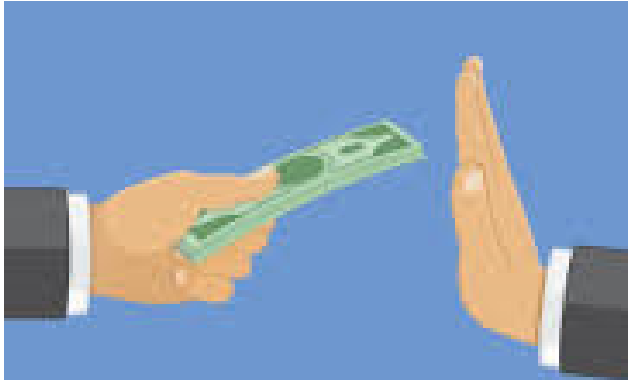


Digging Our Way Out of Corruption- Is it Feasible?



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Presentation Outline

- **Background**
- **Corruption effects**
- **Why corruption is pervasive**
- **Digging our way out of corruption**
- **Conclusions and recommendations**

Background

- Developing countries lose \$ 1.26 trillion per year to corruption, bribery, theft and tax evasion (UN 2015)
- Corruption accounts for an estimated \$340 billion of worldwide construction costs each year (ASCE, 2004) and affects 5% of consultancy work (UK Institution of Civil Engineers)
- Ghana loses \$3 billion every year to corruption (Ali-Nakyea, 2019)
- Corruption has evolved into a cultural norm and practice
- Corruption in procurement provides several opportunities for diverting public funds for private gain

Effects of corruption

- Bad political governance
- Bad institutional governance
- Low human capital
- Increasing population???
- Poorly planned, overvalued, oversized and overpriced projects at strategy stage of project governance framework
- Tender manipulation, favoritism, kickbacks during initiation stage of project governance framework
- Collusion to win business in pursuit of personal interests
- Uncompleted projects (schools, roads, hospitals, etc.)
- Food shortages/inflation and civil unrests
- Transgenerational cycles of relative poverty

Why Corruption is Pervasive: Economic and Political Factors

- **Economic**
 - Low salaries
 - Supplier-induced bribes
 - Greed
- **Political**
 - Low press freedom in reporting sensitive procurements
 - Offering bribes to voters
 - Greed
 - Party politics

Why Corruption is Pervasive: Organizational & Social Factors

- **Organizational**
 - Poor supervision
 - Inadequate facilities
 - Low technical capacity
 - Low transparency and accountability
- **Social**
 - Poor differentiation between bribes and traditional favours
 - Social learning theory of acquired and sustained behaviour
 - Religious dissemination of the prosperity gospel
 - No education/vibrancy on fundamental rights
 - Societal tolerance for corrupt officials
 - Low qualification levels of education
 - Low proportion of women in power

Digging our way out of Corruption

- Teaching, learning and application of ethical best practices
- Training and other capacity-building interventions
- Ethical values such as responsibility, respect, fairness, and honesty should be taught, ingrained and upheld in the socializing process of all
- Political commitment
- Assets declaration
- Regulatory frameworks
- United Nations Convention Against Corruption Recommendations

Summary

Basic Imperative	Extensions
Responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vigilance• Integrity• Accountability• Confidentiality• Fidelity• Obedience
Fairness	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Justice• Equality• Transparency• Impartiality• Objectivity
Respect	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Individual Dignity• Autonomy• Trust• Courtesy• Honour• Privacy• Professionalism
Honesty	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Veracity• Accuracy• Credibility• Crediting Others

Recommendations

1. Actively confront the culture of silence on ethical issues
2. Increased deterrence
3. Integrate ethics into formal education