

# **POLICY ANALYSIS**

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## **CORRUPTION IN SOUTH SUDAN: HOW DEEP ARE ITS CLAWS?**

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## INTRODUCTION

Corruption is not a new phenomenon but it is as old as the history of human kind. Corruption is broadly defined as “the use of public office for unauthorized private gain”. In general, corruption is defined as a “form of dishonesty or criminal activity undertaken by a person or organization entrusted with a position of authority, often to acquire illicit benefit. Corruption may include many activities including bribery and embezzlement, though it may also involve practices that are legal in many countries”. Blackburn et al. (2006), and Everett and Rahaman (2007) defined corruption as “the abuse of authority by bureaucratic officials who exploit their discretionary power, delegated to them by the government, to advance their own interests by engaging in unauthorized rent-seeking activities.

The word corruption came into being in the early 14th century. In adjective form, “corrupted” meant debased in character”. From Old French Language corrompt meant “unhealthy, corrupt; uncouth” and directly from Latin corruptus is the past participle of corrumpere meaning “to destroy; spoil,”. Figuratively “corrupt”, meant to seduce, bribe”. In Old English, reafian, corruption meant “to rob (something from someone), plunder, pillage. It also meant “decomposing, putrid (decaying or rotting and emitting a fetid smell), spoiled” or sense of “changed for the worse, debased by admixture or alteration” (of language, etc.). It also meant “guilty of dishonesty involving bribery”.

At the same time, it also meant “deprave morally, pervert from good to bad;” “contaminate, impair the purity of; seduce or violate (a woman); debase or render impure (a language) by alterations or innovations; influence by a bribe or other wrong motives.

Political corruption, the central interest of this paper, is the illegitimate use of public power to benefit a private interest. Senior (2006) defines corruption as an action to (a) secretly provide (b) a good or a service to a third party (c) so that he or she can influence certain actions which (d) benefit the corrupt, a third party, or both (e) in which the corrupt agent has authority. Kaufmann (2011) extends the concept to include ‘legal corruption’ in which power is abused within the confines of the law—as those with power often have the ability to make laws for their protection. Furthermore, social corruption is that corruption that allows individuals to profit from the environment through illegitimate actions while they disintegrate the system they are part of.

## THREE LEVELS OF CORRUPTION:

**Petty corruption:** this type of corruption occurs at a smaller scale and takes place at the implementation end of public services when public officials meet the public. For example, in many small places such as registration offices, police stations, state licensing boards, and many other private and government sectors.

**Grand corruption:** this type of corruption occurs at the highest levels of government in a way that involves significant subversion of the political, legal and economic systems. This type is common in countries with authoritarian or dictatorial governments and those without adequate policing of corruption. This is the reason why government system in many countries is divided into the legislative, executive and judiciary branches in an attempt to provide independent services that are less subject to grand corruption due to their independence from one another.

**Systemic corruption:** this type, also known as endemic corruption primarily occurs due to the weaknesses of an organization or process. It can be contrasted with individual officials or agents who act corruptly within the system. Factors which encourage systemic corruption include conflicting incentives, discretionary powers; monopolistic powers; lack of transparency; low pay; and a culture of impunity. Znoj (2009) pointed out that specific acts of corruption include “bribery, extortion, and embezzlement” in a system where “corruption becomes the rule rather than the exception.” Scholars distinguish between centralized and decentralized systemic corruption, depending on which level of state or government corruption takes place. Legvold (2009) emphasized that in countries such as the Post-Soviet states both types occur. Some scholars argue that there is a negative duty of western governments to protect against systematic corruption of underdeveloped governments.

## POLITICAL CORRUPTION

Corruption and politics are tightly related in such a way that none of them can hardly exist without the other. Political corruption is the abuse of public power, office, or resources by elected government officials for personal gain, by extortion, soliciting or offering bribes. It can also take the form of office holders maintaining themselves in office by purchasing votes by enacting laws which use taxpayers' money. Any official that uses the power of an elected political office for personal gain or for a personal agenda is abusing the trust of that office. Such actions are considered political corruption.

Evidence suggests that corruption can have dangerous political consequences. When politicians demand bribes from citizens, citizens become less likely to identify with their country or region. Any action that circumvents the established rules for conducting government business may be considered political corruption. In a representative system of government, citizens cast votes for the candidate that they believe will most reliably accomplish the business of governance. This system implies a high amount of trust between elected officials and their constituents.

