that the system does not work and protects political elites. They are disillusioned by the anti-corruption system that does very little to fight corruption. Building confidence of young people in the legal system will also encourage them to report incidences of corruption.

Mechanisms to protect young women from sexual corruption
The research has shown that young women face twin challenges of gender and age which makes them vulnerable to sexual exploitation. Sexual corruption is rampant among young girls who are often forced to exchange sex for goods and services. The government should device policies that protect young women from corruption related sexual exploitation in communities, schools and universities.

Targeting out of school of youths
Out of school youths who are seeking livelihood options are especially vulnerable because of the high unemployment rates in the country. This makes them more willing to engage in corrupt activities to access services such as driver’s licence or employment opportunities. Engaging this group is important in that most see corruption as an opportunity to access livelihood options but it is only those who can pay that benefit at the expense of majority poor.

Whistle-blower protection legal framework
To promote more reporting among young people and general public, there is need to have a whistle blower protection law which protects whistle blowers through guaranteeing privacy and anonymity. Findings from the research highlight that young people are afraid of suffering recriminations if they report corruption.
REFERENCES


The Independent News Paper. www.theindependent.co.zw/index.php/kureiaakondla-youth-fund


Hello, my name is _______________________ from Transparency International Zimbabwe. We are conducting a survey on behalf of Transparency International.

Transparency International is the global civil society organisation leading the fight against corruption. Through more than 90 chapters worldwide and an international secretariat in Berlin, Germany, TI raises awareness of the damaging effects of corruption and works with partners in government, business and civil society to develop and implement effective measures to tackle it.

We are gathering data in 5 African countries on corruption and the youths. The survey defines a youth as someone between the ages of 15 to 35 years. The survey sought to understand among other things the extent to which young people are aware of corruption issues, how corruption is impacting on them, how willing they are to act against corruption and what they think should be done to address corruption. We would appreciate your help by taking part in this short survey. Every answer of the questionnaire is completely confidential. You will not be asked to reveal any names of individuals or specific events.
AWARENESS ON CORRUPTION ISSUES

Q1. Do you understand what corruption means?

- Yes: 1
- No: 2
- No answer: 3

Q1b. If yes how would you define corruption?

____________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________

Transparency International Zimbabwe
Q2. Are you aware of any corruption problems in your community?
   Yes  1
   No   2
   Don't know  3
   No answer  4

Q2b. If yes to Q2, can you provide at least two examples of the community corruption problems you are aware of?
____________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________

2c. Are you aware of any corruption national corruption cases in Zimbabwe?
   Yes  1
   No   2
   No answer  3

Q2d. If yes to Q2c, can you provide at least two examples of the national corruption cases in Zimbabwe?
____________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________

Q3. Of the following corruption typologies which ones are most common in your country and or community and how serious is it?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Corruption form</th>
<th>Common or not (Indicate by ticking)</th>
<th>On a scale of 1-5, where 1 is not a problem at all and 5 is a very serious problem, how would you rate the corruption typology you identified</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Bribes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Nepotism</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Fraud</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Clientilism</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e) Trading influence</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f) Patronage</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others please suggest</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q4. What do you believe to be some of the factors that are encouraging that type of corruption you identified above?
____________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________

Q5. Do you believe that the corruption level in Zimbabwe is increasing or it is decreasing?
   Increasing  1
   Decreasing  2
   Remaining the same  3
   No answer  4

Q5b. Can you explain your answer?
____________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________

Q6. Are you aware of any anti-corruption laws and policies in Zimbabwe?
   Yes  1
   No   2
   No answer  3
If yes, can you state some of the anti-corruption laws and policies you are aware of?

____________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________

Q7. Are you aware of institutions that work to end corruption in Zimbabwe?

Yes 1
No 2
No answer 3

Q7b. If yes, can you indicate the institutions and organizations that work to end corruption?

____________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________

Q7c. Of the above institutions you mentioned which one (s) would you think is really effective in fighting corruption?

____________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________

Q8. Have you ever received any training on corruption and integrity?

Yes 1
No 2
No answer 3

Q8b. If yes state when you were trained and the name of the organization that trained you?

____________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________

Q9. Generally do you think that corruption affects negatively on young people like you?

Yes 1
No 2
No answer 3

Q9b. Can you explain your answer?