## TYPES OF POLITICAL CORRUPTION

The following list presents some of the most common types of political corruption that can occur in all levels of government.

- 1). Payoffs and Bribes:** Bribery is one of the most common types of political corruption. Bribery is the act of giving money, goods or services to an official in exchange for favorable treatment. For example, a local building contractor may pay thousands of dollars to a city council member to be the first choice for a permit to begin a new development contract.
- 2). Graft and Embezzlement:** Some elected officials are tasked with the oversight of large sums of money. This money may be earmarked for local projects like building renovation or development contracts. If the official overseeing these projects diverts some of that money into their personal accounts, they have committed an act of embezzlement. This activity is also known as “graft.” It can occur anytime an official chooses to use funds owned by another person or group for their own personal benefit.
- 3). Blackmail and Extortion:** Politicians can provide their officials with a great deal of power. When an officials use that power and influence to threaten another person into behaving a certain way, the official is committing political extortion. Political blackmail is a related type of corruption that can occur when an elected representative threatens to reveal incriminating information about someone in order to coerce that person into cooperating with them.
- 4). Preferential Treatment:** Elected representatives are expected to exercise fairness and discretion when issuing appointments for jobs, contracts and other benefits. Preferential treatment is a type of political corruption that occurs when officials let their appointments be influenced by inappropriate or illegal factors. One type of preferential treatment is known as nepotism. This is the practice of giving appointments to family members, rather than basing appointments on the actual qualifications of the appointees. Another type of preferential treatment, known as patronage, occurs when officials make appointments in exchange for votes, payoffs or other benefits.
- 5). Influence peddling:** influence peddling is the illegal practice of using one’s influence in government or connections with persons in authority to obtain favors or preferential treatment for another, usually in return for payment.
- 6). Networking:** Business networking can be an effective way for job-seekers to gain a competitive edge over others in the job-market. The idea is to cultivate personal relationships with prospective employers, selection panelists, and others, in the hope that these personal affections will influence future hiring decisions. This form of networking has been described as an attempt to corrupt formal hiring processes, where all candidates are given an equal opportunity to demonstrate their merits to selectors. The networker is accused of seeking non-meritocratic advantage over other candidates; advantage that is based on personal fondness rather than on any objective appraisal of which candidate is most qualified for the position. Corruption has devastating effects, especially on the citizens of developing countries.

## EPISODES OF CORRUPTION IN SOUTH SUDAN

Wars, famines and natural disasters such as earthquakes and tsunamis provide fertile ground for corruption. Once a disaster strikes, it unleashes a plethora of all types of corrupt practices. The eruption of episodes of sagas (a long story involving account, or series of incidents.) such as the Dura saga, Crisis Management Committee saga, the Letters of Credit saga, and Funds Embezzlement saga confirm that South Sudan is not free from this disease. These sagas are a manifestation of a serious malady, which has infested country in the absence of robust institutions to administer preventive measures. Corruption has become pervasive and entrenched and difficult to eliminate or even to reduce, undermining and paralyzing the institutions and structures of law and order.

Four main categories of corruption identified in South Sudan include bureaucratic corruption, patronage, political corruption, and embezzlement. These forms of corruption are commonly found in the following sectors: extractives, public financial management, and police and security forces.

The Sentry organization (2016) categorizes corruption in South Sudan into four main methods:

- 1). The extractives sector: oil is the nation's largest revenue source which lacks any transparency and accountability. Oil is the government's main source of hard currency, and is used as collateral for the foreign loans.
- 2). The military: military organization maintains control over the nation's economy directly by controlling the public budget and indirectly by close ties to businesses and contracts. South Sudan's military spending is higher than that of any other country in the region. Although there is virtually no information about military allocations is provided, it is believed that the military involves "a large and complicated patronage system," where there is little oversight of payroll expenses, with the leading security ministries (Defense, Interior, and Intelligence) rarely reporting their payroll expenditures. There are tens of thousands of "ghost soldiers," i.e., soldiers who exist only on payroll documents, and this is said to be the primary method of military and security officials to divert wealth to private accounts. Military generals wield great power in allocating government funds. Acquisition of military weapons and supplies is carried out in an ad-hoc manner and is characterized by overpricing and a lack of proper paperwork and transparency.

- 3). State spending: this involves a procurement system that is susceptible to abuse and waste, with lucrative contracts regularly awarded to the suppliers connected to government officials. No-bid contracts, notably for road building and vehicle imports, are regularly awarded to companies owned by ruling elites at inflated prices with no oversight. Setting up companies involves dealing with an elaborate bureaucracy, a complex system believed to have enabled officials to profit extensively through bribes and the acquisition of undocumented shares in firms. Rules requiring annual financial disclosures are systematically ignored. In several cases, government contracts are awarded to firms that had no background in the relevant activity and that were likely set up only days or even hours before the contracts were awarded.
- 4). Money laundering: the country's fragile financial industry is exploited to launder money and generate revenue. Senior government officials are involved heavily in the financial sector, especially in speculation in the parallel currency market, which lowers the value of the currency and leads to inflation. Illegal transfers are rampant with fewer disclosures and less traceability. Private FOREX bureaus have been established to facilitate money laundering.

In 2008, a corruption of grand scale struck the sub-nation when the Government of the Southern Sudan by then paid nearly SSP 6.0 billion to purchase cereals for preventing the onslaught of the expected famine in 2009. This became known as the “Dura Saga,” after the South Sudanese name for sorghum, dura. The World Bank forensic auditors found in February 2013 that 290 firms were paid without ever having signed a contract, and another 151 firms were overpaid significantly. The scam involved the disappearance of several billion dollars that had been allocated for the building and repair of grain stores and the purchase of grain.

In May 2012, following the shutdown of oil production in early January, the Governor of the Bank of South Sudan solicited a credit line from Qatar National Bank, amounting to USD 100 million. The purpose of this credit was for importing basic essential commodities to the country until the problem between Sudan and South Sudan was resolved. A committee under the chairmanship of a Minister was formed to oversee the allocation of this credit line. The committee allocated this fund among four ministries. As the committee set to do its work, allegations of misallocation emerged, and the process became known as Letters of Credit saga.

In 2012, the Government reported that an amount of \$4 billion was missing and in May 2012, letters were sent to 75 senior current and former officials in his government, for allegedly stealing \$4 billion US dollars over a six-year period.” The letter expressed that “Most of these funds have been taken out of the country and deposited in foreign accounts. Some have purchased properties, often paid in cash”. In September 2013, some country's armed forces personnel were accused of having squandered official funds on “dubious activities”, citing names on the payroll of “ghosts”, or “no-show jobs”.

In May 2013, an amount of money intended for the construction of a road from Juba to Kajokeji was allegedly misappropriated and a senior official in Payii roads and bridges company was arrested. In a June 18, 2013, the immunity of two Ministers was lifted by as result of unlawful transfer of nearly eight million US dollars to private account of a firm known as Daffy Investment Ltd. Subsequently, both ministers were suspended. The decree ordered that the two men be investigated and, if found guilty, criminally prosecuted. This was described as “the biggest ever scandal in the country’s post-secession era.

In April 2013, a committee known as South Sudan’s Crisis Management Committee (CMC) was formed to assess the political, social, economic, security and diplomatic effects of the conflict that broke out in the young nation in mid-December 2013. Part of the committee’s work was to provide strategies for mitigating the consequences of the conflict and formulate an awareness raising strategy targeting the population, region and international community about the government’s version of events and how to better respond to a crisis that has displaced millions of people. A number of senior government officials formed part of the crisis management committee. It was alleged that out of the SSP 447 million that was disbursed to the committee’s account, only SSP 84 million could be accounted for, raising questions on the whereabouts of the remaining funds.



# MEASUREMENT OF CORRUPTION AND THE POSITION OF SOUTH SUDAN

A non-governmental organization known as Transparency International (TI) has developed an index, known as the 'Corruption Perception Index' (CPI), for measuring the extent of corruption worldwide. Corruption Perception Index places countries on a scale of 0-100. This implies that a country having 0 is perceived as highly corrupt while 100 means that a country is perceived as very clean. It is published annually and generally defines corruption as "the misuse of public power for private benefit. The CPI places South Sudan at rank 179 out of 180 nations only above Somalia in 2017. As can be seen in the Table below, the five countries with the highest scores (and thus perceived as most 'clean') are New Zealand, Denmark, Finland, Norway, and the Switzerland while at the other extreme, the countries with the lowest scores (and highest perceived corruption) are Sudan, Afghanistan, Syria, South Sudan and Somalia.

## CONSEQUENCES OF CORRUPTION ON ECONOMIC GROWTH

Corruption is strongly negatively associated with the share of private investment and, hence, it lowers the rate of economic growth. Corruption reduces the returns of productive activities. If the returns to production fall faster than the returns to corruption and rent-seeking activities, resources will flow from productive activities to corruption activities over time. This will result in a lower stock of producible inputs like human capital in corrupted countries.