____________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________

Q10. Corruption impact differently on people, on a scale of 1-5, where 1 is not a problem at all and 5 is a very serious problem, how would you rate the following corruption impacts on young people like you?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Corruption affects the quality of education</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Corruption affects access to basic services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Corruption affects livelihood opportunities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Corruption affects one’s employment opportunity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e) For the country development</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q10b. Have you personally been affected by corruption

Yes 1
No 2
Don’t know 3
No answer 4
Q10c. If yes can you explain how corruption has affected you?

____________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________

JOINING THE FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION

Q11. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?
"Young people like you can make a difference in the fight against corruption"
(READ SCALE OUT LOUD. SINGLE ANSWER)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strongly agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Strongly disagree</th>
<th>No answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q12. There are different things young people can do to fight corruption and I am now going to ask whether you would be willing to do any of the following: Please answer Yes or No. (READ ANSWER OPTIONS OUT LOUD. SINGLE ANSWER)

| Q12a. Sign a petition asking the government to do more to fight corruption | YES | NO | Don't know | No answer |
| Q12b. Take part in a peaceful protest or demonstration against corruption | 1   | 2  | 3          | 4         |
| Q12c. Join an organisation that works to reduce corruption as an active member | 1   | 2  | 3          | 4         |
| Q12d. Pay more to buy from a company that is clean/corruption free | 1   | 2  | 3          | 4         |
| Q12e. Spread the word about the problem of corruption through social media (Facebook, Twitter, blogs, YouTube etc.) | 1   | 2  | 3          | 4         |
| Q12f. Report an incident of corruption | 1   | 2  | 3          | 4         |

Q13: (ASK Q13 ONLY IF ANSWER TO Q12F IS YES (1). SKIP IF ANSWER NO (2) TO Q12F)
To whom would you report it?
(READ ANSWER OPTIONS OUT LOUD. SINGLE ANSWER)

| Directly to the institution involved | 1   |
| Anti-Corruption Commission | 2   |
| An independent non-profit organization | 3   |
| News media | 4   |
| Other | 5   |
| No answer | 7   |

Q13b: (ASK Q11B IF ANSWER TO Q10F IS NO (2)/IT WOULDN'T DO ANY GOOD (5). SKIP IF ANSWER TO Q10F IS YES (1)) Why not? (Report an incident of corruption)
(READ ANSWER OPTIONS OUT LOUD. SINGLE ANSWER)

| I do not know where to report | 1   |
| I am afraid of the consequences | 2   |
| It wouldn't make any difference | 3   |
| Other | 4   |
| No answer | 5   |
Q14. Have you ever been asked to pay a bribe?
(IF REQUESTED BY RESPONDENT TO DISTINGUISH THE DIFFERENCE OF THIS QUESTION FROM QUESTION 7B:
THE REFERENCE PERIOD FOR THIS QUESTION IS ‘EVER’, NOT THE LAST 12 MONTHS, THE BRIBE MUST HAVE BEEN
‘REQUESTED’, NOT ‘PAID’ VOLUNTARILY BY THE RESPONDENT, AND THE INCIDENT MAY HAVE TAKEN PLACE OUT-
SIDE OF THE 8 INSTITUTIONS LISTED IN QUESTION 7)
(DO NOT READ ANSWER OPTIONS OUT LOUD. SINGLE ANSWER)
Yes 1
No 2
No answer 3

Q14b. What are the most common reasons for paying the bribes?
As a gift, or to express gratitude 1
To get a cheaper service 2
To speed things up 3
It was the only way to obtain a service 4
No Answer 5

Q14c. Have you ever refused to pay a bribe?
(ASK Q14B IF ANSWER TO Q12A IS YES (1), SKIP IF ANSWER TO Q14A IS NO (2)
(DO NOT READ ANSWER OPTIONS OUT LOUD. SINGLE ANSWER)
Yes 1
No 2
No answer 3

Q15. Would you be willing to receive any training on corruption and integrity
Yes 1
No 2
No answer 3

Q15b. If yes, what do you think should be covered under the training
____________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________

Q16. Do you think it’s necessary for schools and colleges to introduce courses on corruption and integrity?
Yes 1
No 2
No answer 3

Q16b. What would you propose as some of the solutions to the problem of corruption?
____________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________