Corruption creates the opportunity for increased inequality, reduces the return of productive activities, and, hence, makes rent-seeking and corruption activities more attractive. This opportunity for increased inequality not only generates psychological frustration to the underprivileged but also reduces productivity growth, investment, and job opportunities.

Tanzi (1998) argued that highly corrupt governments spend less on education and health, thereby limiting the potential for economic growth. Mauro (1997) claims that corruption may reduce the efficiency of domestic and international aid flow through diversion of funds from intended government projects, stressing that corruption reduces revenue generated through taxation when parties engage in tax evasion, contributing to adverse budgetary consequences for the government. While Kehoe (1998) notes that corrupt practices elevate the hidden cost of doing international business, Ghosal and Moran (2005) indicate that multinational corporations suffer tarnished reputations in the world marketplace when they forgo their social legitimacy by engaging in corrupt practices. However, Klitgaard (1988) has observed that corruption undermines development efforts by weakening the institutional foundation on which economic growth stands. Mauro (1995) underlines that countries with higher corruption indices have a lower ratio of total and private investment to GDP, and, consequently, lower economic growth. Although, corruption is viewed as one of the most severe huddles in the process of economic development, however, very little is known about its causes and why some countries are more corrupt than others. The corruption can cause the following effects economies:

- 1). Corruption decreases foreign investment: There are many incidents in which foreign investors which were willing to come to developing countries return to their home countries owing to heavy corruption in the government bodies.
- 2). Corruption Causes Delay in economic growth: A work which can be done in few days may be done in many months. This leads to delay in investments, starting of industries and also growth. Even if started, company growth hinders as every work linked to officials get delayed due to need to provide bribes or other benefits.
- 3). Lack of development: Many new industries willing to get started in particular region change their plans if the region is unsuitable. If there are no proper roads, water, and electricity, the companies do not wish to start up there. This hinders the economic progress of that region.
- 4). Differences in trade ratio's: Some countries have inefficient standard control institutions that can approve low-quality products for sale in their country. Countries do manufacture cheap products and dump them in big markets. These countries can manufacture cheap quality products but cannot dump them in countries with strict standard control institutions. They can do so only in countries with chances of corrupt officials in standard control. One good example is that products which can't be just dumped into Europe and US markets can be easily dumped in other country markets with poor import regulations and quality checks. So there arises trade deficit that these countries cannot manufacture their own products at the cheaper price than those exporting to them. So if corruption is minimized then these countries will have lower trade deficits in-terms of exports and imports with other countries and their economies can prosper.

## CONSEQUENCES OF CORRUPTION ON PEOPLE

### High levels of corruption can lead to the following consequences:

- 1). Lack of quality in services: In a system with corruption, there is no quality of service. To demand quality one might need to pay for it. This is common in many areas like municipality, electricity, distribution of relief funds etc. Due to corruption in education, there are no qualified cadres to provide quality health service if there is not enough remuneration for his service. Only candidates who do not have the ability can have the opportunity to get the job by purchasing it. So though the person becomes a medical practitioner, he may not be competent enough to deliver quality medical services.
- 2). Lack of proper justice: Corruption in the judiciary system leads to improper justice, causing the victims of offenses to suffer. A crime may be proved as a benefit of the doubt due to lack of evidence or even the evidence erased. Due to corruption in the police system, the investigation process may go on for decades. This allows the culprits to escape justice and even commit more crimes. There are even chances that criminals can escape justice due to old age as a result of the delayed investigation. So it leads to a sense of "Justice delayed is justice denied."
- 3). Chances of Unemployment: When private education and training institutions are given permits to start providing education, based on the infrastructure and sufficient recruitment of eligible staff. Here there are good chances of corruption. Managements of these institutions may bribe the quality inspectors so as to get permits. Though there is no sufficient eligible staff, these institutions get permission from the inspectors leading to unemployment of unqualified personnel. If there was no corruption by inspectors, there would not be a chance for employment of such quality.

- 4). **Poor Health and Hygiene:** In countries with more corruption, it is easy to notice more health problems among people. There will be no fresh drinking water, proper roads, quality food grains supply, milk adulteration, etc. These low-quality services are all done to save money by the contractors and the officials who are involved. Even the medicines provided in hospitals for the patients are of sub-standard quality. So all these can contribute to the ill health of common man.
- 5). **Pollution:** Pollution is mostly emitted by vehicles and factories in the form of water pollution, air pollution, and land pollution. Governments have to monitor on this pollution by regular check of vehicle emissions and also industrial exhausts. Corruption in the government department lets the industry people opt to release untreated and harmful waste into rivers and air. If there is no corruption, there can be fair probes. Then the industry personnel will treat the waste such that it is less toxic and harmless to environment and people in it. So this implies that corruption is also the main cause of pollution.
- 6). **Accidents:** Sanction of driving license without proper check of driving skills in the driver leads to accidents and death. Due to corruption, there are countries where one can have a driving license without any driving tests.
- 7). **Failure to do Genuine Research:** Research by individuals needs government funding. If government departments are run by corrupt officials, they will not approve funds for research to genuine and hardworking investigators. Thus the research and development will be lagging. One cited example is the resistance of microbes to drugs, as there are no new compounds discovered in the past few decades for the efficient treatment of resistant microbes.

## EFFECTS OF CORRUPTION ON SOCIETY

Corruption can occur in any sector, whether they be public or private industry or even NGO (especially in public sector). However, only in democratically controlled institutions is there an interest of the public (owner) to develop internal mechanisms to fight active or passive corruption, whereas in private industry as well as in NGOs there is no public control

**Therefore, the owners' investors' or sponsors' profits are largely decisive.**

- 1). **Disregard for Officials:** In countries with high levels of corruption, there is high level of public disregard to government officials involved in corruption. The public talks negatively about them. Disregard towards officials contributes to the building of distrust. Even lower grade officers will be disrespectful to higher grade officers and may not obey their orders. Rumor has it that there was even an incident where a lower grades police officers kidnapped higher grade officers for not offering him leave when asked.
- 2). **Lack of Respect for Rulers:** Rulers of the nation like the president or prime ministers lose respect among the public in countries with high levels of corruption. Respect is the main criteria in social life. People go for voting during the election not only with the desire to improve their living standards by the election winner but also with respect for the leader. If the politicians are involved in corruption, people knowing this will lose respect for them and will not like to cast their votes for such politicians.
- 3). **Lack of Faith and Trust in the Governments:** People vote for rulers because of their faith in them. But if they find out that these rulers to be involved in corruption, they will lose faith in them and may not vote for them next time.

## PREVENTION MEASURES AGAINST CORRUPTION

Klitgaard (1998) postulates that corruption will occur if the corrupt gain is greater than the penalty multiplied by the likelihood of being caught and prosecuted:  $\text{Corrupt gain, Penalty} \times \text{likelihood of being caught and prosecuted}$ .

The degree of corruption will then be a function of the degree of monopoly and discretion in deciding who should get how much on the one hand and the degree to which this activity is accountable and transparent on the other hand. However, a high degree of monopoly and discretion accompanied by a low degree of transparency does not automatically lead to corruption without any moral weakness or insufficient integrity. Also, low penalties in combination with a low probability of being caught will only lead to corruption if people tend to neglect ethics and moral commitment.

According to Transparency International, there is no silver bullet for fighting corruption. Many countries have made significant progress in curbing corruption, however practitioners are always on the lookout for solutions and evidence of impact. Here are some ways that citizens and governments can make progress in the fight against corruption:

- 1). End Impunity: Effective law enforcement is essential to ensure that corrupt people are punished and break the cycle of impunity, or freedom from punishment or loss. Successful enforcement approaches are supported by a strong legal framework, law enforcement branches and an independent and effective court system. Civil society can support the process with initiatives such as Transparency International's Unmask the Corruption campaign.
- 2). Reform Public Administration and Financial Management system: Reforms focusing on improving financial management and strengthening the role of auditing agencies have in many countries achieved greater impact than public sector reforms on curbing corruption. One such reform is the disclosure of budget information, which prevents waste and misappropriation of resources. For example, Transparency International Sri Lanka promotes transparent and participatory budgeting by training local communities to comment on the proposed budgets of their local government.

- 3). Promote Transparency and Access to Information: Countries successful at curbing corruption have a long tradition of government openness, freedom of the press, transparency and access to information. Access to information increases the responsiveness of government bodies, while simultaneously having a positive effect on the levels of public participation in a country. Transparency International Maldives successfully advocated for the adoption of one of the world's strongest rights to information law by putting pressure on local MPs via a campaign of SMS text messages.
- 4). Empower Citizens: Strengthening citizens demand for anti-corruption and empowering them to hold government accountable is a sustainable approach that helps to build mutual trust between citizens and government. For example, community monitoring initiatives have in some cases contributed to the detection of corruption, reduced leakages of funds, and improved the quantity and quality of public services. To monitor local elections, Transparency International Slovenia produced an interactive map that the public populated with pictures and reports of potential irregularities in the election. As a result, cases of public funds being misused to support certain candidates were spotted.
- 5). Close International Loopholes: Without access to the international financial system, corrupt public officials throughout the world would not be able to launder and hide the proceeds of looted state assets. Major financial centers urgently need to put in place ways to stop their banks and cooperating offshore financial centers from absorbing illicit flows of money. The European Union recently approved the 4th Anti-Money Laundering Directive, which requires EU member-states to create registers of the beneficial owners of companies established within their borders. However, the directive does not require these registers to be made public. Similarly, the Norwegian, UK, and Ukrainian governments have all approved legislation requiring companies to disclose information about their owners, although these have yet to come into force.
- 6). Support the development of robust oversight and accountability mechanisms. Country's public sector oversight institutions should be the primary entities involved in countering corruption and promoting greater transparency and accountability. International efforts aimed at institution-building should prioritize building the capacity and safeguarding the integrity of judicial and governance oversight. Priority institutions such as courts as well as the National Auditing Chamber, the Anti-Corruption Commission, and the Public Accounts Committee in the National Legislative Assembly should be empowered. Countering political influence and supporting the country's courts with technical expertise that can support local actors in the effort to investigate and prosecute economic crimes and pursue asset tracking and recovery is critical. Any individual found to have intentionally subverted these institutions should be considered to be "undermining democratic institutions" and should therefore be considered for placement under sanctions.
- 7). Creation of a searchable public registry of all corporate entities formed in the country. This prevent the top government officials and their immediate family members from holding stakes in numerous commercial ventures which are not actually available to the public. The country should establish a searchable corporate registry that makes available certain corporate filings from each company that contain basic information about the firm's true owners, including their name, date of birth, business address, and identification number. These records should be accessible at a very low cost.
- 8). Introduction of a Financial Management System: This will prevent senior government officials from hijacking state institutions and looting public resources. Additionally, there is need for an oversight mechanism for revenue collection, budgets, revenue allocation, and government spending with technical and advisory support from the regional and international community. To help safeguard the integrity and bolster the capacity of crucial oversight institutions that are designed to review and check public spending, donors and international institutions engaged in the country should work with country's civil society to establish a financial management mechanism.

- 9). Conduct of retrospective review of the allocation of government contracts and natural resource concessions. Most of the funds targeted by corruption appear to come from the oil, mining, foreign exchange, and banking sectors as well as food procurement and defense supply contracts from the government. These sectors should be subject to a retrospective review and extensive auditing. Companies and individuals found to have abused their power to secure an unfair advantage should lose government contracts and natural resource concessions and face steep penalties. South Sudan's National Audit Chamber should be given an authority that extends beyond the chamber's mandate in order to benefit from partnership with impartial external actors to help ensure that the review process itself cannot be manipulated for political ends.
- 10). Creation and protection of space for civil society: South Sudanese civil society should be allowed to perform its crucial role in holding state actors accountable for their actions and articulating and amplifying public concerns about government policies and initiatives. This will provide the foundation for accountability in the country moving forward. Journalists and activists should not have been subjected to consistent interference and intimidation which prevent them from carrying out their jobs effectively. Strengthening accountability will ultimately require the creation and robust enforcement of strong legal protections for civil society organizations and media monitoring corruption and other abuses. South Sudan should join the World Bank's Global Partnership for Social Accountability in order to enable civil society to benefit from the Partnership's capacity building funding and opportunities.

## CONCLUSION

This note attempts to analyze how corruption affects economies, societies and the people's lives. Corruption threatens sustainable economic development, ethical values and justice. It destabilizes societies and endangers the rule of law. Corruption delays in infrastructure development, poor building quality and layers of additional costs are all consequences of corruption. Like unemployment, corruption can cause ruling parties to lose elections as a result of public resentment and enagement against the incumbent government. Therefore, nation's accountability institutions such as courts, Auditing Chamber, the Anti-Corruption Commission, and the Public Accounts Committee in the National Legislative Assembly need to be empowered in order to fight the malady.

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